
St. John's Way, Truth and Life

218 N. Jefferson St. Kittanning, PA 16201-1324

Carl A. Johnson, Pastor, home: 724-548-5512 Web Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org

Office: 724-548-2051, and 724-543-4301

e-mail: stjohnskittanning@gmail.com

February 2024

"FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE



**GATHERED
IN MY NAME,
THERE AM I AMONG THEM."**

MATTHEW 18:20, ESV

St. John's Lutheran Church 1824 to 2024 to 2224

When a salesman for Andrew Carnegie made the biggest sale in history, he was so excited that the next day he sent a telegram to Carnegie telling him "Yesterday we broke all sales records." A short while later he received a telegram back from Carnegie. He opened it excitedly and found it to read, "What have you done today?"

I am very excited to be entering into St. John's 200th year. The amount of mission and ministry that has been by St. John's is astounding. We make a difference every day in Kittanning and our ministry has global reach, global impact.

I am very leery to be entering into St. John's 200th year. We cannot afford to rest on our laurels. As Christ teaches us to pray, "give us this day our daily bread" so we have mission and ministry to do today. What is Christ calling us to do in the next 200 years? What have we done for Him today?

We live in the best of times. God has chosen us for these days. There is so much work to do for Christ! He has called us in baptism to spread His love. And with all the work we have to do, we will never grow useless or bored.

As the ambitious young plumber said upon viewing Niagara Falls: "I think I can fix it," so we have been given the antidote for the brokenness of the world—Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Living in the darkest of times only means that the light of Christ shines brighter. And He has chosen us for this time and this task, because He loves you so very much!

See you in Worship,

Pastor Johnson



Habitat Luncheon February 25, 2024

St. John's Habitat Luncheon
Social Ministry & Fellowship Committee
will be holding a luncheon
On Sunday, February 25th following worship
to raise money for Habitat for Humanity.

Please place your donations to benefit Armstrong
County Habitat for Humanity
by marking your offering envelope "Habitat
Luncheon" in the space marked "other"
and place in the offering plate during worship.

Our menu is: pork, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut,
vegetable, applesauce, cake and beverages.

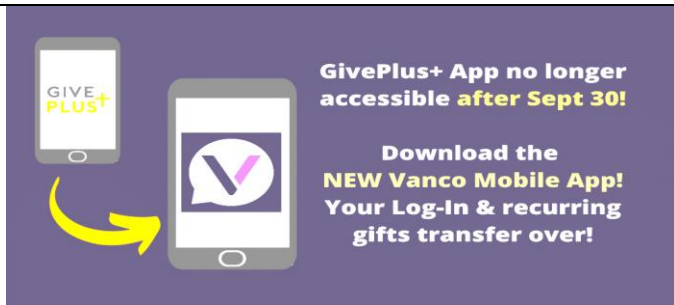


Ash Wednesday Worship Service

The Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be held on February 14th at 7:00 p.m. This is the beginning of our Lenten journey. Please plan to attend this meaningful service of ashes and Holy Communion as we embark together on our Lenten Disciplines.

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Vanco Electronic Giving APP

You can make a contribution to St. John's through a mobile app!

To get started, download "Vanco Mobile" for free from the App Store or Google Play. Simply search for "Vanco Mobile" to quickly find and download the app today. Then, you can easily make donations directly from your smartphone using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.

You can also choose to donate as a guest or set up an account that allows you to securely and conveniently schedule recurring donations and manage and review your giving history.

We hope you enjoy this new way to contribute to our ministry and thank you for your support!

1. Download the FREE app on your Apple or Android phone.
2. Search for St Johns Lutheran Church.
3. Do NOT use a PERIOD after St, or comma in Johns to search.
4. Select St Johns Lutheran Church 218 North Jefferson St Kittanning, Pa.
5. Your information should be automatically transferred if you have an account with Give Plus already.
6. Make one-time or recurring donations using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.
7. Log in or donate as a guest.
8. Securely and conveniently manage donations using Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password.

Mark Your Calendars

February 14	Ash Wednesday
February 25	Habitat for Humanity Luncheon
March 10	Men's Banquet
March 31	Easter
April 14	Women's Banquet
May 5	Spring Concert
May 19	Pentecost Sunday/Confirmation
June 23	Over 80 Banquet



- Elected Pastor Johnson as President, Kyle Kirkpatrick as Vice-President, and John Swanson as Secretary of Council.
- Approved recommending to the January 28th Congregational Meeting the proposed budget and Benevolence Breakdown.
- Approved Lent be designated as a time of "Spiritual Renewal and Recommitment to the Lord." All regular committee and council meetings will be canceled during Lent and Bible Study or Worship will be provided with the goal of every member participating in at least one Bible Study and every member recommitting to worship regularly.
- Received Thank You's from Bethesda Children's Home, Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries, Bethesda Lutheran Services, Water Missions, Lutheran Bible Translators (Ethiopian Seminary Project) and WVU Campus Ministry.
- approve the design of a brick hearth with plaster wall and gas fireplace in the gathering space and it being let out for bids. Cost to be paid as a memorial gift from the children of John and Patricia Gray.

A complete copy of the approved minutes from each month is posted on bulletin boards in the Narthex and Education Building.

Your Church Council members are always available for your questions and concerns:

Kyle Kirkpatrick - Vice President	724-954-7366
Dean Crooks	724-664-2015
Wendy Hodak	724-664-4345
Gene Hughes	724-543-3011
Patricia Kirkpatrick	724-525-0962
Susan Neal	724-763-8331
Megan Rupp	724-859-1317
Brendan Swanson	724-525-7255
John Swanson	724-525-1381
Richard Thorell	724-349-5287
Kraig Walker	724-664-3085
Jill Wranich	724-902-9389

Spend some time with the One who knows you and loves you the deepest!

Only in God is your soul at rest.

Kids and Youth February 2024

SPARK

IGNITING FAITH, EQUIPPING KIDS

EVERY MONTH!

AT St. Johns Kittanning
Beginning February 27th

6:15-7:30pm

Dinner, Bible Story,
Exciting, faith building
interactive stations with games,
crafts and activities!
Preschool-6th Grade

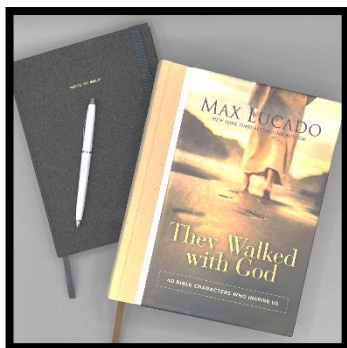
COST: FREE!

February 27th

is Chicken Noodle Soup and sliders
Parents! Stay and hang out,
relax and rest, or run some errands!

Spark Dates: Feb. 27th, March 19th,
April 30th, May 21st

Text SPARK to 724 276 5321 for
weather updates, announcements
and reminders!



Women's Lenten
Bible Study
*They Walked
with God*
By Max Lucado
Thursdays
11:30am



YOUTH GROUP

Youth Fundraiser

Annual

BREAKFAST

Casserole

Bake Off!

Win the Sought-after

EGGO Trophy!

After 11am Worship

Sunday February 4th

BREATHE.

Matthew 11:28

"Come to me, all you
who are weary and
burdened, and I will give
you rest."
Matthew 11:28

QUAKEEVENT.COM

QUAKE

QUAKE

2024

FEB 9-11

Youth Group

Winter

Retreat!

No Youth Group Feb. 18th

3rd week of Feb. Stay posted

Pop Up!



Winter Activity!

Weather Dependent

SUNDAY FEB. 25TH

YOUTH GROUP 6 30 TO 8PM

QUAKE AFTERSHOCK

PINATA FIESTA GAMES

LOADED NACHOS



- February Birthdays
- 1 Sam Bowser, Jr.
 - 4 Samantha Pyle,
Payton Smail
 - 5 Elodie Round
 - 6 Alyssa Hankey
 - 7 Mark Hankey, Jill Wranich
 - 8 Jason Debnar
 - 9 Amy Merryman, Cassidy Smith, Delaney Smith
 - 12 Linda Olinger, Kylie Zurn
 - 14 Benjamin Swanson, Amelia Koeller
 - 15 Richard Smail, Jr., Christina Hilty
 - 16 Andrea Ehrman
 - 17 John Graff, Jessica Arnette, Nancy Johnson,
 - 18 Kent Walker
 - 19 Natalie Reitano
 - 21 Erica Kirkpatrick
 - 23 Mathias Koeller
 - 24 Dirk Ahlgrim, Ian Fleeger, Melody Slater,
Gracie Hodak, Theodore Round
 - 25 Mary Dawson, Hillary Schultze
 - 26 Sara Shafer
 - 27 Patrick Febinger

If your birthday does not appear and you would like it to, please contact the church office



We have a Texting App!

Mojo texting was created FOR churches! It is safe and doesn't sell your number to anyone else!

If you would like to receive schedule changes, updates, reminders and announcements from St. John's, please text the word **GRACE** to 7242765321. It will send you a welcome message.

You will now receive important messages via text about what's going on at St. John's! Messages will only be sent out on occasion and when important changes need to be communicated.

Thank you so much!

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Smith.

*Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of God,
Fill me with Your light and life.*



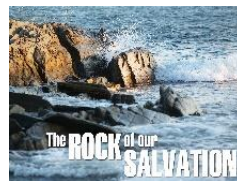
Our December Church Offerings

Offerings	Dec. Receipts	Dec. Budget	Year To-Date	Budget To-Date
Current				
Operating	70,930	26,207	283,150	314,485
Benevolence	2,394	3,333	20,344	40,000
Capital				
Campaign	12,244	1,937	59,942	23,243
Current Account	Income	Expenses		Gain/-Loss
Current Month	70,930	31,280		39,650
Year to Date	283,150	303,562		-20,413

ATTENDANCE

Our December Worship Attendance

December	2022	2023
1 st Sunday in Dec	121	87
2 nd Sunday in Dec	43 (E) 67(L)	96
3 rd Sunday in Dec	121	120
4 th Sunday in Dec	44	112
5 th Sunday in Dec		51 (E) 71 (L)
Average for Dec	99	107



Rock of our Salvation Worship

8:30 a.m. Sunday,
February 11 and 18



Women's Bible Study

will return at the King's restaurant on **Thursday, February 8th at noon.** Any questions, please contact Rose Montgomery at rosetrix38@comcast.net. All are welcome!



Thank You's for January 2023:

- ♥ To Carol Runniger, Rose Montgomery, Mary Jane Dawson, Janice Smith, Ruth Ann Hankey, Betty and Alan Mitchell, Linda Charley, and Julie Smith for helping with the January newsletter mailing.
- ♥ Thank you to the praise band for helping lead early worship service December 31st.
- ♥ Thank you to our Sunday School teachers for your dedication and love for the children of St. John's!
- ♥ Thank you to Cassidy Smith, for teaching Sunday School when I was sick
- ♥ Thank you to the praise band, who dedicates their time and musical talents to serve God at St. John's!
- ♥ Thank you to our Christian Ed Team for helping prepare our upcoming events!
- ♥ Thank you to Corrinna Storange for all of the baked goods for those in need in our community.
- ♥ Thank you to our Sunday School teachers who do such and awesome job making God's word fun and exciting for our kids!
- ♥ Thank you to everyone who continually supports our Children's and Youth ministries!
- ♥ Thank you to our Office Help, Connie McMaster, Tammy Fleeger, Patty Kirkpatrick, Mary Jane Dawson, Carol Runniger, Rose Montgomery, Betty Mitchel, Ruth Ann Hankey and Cheryl Mechling.
- ♥ Thank you to the Fellowship Committee, Kay Thorell, Charlie Bleakney, and Pastor Johnson for providing a wonderful funeral service and dinner for my brother Bobby. My parents would be very thankful for the care you have shown. Ed Walker.
- ♥ Thank you to the praise band for your hard work and commitment to help lead worship for early service!
- ♥ To Men's Breakfast Cooking Crew: Marve Gaiser, Ken Burkett, Clair Roudebush, and Pastor Johnson.
- ♥ Thank you to everyone who helps with the Fellowship Hours after worship!

Heading into the hospital?

If you or a member of your family is hospitalized, please contact the office @ 724-548-2051. Because of confidentiality issues, the hospitals are not as helpful in notifying us as they once were.

Pastor's Sunday School Class: Adult Sunday School

Pastor Johnson's class will be studying the book Limping with God, by Chad Bird.

"Jacob seems to be anything but a model disciple. He's a trickster, liar, and selfishly ambitious man who fathers children with four women and leads a dysfunctional family rife with jealousy and backstabbing. But Jacob is also Israel, the namesake of the Old Testament community of God, chosen and blessed. As such, this sinner-saint, who limps along with the Lord, burdened by weakness and beset by problems, is the mirror image of all of us who follow Jesus. In his life we see our lives, our struggles, our failures, and most especially the God who loves us and chooses us as his own. As we explore his bio, from his wrangling in the womb with Esau to his death as an old man in Egypt, we will learn more about ourselves and the God who is with us and for us in Jesus the Messiah."



NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



A time of fellowship will be provided each Sunday after worship in the Gathering Space. Please plan to stay after worship to meet and greet fellow members and visitors of St. John's.

If you would like to help host a fellowship hour, please see Pastor Johnson.

Needed for Altar Care:

Plastic or Metal coffee cans for altar flowers. 30-to-40-ounce cans are ideal.



Lenten Soup & Bread Suppers are back!
MONDAY evenings beginning February 19th.
 6 p.m. in the Social Hall for soup & bread supper.
 The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for soup and bread donations. Bible study will begin at 7 p.m.
 The Bible Study will be "The Book of Jeremiah for Today".

**KMA Community Lenten Worship Services
 Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm**

**KMA Lenten Luncheons Schedule
 Wednesdays @ 12:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday Evening Pastors' Study:
Adult Catechism
 7:00 pm**

This review is good for those who are preparing to join the congregation as an adult, for adult baptism or for those who just want to brush up on their catechism.

- Mar 1 Ten Commandments
- Mar 8 Apostles' Creed
- Mar 15 Lord's Prayer
- Mar 22 The Sacraments
- Mar 29 Worship and the Liturgy

**Lenten Men's Prayer Breakfasts
 Saturday, February 17th and 24th at 8:00 a.m.**



The men of St. John's will be meeting Saturday mornings for breakfast and study. Following the meal will be a brief program concluding by 9:00 a.m.

Katie's Cupboard February 2024

February is all "about love"...

Loving our neighbors as ourselves.

1 Corinthians 16:14 ***Do everything in love***

Can we set aside February for also loving our "***furry friends***"?

Can we love like St Francis suggested? He saw all of God's creation as sacred and believed that animals were a manifestation of God's love and grace.

Some folks I have met at the cupboard have mentioned appreciating the "random" dog/cat products that have been donated as it stretches their budget to just feed themselves.



Please prayerfully consider outside of normal food donations that help humans by donating something pet food related in February.

Winter months are hard on everyone, especially the furry kind.

Ideas Anyone?

Fellowship committee is looking for a volunteer/s to do the program for the Women's Banquet and Men's Banquet this year.

Do you have some great ideas you can bring to the table if we do the cookin'?

Please reach out to Tammy Fleeger or Rick John for your help

The realm of the impossible

The wonderful thing about praying is that you leave a world of not being able to do something and enter God's realm, where everything is possible. He specializes in the impossible. Nothing is too great for His almighty power. Nothing is too small for His love.

—Corrie ten Boom

February

February 4

Assisting Minister	Sara Shafer
Lector	Emily Bouch
Communion	Nancy Pierce, Karen Waugaman Deb and Mollie Bouch
Acolytes	Elizabeth and Noelle Smoyer, Anna Venesky, Quinn Kellner, Stella Venesky, Emily Bouch
Welcome Team	
Camera Operators	Bill Bouch

February 11

Assisting Ministers	Nancy Pierce (E) Kay Thorell (L)
Lectors	John Swanson (E) Roger Mechling (L)
Communion Assistants	John and Rebecca Swanson (E)
Welcome Team	Rupp Family (E) Tammy Fleegeer (L)
Acolytes	Ashlynn Zurn (E) Colvin Adkins (L)
Camera Operator	Nick Wranich (E) Keith Livengood (L)

February 14

Assisting Minister	Karen Waugaman
Lector	Linda Charley
Acolyte	William Bouch
Camera Operator	Keith Livengood

February 18

Assisting Ministers	Rebecca Swanson (E) Rose Montgomery (L)
Lectors	Robert John (E) Jonah Petruschke (L)
Comm Assistants	Kyle and Patty Kirkpatrick (E) Brett and Megan Taylor (L)
Acolytes	Mitchell Wranich (E) Kendall Bailey (L)
Welcome team	Kirkpatricks (E) Bouch Family (L)
Camera Operator	Robert John (E) Bill Bouch (L)

February 25

Assisting Minister	Karen Waugaman
Lector	Keith Livengood
Communion Assistants	Nick Wranich and Robert John
Acolyte	Ella Fennell
Welcome team	Smith Family
Camera Operator	Keith Livengood

*“Worship is not one more thing to do,
but the one thing to do.”*

February

Altar Guild: Sharon Febinger, Wendy Hodak

Money Counters: Megan Rupp, Gene Hughes, Jill Wranich

Ushers: Bill Olinger, Jarrod Olinger, Jack Griffin, Dean Crooks

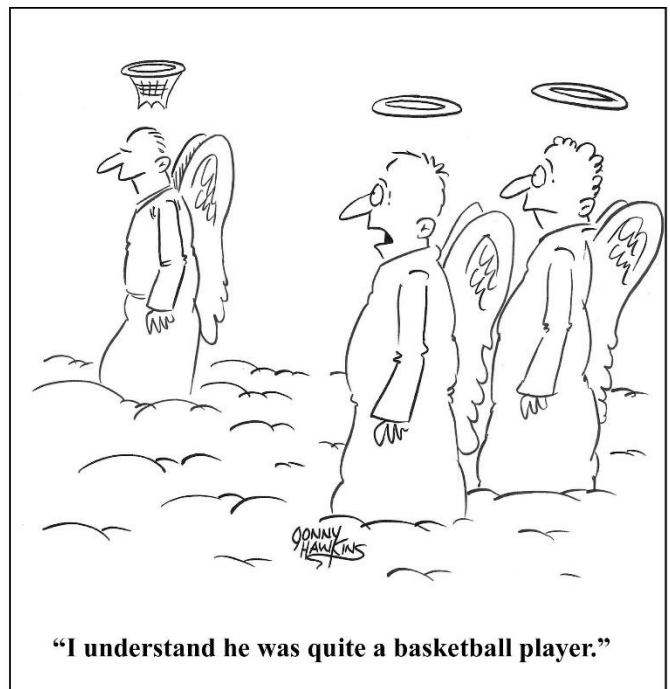
Children's Hour:

Children's Hour is every Wednesday or Thursday from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church Staff:

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry	Julie Smith
Secretary	TBA
Sexton	Colin Toy
Director of Music/Organist	Rebecca Veith
Sr. Choir Accompanist	Elizabeth Cramer

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”



<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> February St. John's Lutheran Church 2024 </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany <small>Green</small> 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship Congregational Meeting	29	30 7:00 200th Ann. Committee	31 9:30 Children's Hour 5:30 New Bells 6:30 Senior Bells 7:00 PJ's Bible Study 7:30 Senior Choir	1 9:30 Children's Hour 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism	2	3
4 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany <small>Green</small> 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion Youth Group Casserole Bake-off	5 7:00 Property	6 7:00 Evangelism	7 9:30 Children's Hour 5:30 New Bells 6:30 Senior Bells 7:00 PJ's Bible Study 7:30 Senior Choir	8 9:30 Children's Hour 12:00 Womens Study at Kings 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism	9 Youth Leave for Youth Quake	10 Youth at Quake Youth Event
11 Transfiguration Sunday <small>White</small> 8:30 Worship: Rock of our Salvation 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship	12 7:00 Council	13	14 9:30 Children's Hour 7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship	15 9:30 Children's Hour 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism	16	17 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast
18 First Sunday in Lent <small>Purple</small> 8:30 Worship: Rock of our Salvation 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion	22 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Bible Study: Jeremiah for Today	23 7:00 KMA Worship	24 9:30 Children's Hour 12:00 KMA Luncheon 5:30 New Bells 6:30 Senior Bells 7:00 PJ's Bible Study 7:30 Senior Choir	22 9:30 Children's Hour 11:15 Women's Study 1:00 Newsletter mailing 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism	23	24 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast
25 Second Sunday in Lent <small>Purple</small> 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion After Worship: Habitat for Humanity Dinner 6:30 to 8:00 Youth Group	26 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Bible Study: Jeremiah for Today	27 6:15-7:30 Spark Kids 7:00 KMA Worship	28 9:30 Children's Hour 12:00 KMA Luncheon 5:30 New Bells 6:30 Senior Bells 7:00 PJ's Bible Study 7:30 Senior Choir	29 9:30 Children's Hour 11:15 Women's Study 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism	1	2 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast