

Worship Assistants

August 5 Michael Noll
 August 12 Ed Shewbridge
 August 19 Diane Shewbridge
 August 26 Sue Wall

Ushers

August 5 Arnold Bock/Pete Moats
 August 12 Bev.Pat Murphy
 August 19 Buddy Newman/Connie Provard
 August 26 Linda Payne/Jerry Olsen

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Acolytes/Crucifers August 5 Emma Lore/Elisabeth Gottlieb August 12 Nathaniel Edwards/Ian Fleming August 19 Jordyn Kelso/Joseph Wonsetler August 26 Austin Propst/John Esswein			1 1PM Bible Study 5:00-6:30PM Mustard Seed Open House 5:30-7PM M.S. Pancake Supper 7PM Christian Ed Meeting	2 6PM Table Talk @ Daily Grind	3	4 Pastor Matt at Caroline Furnace Board Meeting
			5 10AM Worship with Holy Communion Feed My Sheep	6	7	8 1PM Bible Study
			Pastor away for continuing education			SWO Convention
12 10AM Worship WELCA meets following worship	13	14	15 1PM Bible Study 6:30PM Needlecraft Night	16	17	18
			Pastor Matt and Family Away on Vacation through the 19th			
19 10AM Worship with Holy Communion Bishop Riegel to lead worship	20	21 6PM Compline Workshop in Chapel with Dinner	22 1PM Bible Study	23	24 St. Bartholomew, Apostle	25 11AM-1PM Friends Feeding Friends
26 10AM Worship	27 7PM Mustard Seed Board Meeting	28 6:30 Luther Hall in use by Sierra Club	29 1PM Bible Study	30	31	

GAME ON!!

Gear Up! Get Ready!

God has given us the ultimate playbook to join His team, so get in the spirit with us!

July

BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday, July 8-Friday, July 13

A light meal will open each session!

starting at 5:30-7:30PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10AM Worship Holy Communion Feed My Sheep	2 Youth Gathering Group returns to WV	3 Thomas, Apostle	4 OFFICE CLOSED! (July 4th)	5	6	7 9AM VBS Decorating of Luther Hall
8 10AM Worship WELCA meets following service	9	10	11 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge	12	13 VBS Night @ Hagerstown Suns Game	14
BIBLE SCHOOL 5:15 - 7:30PM (A light meal opens each session)						
15 10AM Worship Holy Communion	16	17	18 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge 6:30PM Needlecraft night	19	20	21
22 10AM Worship	23 Mary Magdalene, Apostle	24 6:30 Sierra Club	25 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge James, Apostle	26	27	28 11AM-1PM Friends Feeding Friends
29 10AM Worship Youth Gathering Recap "I Can Only Imagine" showing in L.H. after worship	30 *7PM Church Council meets	31 Holocaust Museum trip for Gathering Participants & FLYTE	Worship Assistants July 1 Bess Day July 8 Joyce Dailey July 15 Ed Shewbridge July 22 Blaine Wilson July 29 Bess Day		Acolytes/Crucifers Payton Hill / Austin Propst Sally Jenkins / Dylan Walker Christian Gottlieb / Elizabeth Gottlieb Ben McQuaid / Trey Voorhees Braydon Hill / Sally Jenkins Ushers July 1 - Jon Edwards/Doug Widmeyer July 8 - Andrew Banks/Ray Bentz July 15 - Blaine Wilson/RickLosh July 22 - Ben & Jean DeAlexandro July 29 - Jane Kelley/Sally Jenkins	

NEWSLETTER

St. John's Lutheran Church

101 W. Martin Street

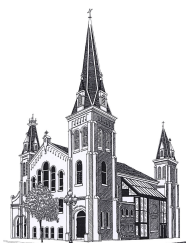
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

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

E-Mail: churchoffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Website: www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Pastor: Matthew A. Day



JULY-AUGUST 2018

Houston, we don't have a problem!!!

Thanks to you and your support, 10 youth men and women as well as 5 chaperones will be able to go the ELCA Youth Gathering with all expenses paid!



Inside this Newsletter:

Vacation Bible School

Synod Assembly 2018 Recap

A trip to DC with FLYTE

Workshop with the Bishop



2018 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2018

Meeting called to order by: President Mindi Esswein

Members present: Mindi Esswein, Pastor Matt, Ray Bentz, Jane Kelley, Darrell Propst, Shane Wagoner, Blaine Wilson, Mike Noll, Diane Shewbridge, Jerry Crites, Bess Day (Treasurer)

Members Absent: Austin Propst and Anne Moore

Devotions: Pastor Matt

Minutes: May 2018 council minutes were corrected and approved. (M/S/P Pastor Matt Day:Mike Noll)

Financial Report: Financial reports were presented by Bess Day

Pastor's Report: The following proposals by Pastor Day were addressed by council

- Pastor requested that up to \$2000 from undesignated Scrip Accounts funds be approved to pay for National Gathering expenses if needed after fundraising efforts. (M/S/P Jerry Crites:Ray Bentz)
- A plan was formed for hiring an interim choir director to stand in from September 2, 2018 through June 16, 2019 while Heather Watkins is on approved leave. The ad in the Journal for an Interim Choir Director will be advertised and open until July 1st. Interviews will be scheduled with Pastor and then the Worship and Music Committee by July 25th. Conducting a choir rehearsal will be part of the interview process for each candidate. Recommendation of the committee will be made at the July 30th council meeting. An offer will be extended to the candidate to start on September 2, 2018. (M/S/P Diane Shewbridge:MikeNoll)
- Council approved a continuing resolution that from today (June 11, 2018) going forward, St. John's congregation will not hire any church member or relative of a church member for positions in the church. (M/S/P Mike Noll: Ray Bentz)
- On Sunday, August 5th, a *Conference Leaders Gathering* will meet at the Martinsburg Holiday Inn at 1:30pm to further efforts to connect and communicate better in our communities. Clergy and laity will work together to identify ways we can live out our calling as disciples in Christ in the Eastern Panhandle. It is requested that each church send a lay leader along with the Pastor to the conference. A brunch will be provided. Pastor Matt will attend with Mindi Esswein or Jerry Crites.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Luther Hall/Chapel use on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at 9 a.m. for a 1-day workshop requested by the Council of Churches/Benedum Foundation. The workshop, "Motivating Recovery" is on alcohol and drug addiction. Council approved use of Luther Hall as well as the Chapel if needed. Lunch will be served but will not conflict with Mustard Seed schedule. Pastor will be present. (M/S/P Jerry Crites:Diane Shewbridge)

- Luther Hall or Chapel use requested by Dennis Fisher on Wednesday, September 19th or Thursday, September 20th, for a morning planning meeting of the *Special Olympics Committee*. No meals will be involved. Pastor will be present. (M/S/P Mike Noll:Jerry Crites)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Christian Education: Vacation Bible School is in need of a Pre-K teacher and a 3rd-4th grade teacher. The craft supplies are needed for VBS.

Social Ministry: Attendance at the Friends Feeding Friends in May was low, probably due to the availability of other food events on the Memorial Day weekend. The Disney Movie, Wall-E, is scheduled for Movie Night on June 16th.

Evangelism: No report

Worship & Music: Ongoing training for acolytes and crucifers continues. On Wednesday evening, August 22nd, St. John's will host Bishop Riegel's educational and spiritual enrichment experience on the *Compline Service*, a service of prayer and medication at the close of the day.

FLYTE: Fund raising events for the National Gathering continue with a Pancake Supper on Wednesday, June 13th, at St. John's, and a quilt raffle, with the quilt being donated by Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Boonsboro, MD. A trip to Washington, D.C., is scheduled for Tuesday, July 31st. Tickets (no cost) have been secured to visit the Holocaust Museum. Also on the agenda are visits to the Jefferson, Lincoln, and WWII Monuments. Chaperones/drivers will be needed.

Property/Tech: With continued persistence, Darrell received quotes for HVAC replacement from Shenandoah Air Conditioning and Heating, and Griffith Energy. A quote from Trenary Service Co. was also requested but to date has not made arrangements for a site visit. Darrell will be working with Shenandoah and Griffith to arrive at quotes for same services needed.

Mutual Ministry: No report

Stewardship: No report

With no further business, the council meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. (M/S/P Jerry Crites:Ray Bentz)

Respectfully submitted
Diane Shewbridge

**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.



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.

Highlights from the Synod Assembly of the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod

The West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod gathered in assembly, 1-2 June 2018, under the theme...

Federal Chaplaincy: Ministry at the Margins

Under the Theme

The Synod Assembly moved quickly into its theme with a Bible study on Acts 10 lead by our keynoter, The Rev. Eric Wester, Director for ELCA Federal Chaplaincy. Wester explored the relationship between Peter and Cornelius, a centurion of the occupying Roman military. On the second day, Wester gave a keynote lecture on Federal Chaplaincy that included short video clips of ELCA federal chaplains talking about their work and experiences. Among them was our own Chaplain Anthony "Tony" Setley, a chaplain with the National Guard.

The Rev Carl Ames and The Rev. Rick Egtvedt reported at length on two programs that connect the life of our congregations with those related to military service: Centurion Connection and Partners in Care.

Setley, reporting on his work as chaplain of the Lutheran Campus Ministry at WVU, drew parallels with his service as a National Guard chaplain and talked about how the two dovetail in strengthening service to each constituency.

Also a federal chaplain, The Rev. Linda Muhly, chaplain captain of the Clarksburg Composite Squadron, West Virginia Wing, Civil Air Patrol, served as lector for the evening mass along side The Rev. Ron Kreiensieck, our retired Navy chaplain.

We also welcomed visitors to our assembly: Chap. Faith of the WV Air Guard and Chap. Tiffany from the Martinsburg VA.

Bishop Riegel made a point of reminding the assembly that federal Chaplaincy includes prison ministry, CAP, and VA ministry and that there is room for volunteer ministry by pastors and laity within these arenas.

Budget Concerns

Synod Treasurer Joseph Solberg prepared a message on the fiscal situation in the synod and gave an outstanding report highlighting the threats and offering different paths that the synod could pursue. He argued that the sorts of changes that could reestablish a balanced budget, if those changes were made on the expense side, would constitute a major philosophical shift in the synod's self-understanding and its understanding of its mission.

Several questions were asked during the Q&A phase of Solberg's report. The bishop suggested that it was within the rights of the assembly to set a time (e.g., in a few months) for a meeting of the Synod Assembly to take up this question of the budget in detail without other business. It was moved on the floor to instruct the Synod Council to take such action. After debate and amendments, it was voted, instead, to make the fiscal questions surrounding the budget the principal focus of the 2019 Synod Assembly, to instruct the bishop to prepare an agenda that places consideration of the budget early in the order of business to allow ample time for consideration, and to have the Synod Council prepare a white paper on the fiscal situation and possible courses of action, disseminating the same well in advance of the 2019 Synod Assembly.

Legislative Action

Video-conferenced Synod Assembly

A resolution submitted to Reference & Counsel by The Rev. Linda Muhly to instruct the Synod Council to investigate and implement a plan for holding Synod Assembly by multi-site video-conference in alternating years was moved following consultation between the mover and the committee. Floor debate followed with amendments being offered and adopted. The amended resolution failed to pass.

United Lutheran Seminary

The Rev. Jerry Kliner moved a resolution in response to the report of United Lutheran Seminary. It was referred to Reference & Counsel which, later, proposed two amendments, only one of which was adopted by the assembly. The resolution expressed concern over the state of affairs at ULS, referenced concerns raised by the 2016 Synod Assembly, and called upon this synod's ULS board member to share those concerns with the ULS Board of Directors. The resolution was adopted.

Veep & Churchwide Assembly

Early in the assembly, when the report of the Nominating Committee was given, a question was asked from the floor why there was no nomination (or election) for a lay male voting member of Churchwide Assembly. The chair explained that the ELCA Constitution stipulated that, unless the synod determine otherwise, the Synod Vice President served a lay voting member *ex officio*, and, given that the sitting veep is male and there is a 50-50 male-female requirement upon the lay voting members, that means no male would be elected by WV-WMD. In response, the Resolutions Committee offered a resolution instructing Synod Council to prepare the necessary legislative proposal for consideration at the 2019 Synod Assembly to determine that the Synod Vice President is not an *ex officio* member of the Churchwide Assembly. After debate, marked by some confusion over the consequences of a motion to refer, the resolution was adopted.

Commending Chap. Setley

Resolutions Committee offered a resolution commending Chap. Setley for his work at the Lutheran Campus Ministry at WVU. The resolution was adopted.

Governing Documents: Amendments

An addendum to the Bishop's Report included over twenty proposed changes to the governing documents (constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions) of the synod.

- Some of the changes were amendments that employed recommended, but not required language in the *Constitution for Synods* authorized by the Churchwide Assembly.
- One local change to a non-required provision of the constitution received a first reading. This proposed amendment, relating to the quorum of the Synod Assembly, will come to the 2019 Synod Assembly for a second reading and action.
- Several bylaws were struck to eliminate redundancies or remove impediments to the work of the Nominating Committee.
- Others were amended to facilitate the work of the Synod Council and bring it in compliance with representational principal.
- Repeal of all continuing resolutions related to the Seed Planted Fund, allowing Synod Council to develop new policies in light of current realities.

The Committee on the Bishop's Report moved adoption of recommended amendments *en bloc*. The motion was adopted. [The revised governing documents can be downloaded from the Member Portal](#) at wv-wmdsynod.org.

Elections

Sixteen people were elected from a field of fifty-five nominees.

Synod Council Positions

Title	Geography	Clergy/Laity	Term	Limit	Elected
Clergy, MVMC	Mon Valley-Mountain Conference	Clergy	3 Years	2 Terms	Ruth Bullwinkle
Lay, OKVC	Ohio-Kanawha Valley Conference	Laity	3 Years	2 Terms	Andrea Brock
Lay, UOVC	Upper Ohio Valley Conference	Laity	3 Years	2 Terms	Nancy Weeks
Lay At-Large	At-Large	Laity	3 Years	2 Terms	Mary Sanders
Youth	At-Large	Laity	2 Years	1 Term	Laurel Muhly-Alexander

Consultation Committee Positions

Number to be elected	Clergy/Laity	Term	Limit	Elected
2	Clergy	6 Years	1 Terms	Diane Day, Linda Muhly
1	Laity	6 Years	1 Terms	John Harney

Discipline Committee Positions

Number to be elected	Clergy/Laity	Term	Limit	Elected
2	Clergy	6 Years	1 Terms	Anthony Setley, Matt Day
2	Laity	6 Years	1 Terms	Brandon Mitchell, Nancy Weeks

Churchwide Assembly Positions

Title	Clergy/Laity	Sex	Age	Elected
Clergy	Clergy	Either	Any	Jessica Felici
Lay Female	Laity	Female	Any	Pamela Pritt
Person of Color or Primary Language other than English	Either	Either	Any	Olga Bondiskey
Youth or Young Adult	Either	Either	Under the age of 31 at time of election	Devin Ames

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

We hope that everyone is enjoying this summer!! Please note: There are a couple of DATE CHANGES for upcoming events. They are noted below.

Upcoming Events:

1. WELCA MEETING – Sunday, June 25, VERY short meeting
(Future meetings will be held the 2nd Sunday after the service)
2. Needlecraft Night – DATE CHANGES for summer
July 18 and August 15
Both evenings will begin at 6:30 in lounge of Luther Hall.
Bring a few dollars toward pizza from Bob's and your own drink

Synod Women's Organization CONVENTION UPDATES

Registration: Due by July 15 to Priscilla

Workshops:

- What Are Your Spiritual Gifts? Presented by Angie Bell, our churchwide representative
- Madagascar Synod Partnership Presented by Pastor Ian Reid

Fun: S'Mores by the fire pit (weather permitting) and a Wine & Cheese party

Bible Study: Bishop Matthew Riegel

Other Speakers: Pastor Tony Setley of WVU Campus Ministry
Gift Baskets are needed for silent auction. Any size, shape, or theme. In the past, some have been: knitting, reading, items from West Virginia, movies, wine & cheese

Offerings:

LOVE OFFERING (from each church's unit):

- 1/4 to Berkeley County Backpack Program,
- 1/4 to Lutheran Lines newsletter
- 1/2 to SWO Scholarship Fund

Silent Auction Proceeds:

- 1/3 WVU Campus Ministry
- 1/3 CLP (Community Lutheran Partners)
- 1/3 Madagascar Synod Women's Organization

Convention Offering from Eucharist:

- 1/2 Churchwide WELCA
- 1/2 WV/WMD SWO

Mark Your Calendars
July 29, 2018 at 10 am

Fifth Sunday Worship

ELCA Youth
Gathering Recap



On the Agenda this day:

Hear about trip to Houston from the kids who went and how the experience affected their faith.

Social Ministry is planing on showing the movie, "I Can Only Imagine" after worship in Luther Hall

Thank You Notes:

Thank you for your donation of 178 pounds of food to CCAP/Loaves & Fishes last month. It is only through this generosity that we can continue to serve the needy in our community. Your support is very much appreciated. May God bless you for caring and sharing.

.....

St. John's Lutheran Congregation,

Your continued support of our people is so greatly appreciated!! We could never do the things we do without you. Our guys and gals benefit from the training materials, but how they love the rewards and pizza/ice cream parties!

Thank you so very much!

Family & Friends of the Grove Center

.....

Dear Church Members,

On behalf of the Board, staff & clients of Community Networks/ Bethany House, thank you for your generous contribution of \$275.00.

Your generosity allows us to provide shelter, food and counseling to homeless women and their children.

Sincerely,

Christina Lundberg, President - Board of Directors

SCRIP SPOT

May 2018 - \$242.09

YTD - \$1,139.92

Did you know that Scrip has cards for GAS – Sheetz, Shell, Exxon, Sunoco, Mobil?

On the road, hungry, need fast food – Dunkin' Donuts, Hardee's, Wendy's, KFC, Taco Bell, Subway, Sheetz, Starbucks

Hungry and need to get out of that car – Applebee's, Ruby Tuesday, Buffalo Wild Wing, Cracker Barrel, Olive Garden, Red Lobster, Logan's Roadhouse, Panera, and Pizza Hut

OR

Maybe you are doing home improvements this summer:

Lowe's and The Home Depot scrip cards are available, too!

Orders must be in by Sunday; cards are available by Friday – each week.



July 8th-13th
Dinner begins at 5:15pm

Grab your megaphones, lace up your cleats, and tune up your horn. It's time to gear up for the big game! It's go time! Whether you're the type to root from the stands, march in the band, cheer on the field, or hustle to the line, the time is now—it's Game On!

Kids are under so much pressure—to perform well, to be the best, to balance schedules that are full to the brim, to excel in every arena. From that vantage point, life's big game can seem like no fun. But when we step back, we realize that the goal is not competing in our own strength. God has already given us everything we need! He's given us His complete Word as the ultimate playbook. He's given us Himself, which gives us a reason to celebrate. He wants us to join His team, to train hard, to celebrate our salvation, to encourage one another, and spur each other on. So what are you waiting for? This is Spirit Week 2018. It's Game On!

Visit our website at www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org
Click on Ministries tab then look for
Vacation Bible School
to register your child today!

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 create a shepherding program to help new members and visitors learn about our ministry.
- Hold a least one new Social Gathering per month including but not limited to Pub Theology, a men's group or an ice cream social.
- Involve FLYTE kids in worship at least once a month.
- Develop a Marketing/Evangelism plan for the congregation.

It has been a whole year since we came up with these goals. Council will be addressing our process, our success, and our growing edges at our July 30th meeting. We would like to hear from you. Talk to Pastor Matt or a council member and tell us how we are doing.

Send an email and we will share it at the meeting. We need honest, open discussions to happen so that we can address issues and make our community a safe, warm place to be a Christian today!

A Trip to Washington D.C.

TUESDAY, JULY 31ST

To visit the Holocaust Museum and some other sites.

It is important that we never forget the atrocities of the holocaust with the hopes that a genocide like that will never happen again. After we visit the Holocaust Museum, we are going to take in some of the other sites of D.C.. This trip is open to both youth and adults. Parents with children younger than 6th grade are asked to accompany their children.

Cost: \$27 a person

- 7:00 am Drive to Shady Grove Metro (Gaithersburg)
- 8:30 am Metro to Smithsonian Metro (45 minutes)
- 9:00 am Find a spot to have breakfast/prayer
- 10:00 am Holocaust Museum-Remember the Children: Daniel's Story
- 11:00 am Entry to Permanent Exhibit (history of the Holocaust from 1933 to 1945)
- 2:00 pm Lunch and discussion
- 3:00 pm See Jefferson, Lincoln or WWII Memorials and/or tour Air & Space Museum**
- 6:00 pm Metro to Shady Grove
- 7:00 pm Drive home to respective churches
- 8:00 pm Arrive

MILESTONES IN JULY

Birthdays

- 3 Diane Shewbridge
- 5 Jon Fleming
- 6 Harriett Eyler
- 7 Gregory Noll
Linda Propst
- 9 David Gatrell
Ella Murphy
Pat Rigot
- 11 Jeff Spoon
- 13 Amanda Ferrenchick
- 14 Anise Frye
- 21 Lawrence Rodgers
- 23 Sherlyn Clarke
- 25 Beverly Zavash
- 27 Dennis Coffinberger
- 28 Arlene Leitzke
- 29 Lynn Aikens
Nancy Weller

Anniversaries

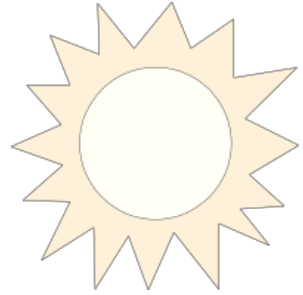
- 1 Lisa & Daniel Clarke
- 2 Linda Payne & Jerry Olsen
- 5 Traci & Lewis Harden
Sue & Roger Wall
- 7 Danine Rydland & Jerry Crites
- 10 JoAnna & Andrew Banks
- 14 Rosie & Ray Bentz
- 19 Kate & David Gatrell
- 20 Kandi & Bill Ruth
- 24 Kathy & Jim Chapman



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
- 12 Barry Provard
- 13 Barbara Arndt
- 14 Rodney White
- 15 Annette Mann
- 18 Linda McQuaid
- 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



Theology & Bible

TABLE TALK

Food & Drinks

JOIN US

1st Thursday of the
Month

August 2

No gathering in July

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 coming months will be spent looking at the book, "Love Wins" by Rob Bell. This book caused a bunch of controversy a few years ago. Come see what all the fuss was about.

Don't miss out on the conversation.



The Mustard Seed's

Annual Jay Dee's Family Fun Night

August 7th from 5:30-7:30pm

We Hope You Will Join Us!

The Mustard Seed has rented out the water park for our friends and families to join us. It has always been a great event to see the kids playing and families socializing. The cost per person is \$6.00. Children 12 months and younger are Free. Children above 12 months are \$6.00. This fee includes the water park only (including both slides). Other activities and snack bar are excluded in our cost. Please fill out the form below and return with your payment to The Mustard Seed by July 27th. Thank you for your support!

Family Name: _____

of Adults: _____ X \$6.00= _____

of Children: _____ X \$6.00= _____

Total Due= _____

Check # _____





PANCAKE DINNER AUGUST 1st 5:30PM-7:00PM

The Mustard Seed would like to invite you and your children to our Welcome Friends and Family Pancake Dinner, August 1th from 5:30pm-7:00pm. Meals will include Regular Pancakes, Sausage Gravy or Sausage Patty, Bacon, Mixed Fruit and drink.

Ticket donation requests are \$5.00 per person. All proceeds will be used towards the renovation cost of the playground and rubber mulch. Please fill out form below and return with your donations to the office by Friday, July 27th.

We hope to see you all there!

Family Name: _____

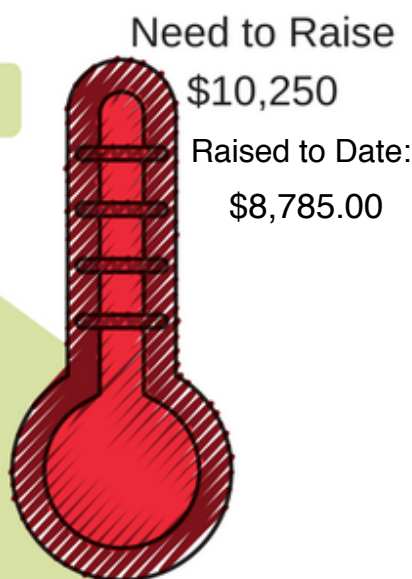
of Adults: _____ x \$5.00= _____

of Children: _____ x \$5.00= _____

Total Donation= _____

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.



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!

Feed My Sheep

First Sunday of the month



□—————□

When Jesus fed 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



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!**



SUNDAY School

We need to have a planning meeting for the 2018-2019 Sunday School Year. Those interested in our Christian Education programs are asked to meet:

Wednesday, August 1 at 7pm



Christian Education Survey

WE WANT TO MAKE SURE OUR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS ARE WORKING FOR YOU.

Take a few moments and tell us how we can craft a program to better meet your needs. Think outside the box and please be honest. Sunday School is hard today and we want to make sure our program is meeting your needs. Click on the link on our website at www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org and tell us what you are thinking.



What is Compline?

Compline is the final prayer office of the Christian Church. Think of it like a formal way to say your prayers before bed. The office is based deeply in the psalms and commending our bodies to God's care while we sleep. It is a beautiful prayer service that is in our hymnal that many of us have never said nor done.

Do you want to learn a new way to pray that has been around for centuries?

Bishop Riegel will be with us on Tuesday, August 21st at 6pm to lead a workshop on the prayer office known as Compline. Bishop will provide a history of the office as well as helpful pointers for Christians to use when praying the office. Everyone from the Potomac Conference of Churches is welcome to attend.

Details:

**Tuesday, August 21st at 6pm
in the Chapel of St. John's Lutheran Church
101 W. Martin St.--Martinsburg
Dinner will be provided**



OFFICIAL ACTS

Funerals

Alice Viola Pifer

Born: December 13, 1933 in Shepherdstown, WV,

Died: May 29, 2018 in Winchester, VA

Interested in becoming a member?

Joining our family official means you want to be personally committed to the ministry of St. John's. We need each and every member to play a part in our mission and ministry here. If you have not officially joined our community, consider doing so. We love having your worship with us and we would love to have your commitment!

New Member Sunday
August 26th at 10am

Pastor's Report

June 2018

Visitation

May Visits: 15

Conference and Synod

2 Conference Meetings

Synod Assembly Planning Meeting

Caroline Furnace Board Meeting

Carnival for National Gathering

Synod Assembly Pot Luck Dinner

Peter and Brendon Meyer Concert

Worship

4 Sunday Worship Services

Church Committees

Council

Church and Community Functions

Women's Banquet

CCAP Board Meeting

Family Movie Night

Friends Feeding Friends

Education

2 Confirmation

4 Sunday School Classes

Table Talk

3 Bible Studies

Mustard Seed

5 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed

Spirit Night at Panda Express

Continuing Education

Festival of Homiletics

Choir

4 Choir

Mileage

Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of May was 225 miles.



My brothers and sisters in Christ,
What does it mean to be a member of a church? I think different generations would each have their own definition. Membership is hard to define because belonging to an organization has different implications. I do not like the idea of church

membership. I think being a member of a church is much different than say being a member of a local fire department or the Lion's Club. Membership is a legal definition and has legal implications. I want us to think of membership a little bit differently.

Thom Rainer wrote an article once where he identified 5 things that churches do which ultimately leads to their demise. In number two of that list, he writes: "They are more concerned about greater comfort than the Great Commission. Church membership has become self-serving. The church is more like a country club than the body of Christ. People are "paying dues" to get what they want in the church. It's all about their preferences and desires." To be a member of a church is more than just attending on a regular basis or to use the church's services. Being a member of a congregation is more like what the 12 disciples did with Jesus. It is why I would love to see us get rid of the word membership and change it to discipleship.

What is a disciple? A disciple learns. A disciple follows. A disciple leads. A disciple shows up. A disciple serves. A disciple is served. To borrow from JFK, a disciple does not ask, "what can the church do for me" but rather, "how can I be present at the feet of Jesus."

We are a family at St. John's and that does not mean we are perfect. I am first and foremost guilty of not being the best family member at times. But I find forgiveness each week when we gather for worship. I say all this because no matter what you have done in the past, St. John's will always be here for you with open arms. We are a family and that is what a family must do to not only survive, but thrive.

We need to be a forgiving group. We need to extend forgiveness as well as receive the forgiveness. We need to talk to one another as the disciples talked to each other. Remember, disciples get to sit at the feet of our Lord. What greater gift is there to sit at the feet of the man who has saved the world? When you are not here, we miss you. I miss seeing your family, your face, hearing your voice, shaking your hand, laughing with you, crying with you, etc.

This summer, I know you are going to be traveling and maybe even want to take a break from the church. Maybe something happened

at St. John's that you are not very happy about or maybe I said something to upset you. Please don't stay away too long. If something is bothering you, tell me. If I am bothering you, tell me or a council member, but don't stay silent. Don't wait so long that find yourself so caught up in anger or pain that you cannot imagine coming back. I have been looking at our attendance numbers and have noticed a decline since May. I know numbers do not tell the whole story, but they do tell a story. What is keeping you from being a disciple? What has happened or changed in your life?

Is it just summer vacation? Or is it something more. We are a family and not a perfect family, but a family that knows about forgiveness, grace, and love because we receive it freely from God week after week. So family, what's going on?

I want to share how excited I am to be going to Houston. Let me tell you some background. In May, we found ourselves in a not a good place financially. We had a fundraiser that was rained out and still needed to raise about \$5,000 dollars. After a lot of praying, a lot of asking, and a lot of work, we pulled together as a conference of churches and raised the remainder of the funds needed. To send all 15 people to Houston is costing us over \$1300 a person which works out to \$20,701.41. In 6 months, between all the congregations in our conference pulling together, we are able to pay for everyone's expenses. This is amazing, and it could not have happened if we had not all come together.

We also sent 5 kids to Camp Luther this summer. I made the trek over to the camp this past week. It was a crazy amount of driving but the ministry which was happening at Camp Luther was a holy thing to witness.

Coming up at St. John's is Vacation Bible School. I do hope you can participate July 8-12. We can always use a couple extra volunteers to help with things. Talk to Shane or Jess Wagoner if you would be interested. Instead of a pool party on Friday, July 13, we are going to a Hagerstown Sun's Baseball game. Here is the deal: kids are free and adults are only \$5. The kicker is that you need to reserve your tickets. See Shane Wagoner or call the office to add your name to the list.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter M. Dwyer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

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

Return Service Requested