St. John's Way, Truth and Life

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

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

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Apríl 2025



God's Unmatched Generosity

As we journey to the cross, preparing to enter into the three holiest days of the year, I am sitting in amazement at God's giving. His giving knows no bounds. The fact that "while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" is astounding.

God is not a miser. He has blessed us with life and country, food and clothing, home and family, daily work and all we need from day to day. Satan trains us to focus on what's missing in our lives. God showers us with blessings and we are convinced that we are parched. God floods us with blessings and the devil instructs us to turn a blind eye.

"For while we were still weak. At the right time Christ died for the ungodly." He gave us all—even His only Son that we might have life through Him.

A friend said to me, "You can't outgive God." "Challenge accepted," I started to say, but the words stuck in my throat. I realized what trying to outgive God would cost. I was truly humbled.

To outgive God would cost everything and still not be enough. He has given all. He has paid it all. He has done it all.

All that is left is Thank You!

See you in Sunday School and Worship,

Pastor Johnson



April 13: Palm Sunday

Procession with Palms 11:00 AM The Passion According to St. Luke

April 15: Healing Service

Special Communion Service 7:00 PM

April 17: Maundy Thursday

Special Communion Service 7:00 PM

April 18: Good Friday
Youth Group Easter Egg Stuffing 10:00 AM
Donations of candy appreciated!

KMA Community Good Friday Service

St. John's

Noon to 1:00 PM

Tenebrae Service 7:00 PM A service of light and darkness

April 19: Holy Saturday

Men's Breakfast

8:00 AM

Easter Egg Hunt for the Children

12:00PM -1:00PM Retelling the Easter Story Nursery to 5th Grade

April 20: Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter Celebration

11:00 AM

Festival Communion Service with Brass Ensemble

Table of Contents

Page 2	Council Highlights, Electronic Giving
Page 3	Children and Youth Opportunities
Page 4	Thank You's, Fellowship Hour
Page 5	Birthdays, Attendance, Finance
Page 6	Spring Concert, Women's Banquet
Page 7	Passover Seder, Lenten, Women's Studies
Page 8	Katies cupboard, Rock of our Salvation
Page 9	Broadcast
Page 10	Benevolence Spotlight
Page 11	Worship Leaders
Page 12	Calendar



Electronic Giving is Good for You and the Church

You can now make a contribution to our church through a mobile app!

To get started, download GivePlus Church for free from the App Store or Google Play. Simply search for "GivePlus Church" 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.
- Make one-time or recurring donations using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.
- 3. Log in or donate as a guest.
- Securely and conveniently manage donations using Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password.

To give through the app, search your phone's app store for "GivePlus Mobile" or contact the church office.

To give from your personal computer go to: https://secure.myvanco.com

"Give according to your income, lest God make your income according to your giving."

Mark Your Calendars

Mark Your Calendars					
April 6	Women's Banquet				
April 20	Easter				
May 4	Spring Concert				
May 18	Youth Sunday				
June 1	Grad Sunday				
June 7	Landscaping Work Day				
June 8	Pentecost Sunday/Confirmation				
June 22	Over 80 Banquet				
June 16-19	Vacation Bible School				
July 14-18	NALC Youth Camp				
July 21-23	NALC- Elementary Camp				
Sept. 7	Rally Day				
October 5	Generosity Sunday				



 The Regular March Council meeting was canceled in order to allow time for study, worship, and prayer.

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:

Ryan Shafer, Vice President	724-859-2749
Bill Bouch -	724-859-0359
Chris Choncek	724-664-6947
Wendy Hodak	724-664-4345
Elijah Holt	860-534-0023
Gene Hughes	724-543-3011
Patricia Kirkpatrick	724-525-0962
Susan Neal	724-763-8331
Brendan Swanson	724-525-7255
John Swanson	724-525-1381
Richard Thorell	724-349-5287
Jill Wranich	724-902-9389

Fellowship Hour



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 & visitors of St. John's.

If you would like to help host a fellowship hour, please call the office or see Pastor Johnson



Kids and Youth April 2025

Annual Kids Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday April 19th 12-1:00pm
Toddler-5th Grade
Hear the Easter Story, Make some Eggcellent Crafts,
and HUNT some Eggs!!!



AT St. Johns Kittanning April 22nd, 2025 6:15-7:30pm FREE!

Dinner, Bible Story, Exciting, faith building interactive stations with games, crafts and activities!
Preschool-6th Grade
Parents! Stay and hang out, relax and rest, or run some errands!

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

NEW students register at

www.tinyurl.com/sparkstjohnskittanning.com



YOUTH GROUP

Hiding Easter Eggs **Friday April 18**th 10am-12pm.

Breakfast includedStay for 12:00 Good Friday
Worship, if you are able.

Youth Group

SUNDAY APRIL 6th:
WOMEN'S BANQUET
GIRLS, BRING YOUR MOMS &
GRANDMAS!

SUNDAY APRIL 13TH:
Youth Group 6:30-8:00pm
Lent Bible Study and Game Night!

FRIDAY APRIL 18TH:
YOUTH GROUP TO HIDE EASTER
EGGS 10AM

SUNDAY APRIL 27TH: NO YOUTH GROUP

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Youth Sunday May 18th Grad Sunday June 1st

FOR SUMMER 2025!

JULY 14-18 YOUTH CAMP!
JULY 21-23 KIDS CAMP!



- ▼ Thank you to, Betty Mitchell and Julie Smith for helping with the March newsletter mailing.
- ▼ Thank you to the praise band, who dedicates their time and musical talents to serve God at St. John's!
- ▼ Thanks to the following persons who helped with the Funeral Luncheon for Robert Snyder: Toni Smail, Debbie Griffin, Tammy Fleeger, Linda Johnston, Ruth Ann Hankey, Sandy Duncan, Mary Jane Dawson, Linda Charley, Melissa Venesky, Andrea Hilty, Colvin & Callie Adkins, Gene Hughes, Dean Crooks, Julie Smith.
- Habitat Luncheon was a GREAT food success! Many hands make light work thanks to those set up, cooked, cleaned up and made yummy desserts! Connie McMaster, Dean Crooks, Sandy Duncan, Toni Smail, Kyle Kirkpatrick, Bill, Deb, Molly, Emily, Bill Bouch, Tammy Fleeger, Gene Hughes, John Swanson, Ralph & Michelle Kozlowski you folks "nailed it".
- Thank you to Jeff Choncek's math classes for the donations of food to Katie's Cupboard.
- Thanks to the following people who helped with the College Student Habitat Supper: Toni Smail, Christine Whiteman, Patty Kirkpatrick, Deb Bouch, Crystal Olinger, Teresa Zydonik, Connie Gaiser, Connie McMaster, Ruth Ann Hankey, Tammy Fleeger, Gene Hughes
- Thank you to our church family for supporting us in our time of loss of Virginia Dawson, with prayers, cards, gifts and food. Mary Jane & Blair Dawson
- Thank you to everyone who helped with our Youth Group Breakfast Casserole Bakeoff! Our students: Callie and Colvin Adkins, Mollie and William Bouch, Kendall Bailey, Avía, Vieira, and Vaila Clever, Ella Fennel, Kherington Hilty, Cassidy, Delaney and Marlee Smith, Anna Venesky, and Mitchell and Jerah Wranich.
- Thank you also to our parent team, Jessica Bailey, Matt Smith, Angela Clever, and Dan Malark.
- Thank you to all who baked and donated Casseroles: Melissa Venesky, Christy Duncan, Mollie Bouch, Andrea Erhman, Marlee Smith, Kendall Bailey, JoAnn George, Krista & Ellla Fennell.
- Thank you also to everyone who donated food items for the breakfast: Jill Wranich, Tabitha Bowser, Angela Clever, Amber Zurn, Krista Fennell, Julie Smith, Andrea Erhman, Jacilee Adkins, Melissa Venesky, & Debbie Bouch!

- Thank you to anyone who I missed!! And to everyone who continually supports our children's and youth ministries at St. John's!
- ▼ Thank you to our Praise Band for leading worship on the 23rd, for sharing your time and talents!
- ▼ Thank you to our Spark team for March! (names may be listed in next newsletter).
- ▼ Thank you to Pastor & Nancy Johnson, Vera & Jerry Hartung, Andrea Ehrman and Kherington Hilty, Gene Hughes, Sharon Rutherford, and Julie & the Youth Group for all your assistance and care during our recovery. Rose & Emil Debnar.
- Thank you To Frank Baker, Marve Gaiser, Ken Burkett, Dean Crooks, David Lindeman, Clair Roudebush, Keith Livengood, Pastor Johnson, for cooking, cleaning up after and leading the Men's Breakfast.



We would LOVE to see <u>YOU</u> in person. However, if you are away on vacation or need to watch from elsewhere:

We ARE here for you

<u>!</u>



Internet Streaming St. John's Live Broadcast

The St. John's worship service is broadcast live on You Tube each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. as well as 8:30 a.m. service Sundays.

http://www.youtube.com/@st.johnskittanning2251

Don't forget to check out your Church Web

Site: www.stjohnskittanning.org
Here you will find: Bulletins,
Newsletters, Morning Prayers,
Upcoming events and program
information, Youth Events including
photos from the recent QUAKE trip, and more.



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



- 2 Sandy Hellam, Chase Steiner
- 3 Joshua Olinger, Landon Kirkpatrick
- 4 Avía Clever, Kurt Zimmerman
- 5 Carol Pfeister, Kay Thorell
- 6 Brayden Black
- 7 Chris McDermott, Ann Lash, Rhodetta Meyer
- 8 Ayla Ansell
- 9 Matthew Lasher, Lisa Carmona, Hannah Moore, Sue Neal
- 10 Ethan Febinger
- 13 Amy Crawford, Elana Staschak
- 14 Parker Heller
- 15 Carol Boarts, Jeannine Debnar, Bruce Gray, David Wingard
- 16 Helen Boarts
- 17 Maria Recupero, Brandon Choncek, Brendan Smith Connor Zacherl
- 18 Gloria Sgro, Kyle Kirkpatrick, Lea Sharrer
- 19 Nathan Lasher, Josee Gillespie
- 21 Sara Dosch, Link Black
- 22 Scott Beck, Madeline Baillie, Brody Hodak, Sophia Whiteman
- 23 Gabrielle Cravener, Stella Venesky
- 24 Lisa Stitt, Evelyn McKelvey
- 26 Susan Blaney
- 27 Jim Stitt, Lucas Heller, Wilbur Stitt
- 28 Greta Bennett
- 30 Allison Ignatz

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.



Our February Church Offerings

<u>Offerings</u>	Feb Receipts	Feb Budget	Year <u>To-Date</u>	Budget <u>To-Date</u>
Current Operating	17,884	27,974	41,133	55,947
Benevolence	1,551	3,333	3,003	6,667
Capital Campaign	1,379	1,655	3,300	3,310

Current Account	Income	Expenses	Gain/ -Loss
Current Month	17,884	25,692	-7,808
Year to Date	41,133	52,403	-11,269

God's generosity is both perfect and complete in every way.
You can't outgive God.



Our February Worship Attendance

February	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
1 st Sunday in Feb	111	44 (E) 63 (L)
2 nd Sunday in Feb	46 (E) 61 (L)	87
3 rd Sunday in Feb	36 (E) 81 (L)	44 (E) 74 (L)
4 th Sunday in Feb	115	122
ASH WEDNESDAY	87	
February Average	112	109

Trustworthy stewards

After making people in his own image, God entrusted them with the rest of his creation. He wants us to manage well our bodies, our minds and our earthly home.

"We ourselves are not masters of our own ability and knowledge. They, like our talents and health, are a loan presented for our use. We must live as people who know that such temporary possessions are not true belongings and that we must give account for our management of them." —Albert Schweitzer



Annual Spring Concert Sunday, May 4th, 2024

St. John's Lutheran Church 218 N. Jefferson Street Kittanning, PA At 7:00 p.m.

The Senior & Junior Bell Choirs & the Senior & Children's Vocal Choirs (under the direction of Rebecca Veith)

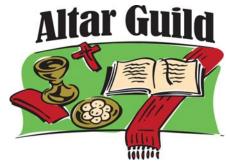
The concert is free and open to the public,

We welcome your family, friends & neighbors.

Come and celebrate spring with us!

There is a time of fellowship following in the social hall.





Needed for Altar Care:

We are still looking for volunteers to help with every Sunday, can you serve?



Women's Banquet

Sunday, April 6, 2025 12:30 PM.

"She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future." Proverbs 31:25

Inviting all ladies – join us for an afternoon of fellowship, good food and a little name calling!

MENU: We will be having grilled chicken, scalloped potato & a vegetable. Apple pie with ice cream for dessert. Lemonade, hot tea, and coffee are available.

Return this flier to the church office or in the offering plate with an envelope marked: Ladies Banquet by March 30th or mail to the church office.

Cost is \$8.00/each. Ages 10 and under are free.

•	Name:
•	Phone:
•	Number attending:adultschildren 10 and under
•	Total enclosed \$
•	* Food allergy information:

"Resurrection means that the worst thing is never the last thing."

—Frederick Buechner

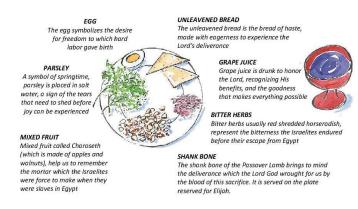
Passover Seder

Friday, April 11th at 6:00 p.m.

The Arnie Moss Family will host a Passover Seder at 6:00 pm on Friday April 11th at First Baptist, 334 Arch Street, Kittanning, PA, as part of our Lenten Learning. A free will donation will be taken the night of the Seder.

THERE ARE 125 SPOTS: FIRST COME – FIRST SERVED.

PASSOVER SEDER MEAL



Put this flier in the offering plate.

Name:

Tuine.
Name:



Attention Gardeners

and Worker Bees

We need your help! We are having a workday to "tidy-up"

flower beds and landscaping around the church grounds.

Saturday, June 7, 2024 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Please bring work gloves and a wheelbarrow, etc. We could use volunteers to divide & conquer chores...weeding, trimming shrubs & mulching. Please contact Sharon Febinger @ 724-543-2413 or text 724-859-5649. Thank you

Lenten Men's Prayer Breakfasts Saturday, April 5, 12, 19 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.



Women's Bible Study

will return at the King's restaurant on **Thursday**, **April 10**th **at noon**. Any questions, please contact Rose Montgomery at <u>rosetrix38@comcast.net</u>. All are welcome!

KMA Community Lenten Worship Services Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm

Apr. 1	St. Luke's U.C.C.	Rev. Carl Johnson
Apr. 8	Salvation Army	Rev. Edward Walters

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

Apr. 2	First Baptist	Rev. Jeffrey Smith
Apr. 9	St. Mary's	Father Eric Dinga

"If you are ignorant of God's Word, you will always be ignorant of God's will."

-Billy Graham

Kalie's Cupboard

April Showers Bring May Flowers

<u>However, nothing is fresh & growing yet.</u>



Most recently St John's has assisted someone with diabetic food needs as well as food & housing insufficiency through Katie's cupboard.

Would you be able to assist us with "sugar free" or low carb items? Another need would be paper plates, plasticware and paper cups we can "pack up" as a set. This then is helpful when you are <u>feeding a family with</u> only a microwave and bathroom sink.

Canned meats such as tuna, chicken, Vienna sausage, SPAM, salmon, turkey, canned beef, corned beef, canned ham are always appreciated.



Thanks for joining Peter as Christ tasked him.....

"FEED MY SHEEP" John 21:17

Needed for Altar Care:

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

We are still looking for volunteers to help with every Sunday, can you serve?

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.

April 2nd The Sacraments, Confession April 9th Lutheran History/Theology/Liturgy



National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 1, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m. Kittanning Riverfront

Kittanning Riverfron Amphitheater.

What the world and our nation most need now is our prayers!



Reverse Lent Calendar

Instead of giving something UP during Lent, please consider giving something away!

5-Mar	Spaghetti O's	29-Mar	Body Wash
6-Mar	Peanut Butter	30-Mar	Dried Milk
7-Mar	Vienna Sausage	31-Mar	Syrup
8-Mar	Boxed Potatoes	1-Apr	Pancake Mix
9-Mar	Shelf-stable Juice	2-Apr	Mixed Vegetables
10-Mar	Grape Jelly	3-Apr	Dinty Moore
11-Mar	Tuna Helper	4-Apr	Tuna
12-Mar	Macaroni/Cheese	5-Apr	Cornbread Mix
13-Mar	Canned Fruit	6-Apr	Canned Beef Stew
14-Mar	Canned Tomatoes	7-Apr	Shampoo
15-Mar	Alfredo Sauce	8-Apr	Your favorite food
16-Mar	Feminine Products	9-Apr	Kleenex
17-Mar	Monetary Donation	10-Apr	Muffin Mix
18-Mar	Canned Meat	11-Apr	Canned Fruit
19-Mar	Baked Beans	12-Apr	Sugar
20-Mar	Box of Crackers	13-Apr	Laundry Detergent
21-Mar	Rice	14-Apr	Conditioner
22-Mar	Flour	15-Apr	Cleaning Products
23-Mar	Pasta	16-Apr	Toothbrush/Toothpaste
24-Mar	Spaghetti Sauce	17-Apr	Hand Soap
25-Mar	Cereal	18-Apr	Deodorant
26-Mar	Canned Meat	19-Apr	Mens' DISPOSABLE razor
27-Mar	Tomato Soup	20-Apr	SPAM
28-Mar	Granola Bars		



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.



Rock of our Salvation Worship

8:30 a.m. Sunday, April 6th



April 6

Becky Swanson (E) **Assisting Minister**

Jonah Petruschke (L)

Lector Brendan Swanson (E)

Val Lager (L)

Comm Becky & John Swanson (E)

Karen Waugaman& Susan Barto (L)

Brenna Zurn (E) Acolyte Quinn Kellner (L)

Welcome Team The Rupp Family (E)

Deb & Jack Griffin (L)

Camera Operators Nick Wranich (E)

Bill Bouch (L)

April 13

Assisting Ministers Charlie Bleakney

Kay Thorell Lectors

Mitchell Wranich, Lucas Bowser Acolyte

Ella Fennell, Callie Adkins The Bouch Family Welcome Teams

Camera Operator Nick Wranich

April 15- Tuesday Healing Service

Assisting Ministers Karen Waugaman Lectors Karen Waugaman

Karen Waugaman & Susan Barto Comm Assistants

Camera Operator Bill Bouch

April 17 - Maundy Thursday

Assisting Ministers Deb Bouch

Lectors **Emily Bouch Comm Assistants** Lance & Christine Whiteman,

Mollie Bouch and Nancy Pierce

Acolytes William Bouch

Camera Operator Nick Wranich

April 18 - Good Friday

Assisting Minister Karen Waugaman Lector Gene Hughes, Robert John,

Elijah & Sophia Holt, Richard Thorell

Bill Bouch

Robert John **Camera Operators**

April 20 - Easter Sunday

Assisting Minister Gene Hughes

Lector Robert John

Comm Assistants Rose Montgomery & Tabitha Bowser

Welcome Teams The Holts

Camera Operator Keith Livengood

April 27

Assisting Minister Keith Livengood Lector Elizabeth John Acolytes Ava Rupp Welcome Team Wranich Family

Camera Operator

"None can believe how powerful prayer is, and what it is able to effect, but those who have learned it by experience."

—Martin Luther

Altar Guild: Mary Jane Dawson, Linda Charley

Money Counters: John Swanson, Susan Neal, Ryan

Shafer

Ushers: Bill Olinger, Jarrod Olinger, Ryan Shafer,

Roger Mechling

"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."

–Jesus

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 Angela B. Clever Sexton TBA Director of Music/Organist Rebecca Veith

Sr. Choir Accompanist Elizabeth Cramer



April St. John's Lutheran Church

2025

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Sun		Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship - Communion	Purple	31	1	9:30 Children's Hour 6:15 Senior Bells 7:00 Adult Catechism	9:30 Children's Hour 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism	4	8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast
5:00 Men's Fellowship Dinner				7:30 Senior choir	7.00 Gatosinism		
6 5th Sunday in Lent 8:30 Rock of our Salvation 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion 12:30 Women's Banquet	Purple	7:00 Council	8	6:15 Senior Bells 7:00 Adult Catechism 7:30 Senior choir	10 11:15 Women's Bible Study @ Kings 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism	6:00 Passover Seder @ First Baptist	8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast
9:45 Sunday of the Passion 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship 6:30 Youth Group	Purple	14	15	9:30 Children's Hour 6:15 Senior Bells 7:30 Senior choir	9:30 Children's Hour 7:00 Worship	18 Good Friday 10:00 Youth Group Noon Worship Service 7;00 Tenebrae Service	8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 Sanctuary Decorating 12pm Easter Egg Hunt
9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion	white	<b>21</b> 6:00 Mutual Ministry 7:00 Worship & Music	SPARK NIGHT 6:15	9:30 Children's Hour 6:15 Senior Bells 7:30 Senior choir	9:30 Children's Hour 1:00 Newsletter mlg 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism	25	26
9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion	white	28	29	30	9:30 Children's Hour 1:00 Newsletter mlg 2:45 Catechism 7:00 Catechism National Day of Prayer	2	3