

August 2023 ECHO

St. Joseph's (Hill) Lutheran Church

244 Koch Road

Boyertown PA 19512

610-369-0990

www.stjosephshill.com

A HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S (HILL) LUTHERAN CHURCH

The history of St. Joseph's congregation goes back 292 years to 1731 when Casper Stoeber began holding services in the Oley area. In 1741 land was purchased for a church building, school and cemetery. It wasn't until 1747 that the first church of logs was built on a site several hundred feet north of where the present St. John-Hill United Church of Christ is located. It continued as a Lutheran congregation for over fifty years. In 1785 the Lutherans invited the former German Reformed Congregation to become a partner in the use of its facilities.

The log church served until 1786 when the second church was built of stone. By 1854 the stone church had served its purpose so a third building was constructed, however it wasn't until 1886 that the steeple was added to the building. Electricity was installed in 1921. In 1953 the church was remodeled and a parish education building was added. (This building, located one-half mile north of our present church, continues to be the home of St. John-Hill United Church of Christ.)

For more than a quarter of a century the two "Hill" Church congregations, St. Joseph's Lutheran, and St. John United Church of Christ, discussed separating the relationship which had been consummated in 1786, but it wasn't until January 11, 1981 that the Union relationship was dissolved. The agreement was that the United Church of Christ would remain in the old building and would pay the Lutheran congregation \$104,416 as its share of equity for moving to the new location.

St. Joseph's congregation purchased a four-acre site on which our present church is located in 1979. Construction of the present building was done by Howard Leh, who was a member of the congregation at the time, and his employees. A modular home was on this property and served as the church office. Construction of the office area was completed first so that we could occupy that space and remove the modular home.

The groundbreaking for the church in which we now worship took place on May 23, 1982.

We had "leave taking" from our former church building on the Sunday before Christmas, December 19, 1982. That service, the Christmas Eve service, and the service on the following Sunday, were held in the incomplete sanctuary, with seating on folding chairs. From January 2 to March 16, 1983, church worship was held in the fellowship hall so more work could be completed in the Sanctuary. Because of increasing church attendance, our congregation then moved into the church for worship even though the Sanctuary was still incomplete.

The dedication of our present church building took place on April 24, 1983, and even with pouring rain, the church, (including the narthex, the lounge, and the hallway all the way to the front doors,) was filled to capacity.

In 1993, St. Joseph's Hill Church Day Care was formed, and due to the continued increase in attendance by children of church members and members in the community, more space was needed. Therefore, in 2010 a new addition to the building to accommodate the day care was constructed. This addition adjoins the existing fellowship hall.

Here are the answers to last month's word search...

In these **re**marks are hidden the names of 15 books of the Bible. It's a **lu**. **Ke**pt me looking so hard for **facts** that I missed the **revelation**. I was in a **jam**, especially since the names were not capitalized. The **truth** will come to **numbers** of our readers. To others it will be a real **job**. For all it will be a **most** fascinating search. **Yes**, there will be some easy to spot, others hard to **judge**, so we admit **it usually** results in loud **lamentations** when we can't find them. One lady says that **she brews** coffee while she puzzles over it. One book is underlined to help you start. Can you find the other 14?

OLEY FAIR 2023

The Oley Fair will be held on September 21, 22 & 23. St. Joseph's is responsible for helping in the refreshment stand on Saturday, Sept. 23 from 4:30 pm to closing. There will be two shifts for you to volunteer for. The shifts are 4:30 pm-7:30 pm & 7:30 pm to closing. You can sign up for one or both shifts. **There is a real need for people to stay till closing.** If you want to just come for the closing time that is fine too. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated. Again this year the amount of money the Sunday School receives from the fair is based on how many volunteers we have.

You have to be 16 years or older to volunteer for most jobs at the fair. If you are a teenager under the age of 16 and would like to help, there are a few jobs that you can do. Also if you would like to volunteer but cannot make it when St. Joseph's is scheduled; you can still volunteer on a different day and time and we will get credit for your service. Let me know so I can give you more information.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture requires all volunteers to wear closed toed shoes, hat, baseball cap or visor, apron and gloves. Also, no hanging jewelry from your wrists. The fair does ask that all volunteers pay for the food they eat because they have been having problems in the past with people pretending to be volunteers and taking advantage of the "free" food. As in the past there are parking passes for those who volunteer at the fair. I will put the parking passes and the signup sheet on the bulletin board. Please sign up by Sept. 10. If you have any questions, please call Lucy Hartman.

RALLY DAY will be held on Sunday, September 10 from 8am to 8:45 AM. Sunday School is available for anyone from kindergarten through adult. Children from kindergarten through grade 6 will be in one classroom using “All Kids Spark” materials. There will also be a Jr and Sr High class and an adult class. If there is an interest in preschoolers attending Sunday School we may also add a preschool class. There will be no service project this year. If there is anyone interested in teaching Sunday School for any age group, please contact Lucy Hartman at 610-367-4560 or luc19009@windstream.net.

YOU ARE WELCOME... The church council meets every month. We need the congregation to help make decisions about the church. The next meeting is held in the fellowship hall at 7pm on September 28th. It's a good time for fellowship and the leaders need your help.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Sept. 3: Pastor Lichner is supplying; *Holy Communion*.
- Sept. 5: Scouts meet at 6:30 PM; Christian Ed meets at 7 PM via zoom.
- Sept. 10: Pastor Filer is supplying; Sunday School begins at 8 AM; Rally Day!
- Sept. 12: Scouts meet at 6:30 PM.
- Sept. 17: Pastor Bardo is supplying; *Holy Communion*.
- Sept. 19: Scouts meet at 6:30 PM.
- Sept. 23: Volunteers arrive at Oley Fair at 4:30 PM or 7:30 PM.
- Sept. 21: Council meets at 7 PM.
- Sept. 24: Pastor Sussett is supplying; Blessing of the Animals.
- Sept. 26: Scouts meet at 6:30 PM.

BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS SHOPPING DAY is Wednesday, October 18th, and Don & Esther Hendricks will be selling passes soon. Watch for your opportunity to save 25% of your purchases that day while raising money for the Church. And by purchasing a gift card from Esther (Scrip Program) to use on this day, 8% of all your purchases comes back to the church. More information to come!

DAYCARE

Our children are putting away their flip flops and swimsuits and heading for the School Year. We have limited openings. The “word of mouth referrals” from our parents and the church community is our best advertisement this year and every year!

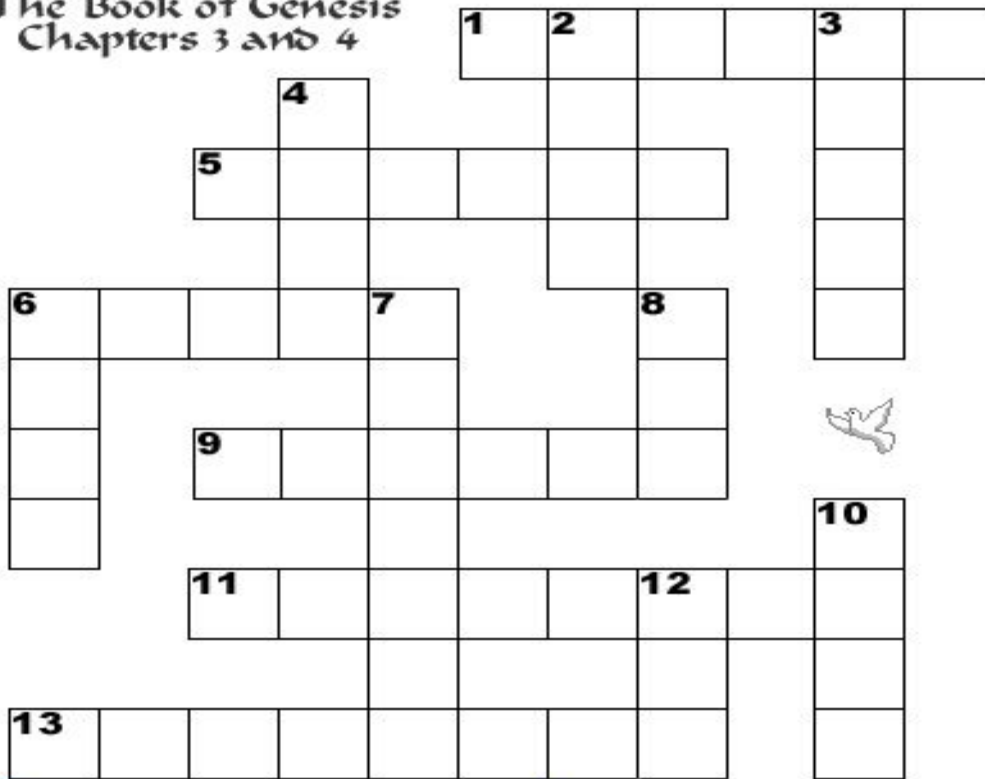
Do you know that the daycare has never had a sign? We do now! There was an old church sign outside of the church entrance that was worn and faded. Just like God takes our worn and faded lives and gives us hope and makes them new, we have a new refurbished sign. Thank you to Carl Bieber (our daycare handyman) for painting, sanding and fixing the “new daycare sign”.

We celebrated a baptism of two of our new infants at a church service on August 6th. The center encourages parents in the daycare to participate in fellowship with our church family. Several children attended our “blessing of the backpacks” on August 20th and sang Little Light of Mine. Tremendous thanks to Marcia Kurtz for ministering in song to our daycare children!

Fundraiser for the Fall: September Corbi's Pizza Sale. Delivery October 11th.

Crossword No.2

The Book of Genesis
 Chapters 3 and 4



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Down

- (2) Adam's second son
- (3) Cain's first son (Gen. 4:17)
- (4) Adam's first son
- (6) Adam's third son
- (7) What creature tempted Eve
- (8) Cain lived in this land
- (10) First man
- (12) First woman

Across

- (1) Cain's occupation (Gen. 4:2)
- (5) The ____ of Eden
- (6) Adam and Eve's first clothes (Gen. 3:21)
- (9) Because of sin the ground was _____ (Gen. 3:17)
- (11) Abel's occupation (Gen. 4:2)
- (13) Cain became a _____ and a vagabond (Gen. 4:12)

The September ECHO is not sponsored this month.

As you pray, please lift up these brothers and sisters in Christ:



Nate, Kathee Rhode's grandson; Noah, Lucy Hartman's grandson; Lizinette & Tim, friends of Linda Kowalski; Margueritte Hobert, long standing church member; Arlene McCaffrey, long time member; Barbara, Matt Neumaier's mother; Roberta, Faye Gehris' sister; Nicole, friend of Joanne Bieber; and Pat P., a friend of Susy Yerger. *Please help keep this list current. To add or delete a friend or family member from our prayer list, please contact Jill at 610-369-0990.*

SEPTEMBER Worship Opportunities

- September 3 14th Sunday after Pentecost.
9:00 AM Worship Service & Holy Communion.
Pastor Lichner will supply.
- September 10 15th Sunday after Pentecost.
9:00 AM Worship Service.
Pastor Filer will supply.
- September 17 16th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 AM Worship Service & Holy Communion
Pastor Bardo will supply.
- September 24 17th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 AM Worship Service
Pastor Shussett will supply.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday!

Darlene Weidner
Phyllis Luft
Ethan Dierolf
Brad Reinboth
Carolyn Gilbert
Karissa Bernhard
Timothy Albrecht
Karen Neumaier
Julie Renninger
Keith Christy
Arlene McCaffrey
Cole Schwenk
Braxton Billera-Smith
Ava Christy Greener
Faye Gehris
Jessica Neumaier
Gretchen Kimmel

Kenneth Kurtz
Steven Gehris
Danielle Longacre
Edward Hantwerker
Jennifer Bollard
Collin McKown
Leah Marie Moyer
Rosemarie Hantwerker
Garry Botts
Esther Hendricks
Joshua Eck
Barbara Hilbert
Clark Williamson
Madelyn Souder
Richard Gill, Jr.
Kim Reinboth
Brittany Billera-Smith

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Connor & Danielle Longacre 3 years

Lucille & Dale Hartman 43 years

Edwin & Tracy Dierolf 20 years

Happy Anniversary

Michele & Calvin Beekman 40 years

Anita & Greg Hoffman 43 years

Karen & Matthew Neumaier 28 years



The Staff at St. Joseph's (Hill) Lutheran Church:

Mrs. Linda Kowalski, Council President

Mrs. Jill Savory, Parish Secretary

Mr. Blaise Miller, Sexton

Mr. Ethan Dierolf, Groundskeeper

Mrs. Carol Barton, Organist

Mrs. Marcia Kurtz, Music Director

Mrs. Robin Schmale, Daycare Director

www.stjosephshill.com email: secretary.stjosephshill@gmail.com

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Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday.....10:00 AM–2:00 PM

Daycare hours Monday – Friday.....6:30 AM – 6:00 PM