



**St. John's Church**  
*Know • Grow • Go*

**Spring**  
*March, April, and  
May 2024*





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](http://www.ilovestjohns.org) and click on the events page.*

<b>Sunday:</b>	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)
<b>Wednesday:</b>	7:00-7:30 pm	Share & Prayer Phone Call (dial 716-427-1128, access code 395586)
<b>Thursday:</b>	6:00-7:30 pm	Worship Team Practice
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<b>Monthly:</b>	1st Saturday at 8:00 am  Times & Dates vary	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Heisey's Diner)  Youth "Activity & Devotional" 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

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**Schedule for Easter Sunday, March 31:  
9:15 am Sunday School, 10:30 am Worship**



## 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](http://www.ihavenewhope.org) or  
St. John's website at [www.ilovestjohns.org](http://www.ilovestjohns.org)**

## Three Ways Easter Speaks to Non-Believers

By Juan Sanchez / outreachmagazine.com

**1. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the basis of the Christian gospel.** We believe that Jesus died for our sins and rose again on the third day. This is the basis for our faith because in the resurrection God accepted Jesus' substitute life and death, proved Jesus' claims, and granted Jesus all authority to judge the world regarding sin (Acts 17:31). If you want unbelievers to hear the gospel, Easter is a great Sunday to invite them.

**2. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the basis of Christian hope.** If Jesus was not raised from the dead, then our faith is worthless, and we have only hoped in Christ in this life only (1 Cor. 15:19). If Christ has not been raised then we have no hope of a future resurrection either. On the other hand, the Bible says that Jesus did rise from the dead and that because He was raised, we too can look forward to our resurrection. "For," Paul says, "if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection" (Rom. 6:5). Your unbelieving friends and family are scared to die. They long to hope, and they are placing their hope in what will disappoint them. They need to hear the promise of hope in Christ.

**3. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the basis of the Christian's conduct.** How should we live if Christ rose from the dead? We should live a life that is pleasing to God in all respects (2 Cor. 5:6–10). John reminds us that if we have this hope in us, we will purify ourselves (1 John 3:3). The hope of the resurrection allows us to live with a heavenly focus, living in righteousness because we don't want to be ashamed at his coming (1 John 2:28–29). Your unbelieving friends and family know how people behave, and they will see how Christians live differently than everyone else in this world. Why? Because we have an eternal hope, a living hope that gives us an eternal perspective. So, invite your unbelieving friends and family to church this Easter; it is the basis of our gospel, our hope and our conduct. If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, we should be out playing golf on Sundays or enjoying some family time or whatever brings you the most satisfaction. That's what most of your unbelieving friends and family are doing.





## Clothed With Christ

Galatians 3:27 (NIV) says, “All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” We wear Jesus! And those who don’t believe in Jesus note what we do.

People make decisions about Christ by watching us. When we’re kind, they assume Christ is kind. When we’re gracious, they assume Christ is gracious. No wonder Paul says in Colossians 4:5 (NCV), “Be wise in the way you act with people who are not believers, making the most of every opportunity.” Courteous conduct honors Christ.

It also honors his children. When you surrender a parking place to someone, you honor him. When you make an effort to greet everyone in the room, especially the ones others have overlooked, you honor God’s children. Do your best! You can’t control the attitudes of others, but you can manage yours.

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## The Courtesy of Christ

My wife has a heart for single moms. She loves to include them at the table when we go to a restaurant. Through the years I’ve noticed a common appreciation from them. They love it when I pull out their chair. More than once they’ve specifically thanked me. One mom in particular comes to mind. “My,” she said, brushing the sudden moisture from her eye, “it’s been a while since anyone did that.”

Has it been a while for you as well? People can be so rude. We snatch parking places. We forget names. Could you use some courtesy? Has it been a while since someone pulled out your chair? Then let Jesus! Don’t hurry through this thought. Receive the courtesy of Christ. He’s your groom. Let Christ do what he longs to do. For as you receive his love, you’ll find it easier to give yours away.



**Join us on Thursday, March 28 at 7:30 pm as we remember the love and sacrifice of Jesus with holy communion.**



**Join us on Sunday, March 31 at 10:30 am as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus with music and Scripture.**

## March Birthdays

<b>1</b>	Ethan Yorty
<b>2</b>	Olivia Van Vleet
<b>3</b>	Judson Custer
<b>4</b>	Lori Peters
<b>7</b>	Matt O'Neal
<b>8</b>	Levi Wolfe
<b>10</b>	Ralph Blauch Ruth McCrone Shirley Landis
<b>12</b>	Lorraine Long
<b>16</b>	Ben Custer
<b>17</b>	Ian Buvoltz
<b>21</b>	Sue Schmoyer
<b>22</b>	Jay O'Neal
<b>27</b>	Trenton Brubaker
<b>29</b>	Kristin McCann
<b>31</b>	Lori Caruso

## March Wedding Anniversaries

<b>14</b>	Tim & Alex Yordy
<b>20</b>	Tim & Jodi Blauch



## March Greeters

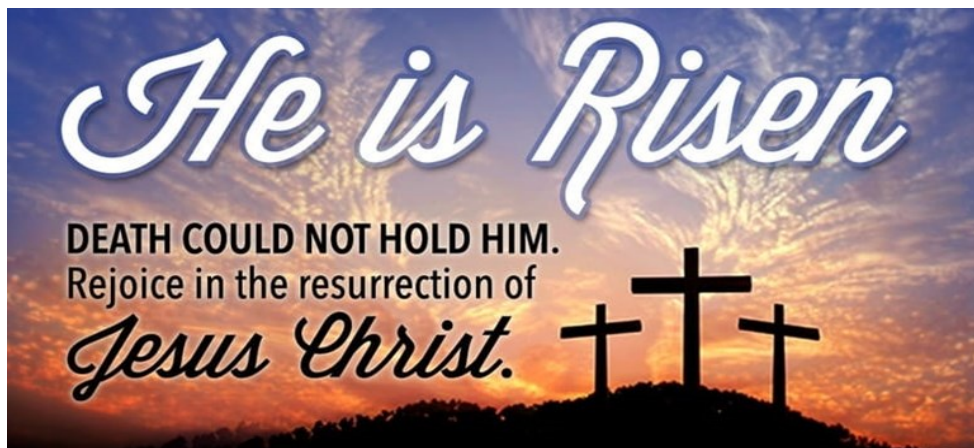
<b>3</b>	Christian & Korin Gingrich
<b>10</b>	Aaron & LuAnn Martin
<b>17</b>	Earl & Barb Blauch
<b>24</b>	Georgee Miller





# MARCH SCHEDULE

	3	10	17	24	31
<b>Worship Nursery Attendants</b>	Lori Caruso & Georgee Miller	Barb Blauch & Cheryl Gecelosky	Barb Hostetter & TBD	Judy Markley & Vikki Delong	Barb Blauch & Donna Bingaman
<b>Children's Church</b>	Paula & Melayna Turner	MMK	Brenday Custer & Evie Yordy	Korin & Emerson Gingrich	Donna & Dave Bingaman
<b>Sound Technician</b>	TBD	Jim Jefferies	TBD	Jim Jefferies	TBD
<b>Video Tech</b>	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich	Jacob Gingrich
<b>Stewardship Team</b>	John Horvath & Travis McFeaters	Joel & Kim Wolfe	Carol Ruth & Esther Hamilton	Jim & Brenda Jefferies	Joel & Kim Wolfe
<b>April Trustee: Sonny Bomgardner</b>					



# APRIL MILESTONES

## April Birthdays

4	Jennifer Wolfe
6	Darin Unger Lyla Custer William Steel
7	John Shuey
8	Drake Yeany
9	Isaac Custer
11	Ben Tshudy
15	Melodye Hostetter
18	Judy Stitt Dale Hostetter
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

7	JT & Judy Markley
14	Dave & Donna Bingaman
21	Brandon Hostetter
28	Frank & Pat Custer

# APRIL SCHEDULE

	7	14	21	28
<b>Worship Nursery Attendants</b>	Lori Caruso & Georgee Miller	Barb Blauch & Cheryl Gecelosky	Barb Hostetter & TBD	Judy Markley & Vikki DeLong
<b>Children's Church</b>	Donna & Dave Bingaman	MMK	Paula & Melayna Turner	Brenda Custer & Evie Yordy
<b>Sound Technician</b>	TBD	Jim Jefferies	TBD	Jim Jefferies
<b>Video Tech</b>	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich
<b>Stewardship Team</b>	John Horvath & Travis McFeaters	Joel & Kim Wolfe	Carol Ruth & Esther Hamilton	Jim & Brenda Jefferies
<b>May Trustee: Dale Custer</b>				



# MAY MILESTONES

## May Birthdays

3	Susan Kleinfelter
4	Marlys McCann
8	Matt Stover
9	Beverly Boltz Rev. Jan Fryer
11	Frank Custer
13	Melayna Turner
16	Bill Waltz
18	Ron Wolfe
19	Faith Swineford Long
21	Basil Patteson
23	Philip Yordy
25	Becky O'Neal
29	Korin Gingrich



## May Wedding Anniversaries

4	Adam & Jennifer Wolfe
5	Jan & Kathy Fryer
8	Ron & Brenda Wolfe
24	Jake & Laura Solt
26	Phil & Diane Yordy



## May Greeters

5	Kathy Heckman
12	Connie Mickey
19	Joel & Kim Wolfe
26	Kris Turner

# MAY SCHEDULE

	5	12	19	26
<b>Worship Nursery Attendants</b>	Lori Caruso & Georgee Miller	Barb Blauch & Cheryl Gecelosky	Barb Hostetter & TBD	Judy Markley & Vikki DeLong
<b>Children's Church</b>	Donna & Dave Bingaman	MMK	Childrens Day	Paula & Melayna Turner
<b>Sound Technician</b>	TBD	Jim Jefferies	TBD	Jim Jefferies
<b>Video Tech</b>	Kory Blauch	Melanie Hutson	Justin Hirons	Jacob Gingrich
<b>Stewardship Team</b>	John Horvath & Travis McFeaters	Joel & Kim Wolfe	Carol Ruth & Esther Hamilton	Jim & Brenda Jefferies
<b>May Trustee: Dave Bingaman</b>				





**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!

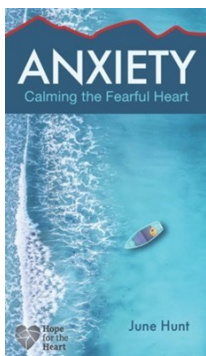
**FROZEN ITEMS:** chicken tenders, sausage, bacon, chicken thighs, breakfast sausage, ham, hot dogs, lunch meat, cheese, and more!

**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!

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**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](http://www.ihavenewhope.org)***



## Consider Others

True humility is not thinking lowly of yourself but thinking accurately of yourself.

When Paul writes in Philippians 2:3, “Consider others better than yourselves” he uses a verb that means “to calculate.” The word implies a conscious judgment resting on carefully weighed facts. To consider others better than yourself, then, is to say that you know your place. True humility is quick to applaud the success of others. Paul says, “Give each other more honor than you want for yourselves.”

Jesus is our example. Content to be known as a carpenter, happy to be mistaken for the gardener. He served his followers by washing their feet. If Jesus is so willing to honor us, can we not do the same for others? Can we not regard others as more important than ourselves? So be quick to share the applause. That’s what love does.

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## As God Has Loved You

Would you do what Jesus did? He swapped a spotless castle for a grimy stable. He exchanged the worship of angels for a company of killers. I wouldn’t do that, but Jesus did.

If you knew that only a few would care that you came, would you still come? If you knew that those you loved would laugh in your face, would you still care? Christ did. He humbled himself. The palm that held the universe took the nail of a soldier. Why? Because that’s what love does. It puts the beloved before itself. He loves you that much, and because he loves you, you are of prime importance to him.

Want to love others as God has loved you? Come thirsty. Drink deeply of God’s love for you. Ask him to fill your heart with a love worth giving.



# 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





## The Real Deal

Susie's most treasured possession was a string of fake pearls given to her by her father. As he put her to bed one evening, he asked this question: "Do you love me?" "Yes, Daddy. I love you more than anything." He paused. "More than the pearls? Would you give me your pearls?" "Oh Daddy," she replied. "I couldn't do that. I love my pearls."

But the next day she went to see him. "Daddy, I love you more than these. Here you take them." He said, "I brought you a gift from my trip." She opened the small flat box and gasped. Pearls! Genuine pearls.

You suppose your Father wants to give you some as well? He offers authentic love. His devotion is the real deal. He will give you the genuine when you surrender the imitation.

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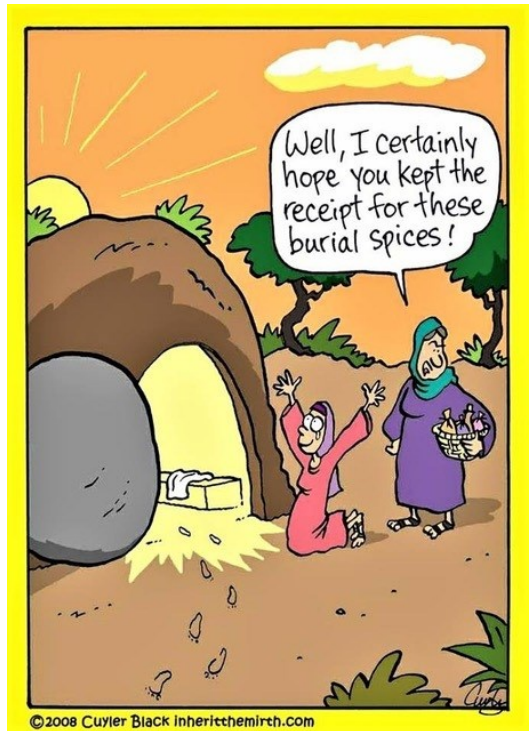
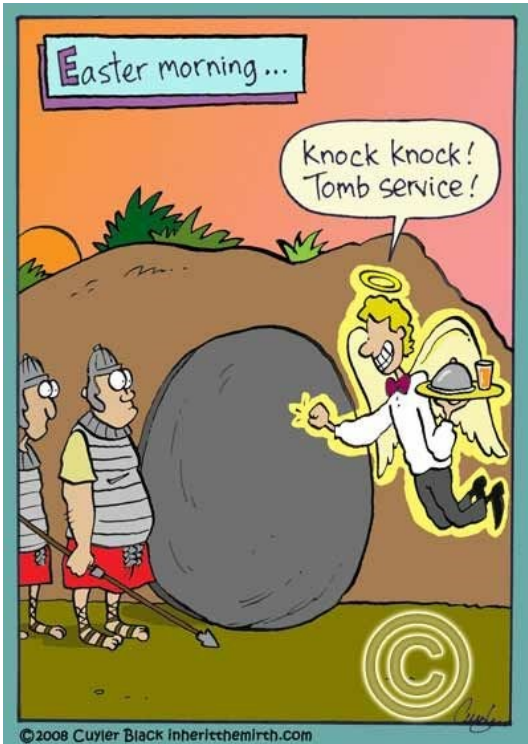
## The Work is God's

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:4, "Love does not envy."

A number of years ago I learned of a new church across town. A friend came to me with this report: "The church is great. It's bursting at the seams—the largest one in town." A more spiritual Max would have rejoiced. A more mature Max would have thanked God. But the Max who heard the report didn't act mature or spiritual. He acted jealous.

Rather than celebrate God's work, I was obsessed with my own. I wanted our church to be the biggest. Sickening. In a profound moment of conviction, he let me know that the church is his church, not mine. The work is his work, not mine. And my life is his life, not mine.

My job wasn't to question him, but to trust him. The cure for jealousy? Trust!





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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!**

