

ST. STEPHEN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

65 E. Street Road, Feasterville, Pa. 19053

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We turn the calendar and what do we see?
But the month of November. How can that be?
It was only yesterday our lawnmowers were roaring
Now the yellow school buses greet us in the morning.

Even the nights are growing much longer
And the frosty winds are blowing stronger.
We grab that extra sweater and a hat upon our head
We even grab that blanket at the bottom of our bed.

In this month we celebrate a very special day.
Thanksgiving, celebrated in our own special way.
As we sit around the table with family and friends,
We give thanks to the Lord for all that he sends.

For the food and the beauty of nature all around
The birds and the animals and their unique sounds,
The love and the blessings and each precious day
For all the quiet times we kneel and pray.

Yes, thank you dear Lord for all these things
Especially what November brings.

- Edith Witzel

Sunday School News



The children are enjoying learning the BIBLE stories.

As we get ready for the Thanksgiving season, we want to thank all our teachers and helpers. There wouldn't be a Sunday school without you.

We want to ask the students to remember to say thank you whenever someone does something nice.

We wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.



This year, again, the Feasterville Ministerium will hold the **Thanksgiving Eve Service** on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. On

November 26th at 7:00 PM the service will be hosted by Bensalem Methodist Church. We would like to have many people at this service in order to thank God for all that He has given us. Please plan to attend.



A lot of people think it's "Veteran's Day" or "Veterans' Day," but they're wrong. The holiday is not a day that "belongs" to one veteran or multiple veterans, which is what an apostrophe implies. It's a day for honoring all veterans — so no apostrophe needed. Honor a veteran on **Veterans Day!**

Nov. 11th

Thanksgiving Feast
November 10th
3:00 PM
Tickets now on sale



Family Fellowship will again host our Thanksgiving Feast. All are invited. Tickets are being sold in the Narthex after each service. This is a wonderful time for fellowship with each other AND for having great food. Don't miss a magnificent meal. Cost: \$11.00 per adult and \$5.00 for children under 12.

Reminder
Blessing of the Shoeboxes
Sunday, November 17th

Please be sure to return your filled shoeboxes by November 17th. They will be placed on the altar and blessed before sending them off to delight the heart of a child.

Food Bank Thanksgiving

Our Food Bank will be distributing Food Baskets Saturday, November 9th for our Food Bank Families Thanksgivings. We do not need pie donations this year but if you get a free turkey we would appreciate you donating that to the Food Bank.

We will be giving 23 coats to children of our 22 eligible Families thankfully donated mostly by the Feasterville Rotary.

Ongoing we still need juice, syrup, applesauce, canned fruit, rice, condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, salad dressings) laundry detergent and dish detergent.

If you know of anyone who needs help Please have them call our Food Bank line (267) 261-8672. God Bless you and Thank You All for your generosity!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Rev. Dr. Clair Hoifjeld
September 25, 2019

As newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the word, alleluia...Sing aloud to God our strength." | Peter 2:2, Ps. 81:1



The congregation was saddened to hear of Pastor Clair's passing on September 25th. We will all miss his cheerfulness, his sense of humor and his wise counsel.

The Tuesday Bible Class, on October 8th remembered his faithful guidance and gentle words of encouragement. We read together his reflections on the years before and since his ordination on April 24, 1960, where the above verses served as a launching pad for his subsequent years of service to the Lord. Coincidentally, (Are there really coincidences?) the class has been studying the ministry of Peter and planned to begin the second chapter just at the appropriate time. Thank you, Pastor, for sharing one last message with us. We miss you.

Pastor Clair's "story" can be found on the Wetzell and Son website under the name Rev. Clair Hoifjeld

Thank you

Our heartfelt thank you for your prayers, calls, cards, notes and other expression of empathy and condolence on Clair's passing. We are most grateful for your kindness and support. God bless you all ---

Sincerely, Ginny Hoifjeld & family

At the most recent council meeting we had a lengthy discussion about trying one service during January and February. Lynn Rhodes spoke about the impact this would have on the Sunday School and the teachers. Council decided to seek input from the congregation prior to making any changes.

We have a candidate for interim pastor. Initial discussions are being held to determine whether or not she can meet our needs.

We met with the township engineer to discuss the ongoing construction of the proposed Wawa. It was decided that engineers and township supervisors needed to meet with PennDOT. We are concerned about encroachment on our property and safety with the proposed traffic flow.

We had a beautiful service for Janet Dougherty . Our prayers are with her family and friends.

Respectfully submitted
Carol Merchiere, Council President

With Sympathy

Love and prayers go to Janet Guyger on the death of her beloved son, Steven Wasserleben. May God give you His comfort and strength.

I met Janet when she taught my son Kevin in Sunday school when he was 6. He was so excited at Christmas to bring home his own Advent Wreath which she had the children make to take home. Janet was always ready to lend a hand to anyone who needed it. She was always ready to support any effort to help the people of St. Stephen's. She was an angel put here on earth for a little while. I was blessed to have known her.
Lynn Rhodes

*Janet was reserved, but friendly, hard working, but made it look easy. She never looked for accolades, just did what needed to be done. She was what we all aspire to be, a caring human being. It was an honor to have known her. Miss you,
Ron & Judy Borsuk*

*I will miss talking to Janet before church would begin, she always took the time to listen to me. Janet asked me to help her in Sunday School. I liked it so much that I still do it 20 years later. Miss you so much Janet and I will never forget you.
Love, Chris Borsuk*

*Wherever a beautiful soul has been there is a trail of beautiful memories. Janet was such a person. The love she had for the Lord spilled out in everything she did.. In her quiet manner she showed us how to walk the walk. I shall miss her loving spirit, her smiling face and her willingness to be of service wherever the need. I thank God for the wonderful times we shared at St. Stephen's. They were a true joy and blessing. During this painful time of loss may God wrap his arms of comfort around your dear family.
Charlotte Koch*



Janet Dougherty
September 28, 2019

**Show me your faith without deeds and I will show you my faith by what I do.
James 2:18**

It is with great sadness that we said goodbye to our friend Janet Dougherty. She was a member of council and when the need arose for an assistant financial secretary, Janet accepted this challenge. I felt privileged to work with Janet and valued her compassionate and loving approach to all issues. She was always present, always thoughtful, always prepared and willing to help in any way. I will remember her and, with Christ's help, strive to promote the Christian principles that she exhibited. Love and prayers .

Carol Merchiere

*“Don't worry, I won't leave you.” she said. I was always worried while still working that we were asking too much of her, that she would feel overbooked and frustrated. But, not Janet. She was all in! “I won't leave you.” But God had other plans. I will always miss her willingness, her enthusiasm, her commitment, our giggles over nothing, our ‘we can figure it out together’ moments but I am grateful for every one of them.
- Carol Dunn*

Recent Events at St. Stephens

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

Our GWOH activities this year centered around 'appreciation.' We arranged visits to the Lower Southampton Police Department and to the Feasterville Fire Department bearing hoagies, chips and soda along with a certificate of appreciation . A simple 'thank you' does not seem enough!



We also wanted to thank our veterans! A Bingo with prizes and snacks provided a fun day for all! Thanks to all who participated.

Stewardship Month



"Please think stewardship for each one's time and talents, and most of all pray about it. This church cannot continue with the same few people doing the lions share of the duties. Many hands make light work."

Mark Tiger, Stewardship Committee



The Stewardship emphasis this year is to ask you to consider how you can offer your talents to the service of the God. Our committees all made posters to introduce their needs and responsibilities for you to select a way to serve. Please share your talents in some way!