

Ushers

Worship Assistants

May 5 Arnold Bock/Andrew Banks
 May 12 Bev and Pat Murphy
 May 19 Sally Jenkins/Jane Kelley
 May 26 Doug Widmeyer/Bill Torbert

May

May 5 Beverly Murphy
 May 12 Katie Kline
 May 19 Pastor Day
 May 26 Anne Moore

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Acolyte/Crucifer</u>			1 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge 6:30 Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	2 6PM Table Talk at Daily Grind National Day of Prayer	3	4 Pastor @ Caroline Furnace Board Meeting
5 10AM Worship with Holy Communion Tea Party followed by Book Club Confirmation	6 Sunday on Monday 5:45PM Dinner 6:15 Class 7:15 Evening Prayer	7 10AM Glad Abouts in the Lounge	8 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	9 9AM CCAP Board	10	11
<i>Pastor Matt away at Nags Head</i>						
12 10AM Worship Mother's Day	13 7PM Church Council in the Lounge	14 10AM Glad Abouts in the Lounge Matthias, Apostle	15 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel 6:30 Needlecraft in L. H.	16 Mustard Seed Spaghetti Dinner 5-7PM	17	18 9AM-3PM Safeguarding God's Children @ St. James 5-7PM Caroline Furnace Family Night @ St. John's
19 10AM Worship with Holy Communion Spring Work Day after worship	20 Sunday on Monday 5:45PM Dinner 6:15 Class 7:15 Evening Prayer	21 10AM Glad Abouts in the Lounge	22 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	23	24	25 11AM-1PM Friends Feeding Friends
26 10AM Worship Graduate Recognition at worship	27 Office Closed! Memorial Day	28 10AM Glad Abouts in the Lounge	29 1PM Bible Study in the Lounge 4PM Mustard Seed Pre-K Graduation 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel	30	31 Synod Assembly begins	

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



MAY 2019



"He who was nailed to the cross is ruler and Lord of all people. All things created on earth sing to the glory of God: Daily the loveliness grows, adorne with the glory of blossom; heaven its gates now unbars, fliging its increase of light."

*From the Hymn "Hail Thee,
Festival Day!"*

**Easter is not a day we
celebrate once a year,
but is a way of living.**

Come and celebrate that Christ is Risen today, tomorrow, and always!

**ALLELUIA, CHRIST IS
RISEN!**

Also in this issue...

- The Annual Congregational Tea...
- The Spring Work Day...
- Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser to benefit the Mustard Seed
- An update on VBS

2019 ST. JOHN'S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2019

Meeting called to order by: Rick Losh, President

Members present: Rick Losh, Pastor Matt, Shane Wagoner, Linda Payne, Diane Shewbridge, Jane Kelley, Anne Moore, Drew Catrow, Darrell Propst, Mike Noll, Bess Day (Treasurer)

Members Absent: Jerry Crites, Blaine Wilson, Trey Voorhees

Guest: Patrick Murphy

**Rick Losh, Council President, called the meeting to order
Pastor Matt led devotions**

Pat Murphy: Pat attended the meeting on behalf of a Boy Scout in Troop #13 wanting to clean the headstones in our cemetery as an Eagle Scout project. The scout did not keep his appointment to be present with Pat so the request was not entertained at this time.

Pat also asked for a notice to be placed in the newsletter asking for volunteers to help with trimming/weed whipping around the cemetery and headstones after mowing. Pat does the mowing about every other week, depending on the weather. If he had 3 or 4 volunteers to do trimming after he mows, it would only take about 45 minutes to get it all done. In addition to the trimming, other tasks will be announced for the spring clean-up day.

Minutes: March 2019 meeting minutes were approved. (M/S/P:Mike Noll; Drew Catrow)

Financials: Bess Day, Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for February. Property Insurance and Confirmation Retreat expenses at Caroline Furnace were paid out in February. Mustard Seed income is a little bit under but will go back up now that we are out of bad weather. Summer program is nearly fully enrolled already (22 of 25 slots)

Pastor's Report:

Pastor presented an A/C and Heating policy to establish reasonable temperatures for the various areas in the Church and Luther Hall. Being able to regulate the temperature in the various areas will cut energy costs while still providing a comfortable environment for worship, day care, working and learning.

The kitchen thermostat will be fitted with a lock box.

Pastor would like us to consider doing a new Picture Directory. This was discussed but no decision at this time. Bethel Church may have licensed medical personnel on hand to administer Hepatitis shots on their meal night at St. Johns.

Upcoming Events:

- Wednesdays in Lent (March 13th thru April 10th)
Morning Prayer at noon and dinner and Evening Prayer starting at 6:30pm. The theme is “**Church, meet Disney. You have a lot in Common**” The full schedule details for Wednesdays in Lent is:
 - *Morning Prayer at Noon
 - *Bible Study at 1:30pm
 - *Choir from 6:15 to 7pm
 - *Dinner at 6:30pm
 - *Evening Prayer at 7:30pm
- April 14th – Palm Sunday with downtown procession starting at 10am
- April 18th – Maundy Thursday at noon in the Chapel and 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
- April 19th – Good Friday at noon at Trinity Episcopal and 7:30pm at St. John’s in the Sanctuary
- April 21st – Sunrise at 6:30pm, Breakfast at 7:30pm, Easter Egg Hunt at 9am and Festival Eucharist at 10am
- May 18th – Caroline Furnace will come to St. John’s to bring a “family night” program activities with dinner, games, and campfire complete with S’mores. It will be a good opportunity to promote church camp/scholarship opportunities for our youth to attend Camp Luther.
- May 19 – May need a supply pastor
- May 19 – Spring Work Day after Church
- June 9 – Confirmation Sunday

Old Business: Panhandle Printing has designed the logo to be used on the Welcome bags. We will soon be having the bags ready to give to potential new members/families. Spring clean-up day has been set for May 19th. Pastor and Property committee will draw up a list of projects. An inspection by DHHR cited peeling paint on and around

doors in need of correcting. Luther Hall will be painted on clean-up day and some ceiling tiles painted as well. Supplies for the painting project are to be solicited by donations from the congregation.

New Business: Seven youth will be Confirmed on June 9, 2019. Council sponsors will be assigned.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Christian Education: Shane reported that Vacation Bible School has the teachers lined up. A music director is still needed, but Austin Propst's friends may be able to do this again. Sunday on Monday is doing well and will continue through the end of May before taking the summer break. Pastor indicated that the Conference is going to hold "Safe Sanctuaries" training. This would be training for those working with youth and council members. A date will be set later.

Social Ministry: No report. Future activity:

- May 5th, Congregational Tea after church
- May 18th, Caroline Furnace family night at 5pm
- Planning for a Sight and Sound trip but no date set yet.
- Eastern Regional Jail Christmas bags project headed up by Pastor Karen (Shepherdstown). St. John's will be collecting playing cards to contribute to the bags – 450 decks are needed. (The dollar stores have two decks packaged together for \$1.)
- A "back to school block party" is proposed for August
- Friends Feeding Friends. Sock donations are doing great, as are some men's underwear that was donated. Please donate only new items.

Evangelism: No report

LYFE (formerly FLYTE) : Austin Propst has restarted the youth group with guidance from Mr. Banks. LYFE (Lutheran Youth Friendship Everywhere) is their new name. They meet on Monday evenings. Youth from our Conference are invited/encouraged to join in. On the 1st and 3rd Mondays each month the group will have a lesson. On the 2nd and 4th Mondays there will be a social activity. The group, which hopes to continue 12 months, expressed interest in attending musical events, volunteering with area non-profit projects and participating in other activities. The group which has 5 members is cleaning up and rearranging the youth room downstairs, repairing the pool table, and doing some painting with Council's approval. Pastor would like to locate a larger TV (48-50"?) as well as a projection screen and data projector for the LYFE room downstairs.

Worship and Music: No report

Property/Tech: No report. Darrell Propst will help pastor compile a list of projects to tackle on the spring clean-up Sunday.

Mutual Ministry: No report


Stewardship: No report

Announcement: Michelle Seidel is resigning from the Mustard Seed effective May 17, 2019. The family will be relocating out of this area. A current Mustard Seed employee, has certifications that would allow her to be an interim director until a new director can be put in place. The Mustard Seed Board will form the search committee. They are working on criteria to place in ads and revising the position description and duties as needed to prepare for a new director.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. **(M/S/P:Darrell Propst; Linda Payne)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Shewbridge



You're Invited!
Annual Congregational Tea
May 5, 2019
Following Worship Service
In
Luther Hall
RSVP by
Friday, May 2nd
All Are Welcome!

SAFEGUARDING God's children

Protect your children. Protect your ministries.



Training Is Free

We are recommending anyone who works with children should take this training. Many states and insurance companies are in the process of making trainings like this mandatory. It is also a good stewardship to ensure that everyone in our congregation can worship and learn safely.

Recommended for all: church leaders

who have contact with children in the church
who have a child or grandchild they love
who care about children

2 Training Sessions:

At St Thomas, Charles Town—**Saturday, May 18, 10am to 3:30pm**

At St John, Martinsburg—(split session): **Sundays, August 18 & 25, 1:30 to 4:30pm. For the August training, in-order to get the full training, you will have to come to both sessions.**

Safeguarding God's Children provides participants with the information they need to protect the children they know and care for in their personal lives and in the ministries in which they serve. The program is based on the philosophy that if every adult can protect just one child, they will forever change one life. If we can each change one life, together we will make a difference in this generation of children.

Register by contacting Pastor Christine Olson by email:

avcomen@msn.com and let her know which session for which you are signing up (May or August).

Class Participants are limited to 20 for each session.

Theology & Bible

TABLE TALK

Food & Drinks

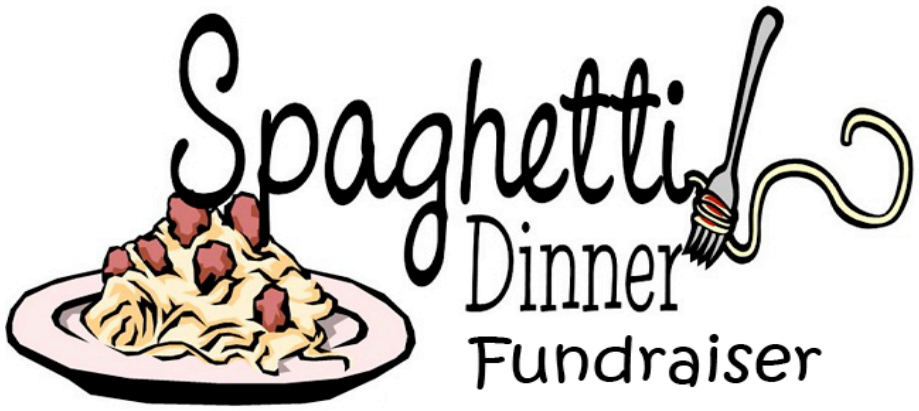
JOIN US

1st Thursday of the
Month

MAY 2ND

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.



For The Mustard Seed

Thursday, May 16th 5 - 7PM

Eat in or Carry Out

Proceeds will be used toward Special Events throughout the summer months for our children. All meals will have BettyLou's homemade sauce, spaghetti, garlic bread, salad and a dessert. Please fill out form below to place your order and return with your payment to The Mustard Seed by Friday, May 10th.

Thank you for your support and dedication!

(Don't Forget, we do Carry-Out!)

Family Name: _____

of adult meals with meat sauce _____ x \$9.00= _____

of adult meals with red sauce _____ x \$7.00= _____

of children's meals with meat sauce _____ x \$7.00= _____

of children's meals with red sauce _____ x \$5.00= _____

Total amount due= _____

Would you like these meals to be Eat in or Take out: _____



Caroline Furnace
Lutheran Camp & Retreat Center

invites you to

MARTINSBURG AREA
FAMILY NIGHT

All are welcome! (Bring friends)

Saturday May 18th at 5pm
St. John's 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 (for meal count) at

www.CarolineFurnace.org

WORK DAY AND GARDEN PLANTING

May 19th After Worship

Lunch Provided!

Our big goal is to paint Luther Hall. If you like painting, we need your skills. We have other projects that need to be accomplished as well.

Wear your work clothes to worship. We need everyone to stay after and help take care of some much needed projects around the property!

Paint Shower for Luther Hall

Check out the poster - donations accepted through May 12, with the painting to be done on May 19.

Spring Mills High School is presenting
Annie

May 3 and 4th at 7pm & May 5th at 2pm

Tickets – www.Showtix4u.com

\$10 online, \$12 at the Door

Kendall Snyder is Annie!

Our Lenten Offering

The total offering of \$1,403 goes towards camp scholarships.
Thank you for caring about our young people and making the gift of camping possible!



LYFE

Lutheran Youth Friendship Everywhere

Meets every Monday at 5:45pm in Youth Room. LYFE incorporates faith, learning, and fun. All middle and High School Age kids are welcome to come!

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.

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



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

Visit Our Website

www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org

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



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

Thank You Note:

Dear Congregation,

Thank you so very much for your generous donation to the Grove Center. Your continued support allows the purchase of much needed training supplies, and the most popular pizza & ice cream socials. You really do make a difference!

Thank You!

Family & Friends of the Grove Center

.....

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your much needed donation to this ministry of hope here at your Rescue Mission. Your prayers & donations are appreciated more than you will ever know, and you are helping to make a difference in our community.

As you know, your Rescie Mission is not just another social service agency. The food, clothing, and shelter that we provide are only a means to an end -- changed lives through a personal relationship wih Jesus Christ. Lives are being changed! And I want you to know how vital your support of this ministry is. God is using you and great things are happening here!

Thank you, Friends in Christ, for your investment in the lives of hurting people this month through the food you have given. God bless you for your faithfulness to our ministry.

Gratefully yours,

Pastor Tim Guerino

~~~~~

Dear Betty Lou,

On behalf of my whole family I sincerely thank you for the wonderfully planned and delicious meal that you carefully prepared, and your ministry team lovingly served at my father's repass. The meal was amazing ... many have asked if you will share your recipes for the chicken, meatballs and broccoli casserole.

Your suggestion that we place some of my dad's handmade crafts on the tables with centerpieces lent a very personal touch. This was a complete surprise for my mom. She noticed these immediately & could not stop remarking on how special that was to her. You made my mom very happy on an extremely difficult day of her life. Thank you for being such a good friend to my mom! This is such a comfort at a time like this.

Love,

Pam Schuler Schmale (on behalf of my whole family)



Gas up the all-terrain vehicle and head out on a wilderness adventure like no other. Get up close and personal with elephants and egrets, polar bears and penguins, cockatoos and crocodiles, and so much more! This summer kids will focus in on some amazing, real-life encounters with Jesus and discover the most amazing truth of all—Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Son of God, and by believing we can have life in His name.

Vacation Bible School begins:

**Sunday, July 7, 2019-Friday, July 12, 2019**

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**5:15 PM-7:30 PM**

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*(date and time)*

**St. John's Lutheran Church**

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*(church name)*

**101 W. Martin St. Martinsburg, WV**

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*(church address)*

**(304)-263-9291**

For more information, call: \_\_\_\_\_

*(name and telephone number)*

or email: **Register online at: [www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org](http://www.stjohnsmartinsburg.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/)**



**CAROLINE FURNACE**  
Lutheran Camp & Retreat Center



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

*Scholarships available to both camps*

# Milestones in MAY

## Birthdays

- |    |                                                 |    |               |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|----|---------------|
| 1  | Ian Fleming                                     |    |               |
| 2  | Emily Jenkins                                   |    |               |
| 3  | Kristi Remsberg                                 | 24 | Jan Hancock   |
| 4  | Kevin Newman                                    | 26 | Susan Bales   |
| 5  | Elizabeth Park                                  | 30 | Daniel Clarke |
| 8  | Bernice Baker<br>Amy Kelley                     |    |               |
| 11 | Ken Stroech<br>Justin Wilson                    |    |               |
| 12 | <b><i>Happy Mother's Day!</i></b><br>Bryar Moss |    |               |
| 14 | Allison Losh Flynn<br>Eric Losh                 |    |               |
| 17 | Lisa B. Clarke<br>Marjorie Murphy               |    |               |
| 18 | Landon Hutzler<br>Aidan Murphy                  |    |               |
| 20 | Edward Eckberg                                  |    |               |
| 21 | Brad Moss<br>Jerry Olsen                        |    |               |
| 23 | Bryce Gatrell<br>Bill Widmeyer                  |    |               |



## Anniversaries

- |    |                                                      |
|----|------------------------------------------------------|
| 6  | Allison & Mike Janney                                |
| 22 | Becky & Kevin Newman                                 |
| 24 | Jan & Dan Hancock                                    |
| 28 | Tiffany & Kyle Leighton                              |
| 29 | Amanda & Jamie Ferenchick<br>Danielle & Justin Ruble |

3

**Ways**

**Give**

to



**At Worship**



**By Mail**



**Online**

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



**Scan the QR Code  
or visit our website at  
[stjohnsmartinsburg.org](http://stjohnsmartinsburg.org)  
and click Online Giving  
And Thank You!**



# Photos from Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter







# OFFICIAL ACTS

## New Members



We welcome Michael,  
Danielle, Ethan, Justin,  
Christian, and  
Elisabeth  
**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!



Rhett Kevin Cosner  
Son of Megan and Nathan  
Cosner  
was baptized on April 21st

## Baptisms

Nora Lyn Forte  
Daughter of Jennifer and Sean Forte  
was baptized on March 31st.



## **Pastor's Report**

March 2019

### **VISITATION**

March Visits: 34

### **CONFERENCE AND SYNOD**

Conference Meeting

Growth and Grace Workshop

### **WORSHIP**

3 Sunday Worship Services

2 Evening Prayer

3 Ash Wednesday

3 Wednesday in Lent (Morning and Evening Prayer)

2 Pulpit Exchanges

### **CHURCH COMMITTEES**

Council Meeting

Meeting with a Representative from the ELCA Foundation

### **CHURCH AND COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS**

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

CCAP Board Meeting

### **EDUCATION**

2 Sunday on Monday

Table Talk

Confirmation Retreat at Caroline Furnace

### **MUSTARD SEED**

4 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed

### **WEDDINGS**

### **FUNERALS**

Bill Schuler Funeral

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

### **CHOIR**

3 Choir Rehearsals

### **MILEAGE**

Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of March was 335 miles.



My brothers and sisters in Christ,  
Every year, I practice reading the gospel of John's resurrection account. Every year, I think I can make it through without getting choked up. Every year, I fail. The account of Mary meeting Jesus in the garden is a

very personal account of the resurrection. The other gospels talk about how the resurrection affected the whole group, i.e. the church. John takes a different view and talks about how Jesus' resurrection affected one person, Mary.

This year's Holy Week and Easter worship services were particularly very meaningful to myself. In January, I set out to learn as much as I could about Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. In doing so, I added some traditions that the church has used for many years, but St. John's had not yet adopted. We started with individual absolution. I was expecting a few people to come forward but nearly the entire congregation came forward to hear the words, "In obedience of our Lord's command, I forgive you all your sins." It was a powerful moment and not something I will soon forget.

We also added the washing of feet. This is a weird thing to do. It is supposed to be weird. Peter himself thought it was weird. Yet we do it because we are making a promise to care for the needs of all people both in our congregation and outside our walls. It was neat to wash the feet of Michael Noll, Drew Catrow, and Thomas Day. It was also humbling to have my feet washed by Mike.

Good Friday is one of those days that the church gathers to pray and contemplate the cross. This year, I participated in the Cross Walk hosted by the ministerium. It is one thing to sit in our sanctuary and contemplate the cross, it is another thing to walk throughout our town, following a large cross and hear the last words of Jesus before his death.

And now, we are in the Easter Season. Once again, we hear how God brings new life into the world, the church, and in our daily lives. We are a people of resurrection, but often we are scared of dying. Perhaps it is because of the events on Good Friday. We often get caught up in the gore and horror of our Lord's death. Death, in that sense, is terrifying. But as a people of the resurrection, we should not fear death because our God promises us new life. What in your life needs to die? What ministry in our church need to die? When we let things die, God redeems them and grants new life.

During this season of Easter, we will hear how the early church did ministry before Christendom. These lessons are important to hear especially as we do ministry in a post-Christendom world. Easter is a great time to talk about new life and new mission because we know God will always have our backs. So that, when we fall and fail, God will pick up the pieces and breath new life back into our ministry.

A blessed Easter to you all! We have a lot happening during the month of May. Consider them and participate where you can.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Pastor Mark A. Dargatzis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "D" at the end.

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

Return Service Requested