

**Acolyte/Crucifer**

**April 7** Ian Fleming/Katie Kline  
 14 Sharon Brumbach/Trey Voorhees  
 21 Austin Propst/John Esswein  
 Landon Hutzler/Sally Jenkins  
 28 Elisabeth Gottlieb/Christian Gottlieb

# April

**St. John's Scholarship  
 Application Deadline  
 April 15th!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> <b>Sunday on Monday</b> 5:45PM Dinner 6:15 Class 7:15 Evening Prayer	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge <b>Lent Services Noon, 5:30 and 7:30PM</b> 6:30PM Dinner 6:15PM Choir Rehearsal in Nave	<b>4</b> <b>6PM</b> Table Talk @ Dailey Grind	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>10AM</b> <b>Worship with Holy Communion</b>  <b>Conference Confirmation</b>  Feed My Sheep	<b>8</b> <b>6PM</b> Mustard Seed Board Meeting  <b>7PM</b> Church Council in the Lounge	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge <b>Lent Services Noon, 5:30 and 7:30PM</b> 6:30PM Dinner 6:15PM Choir Rehearsal in Nave	<b>11</b> <b>9AM</b> <b>CCAP Board meets</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  The Potomac Cluster Meeting <b>Meet at the parking lot at 8AM</b>
<b>14</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b>  <b>Procession from the Square begins 10AM</b>  VBS Planning after worship	<b>15</b> <b>Holy Monday</b>  <b>Sunday on Monday</b> 5:45PM Dinner 6:15 Class 7:15 Evening Prayer <b>Scholarship Deadline!!!</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Holy Tuesday</b>  <b>11am</b> <b>Synod Chrism Mass</b> in Morgantown at St. Paul's	<b>17</b> <b>Spy Wednesday</b>  1PM Bible Study in the Lounge  6:30PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	<b>18</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b>  <b>Worship at Noon in the Chapel &amp; 7:30PM</b> in the Sanctuary	<b>19</b> <b>Good Friday</b>  <b>12PM</b> <b>Community Service at Trinity Episcopal</b>  <b>7:30PM</b> <b>at St. John's</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Holy Saturday</b>
<b>Holy Week</b>						
<b>21</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>Sunrise at 6:30am</b> Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt at 8am <b>Festival Eucharist at 10am</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge  6:30PM Needlecraft Night  6:30PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	<b>25</b>  <b>St. Mark, Evangelist</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  <b>11AM-1PM</b> Friends Feeding Friends
<b>28</b> 10AM Worship 4-6pm ACDS Graduation at Luther Hall	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>4:30-7:30PM</b> <b>Bethel Community Dinner</b> in Luther Hall	<b>Worship Assistants</b> April 7 Diane Shewbridge April 14 Mindi Esswein April 21 6:30 Andrew Banks 10:30 Bess Day April 28 Anne Moore		<b>Ushers</b> 7 Doug Widmeyer/Bill Torbert 14 Jon Edwards/Betty Lou Boynton 21 6:30 & 10AM Volunteers are Welcome! 28 Jean/Ben DeAlexandro	

# NEWSLETTER

St. John's Lutheran Church

101 W. Martin Street

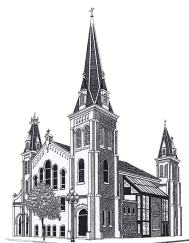
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

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



## APRIL 2019

### At a Glance:

#### Wednesdays in Lent

Join us for the last Wednesday in Lent as we have deepened our faith and explored Martin Luther's Small Catechism.

Two times to gather: Soup and Sandwich Lunch served at 11:15 am and Morning Prayer at noon. Soup and Sandwich dinner served at 6:30 pm with Evening prayer following.

#### Lent Disciplines

A great discipline to take on this Lent is participating in our Holy Week services. Have you ever been to a Maundy Thursday or Good Friday service? They are great for kids to learn the story and for adults to be reminded of how Jesus saved the world.

#### More Ways to give...

Lenten Folders are still available in the church narthex. Lenten Funds will be given for camp scholarships. The "in Lieu of Lillies" funds will go into the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to be used for emergency food and housing. Total given: \$645.00.

## THIS EASTER

*there is a place  
for you here*



### Palm Sunday

April 14

10 AM at the Square

### Maundy Thursday

April 18

12PM and 7:30PM

### Good Friday

APRIL 19

Tenabrae Service

7:30PM

### Easter Sunday

APRIL 21

6:30 am and 10 am

# 2019 ST. JOHN'S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

## MARCH 11, 2019

**Meeting called to order by:** Rick Losh, President

**Members present:** Rick Losh, Pastor Matt, Linda Payne, Jerry Crites, Anne Moore, Drew Catrow, Blaine Wilson, Michael Noll, Darrell Propst, Bess Day (Treasurer)

**Members Absent:** Diane Shewbridge, Shane Wagoner, Jane Kelley

**Minutes:** February 2019 meeting minutes (M/S/P:Drew Catrow; Jerry Crites)

**Budget:** Bess Day, Treasurer, presented the Budget Report for February. Income as still down. Pastor Matt spoke to the Bishop about our contribution to the Senate and will get the numbers for average from all churches. Mustard seed was down because of closures due to weather.

### **Pastor's Report:**

The decision was made to update the mission statement to read "We are Proclaimers of Hope"

(M/S/P Pastor Matt; Jerry Crites)

Maundy Thursday – We will be doing individual absolution and washing of the feet. We will need 2 men, 2 women, and some children to partake in this.

Upcoming events.

Wednesdays in Lent: Every Wednesday from March 13 – April 10.

Morning Prayer at noon and Dinner and Evening Prayer starting at 6:30 pm. The Theme is "Church, meet Disney. You have a lot in common."

Here are the full details for Wednesdays in Lent.

Morning Prayer at noon

Bible study at 1:00

Choir at 6:15 pm

Dinner at 6:30pm

Evening Prayer at 7:30pm

April 14 – Palm Sunday with downtown procession starting at 10am

April 18- Maundy Thursday at noon in the Chapel and 7:30pm in the Sanctuary

April 19-Good Friday at Noon at Trinity Episcopal and 7:30pm at St. John's in the Sanctuary

April 21-Easter Sunday: Sunrise at 6:30am , breakfast at 7:30am, Easter egg hunt at 9am and Festival Eucharist at 10am.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Pastor Matt will be checking tomorrow on the Welcome Bags.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Spring work day will be held on Sunday, May 19 after church. Betty Lou suggested a painting shower for Luther Hall. She will be making a poster of an umbrella with envelopes on it for donations.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CHRISTIAN: Shane- VBS planning is underway.

SOCIAL MINISTRY: Jerry- only new thing is a back to school project in August. There will be a tea the first Sunday in May. Thrivent is paying for the St. Patrick dinner. Money collected will go to the 2021 youth gathering. \$507. was collected from the pancake dinner.

EVANGELISM: Pastor Matt-

WORSHIP AND MUSIC: Drew- no report

FLYTE: First meeting night will be March 18.

PROPERTY/TECH COMMITTEE: Darrell-The electrical work has not been done because they electrician is behind. Darrell will speak to Aaron about cleaning the floors in Luther Hall. The green doors at the Church need to be repaired. They need to be squared up so they can be opened easily. Ave's locksmith will be asked for a quote to fix the green doors. Will order the banner for Easter. Sidewalks need repairing and Mike will get a name of someone.

MUTUAL MINISTRY: Blaine- no report

STEWARDSHIP: Linda-will be working on the flower beds on May 19 With no other business the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. (M/S/P/Jerry Crites, Darrell Prospit)

Respectfully Submitted.

Linda Payne

## 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.

Participating Churches:  
St John's Lutheran Church  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
First Presbyterian



A Joint  
**Palm Sunday**  
**Procession**

10 am on April 9, 2017  
in the Martinsburg City Square

**There is an ancient tradition in the church to remember the procession Jesus made into Jerusalem a few days before his death.**

Our three churches will come together to read scripture, sing praise to our God, and wave palm branches welcoming the Savior of the world to our town.

If there is inclement weather, the event will be canceled.

# Why should we bother with Holy Week?

Holy Week began because the church, after the Roman Empire converted all its citizens to Christianity, had to find a way to educate large groups of people about the passion of our Lord. However, these times of worship are not us crucifying Jesus once again but rather as a way for us to remember.

To help answer some of your questions about these three days, we have gathered a few resources for you to read and watch.

- There is a good Wikipedia article explaining Maundy Thursday ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maundy\\_Thursday](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maundy_Thursday))
- What happens on Good Friday? What is a Tenebrae Service? (<https://www.gotquestions.org/Tenebrae-service.html>)
- Check out this video from Gettysburg Seminary! (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKcWuJVfY30>)
- Have Questions about Easter? There is a list on this website which might help you find some answers (<https://www.gotquestions.org/easter.html>)
- And you can always come and bring your questions to Pastor Matt as well!

The Triduum are the three holy days that happen the week in between Palm Sunday and Easter. These days are called: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil (we hold our vigil at Sunrise on Easter Morning though traditionally the Easter Vigil is held on Saturday evening) are three days in the church year when we physically walk with Jesus from the table, to the cross, and to the tomb so that we might ponder the mystery of the Easter. On Easter morning, we go with Mary Magdalene and witness with her, Jesus rise from the dead, but the three days before Easter explain why we even need to gather on Easter. These three days are important and go hand-in-hand. One does not make sense without the other. Though it might be hard to make it to church three times in a row, coming to these services are a great reminder of why we gather on Sunday mornings in the first place! **Of course, the best way to learn more about these Three Days is to experience them first-hand!**

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## Official Acts

### Deaths

William "Bill" Schuler

Born: December 20, 1929

Died: March 10, 2019

# Holy Week

Palm Sunday - 10 am

Maundy Thursday - Noon and 7:30 pm

Good Friday - Ecumenical Service at 12pm at  
Trinity Episcopal and 7:30 pm at St. John's

Easter Sunrise - 6:30 am

Easter Morning - 10 am

Celebrate Jesus entering Jerusalem; join Jesus in the upper-room; stand with Jesus as he faces Pilate; hear the crowd shout, "Crucify him, crucify him;" see him die to save the world; and accompany the woman as they go to the tomb.

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## FUN EASTER MORNING ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN!



If you would like to contribute individually wrapped candy to fill the eggs, it would be greatly appreciated. You may leave it in the lounge.

Thanks!



A breakfast sign-up will be in future bulletins.

Be sure to sign up so that we may prepare enough food!!

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# WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

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at St. John's Lutheran Church  
101 W. Martin St  
[www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org](http://www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org)

**Lunch at 11:15 am**

**Morning Prayer at 12 pm**

(To-go containers will be available if you can't make it for lunch!)

&

**Dinner at 6:30 pm**

**Evening Prayer at 7:30 pm**

Every Wednesday in Lent starting  
March 8 - April 5

Deepen your faith this Lent by making time to come and worship with us. Learn about the mysteries of our faith with others. See the story of how Jesus saved us come alive.



# 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

# WELCOME TO WELCA

## Upcoming Activities

Meetings: March 31, May 19, July 21 – after service in Luther Hall

- We will be having meetings every other month. These will have a devotion or program with a VERY short business meeting.
- The devotion for the March meeting will be about MERCY – partially taken from a devotion from Daily Grace, an WELCA on-line devotion app. (It's FREE)

Needle Craft Nights: - 6:30 in Luther Hall

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays: Apr.24, May 19, June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15
- All are welcome whether you bring a craft or not – come just for the

fellowship. Bring a couple of dollars toward pizza from Bob's Carry Out.

POTOMAC CLUSTER meeting and Bible study – Saturday, April 6, at the Baker Community Center in Baker, WV. The theme is Prayer, and the scripture is Psalm 17:6-8; Pastor Christine Olson, of Trinity in Arden will lead this. We share in the Eucharist in the afternoon. We have a covered-dish lunch. We will be collecting towels and kitchen utensils for the STUFF closet of CLP. Non-perishable food is collected and given to a given to a food pantry. We will meet in St. John's parking lot at 8 AM; we are usually back about 4-4:30. If you have never been, please give it a try. Honestly, Priscilla went for the first time many years ago; she thought it would be a “drag,” but she found out it was NOT a drag. It was Relaxing; it became filled with new friends; meals were shared. Please come.

WELCA voted on whether the Women's banquet should be continued. We decided to cancel this event since each year we have fewer and fewer attendees.

The SWO (Synodical Women's Organization of WELCA) will be having the convention on Friday, August 9, and Saturday, August 10 at the Bishop Hodges Catholic Retreat Center in Huttonsville, WV. The theme is TAKE JOY. Scholarships are available for women who are going for the first time or under 40. Registration forms will be coming out in May in the next issue of Lutheran Lines (the SWO newsletter.) Please consider attending. The location is simply beautiful! The food is good! But the devotions, Bible studies, workshops, and the fellowship is even better.

Thankoffering Jars are available in the narthex by the elevator. Anyone can contribute to this. The idea is: take a jar and put it in a place you will notice; whenever you feel thankful, put a couple of coins in the jar; the monies are collected in the fall. We have a brief service during the meeting when we collect them. This offering is sent to WELCA, church-wide level. It is the ONLY offering which the national organization takes 100%. This goes to help support the many ministries of WELCA including the print and on-line publications, the resources available of their web-site, and administrative costs.

### **On-going ministries:**

Lily's (Hospital) Bags – victims of sexual assault, when taken to hospital, have their clothing taken as evidence. Therefore, they need clothes to get home. Beverly McDonald in connection with Eastern Panhandle Empowerment Center (formerly Shenandoah Women's Center) will be collecting these bags. Each ziplock bag should include: sports bra, panties, pull-on pants, and Tshirt or sweatshirt in one size. All sizes from XS – XXXL are needed. THANK YOU to all who have contributed clothing to this!

KNIT OR CROCHET – At this time, I cannot locate the knitting/crocheting box. BUT quite a few of you have been working on scarves at home!! WELCA has gotten quite a few scarves already – THANK YOU to all who have contributed.

GATHER – don't forget to pick up the copy of this magazine in the narthex; read and return it; so, someone else gets to do the same.

Bold Café – is an on-line resource for “younger” women. The topic of the month will have devotions, an inspiring story, Bible verses, and prayers all related to that topic. The devotion Perfectly Imperfect that we read at a WELCA meeting came from Bold Café. In the Western states, some of the women have formed on-line groups; these groups read the magazine and then discuss this on-line. It would be GREAT if anyone is interested in doing this. The topics are short and sweet; so, reading them doesn't take a lot of time. Please check out Bold Café and let Priscilla know if you'd like to give an on-line group a try.

Priscilla is looking for ideas, suggestions, input, and anything else you have to say regarding WELCA, We are looking for ways to help WELCA become more vibrant again!!



# Caroline Furnace

Lutheran Camp and Retreat Center

## FAMILY NIGHT

Saturday May 18th at 5pm

*All are welcome!*

Martinsburg WV

ST. JOHNS LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 W Martin St Martinsburg WV 25401

Join us for an evening of fun!

We'll bring **dinner, games** and a **campfire** for **s'mores**.  
Bring your questions about camp and retreat opportunities!



RSVP requested at [www.CarolineFurnace.org](http://www.CarolineFurnace.org)

# Summer CAMP 2019



2019 Camp Theme

*“Transformed Community”*

June 16 - 22, 2019

Located at Camp Caesar  
in Cowen, West Virginia

**register online by visiting**  
**[camplutherwv.com/](http://camplutherwv.com/)**



**register online by visiting [www.carolinefurnace.org/](http://www.carolinefurnace.org/)**

*Scholarships available to both camps*

# **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) Youth Night

1st-5th grade

Adult Class

### **Curriculum**


Typically, we will have an Old Testament Lesson the first week and an New Testament Lesson the third week.

April 1 - Jesus is Betrayed

April 15 - The Empty Tomb

May 6 - Trivia Night

May 20 -Baptism - Your Baptism and Jesus



IGNITE YOUR FAITH

# YOUTH NIGHT

Also known as FLYTE, Middle School and High School age kids are welcome to come for dinner, Bible Study, and prayer. This will be a space to have safe conversations and to have fun.

**YOUTH NIGHT WILL HAPPEN EVERY  
MONDAY FROM 5:45 TO 7:30  
LUTHER HALL AT ST. JOHN'S**

**ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH  
SCHOOL AGE KIDS ARE  
WELCOME TO JOIN IN!**

An opportunity for the youth to grow in spirit through worship, prayer, good food, fun games, and amazing company!

Theology & Bible

# TABLE TALK

Food & Drinks

**JOIN US**

1st Thursday of the  
Month

**APRIL 4**

**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.





## March News

March was a Fun Month! The children enjoyed the St. Patrick Day activities. They had fun learning about different green food (they even like some of them!), counting green items they see every day, and wearing different colors on different days.

Our Open House was a great success. We had multiple families come through for a tour from 9:30 - 11AM. They could see our center in operation and meet our wonderful teachers. Our empty spaces for the summer and fall are minimal. Most classrooms are full. We have a waiting list started for fall of 2020.

Coming up on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> the Mustard Seed will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner from 5:00-7:00PM in Luther Hall. Please mark your calendars. All proceeds will go toward special events during the summer for the Mustard Seed children.

Michelle also announced to the board that she will be leaving the school on May 17<sup>th</sup> to live closer to her family in Pennsylvania. We want to thank Michelle for her 14 years of service to the school. The board will be conducting a search for a new director over the next couple of months.



As you consider whether you have time (or energy) to assist with VBS this summer, consider this:

- \* VBS is the most evangelistic event of the year, providing a time to connect with unchurched families in the community.

- \* 95% of parents said that participating in VBS was one of their child's most meaningful church experiences, according to a survey by LifeWay Research.

- \* The unique nature of VBS gives everyone an opportunity to be involved and impact children on a short term basis for long term results! (And it's FUN!)

We have been asked by Emmanuel's House to donate playing cards to the Eastern Regional Jail



**We need to collect  
450 decks of cards!**

The best place to purchase them is at the Dollar Tree. They sell a two pack for \$1. The next time you are at the Dollar Tree, pick up a pack and bring them to St. John's.

**The Social Ministry Committee will make sure they get to Emmanuel's House .**

# **A FEW CEMETERY MOWERS NEEDED**

The season has started and will go into the Fall for the up-keep of the Old Lutheran - Reformed Cemetery located across from Brown Funeral Home.

We are in great need of “trimmers”, but you will need to bring your own equipment - trimmers, pruners, rakes, etc.

Once we get the winter left-overs cleared away, maintenance is much easier and less often.

We welcome any amount of time and help you can spare.

For more information contact Pat Murphy (304-263-0586).

## **2019 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

St John's Scholarship Award began in 2011. In the past, eight scholarships have been awarded in June. Previous recipients of \$500 awards include Lauren Haines, Colin Banks, Harrison Banks, Christine Smith, Nicholas Crites, Jenna Taylor, Myranda McQuaid and Eryn Fleming.

Confirmed members of St. John's who apply must fulfill these minimum requirements: Contributed 25 hours to the community (church and non-church) through service, have a 2.5 GPA for the most recent grading period, have graduated from high school within the last three years, been accepted to an accredited college, university, or technical school, and complete a 500 word essay that explains the impact this one-time scholarship will have toward achieving their career and academic goals. Applications for the Scholarship Award are available through the church office and are to be returned to the church by April 15. Visit our website to download the application. The scholarship will be awarded during a June worship service.

# THANK YOU NOTES!

To St. John's Congregation,

There are no words to express how much your support of the Groves Center means to everyone. Your generosity touches so many lives each & every day. You continue to help with training supplies and their social activities. God Bless!

The Family and Friends of the Grove Center

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Dear St. John's Staff,

Thank you once again for the use of your fellowship hall to host the P.E.O. WV Chapter 5 card/game party on March 2nd.

P.E.O. promotes educational opportunities for women. These include Cottey College, an independent liberal arts and sciences college; and five scholarship programs that provide assistance. All profit from this day will be used to support these philanthropies.

With gratitude, Betty Mulford, Corresponding Secretary

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To Betty Lou and everyone who helped with the dinner honoring my grandfather, Bill Schuler:

Thank you all for providing such a wonderfully personal and delicious dinner following the service. It was such a nice way to celebrate his life among family and friends. I know it was no small feat to pull off, but it made such a lovely way for my family to say goodbye.

Thank you all so very much, Amanda Schuler Zepp

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## A CALL FOR ASSISTANCE

For almost 9 years I have served as the chair for the Altar Guild. At this time, I want to inform the congregation that I will need to pass the baton to another member to carry out these responsibilities. Beginning with the month of May I will no longer be serving as the chair of the Altar Guild. While I have learned much, and fully understand the inner-workings that Lee Chambers passed off to me, it is time for someone else to take the lead. If you are interested, please let Pastor Matt know.

Gail Newman

# MILESTONES IN APRIL

## *Birthdays*

- 1 John Haarman, III  
Michael Murphy  
3 Dan Hancock  
4 Richard Ettinger  
5 Kate Gattrell  
6 Kathy Murphy  
Joan Schuler  
7 Sandy Stroech  
8 Laura Jenkins  
9 Dustin McQuaid  
12 Shawna Boswell  
13 Elaine Merceruio  
14 ***Palm Sunday***  
18 Aidan Leighton  
Kim Remsberg  
19 Lucas Barnhart  
Daniel Miller  
21 ***Happy Easter!***  
23 Jean Jackson  
24 Shirley Boomer  
26 Conner Harden  
Elizabeth White  
28 Dawn Hutzler  
29 Sabrina Alvarez  
Beth Chapman  
Mason Janney

## *Anniversaries*

- 13 Michelle and Ben Byers  
30 Angela and Jared Stroech

**We would love to include  
all of our church families**

**special dates:**

Just give us a call:

**304-263-9291**

Drop us an e-mail:

**[churchoffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org)**  
or put them in the offering plate.



## **PASTOR'S REPORT**

February 2019

### **VISITATION**

February Visits: 20

### **CONFERENCE AND SYNOD**

Conference Meeting

### **WORSHIP**

3 Sunday Worship Services

1 Evening Prayer

### **CHURCH COMMITTEES**

Council Meeting

Congregational Meeting

### **CHURCH AND COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS**

Naturalization Ceremony

### **EDUCATION**

1 Sunday on Monday

Table Talk

Conference Confirmation

### **MUSTARD SEED**

2 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed

### **WEDDINGS**

### **FUNERALS**

Rosie Bentz Funeral

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

SCALD

### **CHOIR**

2 Choir Rehearsals

### **MILEAGE**

Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of February was 520 miles.



My brothers and sisters in Christ,  
Two years ago, I was getting ready to be a Dad. It is fun that Thomas' birthday is falling during Holy Week this year. It is bringing up some good memories. We were running around like crazy trying to get

ready for the little guy to be born. We did not even know if Thomas was going to be a boy or girl. We kept calling Thomas Baby Otter. I was convinced that Baby Otter was a girl. I was not prepared for a boy or frankly, to be a parent, but I would not trade this experience in for anything.

There is nothing in this world that can prepare someone for being a parent. We take classes and learn about parenting from books, but the best way to get prepared is to do it. Changing a diaper on a doll is simple. Changing a diaper on a real baby is a whole other experience.

I learn the best by doing a particular task. Are you the same way? I was not the best student in school, but put me into a real-life-situation and I loved it. The church offers a real-life-situation every year and it is called Holy Week. You will experience things that you never have experienced before on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

I want to encourage you all to participate as much as you can in Holy Week and Easter. If you have never been to a Maundy Thursday or Good Friday worship, come this year. I have been going to Holy Week services since I was a young kid. Do not be afraid to bring your children or grandchildren. I promise you, the adults will make more noise than the kids. Don't worry about them not understanding what is happening or getting scared. They will learn by watching you. There is no better way to teach the story of how Jesus saved the world than by experiencing it first hand.

May these last days of Lent treat you well and prepare you for the great feast that is to come this Easter Sunday!

In Christ,



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

Return Service Requested