

# NEWSLETTER

St. John's Lutheran Church  
101 W. Martin Street

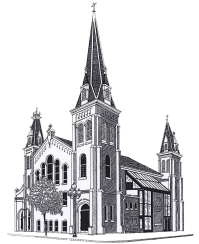
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

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

E-Mail: churchoffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Website: www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Pastor: The Rev. Matthew A. Day



## OCTOBER 2017

### National Lutheran Home, **AT A GLANCE:** The Village at Rockville

This year's trip is Monday, October 9.

They arrive at noon and depart by 2PM.

We will need people to help with unloading the bus, assisting with wheelchairs & walkers, serving, clean-up, etc.

If you have an hour or two, join us. You'll be glad you did!

"Since 1890, our mission has always been the same—to honor, inspire and support choice and opportunity in service to seniors. What once started as a small cottage for seniors in Washington, D.C. is now a family of retirement communities and services located throughout Maryland and Virginia. We've built a legacy of caring for generations of seniors, and through our benevolent care, no resident has ever been asked to leave due to the event he or she can no longer afford the cost of care. "

St. John's affiliation began more than 40 years ago when we became the destination for their Annual Fall Bus Trip and Luncheon, a tradition of turkey, country ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, applesauce and, of course, cherry pie.

### **REFORMATION DAY**

**OCTOBER 29**

**10AM SERVICE  
FOLLOWED BY  
AN  
OCTOBERFEST  
LUNCHEON  
AND  
TRUNK OR TREAT**

### **\*\*\*Official Notice\*\*\***

A Yearly Congregational Meeting has been scheduled for November 5

to discuss the 2018 budget. Please be in attendance. The meeting will take place after the 10am service.

# 2017 ST. JOHN'S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2017

**Meeting called to order by:** President Mindi Esswein

**Members present:** Mindi Esswein, Pastor Matt, Darrell Propst, Jane Kelley, Austin Propst, , Rick Losh, Jerry Crites, Bess Day, Bev Murphy, Diane Shewbridge, Mike Noll, Cindy Moats

**Members absent:** Shane Wagoner, Connie Provard

**Devotions:** Pastor Matt Day

**Special Report:** Guest Kathy Chapman gave a report on the Community Lutheran Partners retreat which she attended several weeks ago.

**Minutes:** July 2017 council minutes accepted (Crites/Propst)

**Financial Report:** Report for January to August, 2017 accepted (Losh/Pastor Matt)

**Pastor's Report:** A summary for August 2017 to the present was provided to the council. He is still working on updates to the church's website.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The reusable church bulletin has recently been revised using Setting One and includes a few small changes. After a brief discussion concerning the bulletin and the Celebrate insert, it was decided that we continue the new version of the bulletin as is for now. (Crites/Shewbridge)

**NEW BUSINESS:** Began working on a 3-year plan using some of the suggestions that came out of the Cottage Meetings. Discussed getting volunteers to be confirmands' sponsors, a few members of council are interested. It was decided to firm up the list of volunteers after the first of the year.

**Christian Education:** There were 28 attendees for the first Sunday School classes of the season on September 17. The committee plans to have a service project for the first Sunday of each month.

**WELCA:** No report

**Worship & Music:** The choir is back in full swing with practices on Wednesday evenings.

**FLYTE:** No report.

**Social Ministry:** The family movie nights will continue past the summer months, since they have been well attended. Also, there will be a bus trip to Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster PA to see The Miracle of Christmas on Saturday December 16. There is a sign-up sheet and we have 40 seats to fill. The fifth Sunday of October will be one service and there will be an Oktoberfest themed potluck after the service.

**Evangelism:** No report.

**Property/Tech:** There's been some minor repairs done. Looking into repair of masonry on the side of the building.

**Mutual Ministry:** No report.

**Stewardship:** There is a blood drive planned for December 15. Also, this committee will be compiling the covenants that are returned from St. John's church members.

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

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Moats

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### An update on the AC units in Luther Hall

Our credit application was approved for 1/3 down to purchase materials and the balance due over 12 months at 0%.

Units have been ordered and we are awaiting on them being delivered to Luther Hall.

Thank you for those who have contributed towards this project.

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## 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](http://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](mailto:announcements@stjohnsmartinsburg.org) to sign up for weekly emails and announcements.

# 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.**

# Confirmation Schedule

## 2017-2018

Date	Subject - Year 1	Reinforcement Activity	Subject - Year 2	Reinforcement Activity
October 15 @ 12:30	Who Is Martin Luther?			PBS Luther Movie
November 5 @ 3-6pm	<b>Conference Wide Confirmation Event at St. James Uvilla, WV 4320 Shepherdstown Pike, Shenandoah Junction, WV 25442</b> Let us know if you can't make it.			
November 19 @ 12:30	Commandments 1-5		The Torah	Film - Evan Almighty
December 10 @ 12:30	Commandments 6-10	West Wing Episode - Take this Sabbath Day	The Nativity Story	Film - Nativity Story
January 21 @ 12:30	Apostles' Creed		Exodus	Film - Prince of Egypt
February 18 @ 12:30	Lord's Prayer	Field Trip - Grotto in Emmitsburg, MD	The Gospel	Field Trip - Grotto in Emmitsburg, MD
March 16-18	<b>Confirmation Retreat - Topic: The Easter Story</b>			
April 29 @ 12:30	Baptism/ Communion		Parables	
May 6 @ 12:30	Office of the Keys		Paul	
<b>Confirmation Sunday - May 20 at 10am</b>				



DECORATE YOUR CAR FOR OUR ANNUAL

# TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 29 | AFTER LUNCH | CHURCH PARKING LOT

# WELCOME TO WELCA

## Upcoming Dates:

- September 24 – Blessing of Prayer Shawls & Swatches  
- Church-wide Ice Cream Social
- September 29 & 30 – Priscilla to SWO Transition meeting
- October 14 – Potomac Cluster
- October 21 – Apple Harvest Parade Concessions
- October 22 OR 24 – needle craft night
- November 7-9 Prepare for Soup/Sandwich Sale – let Priscilla, Connie,  
or Betty Lou know if you can help
- November 10 & 11 Vendor/Craft/Soup/Sandwich Sale in Luther Hall
- August 9-11, 2018 – SWO Convention at Bishop Hodges Pastoral  
Center, Huttonsville, WV
- July 2020 – 11<sup>th</sup> Triennial Gathering of WELCA, Phoenix, AZ

1. September needle craft night was cancelled. New date listed above.
2. Available in this newsletter is the vendor form for the Craft/Vendor Sale November 10 and 11.
3. Soup/Sandwich Sale pre-order form in this newsletter
4. WELCA will need help with food preparation of soup and sandwiches as well as help on the days of the Craft/Vendor Sale. Please check your calendars to see if you are available.

THANKS!!

5. Additionally, if anyone would like to donate Wal-Mart gift cards to help WELCA purchase ingredients needed for the soup/sandwiches, we would greatly appreciate it.

THANKS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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## SCRIP SPOT

September – as of 9/22/17 - \$205.46  
YTD - \$1,638.53

Holidays are coming!!! Don't forget gift cards are easy and inexpensive to mail! Gift cards can be used to purchase those extra groceries needed for baking and meals – Wal-Mart, Target, Martins, and Sam's Club.

**St. John's Lutheran Church  
101 W. Martin St.  
Martinsburg, WV 25401  
Fall Craft & Vendor Fair  
November 10 & 11 [Fri & Sat]  
10:00 - 7:00**

Contact name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Number of spots requested \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Items selling \_\_\_\_\_

Contact St. John's for more information at [304] 263-9291  
or email [ChurchOffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org](mailto:ChurchOffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org)

Make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church with craft fair in the memo line

Spot size is 10 x 10. Tables available for use on request or bring your own table. Cost for members \$25.00, non members \$30.00. Non-refundable after Oct.10, 2017. Set up on Thursday, November 9 from 6-9 pm or Friday starting at 8:00 am. Tables must be set up by 10:00 am on Friday and stay until 7:00 pm on Saturday. You will be notified after receipt of payment.

**Agreement**

All work must be family-oriented. Spaces are approximately 10 x10 and are assigned on a first come first assigned basis. Must have enough merchandise and stay set up for entire fair. I hereby and forever discharge St. John's Lutheran Church and all persons from all responsibility, personal liability, loss and or damage in connection with this fair.

sign \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_



**September** was a fun month for the The Mustard Seed. The children have started to settle into their new classrooms. I thought I would share a picture page this month, so you can see some of the learning and fun activities we have enjoyed this past month.





**Join St. John's Lutheran Church For  
Family Movie Night  
October 14th at 6:00pm  
Located in Luther Hall**



**Free Movie  
Free Popcorn  
Free Drink  
Sponsored by the Social Ministry**

**Mark Your Calendars**  
**October 29, 2017 at 10 am**



**Fifth Sunday Worship**

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**500**  
**Reformation**  
Five Hundred Years 1517-2017

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**Oktoberfest Potluck After Worship**



*"From the beginning of my Reformation I have asked God to send me neither dreams, nor visions, nor angels, but to give me the right understanding of His Word, the Holy Scriptures; for as long as I have God's Word, I know that I am walking in His way and that I shall not fall into any error or delusion." -Martin Luther*

JOIN US FOR THE CULMINATING EVENT IN OUR  
COMMEMORATION OF THE REFORMATION

# Reformation Day Worship

OCTOBER 31, 2017 | 7 PM | CURTIS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Storer College Pl  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

There will be a gathering before worship for kids to come and  
trick or treat in Harpers Ferry as well at the church.

Worship will include leaders from other Ecumenical Partners.

Holy Communion will be Celebrated.  
A reception will follow the worship.



# 1517 Festival

# PET BLESSING

October 8 | 2pm

St John's Parking Lot

It is customary that around October 4th (the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi) to bless those furry little creatures who bring us so much joy and blessing in our lives.

**Bring your cats, dogs, birds, fish, hamsters, parrots, alligators, snakes etc.**

We will gather on grassy-area of our parking lot for some prayer and barking!



THE  
**GREAT  
CHURCH OUTING**

SIGHT AND SOUND IN LANCASTER, PA



**DECEMBER 16**

Cost:

\$157 for Adults

\$112 for Children 12 and under

**INCLUDES BUS TICKET, ADMISSION, AND  
LUNCH**

# MILESTONES IN OCTOBER

## BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tonya Fleming
- 2 Aaron Gattrell  
Lauren Oliver
- 4 John Haarman  
Nathan Houpt  
Jennifer Lewis  
Nicholas Markovits
- 5 Megan Ruth
- 7 Harrison Banks
- 8 Kathy Chapman
- 9 Jerry Crites  
Linda Riley
- 10 Sharon Brumback Garrish
- 11 Jonathan Chapman
- 13 Dylan Brewbaker  
Sydney Brewbaker  
Anthony Gillet
- 14 Matthew Russell Clarke
- 15 Michael Calabrese  
Douglas Widmeyer
- 16 Marc Eckberg
- 18 Jim Chapman
- 20 Henry Eyler  
Charlotte Hutzler
- 25 Troy Feltner
- 31 Aaryn Donaldson Wietz



## ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Margaret and Arnold Bock
- 5 Bess and David Day
- 12 Roxanne and Jeff Spoon
- 18 Frances and Dennis Coffinberger
- 23 Sandy and Ken Stroech
- 27 Joyce and Gary Roth

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](http://stjohnsmartinsburg.org)  
and click Online Giving  
And Thank You!**

## October 2017

8:30 am Worship	Reader/Worship Assistant	Usher	Acolyte	Crucifer
Oct. 1	Joyce Dailey	Harry Michener and Douglas Widmeyer	Laken Edwards	
Oct. 8		Daniel Propst and Andrew Banks	Trey Voorhees	Ben McQuaid
Oct. 15	Buddy Newman	David Gatrell and Volunteer	Ben McQuaid	
Oct. 22	Andrew Banks	Bill Torbert and Judy Hinnerichs	Sharon Brumback	Joseph Wonsetler
Oct. 29 10AM	<u>One Service</u> Bess Day	Douglas Widmeyer and Blaine Wilson	Emma Lore	John Esswein

11 am Worship	Reader/Worship Assistant	Usher	Acolyte	Crucifer
Oct. 1	Beverly Murphy	Arnold Bock and Don Smith	Braydon Hill	Katelyn Kline
Oct. 8	Diane Shewbridge	Sally Jenkins and Volunteer	Landon Hutzler	Ian Fleming
Oct. 15	Becky Kline	Ray Bentz and Joe Hutzler, Sr.	Braydon Hill	Lee Thatcher
Oct. 22	Ed Shewbridge	Arnold Bock and Don Smith	Ian Fleming	Charlotte Hutzler

Altar Guild in October – Kathy Chapman and Bess Day



Theology & Bible

# TABLE TALK

Food & Drinks

**JOIN US**

1st Thursday of the  
Month

# October 5

## 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.

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COMMITTEES MEETING THIS MONTH

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## **Christian Education Social Ministry**

### **Child Care is Available!**

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#### **BOOK CLUB NEWS:**

Due to a conflict in schedules our picnic has been changed to **October 8 at 1PM**. We will meet at the home of Linda Riley, 114 Rosewood Drive. Following lunch we will talk about *The Nightingale* by Kristen Hannah and other favorite books you read over the summer.

# Feed My Sheep

First Sunday of the month



When Jesus feed over 5000 people,  
his command to the disciples was,  
"You give them something to eat."



Bring in your non-perishable food items on the first Sunday of the month and place them in the bin below. The food donated will be dispersed throughout our community through our own food pantry here at church as well as through CCAP, Berkeley County Backpack Program, Shenandoah Women Shelter, The Rescue Mission, Bethany's House, Immanuel's House, Faith Collation for the Homeless, and The Martinsburg Children's Shelter.

**"If you love me, feed my sheep."**

John 21:15-19



# 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.



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

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

**Thank you for your generosity!**

# **Pastor's Report**

August 2017

## **VISITATION**

August Visits: 27

## **CONFERENCE AND SYNOD**

Boundary Training

## **WORSHIP**

8 Sunday Worship Services

Walker Family Baptism

Leighton Baptism

## **CHURCH COMMITTEES**

All Committee Meeting Night - Christian Education

## **CHURCH AND COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS**

Family Movie Night

CCAP Board Meeting

Friends Feeding Friends

Berkeley County Youth Fair

## **EDUCATION**

3 Bible Study

Confirmation Planning Meeting with Bess

## **MUSTARD SEED**

Welcome Back to School Pancake Supper

4 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed

Board Meeting

## **WEDDINGS**

Haines/Tyser Premarital Counseling

## **FUNERALS**

Dorothy Brandenburg Ware Viewing and Funeral

Christine Kreiensieck Committal at Arlington

Beverly Pittsnogle Viewing and Funeral

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

## **CHOIR**

## **MILEAGE**

Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of August was 241 miles. Non-billed was 130 miles.



My brothers and sisters in Christ,  
Back in March, the Christian Education committee meet to discuss a number of upcoming event, but the most important topic was our Sunday School Program. The past few years have been tough here at St. John's. We have tried new things to try to address the ever

changing dynamics of our congregation. Participation, though, went down even though our efforts were true and holy. I personally want to thank Jennifer Moss in particular for her dedication to our Sunday School program last year. When we meet as a committee in March, we were all tired and worn out from the past year. It was decided that it might be best to move to a once a month program for Sunday School.

That decision did not sit well with any of us, myself included. I went home and started researching other models of Sunday School so that we would not lose what we all worked so hard to create. I was not alone in this endeavor. Apparently the Holy Spirit decided that this was not going to work here at St. John's.

After a great VBS program, a number of parents got together and asked that we meet to talk about Christian Education for the Fall. We meet on the first Tuesday in August. I brought my notes completely prepared to fight for a program that met more than once a month. Everyone around the table that night also came prepare to fight for this as well. I was amazed as I sat around the table and watched the spirit move among us. We came up with a plan, we choose stories that we thought our children needed to hear. We made a plan to seek out new teachers and volunteers to help make our Sunday School program possible.

We changed the way we do things. We added new programs such as a closing program rather than an opening so that I could be there for it. We found a way to incorporate Children's Choir during Sunday School so that more of our kids can participate in choir and worship. We got new faces involved as well as brought some old faces back. Is Sunday School perfect? Not yet but we got a great plan and a great set of people working each week to make this ministry a reality once again.

**So, this is what I need from you —Participate!** The only way for Sunday School to succeed is for people to show up. The Holy Spirit will move and work within you once you are here, but we need you here and to give it a shot. We have a nursery class for children a little to young for school, a pre-k and kindergarten class, a 1st and 2nd grade class, a 3rd-5th

grade class, a middle and high school class, and an adult class. Would you like to teach? Did you do so before? Our hope is to have a number of rotators so that the burden for teaching is not on one person but is shared. It was a little chaotic the first Sunday back but it turned out to be a great day. Twenty-eight people participated in our Sunday school on September 17. Let's keep it up!

I also want to celebrate our confirmation program at St. John's. This year, we are partnering with our brothers and sisters in Charles Town. They only had a few confirmands so they will be joining us along with Pastor Diane and Pete Hinkle. If everyone comes on October 15, we will have 19 students participating in our program. Let me put this into prospective. In the 5 years I have been doing ministry, if you would add up all the confirmands I have ever worked with, it would not add up to 19. This is an amazing thing and Bess and I are so happy to be on this journey with so many young people. Our confirmation program starts around 8th grade and is a two year program. Is your child around that age? Bring them because we got plenty of room and pizza! **Check out our website for all the information on confirmation and Sunday school programs.**

**Now, onto the 500 Anniversary of the Reformation.** We have a lot planned on October 29 to commemorate the start of the 1517 Protestant Reformation. We will have one service this day (as it is a fifth Sunday) at 10am. The worship we will be using is based on Luther's German Mass with some modern adaptations to make it logistically work for our congregation. It will not only be a wonderful learning opportunity to see how Lutherans used to worship 500 years ago in Wittenburg under Martin Luther, but it will be a holy time to talk about where we going as a church in the spirit of reform. Is the movement over? Did it fail? Did it succeed? Where do we go from here?

After worship, our Social committee is putting on a Oktoberfest-style Potluck. We will provide the Brats and we are asking for members to bring a german-style side. I suggest that not everyone bring Sauerkraut (though I do enjoy it!). After lunch, we will have a trunk or treat for dessert. I have already starting buying stuff for my truck to bring! **And on Tuesday, October 31 in Harpers Ferry, we will gather as a conference to commerate the anniversary with music, worship and prayer for unity.**

In Christ,



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

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