

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>10AM Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>Pulpit Exchange w/ Pastor Diane</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Labor Day</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1PM Bible Study in the Lounge</p> <p>6:30 Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6PM Table Talk @ Daily Grind</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10AM Worship</p> <p>3PM - Dark Church Picnic</p> <p>Poor House Farm-Park</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>1PM Bible Study in the Lounge</p> <p>6:30 Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7PM Church Council in the Lounge</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>Pastor Matt at LARCUM in Charleston, WV</p>						
<p>15</p> <p>10AM Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>1PM Confirmation Planning Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Sunday on Monday</p> <p>5:45PM Light Dinner</p> <p>6:15 Class</p> <p>7:15 Closing Prayer</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>1PM Bible Study in the Lounge</p> <p>6:30 Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6PM Family Movie Night</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10AM Worship</p> <p>Book Club will meet immediately following worship service</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30AM Potomac Conference Meeting</p> <p>7PM Mustard Seed Board meets</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30-8:30 Sierra Club - use of L.H.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>1PM Bible Study in the Lounge</p> <p>6:30 Choir Rehearsal in the Chapel</p> <p>6:30 Needlecraft Night in L.H.</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11AM-1PM Friends Feeding Friends</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10AM Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>Fifth Sunday Worship</p> <p>The Feast of St. Michael and all Angels</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>Worship Assistants Ushers</p> <p>Sept 1 Beverly Murphy Sept 1 Bill Torbert/Blaine Wilson</p> <p>Sept 8 Pastor Matt Day Sept 8 Doug Widmeyer/Rick Losh</p> <p>Sept 15 Anne Moore Sept 15 Jean/Ben DeAlexandro</p> <p>Sept 22 Sue Wall Sept 22 Bev/Pat Murphy</p> <p>Sept 29 Diane Shewbridge Sept 29 Sally Jenkins/Jane Kelley</p>				

NEWSLETTER

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

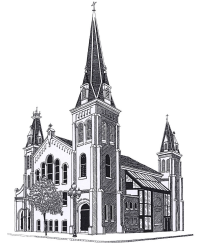
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

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

E-Mail: churchoffice@stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Website: www.stjohnsmartinsburg.org

Pastor: Matthew A. Day



SEPTEMBER 2019

WELCOME BACK!

After a restful summer, we are ready for a exciting fall and winter proگرامing.

Check out the newsletter to see all that is happening in and around St. John's!



September 8th at Poor House Farm. Details on Page 7.

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 8th!

2019 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 29, 2019

Meeting called to order by: Rick Losh, President

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

Members Absent: Trey Voorhees, Blaine Wilson, Anne Moore, Jane Kelley

Guest: Christy Costello, Director, The Mustard Seed

Devotions: led by Pastor Matt

Minutes: June meeting minutes approved as submitted. **(M/S/P: Jerry Crites; Drew Catrow)**

Request to Council: Christy Costello presented a request to improve playground area by upgrading the fencing both for compliance with inspection regulations and as a safety issue for our children. There is peeling green coating on the fence which leaves sharp edges and potential cutting hazard. Security issues include undesirable persons trying to verbally engage the children or engaging in unsavory activities in and around the parking lot and Martin Street, as well as jumping the fence to get into the playground when children were present. The proposal includes six-foot vinyl fencing (5 foot solid and 1 foot lattice top) around the perimeter as well as replacing some interior sections with 4-foot vinyl fencing. Enough money was raised from the recent Chicken BBQ fundraiser to fund posts, hardware and supplies for the project. Mustard Seed staff will fund one of the gates needed. The cost of the fence panels will be raised by securing sponsorships from local businesses, donations from current and past Mustard Seed parents and church members. Several sponsorships have already been secured. Additionally, a licensed contractor has indicated to Christy that he will donate his time to install the fence. Ms. Costello has contacted the city as well as the Historical Preservation Committee to be sure the proposed project will meet all regulations. A formal request will be made by Christy to the Historic Preservation Committee once church council gives approval to go forward. Motion to table action of this request until the September meeting, pending congregational feedback. During the coming weeks, the congregation will be provided with the project goals, plans, and costs and have the opportunity to comment. **(M/S/P: Darrell Propst; Jerry Crites)**

Financial Report: The offering was down in June; Endowment investments are up as the market rebounds from last year decreases. Mustard Seed continues to show increases in income over expenses and our original start-up funding is the lowest it has been for many years.

Pastor's Report: June was a very busy month. In addition to the usual Sunday

services, home visitations, council and committee meetings, choir practices, etc., Pastor also attended Synod Assembly & Conference meeting, Vacation Bible School activities, Confirmation Sunday, Father's Day Breakfast and several other pastoral activities.

*Request to use script funds, if needed, to purchase supplies for the Block Party. Much has already been donated but if needed, script monies are requested to be used to finish out the funding for any uncovered expenses. Motion to approve up to, but not to exceed, \$1200 from script funds. **(M/S/P: Mike Noll; Linda Payne)**

*Darrell Propst will apply for an Action Team Grant of \$250 from Thrivent to help fund the Block Party.

*Motion to reimburse Pastor for 1 night's lodging traveling to Morgantown and Camp Luther. **(M/S/P: Mike Noll; Jerry Crites)**

*A Work Day will be scheduled for Sunday, October 13th to take care of some general projects and scrubbing the church facilities. A separate day will be scheduled to revisit painting. A call will go out for volunteers with painting skills and a date/s will be coordinated for painting.

*Shane Wagoner is investigating custom congregational T-shirt costs. The shirts would be for sale to church members and worn at church events like VBS, Block Party, etc. Motion to sell the T-shirts as a fundraiser with proceeds to go towards sending our youth to the 2020 National Youth Gathering. **(M/S/P: Pastor Matt; Drew Catrow)**

*Rosalee Ettinger Memorial Contributions totaled \$590. Suggestions are a new ciborium (vessel for holding the communion host) or fair linens to cover the small altar/communion table. Pastor will consult with the family.

*All old wooden Luther Hall dining tables have all been replaced by sturdy, light weight tables. A framed document with donors' names and those who they honor or memorialize will be displayed in Luther Hall.

Diane Shewbridge

Upcoming Events:

-August 5-8 – Pastor away, Continuing Ed in Harrisonburg, VA

-August 9-16 – Pastor Matt on vacation. Pastor Karen Valentine will be covering emergencies

-August 17 – Block Party from 12-3pm. Helpers needed and will meet at 10:30am

-August 18 & 25 – *Safeguarding God's Children*

-August 24 – Friends Feeding Friends

-September 1 – Pulpit Exchange

-September 8 – Church Picnic at Poor House Farm

-September 9-11 – LARCUM (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic, United Methodist) Charleston, WV

-September 15 – Parent/Confirmand Planning Meeting

-September 29 – Sunday Worship theme is *Michael and all Angels*

Old Business: none

New Business:

*Request for replacing the fencing around the Mustard Seed playground. See notes on Christy Costello's presentation/request at the beginning of these minutes.

*Procedures have been worked out by Pastor to adjust the rotation of Church Council Members so that in future years, after a period of adjustments, there will only be 3 council seat terms expiring each year. (Full council has 12 elected members.) This year we have 5 members with expiring terms. The plan going forward will ensure that this situation won't happen again.

*New Member Request. Mr. James Sommer has been attending services and has asked to become a member of St. John's. Prior to retiring, Mr. Sommer was a member of Epiphany Lutheran in Ohio, a Missouri Synod church. Motion to accept into membership. **(M/S/P: Jerry Crites; Drew Catrow)**

*Request to use script funds, if needed, to purchase supplies for the Block Party. Much has already been donated but if needed, script monies are requested to be used to finish out the funding for any uncovered expenses. Motion to approve up to, but not to exceed, \$1200 from script funds for the Block Party. **(M/S/P: Mike Noll; Linda Payne)**

*Luther Hall Request: Melissa Shoemaker, a Mustard Seed teacher, would like to use Luther Hall on November 16th for a 25th Anniversary Party. Motion to permit use of Luther Hall for this event. **(M/S/P: Diane Shewbridge; Linda Payne)**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Christian Education: VBS went well with attendance of 70+ children. The cost per child for materials, supplies and food was approximately \$25. Next year council will consider asking for donations to support a child for \$25.

Social Ministry: Fifteen members of the congregation went on the D.C. train trip to visit the Supreme Court, Library of Congress, and the African American Museum. A wonderful time was had with much thanks extended to Bess Day or organizing this field trip. Friends Feeding Friends served 82 meals on Saturday, July 27th. (Hamburgers, macaroni salad and watermelon.) Twelve volunteers

reported to help prepare, serve and clean up which was much appreciated. Next Friends Feeding Friends will be on Saturday, August 24th.

Evangelism: on August 11th, more backpacks will be stuffed for the Block Party to be held on Saturday, August 17th. Pastor would like many church members to be on hand to greet and invite people to attend St. John's. Please meet at church at 10:30am on the 17th to receive materials and prepare for the event which begins at noon.

Worship and Music: Drew has nearly finished the data base and organized all of our current music collection. This will be very useful when planning anthems and special programs.

LYFE: A swim party is planned at Pastor Karen Valentines house. LYFE activities will begin again when Sunday on Monday activities start up in the fall.

Property/Tech: no report

Mutual Ministry: Committee met on June 24th. Christy Costello's leadership of the Mustard Seed has already had a positive influence. The number of home visits to shut-ins was discussed and some suggestions were discussed to help meet this need with less time strains on Pastor. This committee plans to meet quarterly.

Stewardship: A blood drive is scheduled for St. John's (Luther Hall) on Saturday December 7th from 9am – 2pm.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Shewbridge

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



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


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.



Theology & Bible

TABLE TALK

Food & Drinks

JOIN US

1st Thursday of the
Month

SEPT 5TH

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.

This Month, we are going to dive into the theology around angels. Who are these mysterious creatures? Where did they come from? What is their purpose? Do we each have a guardian angel? Come and share your thoughts!

CHURCH

PICNIC



September 8th
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 to Thatcher Rd (just past Butler's Farm Market). Follow detour signs to Poor House Farm Rd.

SUNDAY ON MONDAY

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. JOHN'S

After a year of Sunday on Monday, the Christian Education Committee has made plans to continue Sunday on Monday for another year. What is the premise of S.O.M.? Instead of Sunday morning education, we will have "Sunday School" on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month starting September 16. Hence the name, Sundays on Mondays. S.O.M.'s main focus is to tell the story and equip parents to be able to talk about the story at home. Christian Education works best when the story is brought home and is told not only by the pastor and teachers, but by the parents. Since Christian Education is an expectation of all Christians, S.O.M. is open to Adults as well.

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 offered:

Nursery (to the age of Kindergarten)
1st-5th grade

Middle School and High School (youth group night)
Adult Class

Curriculum

Nursery through 5th Grade will use the Spark Bible. Typically, we will have an Old Testament Lesson the first week and a New Testament Lesson the third week.

September 16th- Jonah and the Big Fish

October 7th- The Battle of Jericho

October 21st- The Mustard Seed

November 4th- Noah's Ark

November 18th- Bible Trivia

December 2nd- Christmas, St Nicholas and John the Baptist

December 16th- Mary's of the Bible

January 6th- First Communion

January 20th- First Communion

February 3- Baby Moses

February 17- Burning Bush

March 2- The Red Sea

March 16 - David and Goliath

April 6 - Ten Commandments

April 20 - Lord's Prayer

May 4 - Trivia Night

May 18 - The Lord is My Shepherd



IGNITE YOUR FAITH

YOUTH NIGHT

LYFE is for Middle School and High School age kids who wish to come for dinner, Bible Study, and prayer. This will be a space to have safe conversations and to have fun.

**LYFE WILL HAPPEN THE FIRST AND
THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
FROM 5:45 TO 7:30
IN LUTHER HALL AT ST. JOHN'S**

**THE FIRST GATHERING IS
SEPTEMBER 16**

**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!













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: Introduction to the Bible

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. 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 7: EXILE
 Session 2: DISRUPTION	 Session 8: GOD-WITH-US
 Session 3: THE PROMISE	 Session 9: MIRACLES
 Session 4: EXODUS	 Session 10: GOD'S KINGDOM
 Session 5: COMMANDS	 Session 11: DEATH-TO-LIFE
 Session 6: JUDGES & KINGS	 Session 12: THE CHURCH

8th Grade: Catechism

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: Final Year of Confirmation

The focus for the final will be the practical nature of ministry, theology, and Biblical studies. Class time and structures will be the same as the 8th grade class. We will be studying things such as the Augsburg confession, key Biblical figures, stewardship, etc. We plan to utilize activities to help reinforce the topic discussed so that when a confirmand completes our program, they will be well rounded in their education and will keep going in their journey of faith.

Location:

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

Participating Congregations:

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



Confirmation


Parent and Student Planning Meeting

SEPTEMBER 15TH AT 1PM

LUTHER HALL AT ST. JOHN'S

Please bring your school schedules and personal schedules as we will plan the dates for the coming year.

Fifth Sunday Worship



September 29, 2019 at 10 am

Feast of St. Michael And All Angels

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.**

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear St. John's scholarship committee & members,

It was an honor to be chosen as the recipient for the scholarship. Thank you for your generosity. I am excited to be attending WVU in the fall and will be using the scholarship to purchase books and supplies. I love being a member of St. John's and will miss attending worship with everyone while I'm in Morgantown.

Sincerely,
Katie Kline

To the Women of the ELCA,

I just have to thank you so much for the beautiful card you sent me to get well. What a nice surprise it was!

I really miss being in the WELCA, it was always such a good group of people. I was in it for a long time, doing so much for people at St. John's.

I have enjoyed hearing and reading about all that you are doing. Keep up the good work, & all that you are doing for God. My sister, Barbara, thanks you, also.

Peace be with you always,
With love, Betty Spickler

St. John's Congregation,

Thank you so much for hosting the Back to School event on Saturday, August 17, 2019. This community gathering was such a blessing to so many of our students and their families. Your willingness to help and give back is what makes this a great community to live and work in.

Sincerely,
Teresa Weller, School Counselor @ Burke St. Elem.

Thinking of you and hope all is going well at St. John's. I really wish I was there!

Love to all, Frances Castleman

Church T-Shirt

FUNDRAISER

\$15 FOR REGULAR SIZES

\$20 FOR 2XL AND UP

**Proceeds
Benefit the
2021 Youth
Gathering**

We are hoping to place the first order
after September 8th.

WELCOME TO WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Upcoming Events:

September 15, after service – WELCA meeting
September 25, (NOTE DATE CHANGE – September only); October 16,
November 20, and December 18, each at 6:30 Needlecraft Night
October 20, November 17 with Thankoffering Service, December 15, each
after service – WELCA meetings

Continuing Opportunities for service:

1. 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. Each Sunday in February, St. John's will collect items or money toward this project. Ask Priscilla for more details.
2. KNIT OR CROCHET – Scarves for Friends Feeding Friends are needed as are prayer shawls (please remember to make these large enough to fit an adult)

WV-WMD SWO Convention Update:

- Take Joy – theme of convention – August 9-10 at Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center, Huttonsville, WV
- Becky Shurson, churchwide representative and VP of executive council – explained some changes in staff; reminded us about:
 - o Daily Grace – an app with short daily devotions
 - o Bold Café – online WELCA magazine targeting younger women
 - o Interchange, newsletter/updates – will go on-line only
 - o Gather, WELCA magazine – subscription can be actual copy of magazine or on-line copy
- Pastor Linda Muhly – Bible study “Let Joy Be your Compass,” and conducted our Eucharist
- Community Lutheran Partners (CLP) Director – Pastor Sherry Shafer
 - o From 2007-2019 – there have been 24 FEMA declared disasters in WV

- financial help, and THEN, CLP comes in
- o Rebuilt house for older woman who was flooded out
- o Built ramps onto a couple houses for individuals using wheelchairs
- o STUFF closets are maintained throughout WV – our is at Trinity, Arden, and is managed by Beverly McDonald
- o Provides workshops on poverty

- Election Results:

- o Co-Presidents of SWO: Gail Kohlhorst, Priscilla Horner
- o Treasurer: Denise Porter
- o Board Members: Kathy Ames, Stephanie Zinn-Setley, Jonalee Young
- o Voting Members to 11th Triennial Convention– July 12-15, 2020: Priscilla Horner (President), Denise Porter, Marjorie Wolf, Beverly McDonald – alternate

JUST LOVE – theme of 11th Triennial Gathering July 15-18, Phoenix Convention, mentioned above, is open to visitors/guests, voting members are elected at each SWO convention. ANYONE can attend this event – The Gathering. Please consider attending – it is awesome – amazing worship and music, phenomenal guest speakers, Bible studies, service projects, workshops on a wide variety of issues

Socks are the least

donated item at

shelters...



**And thank
you!**

Please considering donating a pair or two of new socks. We will distribute them at a Friends Feed Friends Meal.

yet...

**socks help us stay
warm.**

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

PET BLESSING

October 6 | 12:30 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!



WORK DAY AND GARDEN PLANTING

October 13th After Worship

Lunch Provided!

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

Our big goal is to do some more painting in Luther Hall as well as a deep clean of the church. Pick and choose what you would like to do!



2019 Christmas Craft Sale

Our annual Christmas Craft sale will be

November 8 from 10AM - 6PM

November 9 from 10:00 - 4:00.

A space is available for displaying your items, and will be reserved on a first come first served basis.

Each space will be approximately 10' X 10'.

Cost for members is \$25.00, non-members \$30.00, non-refundable after November 1, 2019.

Set up will be Thursday from 6-9PM or Friday at 8AM.

All tables will need to be ready by 10AM Friday and stay till 4PM Saturday.

All family oriented crafts and vendor items will be welcome!

Please see Drew or Martha for a space.



Mark Your Calendars
October 27, 2019 at 10 am

Reformation Sunday

German Potluck Follows

Worship in Luther Hall

(Bring your favorite "German" dish to share. If you don't have a favorite German dish, feel free to be creative!)

Sola Scriptura | Sola Fide | Sola Gratia
Solus Christus | Soli Deo Gloria

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



DECORATE YOUR CAR FOR OUR ANNUAL

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 27 | AFTER LUNCH | CHURCH PARKING LOT

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.

SUNDAY SERMONS

September 1 - Who's on the B List (*Pastor Diane will be joining us this Sunday*)

September 8 - Decluttering Discipleship

September 15 - Where did I put my keys?

September 22 - You're such a shrew

September 29 - Spoiler Alert: The Angels always win.

SEPTEMBER MILESTONES

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Addison Janney
Thomas Lord
Gail Newman
- 2 Ben Byers, II
Dale Hicks
Jeanne Rector
Lauren Oliver
- 3 Scott Rogers
Faith Ruble
- 4 JoAnna Banks
- 5 Beverly Murphy
- 6 Karen Noll
Karla Troppman
- 7 Valerie Link
William Torbert
- 8 Elaine Bennett
- 9 Bill Torbert
Jared Stroech
- 13 Nicholas Byers
Cheryl Losh
- 16 Joseph Hutzler, Jr.
Christina White
- 18 Jeremy Horner
- 19 Phil Eyler
Kevin Remsberg
- 20 Colton Crites
- 21 Susie George
- 23 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 & Brad Moss
- 4 Karen & Wayne Middleton
Karen & Michael Noll
- 13 Catherine & Wayne Whitmore
- 15 Mary Lou & Allen Williamson
- 27 Amy & David Hartley
Gail & Buddy Newman
- 27 Marjorie & Michael Murphy



The Mustard Seed started Back to School on August 19th!!

All the classes are doing great! We have changed the names of our classrooms. We now have:

- Preschool 1 class (begins at 14 months old),
- Preschool 2 (2 years old),
- Preschool 3 (3 years old), and
- Pre-K (4 years old); this seemed a little more simple.

We have a brand-new website, www.mustardseedwv.org, that you all can take a look at! It is a great way to find out more about The Mustard Seed Early Learning Center.

We have a lot of exciting Fall activities coming up:

October 4th we will be having a **FALL FESTIVAL** from 6pm–8pm at the center. You will purchase a \$5 wristband for each child (adults are FREE) to enjoy 2 activities in each classroom that they will win prizes for! In Luther Hall, we will have a snack table and dancing to some spooky music!! Come out and join us for some fall fun!!

October 21st we will be visiting Old McDonald's Pumpkin Patch for a center-wide field trip. Every student will get to pick their own pumpkin, maneuver through the corn maze, enjoy a hayride, visit the petting zoo with farm animals, and play on their great playground!! We always have a great time on this trip!!

We do have a few openings in our Pre-K class (must have turned 4 years old by July 1, 2019) if you know of anybody looking for the best Pre-K program around!! Please have them contact Miss Christy by email at director@mustardseedwv.org.

Christy Costello

3

Ways

Give

to



At Worship



By Mail



Online

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



**Scan the QR Code
or visit our website at
stjohnsmartinsburg.org
and click Online Giving
And Thank You!**

Evangelism Corner

As a way to engage our visitors, we have put together a welcome bag that will be dropped off at the home of all first time visitors.

The Welcome Bags include flyers about our congregation, a chip clip, a pocket-size hand sanitizer, a carabiner, a couple of pens, a bag of hard candy, and a pocket cross.

You still play a major role in showing hospitality to all who come to our place of worship.

The BEST Evangelism tool of any congregation is the people. Be yourself and welcome everyone who joins for worship!



Pastor's Report

June 2019

VISITATION

June Visits: 24

CONFERENCE AND SYNOD

Synod Assembly

Conference Meeting

Installation Grace Lutheran Church in Petersburg, WV

WORSHIP

4 Sunday Worship Services

Confirmation Sunday

Pulpit Exchange

Installation of Christy Costello

CHURCH COMMITTEES

Council Meeting

Mutual Ministry

Final Evaluation with Sophie Palmer

EDUCATION

Confirmation Planning Meeting

2 VBS Planning Meeting

MUSTARD SEED

3 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed

Mustard Seed Board Meeting

Chicken Barbecue

Father's Day Breakfast

WEDDINGS

Banks/Gibson Pre-Marital Counseling

MILEAGE

Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of June was 1094 miles.

Pastor's Report
July 2018

VISITATION
July Visits: 49

CONFERENCE AND SYNOD
Conference Meeting in Wardensville, WV

WORSHIP
4 Sunday Worship Services

CHURCH COMMITTEES
Council Meeting
Mutual Ministry
Final Evaluation with Sophie Palmer

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS

EDUCATION
VBS Decorating
VBS (6 nights)

MUSTARD SEED
4 Chapel Services with Mustard Seed
Mustard Seed Board Meeting

MILEAGE
Pastor Day's Mileage for the month of July was 238 miles.



My brothers and sisters in Christ,
I hope your summer has been as restful as my summer has been. The slower pace at the office has meant that I could go away for almost two weeks in August. The first week was spent at a Clergy Couple retreat titled Called Together. We found this retreat be a

wonderful community where Thomas could make friends and we could make friends as well. After 4 days at the retreat, we made our way to Ocean City, NJ for our annual beach vacation. Thomas loves the beach and so does Diane. I'd rather stay back and watch TV but I have come to love just sitting and reading my book. Thomas enjoyed digging holes in the sand and filling his buckets up. He also got to try pizza from almost all the places on the board walk.

When we left the beach, we knew we were going to be very busy. On that Saturday, we had the block party. It was a Spirit-filled event. We ran out of backpacks in 20 minutes. We took orders for about 95 backpacks, unsure how we were going to fill them let alone pay for them. Because of your generosity, we raised enough funds to cover the additional backpacks. You could feel the Holy Spirit moving among us on this Saturday. God wanted us to be out on our block and doing this work. God's kingdom broke into our block and people got to witness the generosity of our God. Betty Lou is already making plans for next year. I personally want to thank everyone who made this event possible. We engaged our community and made sure the kids around us would start the year off right!

After the block party, my family went through another transition. Thomas started school at the Mustard Seed. The first day was rough on me. I found it hard to control my emotions as I dropped him off. I ended up leaving and going to get breakfast for a little bit. The second day, it was rough on Thomas. Mrs. Christy tells us that it could take up to six weeks before he gets use to the idea of school. Once he gets into the classroom, he is fine and his teachers tell us that he does great. He loves to play and be with other kids. Though, it is still hard to drop him off most days. As I watched Facebook on the first day of school, I found a lot of parents in a similar situation. Where did the time go?

There are some things coming up this fall. Sunday on Monday worked so well last year that we are bringing it back. We have classes for all ages including Middle and High School. Our youth group called LYFE will be meeting on Mondays this fall during the same time as Sunday on Monday. S.O.M. is perfect for families, older adults, or single adults. 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! The first S.O.M. is on September 16.

Our annual church picnic is coming up on September 8th at Poor House Farm. We will bring the hotdogs and buns, you just need to bring the side dishes and games. We normally play games around 3pm and dinner at 5pm, but if we get hungry, we will eat sooner.

Confirmation classes are about to begin. On September 15th, we will have a planning meeting for parents and students wishing to participate in our confirmation program. If you have a child who is entering 6th grade through 9th grade, bring your schedule on September 15th at 1pm. See page 10 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. Our first gathering will focus on the theology of Angels in preparation for the feast of St. Michael and All Angels on September 29.

I look forward to another year of ministry with you all. May God bless you and keep you!

In Christ,



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

Return Service Requested