

NEWSLETTER

St. John's Lutheran Church

101 W. Martin Street

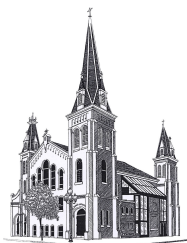
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

Telephone: 304-263-9291 FAX 304-263-4559

E-Mail: churchoffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Website: www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Pastor: The Rev. Matthew A. Day



AUGUST 2017



VBS REPORT:

Students: 65

Staff: An average of 35 adults assisted with teaching, music, crafts, recreation, cooking & clean-up each evening. At least 10 extra people helped with the set up and taking apart of the amazing decorations, which were so graciously loaned to us by the folks at Trinity United Methodist Church. THANKS!

Thank-You also to the Banks' for their trip to Fairmont and to Matt Collier, Hedgesville Middle School teacher, for his wonderful presentation of the planetarium.

Total Cost, including food and pool rental for closing night: \$2,110.27

Total Donations: \$686.50

Reaching children: Priceless!

NEXT YEAR'S THEME:

"GAME ON!"

AT A GLANCE:

RALLY DAY September 10th

and also

Our Annual Church Picnic at Poor House Farm Park

Starting at 3pm!!

*Hot Dogs with Condiments,
and Tableware will be furnished.*

*Please bring a dish to share
and your drink.*

**(Don't Forget Your
Lawn Chair)**

2017 ST. JOHN'S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Special Council Meeting

July 13 at 7:45pm

Those Present: Darrell, Minidi, Jane, Shane, Bess, Rick, Mike, Jerry and Pastor Day

Meeting called to order by Mindi and certified that there was a quorum.

Darrell presented 3 bids to council for replacing the AC. After some discussion, a motion was made by Shane and seconded by Rick to present the congregation with the bid from Griffith heating and cooling to install Ductless AC units at a price around \$28,416.53.

Motion was approved unanimously.

A second motion was made by Darrell and seconded by Mike to present to the congregation wither either a 12 month 0% financing of the project or to pay for the project in one lump sum. Motion was approved unanimously.

Council scheduled a Congregation meeting for July 30 after worship. There will be two ballots. One is to approve the system and bid from Griffith and the other is to decide whether we finance the project or pay for it all at once.

Rick asked for a point of personal privilege. The president granted his request. He wanted to personally thank Jess and Shane Wagoner for all they did for VBS this past week.

Motion to adjourn by Jerry and seconded by Rick.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Matt Day

Acting Recording Secretary for the meeting

2017 ST. JOHN'S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 24, 2017

Meeting called to order by: President Mindi Esswein

Members present: Mindi Esswein, Pastor Matt, Darrell Propst, Shane Wagoner, Jane Kelley, Austin Propst, , Rick Losh, Jerry Crites, Bess Day, Bev Murphy, Connie Provard

Members absent: Cindy Moats, Diane Shewbridge , Mike Noll

Devotions: Bess Day

Minutes: June 2017 council minutes accepted (Crites/Losh); June 13, 2017 special council minutes accepted (D Propst/A Propst)

Financial Report: Report for February-June 2017 accepted (Losh/D Propst)

Pastor's Report: A summary for June 2017 to the present was shared with the council. Pastor Matt thanks all of those who were able to provide transportation for visits.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: 1-year Goals. Using the notes obtained through cottage meetings, council chose several one-year goals. The selected topics to address were how to make evening/night worship more welcoming, holding more social gatherings, increasing FLYTE's interaction with the congregation, and developing a marketing plan. Short term goals included presenting a survey to the congregation regarding preferences for service frequency and type and committees/groups becoming more involved in the community.

Discussion of possible changes to Celebrate inserts for cost savings was tabled until further input was received on other recent bulletin changes. (D Propst)

NEW BUSINESS: The Mustard Seed is holding a pancake supper on 08/10/2016 from 4:30 to 6:30 and will be accepting volunteers. Please contact Mindi, Pastor Matt, or any MS Board Members if you wish to participate. More information will be available regarding tickets and pricing in the coming week.

Christian Education: During the all committee night on 08/01/2017 at 6pm, Christian Ed will meet to discuss the upcoming Sunday School season.

WELCA: WELCA is meeting Wednesday, July 26, for needle work and fellowship.

Worship & Music: Jerry would like to thank all of the soloists who have volunteered this summer.

FLYTE: No report.

Social Ministry: The next Saturday movie will be held on August 12th – rescheduled due to conflict with other city events.

Evangelism: No report.

Property/Tech: No report .

Mutual Ministry: Committee meeting was held recently. Mutual ministry is currently working to update church employee job descriptions.

Stewardship: The canoe trip was held with four participants.

With no further business, the congregational council closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mindi Esswein

Acolytes and Crucifers Needed!

Our list is depleted by birthdays, transfers and a hundred other reasons.

We need young people to serve in this important way in the church.

Acolytes should be in 1st through 6th grades, although special arrangements may be made.

Crucifers should be in the 7th grade and above.

If you are interested in joining these two areas of service, contact the Director

Mike Noll (267-6383 or mnoll@hughes.net) or the church office.

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING!

St. John's Lutheran Church Book Club will next meet on September 24 at 1:00 at Linda Riley's home for a covered dish luncheon, Afterwards we'll talk about the books we have read this summer and also discuss the book , "The Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah, from last time when we had to cancel the meeting.

WANT TO KEEP UP BETTER WITH ACTIVITIES AND WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S?



Search for **St. John's Lutheran Church, Martinsburg** on Facebook and like our page.

Visit Our Website

www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Sermons posted weekly, information about faith practices, and more information about events happening at the St John's.



Send an email to announcements@stjohnsmartinsburg.org to sign up for weekly emails and announcements.

Pastor's Report

July 2017

Visitation

June Visits: 39

Conference and Synod

Eastern Potomac Conference Meeting

Caroline Furnace Board Meeting (Conference Call)

Worship

4 Sunday Worship Services

Church Committees

Property Meeting

Council

Mutual Ministry

Congregational Meeting

Church and Community Functions

Family Movie Night

Education

None

Mustard Seed

Father's Day Breakfast

2 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed

Board Meeting

Weddings

2 Barrett/Shackelford Premarital Counseling

Cooper/Ford Premarital Counseling

Funerals

None

Continuing Education

None

Choir

None

Mileage

Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of June was 0 miles. Thank you to everyone who was able to give me a lift while I was unable to drive myself around.

WELCOME TO WELCA

THE TENTH TRIENNIAL CONVENTION AND GATHERING

- July 11-16 in Minneapolis

First some fun facts:

- Did you know that the offerings from this event help:
Run, Walk, Roll – \$19,116 toward Raising Up Healthy Women & Girls
Gift Cards – \$19,000 and 27,00 In Kind Items helping
Breaking Free (helping survivors of human trafficking), Families
Moving Forward (temporary homes for families that are homeless &
help to find stable homes), Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran World
Relief
Monetary Offerings from services (figures not available at this moment)
- Did you know that WELCA has paid for and had solar panels
installed on the Phebe Hospital in Liberia? This means that 50%
MORE physicians can be hired because of money saved AND the
hospital can be functioning 24/7 because they are not dealing with
electrical outages that are common in Africa. AND we have a new
hospital that WELCA will support with solar panels.

At the Convention, 4 new officers and 17 executive board members were elected representing synods from all over the USA. Board members circulate to the SWO conventions in all synods yearly. Several resolutions were enacted; these cover: continued awareness of human trafficking and needs of refugees. Once the exact wording of these is in print, I will be sure to let you know.

Then, the Gathering began on Thursday! There were Bible studies based on the theme “All Anew,” a speaker from Africa who won a Nobel Peace Prize, a variety of workshops, 2 documentaries to view, servant events, an exhibition hall, organ concerts, and other special services at a local Lutheran church along with the services that began and ended The Gathering. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton preached at the opening service, and she had a meet & greet event. Can you imagine shaking hands with close to 3,000 women? I met a 6-year-old who was attending her 3rd Gathering- her first at 2 months. Honestly, there were too many things going on simultaneously to be able to do everything.

I went to workshops on: Homelessness, Spiritual Journaling, Multi-Cultural Awareness, and gifts of discipleship. I visited the exhibition hall gathering lots of information on the various “agencies” and places in which WELCA and/or the Lutheran church work – Phebe Hospital, LWR, LIRS, etc. I’ll be making a LARGE binder of this information, which will be available at the end of August.

I attended 2 special church services: 1. Nordic Contemplative Prayer and 2. The National Lutheran Choir.

OK – I’ll admit it the Nordic prayer was not really my cup of tea, but it was interesting. The Lutheran Choir, on the other hand, WOW!!!

Well, you all know that I use more words daily than the average, so....I could go on and on. Let’s just say – once again, this event inspired me! It filled my spirit! I am so proud of the work that WELCA does both in the USA and the world!

The Eleventh Triennial Convention and Gathering – Phoenix, AZ – in 2020!

Upcoming Dates:

July 29 at 2:30 – The Shack - it’s a movie. We will

watch it in Luther Hall assembly room. Bring a camp/lawn chair.

August 11 & 12 – SWO Convention at Bishop Hodges

- Registration forms are available on-line or see Priscilla

August 20 - WELCA Meeting after 2nd service

September 17 – WELCA Meeting w/ Ice Cream Social After 2nd service

October 14 – Potomac Cluster

October 21 – Apple Harvest Parade concessions

November 10 & 11 – Craft Sale and Soup/Sandwich

SCRIP SPOT

From July 22 – August 4 – Scrip is offering back to school special which will benefit the church. The percentage that the church receives from some purchases will increase: ie Target – 2.5% to 4.5% during those dates. Here are some of the retailers that will offer the temporary increase:

•iTunes •Amazon •Barnes & Noble •Bath & Body Works
•Bed,Bath,Beyond •Bob Evans •Boston Market •Carter’s
•Chipotle •CVS •Christmas Tree Shoppe •Domino’s •Gap
•Hallmark •JCPenney •Logan’s Roadhouse •Marshall’s •Old Navy
•Osh Kosh •Panera •Pet Smart •Regal •Target
•Ulta •The Children’s Place •Under Armour

THANK YOU NOTES...

West Virginia - Western Maryland Synod
Women of the ELCA
Board of Directors

May 24, 2017

Congregational Council
St. John's Lutheran Church
101 W. Martin Street
Martinsburg, WV 25401

Dear Congregational Council,

The Board of Directors for the West Virginia - Western Maryland Synod Women of the ELCA extend our thanks to you and the congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church for your generous support through the printing of the Lutheran Lines newsletter in your church office. Thanks also to those who donated the paper for the printing process.

Although we are continuing to move toward email distribution of the newsletter, there are many members of the Women of the ELCA throughout the West Virginia - Western Maryland Synod who appreciate having the printed newsletter mailed to them in hard copy. Your gracious gift of support has enabled us to keep in touch with the women of our synod spreading the news of their gifts, activities and work in the service of our Lord.

With thanks and best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula Blank". The script is cursive and fluid.

Paula Blank, Secretary
WV-WMD Synod Women of the ELCA
Board of Directors



The **Annual Family Night at Jay Dee's** was a great night. There were 125 people who came. It was nice to have our families come together and enjoy the water park on a very hot day.



**The Mustard Seed was able to join
The Child Expo at
Berkeley County Parks and Rec. on July 22.**

**What a great way to meet new people
and other community providers.
We even got to meet Minnie Mouse!**

Currently The Mustard Seed has 58 children enrolled for our Fall program. We have a few openings in our Pre-K program. *If you know anyone who is looking for an exceptional All-Day Private Pre-K, please pass our name along.* The first day for our Fall children will be August 21st. Summer is flying by!

Thank you always for your support and dedication to The Mustard Seed.

We need your help...

One June 25th, the congregation approved the replacement of our current sound system with the funding coming from donations earmarked for the project.

Need to Raise
\$10,250



WOULD YOU CONSIDER MAKING A
SPECIAL DONATION IN MEMORY
OR IN HONOR OF SOMEONE?

A big part of being a welcoming congregation is making sure everyone can hear the message of the gospel.

Thank you for your generosity!

PROPERTY MINISTRY



UPDATE

The property committee wants to update the congregation on their status of repairs that they have complete and some upcoming projects. They began meeting monthly back in February to prioritize repairs and maintenance of our aging campus.

Accomplishments

- Lots of electrical work has been completed in Luther Hall
- Installed lights in the pantry and Kitchen
- Replaced leaking toilet in upstairs boy's bathroom in Luther Hall
- Repaired Refrigerator
- Serviced the stove in Luther Hall.

Major projects underway:

- Air Condition in Luther Hall (main room).
- Updating Thermostats throughout both buildings.
- Council has contracted with Wayne Litton to begin work on the steeple beginning around the First of September. Permits are being obtained.

Upcoming (and much needed projects)

- Toilets will be replaced in Luther Hall with low flow models; this should give us a substantial savings on the water bill. This will involve a substantial initial investment to bring the plumbing up to modern standards but cost should be recouped in two to three years with the low flow models (that also won't leak)
- There are lots of little leaks around both buildings that need attention
- Still plenty of electrical work needed for lights
- Rekeying locks on all church building doors and replacing keypad lock with a standard lock.

QUARTERLY FINANCIALS REPORT

St. John's Lutheran Church Statement of Income & Expenses January-June 2017

Total

Income

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Current Offering | 70,611 |
| Benevolence | 16,860 |
| Improvement Fund | 2,065 |
| Special Offering & Income | 3,593 |
| Memorials & Other Donations | 150 |

Total Income **\$ 93,279**

Expenses

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Worship and Music | 12,638 |
| Administration | 28,191 |
| Evangelism | 1,773 |
| Stewardship | 19 |
| Youth | 226 |
| Social Ministry | 51 |
| Christian Education | 1,115 |
| Ministry | 36,136 |
| Property | 32,047 |
| Benevolence | 18,490 |

Total Expenses **130,684**

Excess of expenses over income **(37,405)**

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Other Income | 7,542 |
| Other Expenses | 3,875 |

Total excess of expenses over income **\$ (33,739)**

Capital Improvement

Steeple Repair 6,000

SJLC Mustard Seed Statement of Income & Expenses January-June 2017

Total

Income
Income \$ 173,270

Expenses
Wage Expense 132,740
Other Expenses 32,804
Total Expenses 165,543

Excess of income over expenses 7,727

Carryforward loss from inception (68,563)

Cumulative expenses over fees **\$ (60,836)**

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Endowment Funds Q2 2017 Summary Report

| | 12/31/2016 | 6/30/2017 | Annualized Return |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Bank of Charles Town | 110,298 | 118,594 | 16% |
| Thrivent | 435,356 | 461,722 | 12% |
| ELCA Mission II | 53,148 | 53,533 | 1% |
| ELCA Mission III | 57,677 | 58,231 | 2% |
| Totals | \$ 656,478 | \$ 692,081 | |

Join St. John's Lutheran Church For
Family Movie Night
August 12th at 6:00pm
Located in Luther Hall

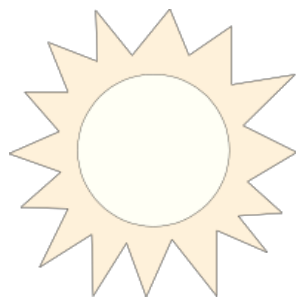


Free Movie
Free Popcorn
Free Drink
Sponsored by the Social Ministry

MILESTONES IN AUGUST

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Traci Harden
Rick Losh
- 2 Nathan Cosner
Logan Murphy
Emily Bernazzoli
- 4 Jamie Ferenchick
- 5 Eryn Fleming
- 6 Amy Loomis
- 8 Jessica Herbert
- 10 Joyce Roth
- 11 Walker Hutzler
Harry Michener
- 12 Barry Provard
- 13 Barbara Arndt
- 14 Rodney White
- 15 Annette Mann
- 18 Linda McQuaid
Scott Wood
- 19 Suzanne Boslau
Allison Janney
- 21 Betty Lou Boynton
- 22 Nona Payne
Tyler Vogel
- 28 Danine Rydland
- 29 Matthew Edwards
Ron Kreiensieck
- 30 Lily Jackson
- 31 Daniel Coffinberger
Debbie Wilson



ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Cheryl and Rick Losh
- 10 Robin and Edward Robinson
- 14 Bernice and Ralph Baker
Tonya and Jon Fleming
Arlene and Peter Leitzke
Linda and Jim Riley
- 24 Hope and Steve Crites



3

Ways

Give

to



At Worship



By Mail



Online

Online giving enables those who no longer enjoy carrying a checkbook or likes to write checks to donate safely and securely to our congregation. It is easy to use and you can even set up recurring donations.




**Scan the QR Code
or visit our website at
stjohnsmartinsburg.org
and click Online Giving
And Thank You!**

THOSE ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN AUGUST

| 8:30 am Worship | Reader/Worship Assistant | Usher | Acolyte | Crucifer |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Aug. 6 | Jennifer Moss | David Gatrell and Buddy Newman | Judy Hinnerichs | Joseph Wonsetler |
| Aug. 13 | Harry Michener | Pete Moats and Daniel Propst | Ben McQuaid | Trey Voorhees |
| Aug. 20 | Andrew Banks | Buddy Newman and Douglas Widmeyer | Austin Propst | Danica Propst |
| Aug. 27 | Linda Gillet | Michael Janney and Alex Torbert | Laken Edwards | Ben McQuaid |

| 11 am Worship | Reader/Worship Assistant | Usher | Acolyte | Crucifer |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| August 6 | Michael Noll | Don Smith and Joe Hutzler, Sr. | Hunter Thatcher | Lee Thatcher |
| Aug. 13 | Arnold Bock | Arnold Bock and Connie Provard | John Esswein | Payton Hill |
| Aug. 20 | Diane Shewbridge | Jerry Olsen and Linda Payne | Ian Fleming | John Esswein |
| Aug. 27 | Sue Wall | Ray Bentz and Jane Kelley | Braydon Hill | Payton Hill |

Altar Guild in AUGUST – Jeanne Rector and Karen Noll Bread – Gail Newman



Theology & Bible

TABLE TALK

Food & Drinks

JOIN US

1st Thursday of the
Month

September 7

6pm at The Daily Grind

Ever want to explore theology in a way that is not intimidating or hard to understand? And do you enjoy, eating out with friends who want to know more about their faith? Then you need to join us for Table Talk.

Our conversation over the next few months will be focused on the what exactly the Bible and our theology defines the "church" to be. Bring yourself and your questions and maybe we will go in a different direction. Table Talk is all about exploring our faith together.

Committee Meeting Night

In an effort to be better stewards of our time and talents, we are going to try to have the committees that need to meet, gather on the same night.

The Committee Meeting Night will be on the first Tuesday of each month at 6pm.

COMMITTEES MEETING THIS MONTH

Christian Education

Child Care is Available!

Choir Member Party

August 22 - 5:30PM

At the home of Harriett and Bruce Eyler (1017 Winchester Avenue in Martinsburg).

Bring a covered dish and/or dessert!

1 YEAR GOALS

For St. John's

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

BY JULY 31, 2018, WE WILL:

- Help people feel more safe and welcome at our congregation by improving the lighting around the church campus (including the parking lot), having parking lot ushers to welcome people to the congregation for both day and night activities, and creating a shepherding program to help new members and visitors learn about our ministry.
- Hold a least one Social Gathering per month including but not limited to Pub Theology, Men's Group or an Ice Cream Social.
- Involve FLYTE kids more in worship at least once a month.
- Develop a Marketing/Evangelism Plan for the congregation.

Please pray over these goals and ask for the Holy Spirit to guide you in helping us accomplish our goals over the next year.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2017







My brothers and sisters in Christ,
I think I should first update you all on my current mobility. At the end of June, my cast came off and I was put back into a boot. I was told I could walk but as long as the boot remained on my foot. After two weeks, I was cleared to begin physical

therapy and to walk on my foot as much as I could tolerate without the boot. I am on day three without the boot on my foot. I am amazed at how well my foot is doing. It is still a bit stiff and I will have to keep going to physical therapy, but I am much farther ahead than I originally thought I would be back on June 1. I walk like an 85 year old man and some days I feel like it, but every day I do feel better. Thank you for your prayers.

Did you see all the fun we had at VBS this past year? We had 65 children register and we fed over a 100 people each night, **but I am not worried about the numbers. I am more excited about how much these kids grew in their faith.** They heard God's love for them and how God created everything we see. They heard the gospel proclaim not only in word but in deed as well. We raised a lot of money for a great organization, the Berkeley County Backpack Program. You know, sometimes we get really caught up in the numbers of everything when the reality is that we are called to be like the careless farmer who sows seed in the strangest of places (see Matthew 13:1-9) and even though we might not always get results, God promises the harvest will be plentiful. We have an awful business plan according to the world but according to the gospel, this is how God runs the kingdom. Thank you to everyone who helped during VBS. I will not name people because I am bound to forget someone but know each of you did a great job and the kingdom of God is better off because of your work.

I have been spending my weeks trying to get caught up with shut-ins and other members. I have taken advantage of being able to drive and have been putting a lot of miles on my Prius and Truck. If you know of anyone who needs to be visited, please drop me a note. I believe very strongly in visiting, especially to those who cannot make it to worship, so if I am missing someone, I really need to know!

I also want to thank our council members for the work that they have been doing over the past few months. If you remember back in February, the Stewardship committee held cottage meetings. From those meetings, the discussions and results were put together and were reported to Council. From that report, we have been working on creating goals. This past meeting, we finished the one year goals and you will see them hanging around church and they will be front and center on everything that we send out.

I ask you to pray over these goals and ask God to lead you in helping us make these goals a reality. These are what you have said we need to improve and now we ask you help us in making our congregation a more welcoming place, but we can't do this without you. I can't do what I do without you!

I hope you all enjoyed the Bluegrass Liturgy on July 30. As of right now, that has not happened and this newsletter is set to go out on July 31. Jerry and Ed have put in a lot of work to make the music sound great and holy to the ears of God and those who gathered this day.

There has been some talk about Sunday School and changing the nature in which it is used. I know some of you are worried about the future of it. When the Sunday School Movement was started, it was done for specific reasons, i.e. to teach those who did not have any religious instruction in school. It morphed into something much bigger over the years because the needs of the church and its people had changed. The church has been embarking on such a change again because the needs of the people have changed. We have a great group of people who are working at making sure our church meets the needs of our smallest disciples. Please pray for our Christian Education. I am confident that the Holy Spirit is going to lead us down the path we need to go. **Join us on August 1st to help us plan for the year.**

Finally, I had originally planned this back in June but with my leg messed up, I put this on hold. I have been wanting to do an alternative Evening Bible Study that met monthly over food and drinks. You probably have heard it called Pub Theology but since we are Lutherans, I like the title "Table Talks." In Luther's day, many of his students would join the good doctor at the local pub for drinks and theology. Many of those students recorded what was said and have those notes published in *Luther Works*. I like to do a similar style only nobody needs to record what I say. We will have conversation around a host of topics and my plan is start by asking the question, "What is the church?" Does this interest you? Do you like to eat and talk about theology, God or the church? **Come on September 11 at 6pm to the Daily Grind and grab some food and share your thoughts.**

In August, I plan to take a few days off to go to Ocean City, NJ with my wife and son. This is the first time he will be at the beach so plan to have your Facebook feeds overloaded with Thomas! May you all be well!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rev. Matthew Hunt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "H" and "T".

St. John's Lutheran Church
101 W. Martin Street
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

Return Service Requested

| |
|---|
| Non-Profit Organization |
| U.S. POSTAGE PAID Martinsburg, WV Permit No. 126 |