



St. John's Church
Know • Grow • Go

Spring
*March, April, and
May 2025*



ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS
SMALL GROUP TOURS





The purpose of St. John's Church is to bring glory to God by making disciples who:

- (1) **Know Jesus** as their personal Lord and Savior,
- (2) **Grow in Faith** to become more like Jesus, and
- (3) **Go Serve** others near and far in Jesus' name.

Current Services and Ministries

For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website at www.ilovestjohns.org and click on the events page.

Sunday:	9:30-10:15 10:30-11:30 am	Sunday School Morning Worship (live-streamed) Staffed Nursery (birth to age 3) Children's Church (age 4 to grade 3)
Wednesday:	7:00-7:30 pm	Share & Prayer Phone Call (dial 716-427-1128, access code 395586)
Thursday:	6:00-7:30 pm	Worship Team Practice
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Monthly:	1st Saturday at 8:00 am Times & Dates vary	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Heisey's Diner) Church Fellowship Events



Prayer Chain

Please call/text Pastor Jeff Berger
at 717-371-0840.

ST. JOHN'S E.C. CHURCH

683 Steelstown Road, Annville, PA 17003
Church Telephone: 717-838-1171

Pastor: Rev. Jeffrey S. Berger
Worship Director: Tim Yordy
Secretary: Georgee Miller

717-371-0840 (cell)
570-495-6182 (cell)
717-926-2447 (cell)

jeff@ilovestjohns.org
tim@ilovestjohns.org
georgee@ilovestjohns.org

Pastor's Day Off: Mondays



**Please join us as we celebrate the resurrection
of our Lord, Jesus Christ, during morning worship
on Easter Sunday (April 20) at 10:30 am!**



Meet the world's most practical marriage assessment!

You can build your marriage on more than a hope and a prayer. The SYMBIS Assessment gives you a personalized road map to making your marriage everything it was meant to be.

Engaged couples, newlywed couples, and married couples at various stages find the results to be extremely helpful!



For more information, including a list of frequently asked questions, please visit:

**NHCC's website at www.ihavenewhope.org or
St. John's website at www.ilovestjohns.org**



Because of the Resurrection

By Mark Roberts

Without the resurrection, the cross of Jesus really wouldn't matter much.

Without the resurrection, we'd never have known about Jesus' prayer on the Mount of Olives, where he submitted to the will of his Heavenly Father.

Without the resurrection, Judas' betrayal of Jesus would have been long forgotten.

Without the resurrection, the Sanhedrin who condemned Jesus would have been seen as largely correct in their estimation of him as a blasphemer who needed to be silenced.

Without the resurrection, the fact that Jesus was scourged and crowned with thorns would seem to be a sad but fitting end to one who pretended to usher in the kingdom of God.

Without the resurrection, Jesus would have been one more nameless individual who took up his cross on the way to dying a cruel death.

Without the resurrection, the women who mourned for Jesus would have continued to mourn for a long, long time...not for only two days.

Because of the resurrection, what was once the sign of horrific death is now a sign of life and hope.

Because of the resurrection, the death of Jesus is remembered, cherished, and celebrated.

Because of the resurrection, we are reborn into a living hope.

Because of the resurrection, we know that we, too, will live anew.

Because of the resurrection, everything is different.

Because of the resurrection, new life has begun.

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!



Keep Praying

God heals, not prayer. A matter of semantics? No. If you think the power is in the prayer and not the One who hears the prayer, you fault the pray-er for unanswered prayer. If I had prayed more, better, differently... But the power of prayer is in the One who hears it, not the one who makes it.

So, if you are waiting on God to answer your prayer, don't despair. We need to remember that many of God's saints endured a time of unanswered prayer. Peter was in a storm before he walked on water. Lazarus was in a grave before he came out of it. The demoniac was possessed before he was a preacher, and the paralytic was on a stretcher before he was in your Bible.

We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. Please don't interpret the presence of your disease as the absence of God's love. I pray he heals you. And he will—ultimately! Till then, just keep praying.

God Lightens Your Load

Prayer reminds us of who's in charge. You don't take your requests to someone with less authority. You take them to someone who outranks you in the solutions department.

The same is true in prayer. You don't pray just to let God know what's going on. He's way ahead of you on that one. You pray to transfer "my will be done" to "God's will be done." And since he's in charge, he knows the best solution. Prayer transfers the burden to God and lightens your load. Prayer pushes us through life's slumps, and propels us over the humps, and pulls us out of the dumps. Prayer's the oomph we need to get the answers we seek. So pray—today!



Join us on Thursday, April 17 at 7:30 pm as we remember the love and sacrifice of Jesus with holy communion.



Join us on Sunday, April 20 at 10:30 am as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus during Morning Worship.



Join us on Sunday, April 27 at 2:00 pm as we enjoy the Community Band Concert! An offering will be taken to bless others around us.

March Birthdays

1	Ethan Yorty
3	Judson Custer
4	Lori Peters
7	Matt O'Neal
8	Levi Wolfe
10	Ralph Blauch Ruth McCrone Shirley Landis
12	Lorraine Long
17	Ian Buvoltz
21	Sue Schmoyer
22	Jay O'Neal
31	Lori Caruso

March Wedding Anniversaries

14	Tim & Alex Yordy
20	Tim & Jodi Blauch



March Greeters

2	Christian & Korin Gingrich
9	Romaine Blauch
16	Earl & Barb Blauch
23	Georgee Miller



MARCH SCHEDULE

	2	9	16	23	30
Worship Nursery Attendants	Lori Caruso & Pat Bender	Barb Blauch & Cheryl Gecelosky	Eileen & John Yorty	Judy Markley & Vikki Delong	Donna & Dave Bingaman
Children's Church	Korin & Emerson Gingrich	MMK	Donna & Dave Bingaman	Paula Turner & Evie Yordy	Brenda Custer & Kath Heckman
Sound Technician	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies	TBD
Video Tech	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich	Jacob Gingrich
Stewardship Team	John Horvath & Travis McFeaters	Joel & Kim Wolfe	Carol Ruth & Esther Hamilton	Jim & Brenda Jefferies	Joel & Kim Wolfe
April Trustee: Sonny Bomgardner					



APRIL MILESTONES

April Birthdays

4	Jennifer Wolfe
6	Darin Unger Lyla Custer William Steel
8	Drake Yeany
9	Isaac Custer
11	Ben Tshudy
15	Melody Hostetter
18	Judy Stitt
19	Jackson Custer
23	Georgia Bomgardner
24	Crystal Turner
25	Jacob Gingrich
28	Luke Custer
30	Teresa Blauch Loretta Herr



April Wedding Anniversaries

12	Alan & Robin Hostetter
19	Matthew & Heidi Crisp



April Greeters

6	JT & Judy Markley
13	Dave & Donna Bingaman
20	Brandon Hostetter
27	Frank & Pat Custer

APRIL SCHEDULE

	6	13	20	27
Worship Nursery Attendants	Alexandra Yordy & Sheridan Gingrich	Mindy Allmond & Diane Krall	Eileen & John Yorty	Kim Wolfe & Brenda Jefferies
Children's Church	Korin & Emerson Gingrich	MMK	Donna & Dave Bingaman	Brenda Custer & Kathy Heckman
Sound Technician	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies
Video Tech	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich
Stewardship Team	John Horvath & Travis McFeaters	Joel & Kim Wolfe	Carol Ruth & Esther Hamilton	Jim & Brenda Jefferies
May Trustee: Dale Custer				



MAY MILESTONES

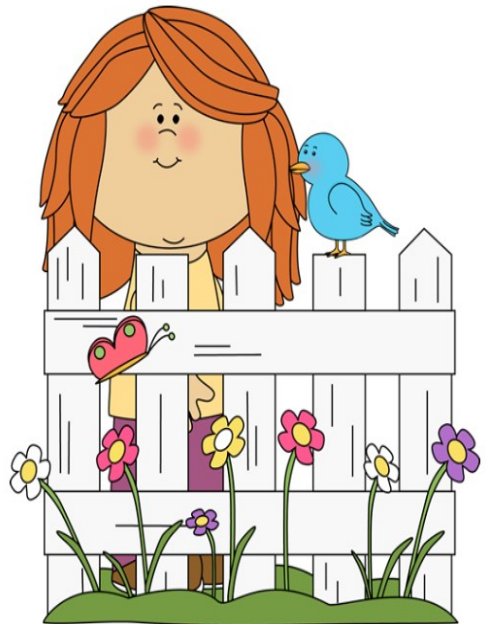
May Birthdays

3	Susan Kleinfelter
8	Matt Stover
9	Beverly Boltz
11	Frank Custer
13	Melayna Turner
16	Bill Waltz
21	Basil Patteson
23	Philip Yordy
25	Becky O'Neal
29	Korin Gingrich



May Wedding Anniversaries

4	Adam & Jennifer Wolfe
24	Jake & Laura Solt
26	Phil & Diane Yordy



May Greeters

4	Kathy Heckman
11	Connie Mickey
18	Joel & Kim Wolfe
25	Kris Turner

MAY SCHEDULE

	4	11	18	25
Worship Nursery Attendants	Lori Caruso & Pat Bender	Barb Blauch & Cheryl Gecelosky	Eileen & John Yorty	Judy Markley & Vikki DeLong
Children's Church	Brenda Custer & Kathy Heckman	MMK	Korin & Emerson Gingrich	Donna & Dave Bingaman
Sound Technician	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies	Travis McFeaters	Jim Jefferies
Video Tech	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich
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May Trustee: Dave Bingaman				





The Pantry is a free resource to bless you, your family, and others!

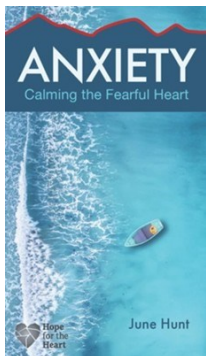
GROCERIES: canned goods, pasta, potatoes, baking supplies, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, snacks, candy, condiments, coffee, tea, and more!

FROZEN ITEMS: chicken tenders, sausage, bacon, chicken thighs, breakfast sausage, ham, hot dogs, lunch meat, cheese, and more!

DRINKS: bottled water, flavored water, iced tea, lemonade, sport drinks, protein drinks, juice, and more!

PERSONAL ITEMS: soap, body wash, shampoo, razors, toothpaste, mouthwash, floss, deodorant, hand sanitizer, cold medicine, and more!

CLEANING SUPPLIES: glass cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, bleach, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, dish liquid, air freshener, and more!



Be sure to visit the new Christian Counseling Booklets area downstairs in the NHCC Waiting Room / Youth SS Room! They are to bless you, your family, and others.

There are 48 titles for you to choose from, and they are free!



The purpose of New Hope Christian Counseling is to provide Christ-centered, Biblically based emotional, relational, and spiritual guidance to children, teens, and adults experiencing challenging life-issues.

Our counselors have experience working with people facing many issues including, but not limited to, the following:

Anger Management
Grief
Depression
Sexual Assault
Family Dynamics

First Responders
Conflict Resolution
Parenting
Marriage Counseling
Stress Management

Anxiety
Faith
Divorce
Trauma
Pre-Marriage



Dave Berger
Director, Counselor



Pastor Jan Fryer
Counselor



Jennifer Wolfe, MA
Art Therapist,
Counselor



Georgee Miller
Office Manager,
Coach

***To schedule an appointment, please call 717-685-5157.
More info at www.ihavenewhope.org***



Love is a Decision

When we look at the love of Christ, we make a wonderful discovery: love is more a decision than an emotion.

Christ-like love applauds good behavior. At the same time, Christ-like love refuses to endorse misbehavior. Jesus loved his apostles, but he wasn't silent when they were faithless. Jesus loved the people in the temple, but he didn't sit still when they were hypocritical. Love does whatever is in the best interest of a person. The cheating husband says to his wife, "If you loved me, you'd forget what has happened and let me come home." That may not be true. Love does what's in the best interest of a person. Love sets boundaries. Love seeks counsel.

The love of Christ is no sweet sentiment, but rather a heartfelt resolve to do what's in the best interest of another person. And sometimes that means dying on a cross.

God's Word Over Worry

Fretting over tomorrow's problems siphons the strength you need for today, leaving you anemic and weak. So when you can't sleep, don't count sheep; read Scripture.

Worry takes a look at catastrophes and groans, "It's all coming unraveled." But God says in Romans 8:28 (MSG), "Every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good." Worry claims, "The world has gone crazy," but God's Word disagrees. Mark 7:37 (MSG) says, "Jesus has done it all and done it well." Worry wonders if anyone is in control, but God's Word calls God "the blessed controller of all things" (1 Timothy 6:15 Phillips). Worry whispers this lie: "God doesn't know what I need." But God's Word declares in Philippians 4:19 (MSG), "God will take care of everything you need." Worry never sleeps, but God's children do!

Easter Word Search

G S N O I T P M E D E R Y Y M
J J U Y K I R Y T T F X E O L
R L K F W E E C I O J E R C K
X Y N G Q C U W V U P C M C K
R C R O S S H R E D P H M N E
I F V A I B Q U I R G P Q R N
S A Q Z M T M I R A C L E T S
E I A O I R C H R C O Y I U E
N T T P R C G E Y O H S S R L
I H H S O O C A R K I E P V K
N W O R C S D U B R J V R G T
O H T N G N T E S F U L A M I
D P V O U Q F L D K A S Y S H
Z M E S B Z Z W E M L Y E D F
E T G L M E G K B S L T R R U

APOSTLES
CROWN
LAMB
PRAYER
RESURRECTION
SON

CHURCH
FAITH
MARY
REDEMPTION
RISEN
SUNDAY

CROSS
JESUS
MIRACLE
REJOICE
SAVIOR
TOMB





Trust in God's Grace

Nothing fosters courage like a clear grasp of grace. And nothing fosters fear like an ignorance of mercy. If you haven't accepted God's forgiveness, you're doomed to live in fear. Nothing can deliver you from the gnawing realization that you have disregarded your Maker and disobeyed his instruction. No pill, pep talk, psychiatrist, or possession can set the sinner's heart at ease.

You may deaden the fear, but you can't remove it. Only God's grace can. 1 John 1:9 (NKJV) says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Your prayer can be as simple as: "Father, I need forgiveness. Please forgive me. I place my soul in your hands and trust in your grace. Through Jesus I pray, amen."

God's Eternal Love

Human love is convenient. It suits the needs of the person at the time and works into his schedule. God's love is eternal. You're always on his itinerary.

Human love is emotional. Hormones, sleeplessness, worry, past hurts, Mexican food—all complicate these emotions. God's love is committed. While God has feelings for us, his feelings do not dictate his love. His love is based on a decision to love us. Your actions don't increase or decrease his commitment. In fact, if you never love God, he will still love you.

One thing human love has going for it: you can see it. God's love is just as real, but not quite as tangible. We will see it, in time and for eternity, as we gaze at the face of God and his Son, Jesus Christ, while we stand in the presence of God in heaven. And what a day that will be!

**Do you have a friend whose church might be interested in a tour?
Please tell Pastor Jeff or point them to ilovestjohns.org/SJCJ**

**Your church small group
of 10-14 people can
save 35% or more* on
professional, guided
Christian tours with...**



ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS
SMALL GROUP TOURS

Three Amazing Destinations, Seven Great Tours!



Tour 1: Creation Museum & Ark Encounter (4 days)

Tour 2: Museum of the Bible (1 day)

Tour 3: Museum of the Bible (2 days)

Washington National Cathedral, National Mall

Tour 4: Billy Graham Library & Asheville (4 days)

Trinity Episcopal Church, Woodrow Wilson Library,
Lazy 5 Ranch, Biltmore, The Cove



Tour 5: Billy Graham Library & Asheville (5 days)

Trinity Episcopal Church, Woodrow Wilson Library, Lazy 5
Ranch, Biltmore, The Cove, Monticello, Montpelier

Tour 6: Billy Graham Library & Charlotte (4 days)

Trinity Episcopal Church, Woodrow Wilson Library,
JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Relay Service), Lazy 5 Ranch,
NASCAR Hall of Fame, Basilica of Saint Andrew



Tour 7: Billy Graham Library & Charlotte & OCC (4 days)

Trinity Episcopal Church, Woodrow Wilson Library, NarroWay
Dinner Theater, OCC Processing Center, Basilica of Saint Andrew



ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS
SMALL GROUP TOURS

SJCJ is a ministry of St. John's E.C. Church
of Steelstown, PA and financially
supports its Blessing Fund to help those
in need. (www.ilovestjohns.org)

***Your travel makes a difference.
Thank you!***

* Savings are approximate and are compared to luxury bus tours with premium accommodations and included meals.



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**683 Steelstown Road
Annville, PA 17003**

FYI: If you are receiving this newsletter and ever have a change of address, **PLEASE LET US KNOW**. The Post Office will not forward the newsletter to your new address, and, we want to be good stewards of the Lord's finances. Simply contact the Church Office at 717-838-1171; leave a message if no one answers. **THANK YOU!**

