

## Worship Assistants

2nd Beverly Murphy  
 9th Anne Moore  
 16th Blaine Wilson  
 23rd Katie Kline  
 30th Buddy Newman

# September

## Ushers

2nd Blaine Wilson/Don Smith  
 9th Jon Edwards/Doug Widmeyer  
 16th Andrew Banks/Ray Bentz  
 23rd Arnold Bock/Rick Losh  
 30th Sally Jenkins/Jane Kelley

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Acolytes/Crucifers</b>						<b>1</b>
September 2nd Laken Edwards / Rebeka Root September 9th Landon Hutzler / Katie Kline September 16th Bryar Moss / Ian Fleming September 23rd Braydon Hill / Payton Hill September 30th Volunteers to be announced  September Altar Guild - Jerry Crites and Dawn Hutzler						
<b>2</b> Pulpit Exchange!  10AM Worship with Holy Communion  <b>Feed My Sheep</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Labor Day</b> <b>Office Closed!</b>	<b>4</b>  Pastor at mandatory Challenge Academy Mentor Training	<b>5</b>  1PM Bible Study in the Lounge  6:30-8PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	<b>6</b>  <b>6PM</b> <b>Mustard Seed</b> <b>Parent Meeting</b>  <b>6PM</b> <b>Table Talk @</b> <b>Daily Grind</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  10-2pm God's Work. Our hands. Work Day  Meet at St. John's
<b>9</b> 10AM Worship followed by WELCA 1pm Confirmand/ Parent Planning Meeting  <b>3pm Church Picnic</b> <b>Poor House Farm</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge <b>6:30pm</b> <b>Needlecraft Night</b> 6:30-8PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	<b>13</b>  9am CCAP Board Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
Pastor Matt away at LARCUM for Con Ed						
<b>16</b> 10AM Worship	<b>17</b>  <b>5:45PM</b> <b>Rally Day for</b> <b>New "Sunday</b> <b>on Monday"-</b> <b>Christian</b> <b>Education</b>  <b>7:15PM</b> <b>Evening Prayer</b>	<b>18</b>  Noon: <b>Habitat Board</b> <b>meets/lounge</b>  <b>7PM</b> <b>Church Council</b> <b>meets</b>	<b>19</b>  1PM Bible Study in the Lounge  6:30-8PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  St. Matthew Apostle	<b>22</b>  11AM-1PM <b>Friends</b> <b>Feeding</b> <b>Friends</b>
<b>23</b> 10AM Worship with Holy Communion  1PM Book Club Picnic @ Linda Riley's home	<b>24</b>  <b>Mustard Seed</b> <b>Career Week</b> <b>begins</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>6:30-8:30</b> <b>Luther Hall in use</b> <b>by Sierra Club</b>	<b>26</b> 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge  6:30-8PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel 7PM Budget Preparation	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  <b>11AM</b> <b>Beverly Zavash</b> <b>Memorial</b> <b>Service</b>  2-5pm Chili Cook Off at the square in Mar- tinsburg
<b>30</b> 10AM Worship with Holy Communion						

# NEWSLETTER

St. John's Lutheran Church

101 W. Martin Street

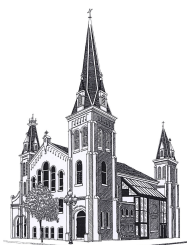
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

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

E-Mail: [churchoffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org)

Website: [www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org](http://www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org)

Pastor: Matthew A. Day



## SEPTEMBER 2018

### **Sunday School is getting a MAJOR Facelift this September!**

See page 5 for more details.



September 9th at Poor House Farm. Details on Page 11.

### **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

*With Pastor Matt*



Got Questions? Need to catch up with the pastor? Do you just like Coffee? You can do all three before worship on Sundays this fall. The gatherings will be informal and the coffee will be hot!

Sunday mornings  
at 9am in the  
Chapel

**Starting September 9th!**



# 2018 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 30, 2018

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

**Members present:** Mindi Esswein, Pastor Matt, Darrell Propst, Shane Wagoner, Blaine Wilson, Mike Noll, Anne Moore, Linda Payne, Diane Shewbridge, Jerry Crites, Bess Day (Treasurer)

**Members Absent:** Ray Bentz, Jane Kelley, Austin Propst

**Devotions:** Pastor Matt

**Minutes:** June 2018 council minutes were corrected and approved. (M/S/P Pastor Matt Day: Jerry Crites)

**Financial Report:** Financial reports were presented by Bess Day. Luther Hall water and electric bills were lower.

The Mustard Seed is doing well. They received a \$10,000 grant for new playground equipment. The pancake dinner proceeds will go toward playground bedding.

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

- Vacation Bible School was good; all activities were centered in Luther Hall
- Pastor has at 2 new individuals seeking membership and possibly 5 others interested in membership.

- Blaine Wilson has volunteered to represent St. John's congregation at the *Conference Leaders Gathering* on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at the Martinsburg Holiday Inn.

- \$890 remained in the Conference funds raised for the Gathering in Houston. The cost per person was \$1265.16. The remainder will be held for the next Gathering to be held in Minneapolis. For the next Gathering, fundraising for the event will take place at least a year before the 2021.

- Pastor presented several proposals:

- 1) As a part of the devotion, Council members will read two chapters each month from *Leading Beyond the Walls: Developing Congregations with a Heart for the Unchurched* by Adam Hamilton, available from Amazon for about \$15.

- 2) Pastor would like to expand our confirmation preparation to include a youth group for 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grader. The educational materials we will use for the the middle school youth group is *Echo the Story*, from Augsburg Fortress, a 12 session series. The focus will be on building relationships and building a biblical foundation so that more can be done with the youth once they reach confirmation. Once a month this younger group will have lunch with the confirmands and then break off to the youth group room for games and bible study for an hour or so. We will also be moving our confirmation program to the conference level. We will keep the same focus and curriculum that we have been using for the past few years, but will add the good practices from other congregations to make sure we can offer the best, possible program.

3) A day of service projects for the conference called, “God’s Work. Our Hands.” will be scheduled on September 8th from 10-2pm with St. John’s as the hub for the activities of the day. A bag lunch will be provided if it was suggested we contacting the United Way for project ideas.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Pancake Supper to benefit Mustard Seed – Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:00pm in Luther Hall. Conference wide Compliment Workshop on August 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm. Bishop Riegel leading, dinner will be provided.
- August 19<sup>th</sup> Blessing of the Backpacks and work bags during worship with Bishop Riegel officiating.
- Pulpit exchange on September 2<sup>nd</sup>
- God’s work-Our Hands Work Day. September 8<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 2pm.
- God’s Work-Our Hands Sunday is September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Church picnic/September 9<sup>th</sup> at Poor House Farm

### **•New Business:**

- Luther Hall Request: Saturday, 11/3/18, noon to 9pm for a Wedding Anniversary celebration requested by Melissa Shoemaker. (M/S/P Jerry Crites/ Diane Shewbridge)
- We reviewed our One Year Goal (For a more detailed summary of this discussion, please see the recap article in the newsletter).
  - Help people feel safe and welcome: improve and increase lighting inside and outside of the church. Darrell will ask Trenary how much it would cost to put a dusk/dawn or timer light pole in our parking lot to address safety concerns.
  - Hold at least one social gathering per month: family films, Table Talks@Daily Grind, etc.
  - Involve FLYTE kids in service at least once per month: providing music, readings, visit to Holocaust Museum/Washington DC.
  - Develop a marketing/evangelism plan for the congregation: Banners, post cards, special theme Sundays

We will look at 3 year goals at the next meeting (9/17/18)

### **Unfinished Business:**

- Interim Choir Director – there are currently 2 applicants. Pastor and the committee request more time. Action was tabled.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Christian Education:** Vacation Bible School had 60 attendees. The schedule changes made for this year were good. The program kicked off on Sunday evening and ran through Thursday. A big activity was planned for Friday – a baseball game at Hagerstown Suns Stadium - 110 people attended. A good time was had by all. Sunday School Surveys are in progress. Betty Lou Boyton is working with Christian Ed on the Rally Day picnic.

**Social Ministry:** Attendance at the Friends Feeding Friends served 80 meals to 62 Friends; some new faces attended. The next Friends Feeding Friends will be on August 25<sup>th</sup>. A movie, *I Can Only Imagine*, with a light lunch after church is planned.

**Evangelism:** Pastor said that he really enjoyed preaching on evangelism over the past few weeks and said that he planned on doing more of this in the future.

**Worship and Music:** Piano tuning has been scheduled. The sound system replacement fund is lacking \$500. We need to try to have the project completed as soon as possible. An appeal for donations to get the work done will be made. There is a need for adult size worship assistant robes.

**FLYTE:** See the Pastor's proposal for the new pre-confirmation program for youth in the 6th and 7th grades.

**Property/Tech:** Trenary is replacing lights in the choir loft. A piece of the railing will be made removable. Darrell will get a quote to retrofit the lights with LED lighting. The control panel at the rear of the choir loft on the right needs to be made more user-friendly for safety and energy efficiency. As mentioned, installing a pole light in the parking lot will be explored to provide lighting and safety for evening events at church. The steeple repair has been started with the removal of old pieces and materials. Repair will continue as the contractor is able. Darrell reported on the A/C estimates from Griffith Energy Services and Shenandoah Heating and Air. Griffith's estimate (\$65,000 plus \$9,000 for the kitchen) was higher than Shenandoah's (\$56,000) but Griffith included expenses for all associated costs where Shenandoah omitted some costs from the estimate that would be crucial to the properly completed job. A motion was made to go forward with Griffith Energy and create two separate proposals: One for for the \$60,000 already approved by the congregation and another proposal for the remainder of the work which will need congregational approval at a latter date. (M/S/P Pastor Matt:Mike Noll). Darrell abstained from voting.

**Mutual Ministry:** This committee plans to meet with Pastor Matt in the near future.

**Stewardship:** No report

With no other business, the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. (M/S/P Pastor Matt:Jerry Crites)

Respectfully submitted  
Diane Shewbridge

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

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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.

# SUNDAY ON MONDAY

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN'S

After a meeting of the Christian Education committee where we reviewed the surveys as well as the past year, we decided it was time to revamp our program. Instead of Sunday morning education, we will have "Sunday School" on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month starting September 17. Hence the name, Sunday on Monday.

### The Evening Schedule:

5:45pm - Pot Luck Dinner in Luther Hall

6:15 pm - Class

7:15 pm - 20 minute Evening Prayer to wrap up the night. The entire community is welcomed to come even if you cannot make it to the class!

### Classes and number of teachers:

Nursery (to the age of Kindergarten) 5th-Middle School

1st-4th grade: High School

Adult Class

### Curriculum

Nursery through 4th Grade will use the Spark Bible. Typically, we will have an Old Testament Lesson the first week and an New Testament Lesson the third week.

September 17 - The First Sin

March 4- Daniel and the  
Lions Den

October 1 - Joseph and his Brothers

October 15 - Love Your Enemies

March 18 - Superhero Jesus  
(Healing the Blindman, Water to  
Wine, Calm the Storm, Feeding of  
5000 people, Walks on water)

November 5- Joseph helps his Family

November 29- Bible Trivia

April 1 - Jesus is Betrayed

April 15 - The Empty Tomb

December 3- Angels Visits

December 17- Jesus is Born

May 6 - Trivia Night

January 7th- First Communion

January 21st- First Communion

May 20 -Baptism - Your Baptism  
and Jesus

February 4- Naomi and Ruth

February 18- Pick your favorite Parables

# CONFIRMATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

After a meeting of the different participating congregations, we have drafted a new proposal for a confirmation program that is intended to reach more of our youth at an earlier age with the hopes of preparing them for a life of faith.

## **6th and 7th Graders:** Youth Group

A youth-group style Bible Study. This would happen once a month at the same time as our confirmation program. The kids would have lunch with the confirmands and then move to the youth group room for a time of games and Bible Study. They would only be together for about an hour to an hour and a half. The goal of this group is to build relationships and prepare them for confirmation so that less attention in Confirmation has to be spent on developing a Biblical foundation so that larger, more important themes around social justice, stewardship, church polity, leadership, prayer, etc can be explored more deeply

## **Curriculum:** Echo the Story from Augsburg Fortress



Session 1: CREATION



Session 2: DISRUPTION



Session 3: THE PROMISE



Session 4: EXODUS



Session 5: COMMANDS



Session 6: JUDGES & KINGS



Session 7: EXILE



Session 8: GOD-WITH-US



Session 9: MIRACLES



Session 10: GOD'S KINGDOM



Session 11: DEATH-TO-LIFE



Session 12: THE CHURCH

## **8th Grade:** First year of Confirmation

Luther's Small Catechism. Class is once a month for four hours on a Sunday. Lunch starts at 1 pm to allow all congregations the chance to make it on time. Class will end at 5pm. Class time is divided into two parts: Learning and then reinforcement. During the reinforcement time, an activity will be done to help show how what they learned can be used every day in regards to faith. These actives can include a

movie with discussion, a field trip, service project, panel discussion, etc.

### **9th Grade:** Second Year of Confirmation

Focus on Bible and how to read the Bible. The same class design laid out above in the first year class will carry over to the second year. They will also be introduced to a chart to help them learn how to read a particular passage of scripture. The chief philosophy of confirmation is to build a relationship with students so that, no matter where they might go or leave, they will know there is a church that loves them and will support them. Learning something is secondary but with adding an additional component of 6th and 7th grade youth group, we hope that we can begin to build the relationship sooner and last longer.

### **Location:**

Classes will be held either at St. Peter's or St. John's. The goal is to make the switch mid-year.

### **Participating Congregations:**

- St. John's Lutheran Church
- St. Peter's Lutheran Church
- St. James Lutheran Church
- St Thomas Lutheran Church
- Trinity Lutheran Church

### **Materials needed for Class**

1. **A Bible (No KJV or Paraphrased translations such as the Message). We will provide one! Make sure you bring it.**
2. **Luther's Small Catechism** (Don't worry, we will provide this too. Just make sure you bring it!)
3. **A notebook.**

### **Expectations for Parents, Students, and church members:**

- We do not like having requirements because it goes against our doctrine of grace. However, confirmation is not possible unless everyone involved (both parents, students, and teachers) participate in as many activities of our program as possible.**
- Attend class when possible.** Life happens and there will be times when you can't make it to class, just don't make it a habit. If you miss a class or have to leave more than hour early from class, there will be a



written assignment that you must complete before the next class period. They will be available on our website or by sending your pastor an email.

**•The Confirmation Retreat is important and, in my mind, a requirement for everyone. Please mark the weekend on your calendars.**

**•Sermon Notes:** Need to be done once a month and turned in at each confirmation class.

**•Bring your books!**

**•Be on time.**

**•Participate in class discussion.**

**•Serve in Worship**

**•Parents, we ask that you be open to talking to your children about what they learn. Ask questions and encourage them to share their point of view. You are their role models when it comes to faith so don't be shy in sharing your faith with you children.**

**•Church members, when you see a confirmand at worship or around town, introduce yourself, talk them about their faith, make sure they feel welcomed and appreciated. We need good role models!**

*Join us for*

"God's work. Our hands."  
day of service



**September 8th  
from 10-2pm.**

We will meet at St. John's for a blessing and then go out into our community doing various projects. We have projects from yard work to making crafts.

Lunch will be provided.

# 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

Theology & Bible

# TABLE TALK

Food & Drinks

**JOIN US**

1st Thursday of the  
Month

**SEPTEMBER 6**  
**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.

# CHURCH

# PICNIC



September 9th  
Poor House Farm

Located 3.5 miles West of I-81 (King St. Exit, West on Tuscarora Pike to Poor House Road):

**Games at 3pm and  
Food at 5pm**

Directions: From Interstate 81 in Martinsburg take the King Street Exit (#13) and turn West (away from downtown) on Tuscarora Pike. Continue to Poor House Road and turn left. Poor House Farm Park will be on your left.

# Welcome to **WOMEN** of The **ELCA**

## Up Coming Events:

1. WELCA MEETING – Sunday, August 26  
(Future meetings will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the service)
2. Needlecraft Night – 2<sup>ND</sup> Wednesday of each month  
Sept 12, Oct 10, Nov 14, Dec 12  
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
3. October 13 - Cluster Meeting in Baker
4. November 11 – Thank offering Service during WELCA meeting

## Calling all folks who knit and/or crochet;

Hospice of the Panhandle needs lap blankets. If you can do this, join us at Needlecrafts night OR work on your own.

Also, we had some smaller prayer shawls that we are giving to Hospice for this; so, if you would like to make a prayer shawl or two, we would appreciate it.

If you would like yarn/wool, we have quite a bit that was donated. See Priscilla.

## Thank Offering

During the next couple of months, WELCA will have small glass jars available in the narthex for your Thank Offering. Please pick one up, put some change in it each time that you are thankful for any blessing/gift from God. These will be collected on November 11. This money will go to the WELCA Church-wide organization to support various ministries of the group.

Katie's Fund– watch in the newsletter and the WELCA bulletin board in Luther Hall. Find out what it is and how it is used and how you can help with our synod fund-raiser for this.

## Potomac Cluster meeting – October 13

This meeting will be in Baker, WV, at the community center. We will meet in the parking lot at 8:00 to carpool.

Theme: What is your Spiritual Gift? Brief Memorial Service will be conducted, also. Please come to meet new friends, share a covered dish meal, and conduct some VERY brief business.

Let Priscilla know if you will attend.



# **SWO Convention News**

SWO Convention was held on August 10 and 11 at Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center in Huttonsville.

A total of 32 people attended: honored guests, churchwide representative, visitors, voting members and board.

Bishop Riegel presented a Bible study on our Theme: Called to Serve. He asked what our “call” story might be and told us that whether it is dramatic as some in the Scriptures or just very mundane that doesn’t matter because we are called.

Angela Bell, our churchwide representative, hailed from Bellville, Texas. She gave a great presentation related to our theme, and she covered what the Women of ELCA are doing at a nationally and internationally. She also conducted our workshop on our spiritual gifts. Is yours mercy, hospitality, discernment, teaching, or any of the other 12 possibilities? Priscilla has a worksheet about them.

Chaplain Tony Setley updated us Campus Ministry at WVU.

Pastor Ian Reid told us about our sister synods in Madagascar.

Fellowship activities: Making S’Mores and just visiting with old and new friends. There was a wine and cheese party the following evening.

Pastor Diane Day presided over our Eucharist service with a sermon reminding us that no matter where we are called to service, God holds us in his hand and heart.

**HIGHLIGHT: THOMAS DAY**, who was there with his dad and mom, was a big hit. And we appreciated that Pastor Matt was able to attend, too!!

Offerings and money from the silent basket auction are distributed among:

- Churchwide
- SWO
- Sister Synod in Madagascar, through LWR
- WVU Campus Ministry
- Our SWO Scholarship Fund

Lutheran Lines, our twice yearly newsletter



**Mark Your Calendars**  
**September 30, 2018 at 10 am**



**Fifth Sunday Worship**

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**Feast of St. Michael**  
**And All Angels**

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Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. A festival dedicated to the honor of the archangel Michael arose in the fifth century in Rome. Michael is not a saint, but in Jewish angelology one of the four archangels who carry out the will of God. The stories about Michael are war scenes, situating him within the final battle between good and evil. The focus of the day has broadened to include thanksgiving for all the angels, who are seen as messengers of the word and will of God.

On this day, we will sing hymns about Angels and give thanks to God for the work of all Angels still happening today.

# PET BLESSING

October 7 | 1 pm

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!



# Highlights from the summer at St. John's!



To the left, 11 youth from the panhandle showing off their homemade "swaps." They used these to exchange with another youth as a way to remember who they met. Thank you to our Knitters who made all the swaps!

Below, VBS 2018!



To the right, a picture of the group who came out to learn about the prayer office, Compline. 37 people all together when all was said and done! Thank you to Bishop Riegel for teaching and leading us in the prayer.



# **Thank You Notes:**

Sometimes it seems that "thank you" is just not enough ... and yet I just don't have any other words to say how much Gary and I appreciated the many visits Pastor Matt made to see and give communion to Gary. Also, during those six months, we received many cards of get well and thinking of you from members of St. John's church which were greatly appreciated. Pastor spent time with our family getting to know Gary so that he could give a message at the celebration of life service that was both personal and inspiring.

Thank you to all of you who sent me notes and cards of sympathy, as well as those who were able to attend the service. It is good to be back attending services with my church family. Ours is a caring congregation and I certainly have been the recipient of that care. So --THANK YOU!

Sharon Brumback Garrish



Dear St. John's Congregation,

On behalf of the Board of Auxiliary at The Village at Rockville (formerly The National Lutheran Home), I would like to express our deepest thanks for the many years you have hosted the residents and Auxiliary volunteers at your Fall luncheon. The outing was enjoyed by many over the years and deeply appreciated.

The age and abilities of the residents has changed over the years. We have found it to be more difficult each year to take the residents out on trips and even for meals locally. As you know, last year we had a very small group for the meal you all so lovingly prepared. As I discussed with Martha Seitler recently, we will not be able to continue these trips to Martinsburg. The Auxiliary Board wrestled with this decision, but after a lot of prayer and reflection, felt it was the right action.

Thank you again for all the joy you have brought to the residents over the years. We wish you richest blessings in your continuing ministry.

Yours in His service,

Elizabeth A. Henriksen, President, the Auxiliary at The Village at Rockville

## **SCRIP SPOT**

July 2018 - \$112.02      YTD - **\$1317.01**

**School and college have started for the year.** Do you have a child, grandchild, relative, or friend attending college away from home? Surprise him or her with a scrip gift card for a fast food restaurant – college kids always like that.

**OR** school supplies can be expensive, maybe a card from Wal-Mart or Target would help.

**AND, Christmas is coming!!!**

Don't forget to order gift cards – restaurants, clothing, and a variety of other cards are available.

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

# REVIEW OF OUR 1 YEAR GOALS

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

## BY JULY 31, 2018, WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED:

- 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.
  - *We are working with an electrical company to install a light in the back parking lot. Until that happens, we have a temporary solutions of a shop light that can be mounted on the roof the shed. We have had parking lot ushers at all large services such as Christmas and Easter but have not had any volunteers for normal Sunday mornings. The Shepherding Program has evolved into a less formal program. After some encouragement from the pastor, members were instructed to greet anyone they did not recognize, especially those new people in their particular seating section.*
- 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.
  - *We were 100% successful in accomplishing this goal.*
- Involve FLYTE kids in worship at least once a month.
  - *We were not at all successful in completing this goal. After we created this goal, it became apparent that FLYTE was going through a change. We are hoping that because of the Gathering, we can use this momentum to help create some group cohesion.*
- Develop a Marketing/Evangelism plan for the congregation.
  - *We have created a plan to better use mailings, banners, and posters. However, the council does not believe this goal should ever be deemed accomplished. This goal should always be a work in progress.*



# 3 YEAR GOALS

## For St. John's

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

### BY NOVEMBER 30, 2020, WE WILL:

- Increase Sunday worship attendance by 20% so that more people will be able to experience the great reward of being in a relationship with Jesus.
- Have 50% of the congregation's confirmed-membership fill out a Covenant so that we can seek out those ministry areas the Holy Spirit is leading us to do.
- Strengthen our physical involvement in community activities through participating in community organizations and schools.

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

When you call the church office, you will notice that we have simplified our phone system so that we can connect you quicker to either the church office or the Mustard Seed. We also added a weather related closing prompt and pastoral emergency prompt as well. If you are having a pastoral emergency such as a hospitalization or death, dial the church office, press 3 and leave a message with all the details. Pastor Matt will be notified of your message and will get in contact with you as soon as possible.



**KEEP  
CALM  
WE HAVE  
A NEW  
PHONE SYSTEM**



# OFFICIAL ACTS

## New Members



We welcome Raymond Nichols and Raul Betancourt to our Church Family on August 28!

**Interested in becoming a member?**

Officially joining our church family 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!

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## Funerals

Gary Lee Garrish

Born: December 24, 1951 in Hagerstown, MD

Died: July 1, 2018 in Martinsburg, WV

Lawrence "Sonny" Rodgers

Born: July 21, 1929 in Youngstown, OH

Died: June 30, 2018 in Kearneysville, WV

Beverly Zavash

Born: July 25, 1935 in Milwaukee, WI

Died: August 23, 2018 in Martinsburg, WV

# SEPTEMBER MILESTONES

## BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Addison Janney  
Gail Newman
- 2 Ben Byers, II  
Dale Hicks  
Jeanne Rector
- 3 Scott Rodgers  
Faith Ruble
- 4 JoAnna Banks
- 5 Beverly Murphy
- 6 Karen Noll
- 7 Valerie Link  
William Torbert
- 8 Elaine Bennett
- 9 Bill Torbert  
Jared Stroech
- 13 Nicholas Byers  
Cheryl Losh
- 14 Teddy Roberts
- 16 Joseph Hutzler, Jr.  
Christina White
- 18 Jeremy Horner
- 19 Phil Eyler  
Kevin Remsberg
- 20 Colton Crites
- 21 Susie George
- 23 Martin Herbert  
Andrew White
- 24 Steve Miller
- 25 David Ettinger  
Bill Ruth



- 26 Betsy Shewbridge  
Charles Taylor
- 28 Nicholas Leitzke
- 29 Autumn Esswein
- 30 Karen Middleton

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Jennifer and Brad Moss
- 4 Karen and Wayne Middleton  
Karen and Michael Noll
- 13 Catherine & Wayne Whitmore
- 15 Mary Lou & Allen Willaimson
- 23 Jean & T.A. Jackson
- 27 Amy & David Hartley  
Gail & Buddy Newman
- 28 Marjorie & Michael Murphy

# September News



Our school year has started at the Mustard Seed. We welcomed 20 new children to our center on August 20th, making a total of 58 children in the center, with only 3 openings in our Pre-K classroom. All of the teachers have done a wonderful job the first two weeks getting new children comfortable and learning our routine.

We are very excited to announce we were awarded a \$10,000.00 playground grant for new equipment. The new equipment has been ordered and we are looking forward to a playground renovation/update in the near future. Many parents have committed to helping with replacing the mulch and the construction of the new equipment. If you have time and would like to participate, we could use all the help we can get! Please let Martha in the office know and when we have a secure date, I will make sure you are involved.

Thank you to everyone who supported The Mustard Seed by coming to our Pancake Dinner. We were able to raise over \$800 towards the additional cost of the playground renovations.

We are looking forward to another successful school year!

Michelle

This poster is located in the hallway of Luther Hall if you would like to take a close look at some of the new "toys".

They include a climber, musical instruments and other "learn while playing" equipment.



## Meet our Interim Choir Director

# SOPHIE PALMER

Sophie Palmer is a Sophomore at Shepherd University, double majoring in Choral Education and Piano Pedagogy. Throughout high school and college thus far, she has been involved in choirs and other musical ensembles, in which a few she has instructed and accompanied for. Along with her love of voice and piano, she enjoys French and reading articles in her free time. Some of her greatest accomplishments include earning \$10,400 a year in scholarships and being paid to go to college, amassing 51 credit hours in just her first year, and maintaining a 4.0 G.P.A. She credits her academic success to her loving, supportive parents and instructors and only hopes to one day inspire her own students to genuinely want to succeed in everything they do. Sophie is incredibly excited to become a part of St. John's Lutheran Church and is extremely grateful to Pastor Matthew Day and the Worship and Music Committee for believing in her.

Lastly, she hopes to grow with the choir during her time here and to, most importantly, bring beautiful music to life in such a beautiful setting and for an even more beautiful purpose.



## **Pastor's Report**

June 2018

### **VISITATION**

June Visits: 39

### **CONFERENCE AND SYNOD**

Synod Assembly Potluck Dinner

Synod Assembly

Conference Meeting

Team Building Workshop for Gathering

Car Wash for Gathering

Pancake Supper for Gathering

Camp Luther Day

Gathering in Houston TX

### **WORSHIP**

4 Sunday Worship Services

Pulpit Exchange

### **CHURCH COMMITTEES**

Council

### **CHURCH AND COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS**

CCAP Board Meeting

Friends Feeding Friends

### **EDUCATION**

Table Talk

2 Bible Studies

### **MUSTARD SEED**

4 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed

Mustard Seed Board Meeting

### **FUNERALS**

Alice Pifer Visitation and Funeral

### **CHOIR**

4 Choir

### **MILEAGE**

Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of June was 495 miles. Non-billed mileage was 496. Total mileage driven was 991 miles.

## **Pastor's Report**

July 2018

### **VISITATION**

July Visits: 23

### **CONFERENCE AND SYNOD**

Conference Meeting

Conference Youth Gathering at Pastor Karen's Pool

Ryan Heycock Ordination in Harrisburg, PA

### **WORSHIP**

5 Sunday Worship Services

Youth Gathering Recap

### **CHURCH COMMITTEES**

Council

2 Choir Director Interviews

Worship and Music Committee

Tele-plus Phone System Service

### **CHURCH AND COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS**

CCAP Board Meeting

Low Country Boil at Knights of Columbus

Titanic Musical

### **EDUCATION**

Vacation Bible School Decorating

Vacation Bible School

Confirmation Planning Team Meeting

### **MUSTARD SEED**

3 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed

### **FUNERALS**

Sonny Rodgers Visitation and Funeral

Gary Garrish Visitation and Funeral (same day)

### **CHOIR**

4 Choir

### **MILEAGE**

Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of July was 188 miles.





My brothers and sisters in Christ,  
It has been a ministry filled summer. From traveling to Houston with 11 youth and 4 other adults (it is still weird that I am now considered an adult), VBS, lots of visitations, and some much needed time off. I am

eternally grateful to the Synodical Women's Organization for their invitation to me and my son to join Diane for their annual retreat. Thomas and I napped, I got caught up on some of my Star Trek books, and we watched lots and lots of Wheel of Fortune. That has become Thomas' favorite tv show to watch.

A year ago, I was dealing with my Achilles Tendon and I am happy to report that everything is working like it should. It is nice to not have to schedule physical therapy around my ministry this year. It is really nice to be able to walk much better as Thomas has now moved from crawling to sprinting! It is hard to keep up with him most days.

There are some things coming up this fall. We are trying out a different Sunday School program. After reading through the Christian Education surveys and much discernment, we are moving Sunday School to Monday Nights, hence the name Sunday on Monday. We will start with a potluck dinner at 5:45 and end the evening with a 20 minute worship. Everyone is welcome to come and join us. Can't stay for worship? You are still welcome to join us for dinner and/or class time. Can't make it to class? Come to worship!

With the change of Sunday School means a change in Rally Day. We normally have Rally Day on the Sunday after Labor Day. However, since our Christian Education will happen on the first and third Mondays of the month, we will have Rally Day on September 17th. But the church picnic at Poor House farm will still happen on September 9th as usual.

Also on September 9th, we will have a planning meeting for parents and students wishing to participate in our confirmation program. I am really excited about Confirmation this year because we are expanding our program. Our entire conference of churches is coming together to create one program. Not only will we have the confirmation program for 8th and 9th graders, we will also offer a middle school youth group for 6th and 7th graders. The middle school

youth group will meet on the same day as confirmation, but for a much shorter time with a different focus. So, if you have a child who is entering 6th grade through 9th grade, bring your schedule on September 9th at 1pm. See page 6 for all the details of our confirmation program.

Table Talk will continue this fall on the first Thursdays of the month at the Daily Grind around 6pm. We have had some really neat discussions at these gatherings this past year. I hope you can make it one evening and try it out.

This summer, we said a temporary good bye to our choir director, Heather, as she and her family move out west for the year so that Ray can complete a leadership program with the National Gaurd. Until she returns, the council has hired Sophie Palmer, a student of Heather's, to take her place until she returns next September. You can read more about Sophie on page 23.

In Christ,



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

Return Service Requested