



ST. JOHN'S EPISTLE

September 2018

Volume 23 To sing the Praises of God, to Live the Grace of Jesus, to Share the Gift of the Spirit. Issue 5



September At-A-Glance

Sunday, September 2
"Back to School Blessing"
8:00am Inside Worship
9:30am Chapel in the
Woods Worship
(last one of the summer)

Sunday, September 9
"God's work. Our hands."
Sunday

Fall Schedule returns
8:00am and 10:30am
Worship led by our
Youth who went to Houston
9:15am – "God's work.
Our hands."
Service projects for all
ages (see page 8).

Sunday, September 23
Welcome New Members

Choir and Handbell
rehearsals resume

A Message from Pastor Kristin

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

And just like that, summer is over. After a busy summer filled with Vacation Bible School, The National Youth Gathering, the Strawberry and Peach Festivals, Chapel in the Woods worship and welcoming our new office manager, the time has flown.

Students and teachers are back to school. (Join us for worship on Sunday, September 2 at 8:00am and 9:30am for a "Back to School Blessing") Our fall programmatic year begins at St. John's on Sunday, September 9 with "God's work. Our hands" Sunday. Join us for worship at 8:00am and 10:30am as our youth who went to Houston for the ELCA National Youth Gathering lead worship and share their pictures and stories. Join us during our education hour at 9:15am for service projects for all ages.

As you get back into your fall routine make Sunday morning worship and our education hour for ages 3-adult part of your schedule. **Let's give thanks to God for all of the gifts God has given.** Let us join together in growing in our faith and growing in love for God and our neighbors near and far.

God's Peace,

Pastor Kristin Dubsky



Be sure to
ask us about our
Service Project!

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HAPPENING AROUND THE CHURCH



The Christian Singles Group will meet for dinner at Greenmount Station on Friday, September 21, at 6:00 p.m. If you plan to attend, please contact Nancy Dean at 410-848-2140 by Sunday, **September 16. If you'd like to carpool, please be at church no later than 5:30.**



The Soup Kitchen Committee will meet September 21, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

Sunshine Circle

The Sunshine Circle will hold their monthly meeting September 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Audrey Byrd will lead devotions, Lavena Basler will lead the program, Lois Bankert is the hostess. Special offering is tooth brushes. All ladies of the church are invited. For more information, call Audrey Byrd at 410-848-1995.

The Christian Outreach Committee would like to help NESAP fill their need for select food pantry items. The committee will be collecting the following items: **Canned pasta (Spaghetti O's, etc.),** Ramen noodles, juice, and brownie mix starting September 2nd and ending September 23rd. Donations can be placed in the basket in the Narthex and in the Caring Corner. Any questions? See Roxanne Malbrough. 410-404-0977



Pastoral Acts:

Baptism
Brody Marc Wheeler

Funeral
Joann Blauvelt

All Day Scrapbooki ng

Join us on September 8 for a day of scrapbooki ng. Please contact Kristy Lea Dean at buyabasket@kristydean.com or Genny Resch at gresch@mghus.com for more i nformati on.



The Evangelism Committee will meet Sept, 9, in Fellowship Hall following the late service. This will consist of a short meeting and assembling the goody bags for shut-ins. We will also need members to help deliver them. For questions contact Audrey Byrd.



HAPPENING AROUND THE CHURCH

Back to School Blessing – On Sunday, September 2 at both services (8:00am and 9:30am) we will have a back to school blessing for students, teachers, staff, bus drivers and anyone else who is headed back to school. Join us.

New Members- We will welcome new members to our congregation on Sunday, September 23 at 10:30am worship service. “Come and see” who is joining our church.

New Address: Jack and Jeanne Joiner have moved to North Carolina. Their new address is: 529 Sea Holly Drive, Castle Hayne, NC 28429

Welcome our new Office Manager Deb Priester! Deb began her work at St. John’s this summer and now is in the office on Tuesday-Friday from 10:00am – 4:00pm. If you haven’t met Deb, you are welcome to stop by or give her a call to welcome her to St. John’s.

Attention Committee Chairs - It’s Budget Time! All 2019 budget requests are due into Janet Gross by Sunday, September 30. Please email them to janetgrosscpa@gmail.com or place in her mailbox at church.

WE ARE STILL WORKING!

Yes, the Sew, Tie and Roll group is still hard at work. We have been meeting every other month and have sewn and then knotted 35 mission quilts, 23 fleece quilts and rolled 603 bandages. You can join us at any time – our next Sew day is on September 24th at 9:00 am – till noon. It is not difficult and a lot of fun!

All the Mission quilts, fleece quilts and rolled bandages are taken to Lutheran World Relief in New Windsor. From there, they are sent to developing countries and the United States to be used by families and individuals in need. The bandages are used in mission clinics and hospitals in foreign countries as protection over injuries, bites and surgeries, etc.

If you can’t come on a sew day to help, there are other ways to help our cause.

Donation of money – the money is used to buy materials that we need and we also send \$2.25 per quilt along to New Windsor to help with shipping costs.

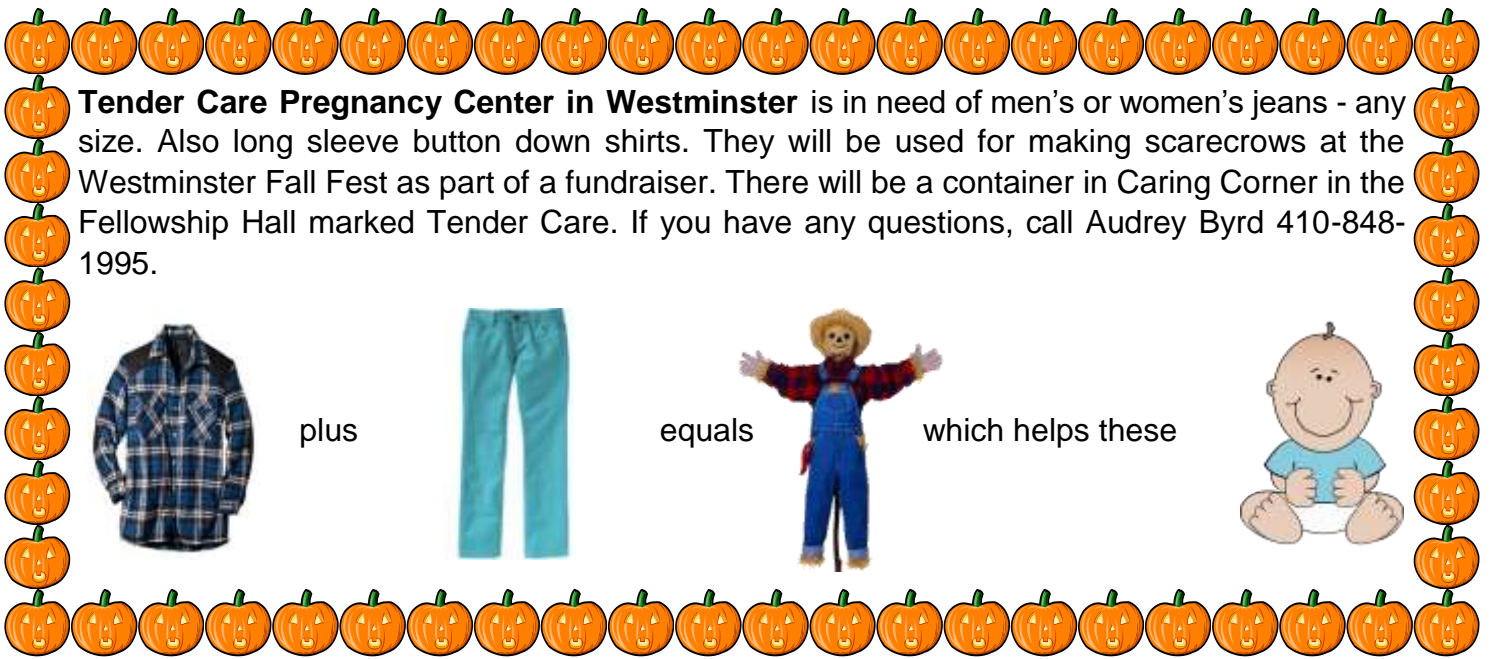
Donations of material – any material that you are not in need of can be made into quilts. We cut squares and we use it for backing material etc.

Donations of sheets – sheets of any size, color, print or plain. These are used for squares for Mission quilts, backing for Mission quilts and white sheets are used for bandages. If you know someone that works in a hotel/motel, you could contact them and ask for their old sheets as they are replaced at the hotel/motel. Even if a sheet is torn, we can use parts of it.

Donation of thread – we use many colors for sewing the Mission quilts.

Mattress covers – we use these as batting in the center of the Mission quilts. Normally we have to buy batting but if we have mattress covers, this can save us money. Any size is fine.

If you have any questions – please call or talk to Gloria Kniss. Hope to hear from you or see you at the next Sew day!!



Tender Care Pregnancy Center in Westminster is in need of men's or women's jeans - any size. Also long sleeve button down shirts. They will be used for making scarecrows at the Westminster Fall Fest as part of a fundraiser. There will be a container in Caring Corner in the Fellowship Hall marked Tender Care. If you have any questions, call Audrey Byrd 410-848-1995.



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equals



which helps these



MEN OF THE CONGREGATION

All men of the church are cordially invited to attend and participate in all of the activities of the Men of the Congregation.

News from the Men of the Congregation

The September meeting of the Men of the Congregation is scheduled for Saturday, September 8, at 8:00 AM. It will be held at the Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren, unless otherwise announced. All are welcome to join for breakfast, fellowship and devotions.

The Fall Meeting of the Men of the Westminster Conference will be held on October 29 **at St. Luke's (Winters) Lutheran Church. The ladies of the church will be serving a Roast Beef dinner** which includes roast beef, mashed potatoes, dressing, gravy, green beans, pickled beets, bread and butter, dessert, coffee and iced tea.

A free-will offering will be received for the meal with at least \$12.00 expected. Reservations need to be in by October 15th. Please contact Dennis Kniss (dennisrkniss@gmail.com), 717-359-7681; Dale Miller; or John Bucacink. NO reservations will be accepted after October 21.

The Men of the Congregation generally meet on the second Saturday of each month unless otherwise announced. Further information about the group can be obtained by contacting Dennis Kniss or John Bucacink.



THE MUSIC OF ST. JOHN'S

Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesdays @7:30 pm starting September 5, 2018. We could use some women's voices, so see if you can spare an evening out - we'd love to have you. Contact Wayne Grauel at 410-804-8407 or email to: music@stjohnswestminster.org



Handbell choir - Come join the fun! The handbell choir will begin rehearsals again on September 11th at 6:15 pm and we are always ready to welcome new members. The ability to read music is a plus but not a necessity. If you have rung before or just think you would like to give it a try, please contact Maggie Langdon at 410-259-3643 or mlangdon47@yahoo.com. I encourage you to consider this unique way to become a member of the music ministry of St. John's!

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar Flowers: Please fill out the altar flowers envelope you can find by the flower chart when you turn in your payment for the flowers. This includes a place for you to write in your dedication for the Sunday specified and a place to include whether you want to take the flowers with you that day or would like us to give them away. Thank you!



YOUTH



Marvelous Miracles Carnival 2018 Vacation Bible School



We had a wonderful week July 9-13th for our “Marvelous Miracles Carnival” Vacation Bible School this year and would like to thank everyone who had a hand in helping us make it such a wonderful time. With donations of time, food and craft supplies we had a week of discovering how Jesus walked on water, helped followers to walk, stand up straight and fed 5,000 + people, we even collected food for our own community donating it to Hampstead Little Free Pantry. Thank you to everyone and we hope to see you all continue your discovery of Jesus’ miracles in Sunday School classes.





Our offering from Sunday morning totaled \$261,226.43! It will be divided among three ministries: local (Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod), domestic (Prison Congregations of America) and global (Global new starts).

Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod.

As a thank-you for being the host synod for the Gathering, we give a third of our Sunday offering to the [Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod](#). This synod has hosted us before in 2009 and 2012 for our Gatherings in New Orleans, and we were so happy to work with the synod for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston.

Prison Congregations of America

[Prison Congregations of America \(PCA\)](#) is a ministry through which Christian congregations are established in prisons around the country. There are currently over 30 congregations that follow the PCA model of prison ministry, in which the "members" are people who are incarcerated, and the congregation is led by a pastor from the outside who is trained and accountable to the sponsoring denomination. The strong inside-outside relationship is reinvigorating congregations across the nation.

Global ministries

We recognize that being the church together means being the church outside of the United States. With that in mind, we are raising up [Global new starts](#) as recipients of a third of the Sunday morning offering with the hope that we can continue to do God's work around the world.



GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

Sunday, September 9 – God’s Work. Our Hands. Sunday

ELCA Youth Gathering Houston Sharing at 8:00am and 10:30am Worship



God’s work. Our hands.

9:15am Service Projects for All Ages

Worship: Our fall schedule resumes with worship at 8:00am and 10:30am. Our ELCA Youth Gathering Participants will lead worship and share stories and pictures about Houston at both services.

Wear: St. John’s shirt or Thrivent shirt (if you have them) (if not, it really doesn’t matter what you wear – we just want you to join us as we share in some fellowship time and food and serve our neighbors near and far)

Education Hour: 9:15am – “God’s work. Our hands.” Service projects for all ages.

The Shepherd’s Staff “Lunch Bag Kits”

Items needed: Individual size microwavable cups (mac & cheese, soups, pastas, noodles, etc), fruit cups, applesauce cups, pudding cups, snack bags (chips, pretzels, popcorn, Doritos, etc, cookies, drinks (juice box, water bottles, soda cans, etc.), napkins, plastic forks & spoons.

Lutheran World Relief “School Kits”

Items needed: 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other, pencil sharpener (the small hand held type), blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well), unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink), boxes of 16 or 24 crayons, 2 ½” eraser (pink “block” erasers), sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag, approximately 14” x 17” with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

(please bring donations by Sunday, September 2 – if possible)

Assemble Prayer Bags for a church in Houston

And something special for the shed outside (you’ll have to come and see...)



Sponsored by: Christian Education and Youth Committee

IN AND ABOUT THE CHURCH PROPERTY

The past several months have seen a number of changes in and about the church property. To begin, the Fellowship Hall, kitchen and office area received a new floor in May. The new flooring, installed by Traynors, adds brightness to the entire basement area. New sections of baseboard were also installed to replace water and insect damaged pieces. Some updating of electrical outlets also occurred. Many thanks to the congregation for its approval to the project, to the Property Committee for its study and input and to those who took the lead roles in the actual work of the project—Stewart Sterner, John Bucacink, David Ogg and Dennis Kniss.

The kitchen was updated in May with the purchase of a new stove. The propane fired range and oven should be a worthy addition for years to come. A new propane supplier, Ferrell Gas, was also secured this spring. Also, the kitchen was further updated with the donation of a commercial freezer by Mike and Frances DeBruyn. The newer freezer replaced one used for many years. Stewart, John and Dennis were instrumental in hauling the freezer from Eldersburg and placing it in its present location.

Those who worship in the Chapel in the Woods probably noted the preparation of the chapel area under the direction of Mick Zechman. Others also assisted in removing dead and fallen trees and limbs.

As time moves forward, more updates and changes will occur. Caring for the church property is a team effort. Many volunteer hours have gone into and will go into the keeping of the physical property in good working order.

Submitted by the Property Committee

AROUND THE COMMUNITY



Back-To-School Supplies Needed

We are in need of backpacks, clothing, and school supplies for children pre-kindergarten through high school. All donations can be dropped off at The Shepherd's Staff office during office hours The Shepherd's Staff, 30 Carroll Street, Westminster, MD 21157 (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays 10am-2pm and Thursdays 3pm-7pm)

<p>Items needed are:</p> <p>HEAD START / PRE-K</p> <p>2 composition books</p> <p>3 glue sticks</p> <p>2 pocket folders</p> <p>1 blunt scissors</p> <p>1 pencil bag (soft case)</p> <p>1 box fat crayons (8 per box)*</p> <p>1 box fat pencils*</p> <p>K/1- 2 GRADE</p> <p>2 composition books</p> <p>1 box of crayons (24 per box)</p> <p>3 glue sticks</p> <p>2 yellow highlighters</p> <p>1 blunt scissors</p> <p>4 pocket folders</p> <p>5 pencils</p>	<p>1 pencil bag (soft case)</p> <p>1 block eraser</p> <p>1 pack dry erase markers</p> <p>3-4-5 GRADE/MIDDLE/HIGH</p> <p>3 ring binder (1" and 1-1/2")*</p> <p>Wide ruled binder paper</p> <p>1 set tabbed dividers*</p> <p>4 pocket folders / brads*</p> <p>5 pencils</p> <p>5 blue/black pens</p> <p>1 pencil bag (soft case)</p> <p>2 yellow highlighters</p> <p>1 box colored pencils (12 count)</p> <p>1 pack index cards (3x5 - white)*</p> <p>1 earbud style headphones*</p> <p>1 pack sticky notes</p> <p>1 flash drive*</p>	<p>1 pack dry erase markers</p> <p>BACKPACKS</p> <p>New backpacks or monetary donation (for the purchase of backpacks for distribution). No wheels please.</p> <p>SHOES</p> <p>CLOTHING</p> <p>Provide a monetary donation to buy new shoes for Pre-K through High School students.</p> <p>*Most needed items</p> <p>New or gently used clothing. Sizes and current styles suitable for Pre-K through High School.</p>
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COUNCIL

2018 Council Members

Dennis Kniss - President

717-359-7681

dennisrkniss@gmail.com

Steve Findeisen - Vice President

410-848-6069

stevefindeisen@verizon.net

Carl Rebert - Treasurer

443-253-1573

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Pam Goodson - Secretary

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Matthew West

410-848-4414

camelotwest@comcast.net

Pastor Kristin Dubsy

410-299-4853

pastor@stjohnswestminster.org

2018 Committee Chairs

CemeteryKen Seitz

Christian Education &

Youth.....Open

Evangelism..... Audrey Byrd

Fellowship.....Karen Siegman

Stewardship.....Carl Rebert

Property..... Open

Worship & Music.....Dennis Kniss

Christian Outreach.....Roxanne

Malbrough

Finance.....Janet Gross

John Bucacink

HAPPENING AROUND

**Mar-Lu-Ridge**
Camp & Retreat Centerweb: www.mar-lu-ridge.org

#301-874-5544

E-mail: mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org

Jefferson, Maryland

Walkathon

We invite you to join us for our annual Walkathon. This important event raises funds for our facilities and Campership programs. This summer, we were able to provide \$18,000 to families in need of assistance - that is an amazing gift! And it is through your support that we are able to extend these gifts each year! Come enjoy a walk in the woods, time with camp friends, and the autumn colors.

September 30 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Please RSVP: a light meal will follow the walk, and worship will end our day.

mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org

Mar-Lu-Ridge Vehicle Sought

Mar-Lu-Ridge is seeking a gently-used SUV for a kitchen vehicle. Their old Blazer is no longer working and they are in need of a dependable SUV. Please contact the office by email or at 800-238-9974 if you are able to donate your vehicle. Thank you!

Mountain Topics: Come Holy Spirit

Join us on Tuesday, October 23 when the Rev. Leila Ortiz will lead discussion for the day as we enjoy fellowship and learning in the community.

HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

Church & Village: Partners in Ministry September 2018

Walk and Talk Club

Join Darcy for a new Walk and Talk Club on Mondays at 10:00 AM. We will depart from the Wellness Center Lobby. The class will be approximately 45 minutes and will be outside as long as weather conditions permit. This class will combine cardiovascular fitness with a question and answer discussion, so we can learn while gaining the benefits of moving and enjoying the outdoors. Please call the Wellness Center Desk with any questions at 443-605-1070.

Build Your Balance

Sep 5 @ 10:00 am – 10:45 am (and every Wednesday thereafter). Conquer fears of falling, use better walking techniques, rehearsal going up and down stairs and getting in and out of the car, going up and down and over curbs and cracks, as well as getting up from and down to the ground. Please register in advance at 443-605-1070 or registration@clvillage.org

CLV Crab Feast

You won't want to miss the annual CLV Crab Feast this year at Fisherman's Crab Deck on Tuesday, September 11th. We will travel again this year to Fisherman's Inn Crab Deck, located just over the Bay Bridge in Grasonville, MD. Enjoy all you can eat steamed crabs, Maryland crab soup, chicken tenders, corn on the cob, coleslaw, hush puppies, dessert, iced tea, sodas, coffee, and draft beer, while sitting under a large pavilion overlooking the Chesapeake Bay. Transportation will be provided by chartered motor coach. All inclusive price is \$59. Reservations accepted by calling the Hospitality Concierge at 443-605-1094.

Richard M. Nixon Park

Join us as we travel to Richard M. Nixon County Park in York PA on September 14th. The park features over 6 miles of trails and a 14,000 square foot nature center including a working honeybee hive, bird observation windows, exterior viewing deck and over 180 specimens from 15 different countries around the world. We will then travel to Brown's Orchards and Farm Market for lunch on your own. The bus will depart from the Wellness Center at 8:45 a.m. and will return by 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$5. Registration will begin on Friday, August 17 at 9:00 a.m. by calling the Wellness Center at 443-605-1070.

Support Group for Dementia Caregivers

This group provides a safe and confidential environment for conversation, support, resources and education. Caregivers of those with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related disorders are welcome. Group meets in the Weller Circle Activity Center. For more information contact Chante at 443-605-1057 or Liz at 443-605-1053.

Wellness Center Memberships and Personal Training Available

Wellness Center memberships are available to community members age 60 and over. The cost is \$80 for 25 visits which includes use of the gym, pool, and a variety of classes. Certified personal trainers are also available to provide coaching on proper technique, tailor a program to meet individual goals and provide ideas to add variety to any workout. Contact the Wellness Center at 443-605-1070 for details.

THANK YOU

Dear St. John's Congregation,

*On behalf of the Brian & Jackie Leister and family, **thank you** for all the kind thoughts & prayers and all the nice cards this past month after the passing of my mother Jeannie Leister. My family and I really appreciated all these kind and thoughtful cards and prayers received.*

Brian Leister

Leister's Church Members,

Thank you so much for the use of your Church Hall for our Mom's Celebration Luncheon. The meal was very nice and we thank you so much. Also for the lovely flowers.

Love,

Gary, Tina and Brian Leister

Dear St. John's,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers. Your kindness was so thoughtful.

Mike and Chris Blauvelt

Dear People of St. John's,

Thank you for your gift to the ongoing ministry of St. Dysmas. Thanks to the support of people like you lives are changed, hope is given and the Good News of Jesus Christ is shared in Word and Sacrament.

Yours in Christ,

The Community of St. Dysmas

Prayer request from the Community of St. Dysmas -

Father God, thank you for my blessings and our wonderful volunteers. Please watch over my family and loved ones. Please comfort the sick, abused, addicted and homeless. Please help me to control my tongue and temper. Please lift this anxiety and depression from me. In Jesus' name. Amen.



MORE APPRECIATION NOTES

Thank you to everyone who supported our youth on our way to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston this summer. Please join us for worship on Sunday, September 9 at either worship service to see our pictures and hear our stories. It was an amazing week experiencing God's love and grace together with 30,000 Lutheran youth and adults from around the country.

Thank you to Julia Wolfe who has served as our Christian Education and Youth Chair the past few years. As of our July meeting, she has resigned due to a new bundle of joy in her life. She plans to remain on the committee.

Thank you to Sandi West who has been our Vacation Bible School Director the past two years. She has resigned from that position and we will be looking for a new VBS Director.

---Pastor Kristin

Pastor Kristin & the rest of St. John's,

Thank you so much for the generous graduation gifts, on top of all the support you've given us over the years. It means the world and it is greatly appreciated. We can't wait to see what the future holds!

Hope to see y'all soon,

Sincerely, Grant & Annie

To everyone,

Thank you for your generous gift of "foody" gift cards! I am grateful for the opportunity you gave me a few years ago to work as your office manager, and I take with me many fond memories. I wish all the best for St. John's as you continue to serve God with joyful hearts.

*Sincerely,
Frances DeBruyn*




To Pastor Kristin and my St. John's family,

Thank you so much for thinking of me as I finished school and for the kind gift. I hope to see you all again soon!

*Thank you,
Ian Bucacink*



SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<p>2</p> <p>Back to School Blessing 8:00 am Worship 9:30 am Chapel in the Woods</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Tracey Sanford & Carl Rebert</p>	<p>3</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>Public Schools Open 7:30 pm Church Council Mtg</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30pm-8:30pm Sunshine Circle 7:30 pm Choir rehearsal</p>	6	7	<p>8</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Breakfast & Meeting at Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren.</p> <p>All Day Scrapbooking</p>
<p>9</p> <p>God's Work. Our Hands 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Service Project 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Evangelism Mtg</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Lori & John Bucacink</p>	10	<p>11</p> <p>6:15 PM Handbell rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30 pm Choir rehearsal</p>	13		15
<p>16</p> <p>8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Education 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Nancy Dean</p>	17	<p>18</p> <p>6:15 PM Handbell rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:30 pm Choir rehearsal</p>	20	<p>21</p> <p>10:30 am Soup Kitchen 6:00 pm Christian Singles - At Greenmount Station</p>	22
<p>23</p> <p>Welcome New Members! 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Education 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Doris Zepp</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 am - 12:00 noon Sew, Roll & Knot Day</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:15 PM Handbell rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:30 pm Choir rehearsal</p>	27	28	<p>29</p> <p>4:00 pm Bollinger Wedding</p> 
<p>30</p> <p>8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Education 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Della Dell 2019 Budget Requests Due</p>						

SEPTEMBER 2018 WORSHIP LEADERS

DATE	SERVICE	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	ALTAR GUILD	GREETERS	USHERS/ OFFERING (9:30)	COUNTING TEAM
9/2	8:00am	Tracey Sanford	Tracey Sanford		Lois Bankert Dale Miller	Dot Bean	*****	Maggie Langdon Muriel Sabo
	9:30am	Andy Kleinschmidt	Andy Kleinschmidt		Gloria Kniss	The West Family	The Findeisen Family	Carl Rebert
9/9	8:00am	Youth	Youth		Lois Bankert Dale Miller	Dot Bean	*****	Donna Yeager Bryan Yeager
	10:30am	Youth	Youth	Youth	Gloria Kniss	Joan Phillips Jean Seitz	Nancy and Bill Squires	Teresa McCulloh
9/16	8:00am	Paul DeLuc	Paul DeLuc		Lois Bankert Dale Miller	Dot Bean	*****	Wanda Siegman
	10:30am	John Bucacink	Nancy Dean	Spencer Goodson	Barbara and Richard Smith	Pam Goodson Spencer Goodson	Richard and Barbara Smith	Darry Gross
9/23	8:00am	Dennis Kniss	Dennis Kniss		Lois Bankert Dale Miller	Dot Bean	*****	Stewart Sterner Drew Dean
	10:30am	Doris Zepp	Mia Hoyer	Grace Kleinschmidt	Gloria Kniss	Lois and Phil Short	The Brian Leister Family	Audrey Byrd
9/30	8:00am	Tracey Sanford	Tracey Sanford		Lois Bankert Dale Miller	Dot Bean	*****	Dale Miller Deb Schaefer
	10:30am	Carl Rebert	Austin Leister	Ashley Leister	Gloria Kniss	Nancy Dean Stephanie Dean	David Ogg	Michael Schaefer



Fall Yard and Rummage Sales



Friday, October 12 and Saturday, October 13 have been selected as the dates for the **Fall Yard and Rummage Sales**. Set up for the event will begin on October 8. Because of some changes made in church activities and storage space being made available we can begin accepting donations at this time. However, if you wish to make donations prior to September 1, please contact Gloria or Dennis Kniss so that arrangements and/or pick up can be made.



The Yard and Rummage Sales have been a success over the years due to the cooperative effort of both the church family and extended families and friends. Many items have been contributed. Many helpful hands have contributed to the collection, set up, sale and cleanup of the sale merchandise. Bake goods have been provided and lunches have been prepared and enjoyed. Thrivent Financial has also contributed \$250 to both the spring and fall sales for the past several years. Many thanks to all who have helped in any way over the years!

Storage of set up materials such as clothes racks, boxes of hangers, etc. has been an ongoing challenge for years. Many thanks are extended to Nancy Dean and Maggie Langdon for providing space in the past. Current storage space is being supplied by Lavena Basler. We are indeed grateful for your assistance in this matter.



Yard and Rummage Sale information can be obtained by contacting Gloria or Dennis Kniss, 717-359-7681, 443-605-4963 or by email: dennisrkniss@gmail.com.



THANK OFFERING FUND

Our Thank Offering Fund continues to be a significant resource for our congregation. On behalf of St. John's we are very happy and thankful for the congregation's response and offerings to this date. We all hope this fund can help our church mission go forward without many of the financial problems and needs that confront other congregations. Remember the creation of this fund is being used in the future to help balance a yearly budget or for other missions of the church that the Finance Committee and Church Council approve.

Below are several ways that a member can make a donation to the fund. This will be an ongoing fund to which a member can contribute at any time writing their request through church envelopes, E-giving or any of the other options suggested.

Ways that you can contribute to the ongoing spirit of Christ in our church! Donation Cash or Check; Appreciated Securities; Real Estate; Bequests (Wills & Trusts); Life Insurance; Qualified Retirement Plans.



Electronic Giving is Easy!

As a way to automate your weekly or one-time offerings, Electronic Giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. Electronic Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your **checking or savings account to the church's bank account. This can be done in one of two ways:** 1) Fill out an Authorization Form (found outside the church office) and send it to the church office, or 2) Go to the church website (www.stjohnswestminster.org) and click the green **"Online Giving" button at any time to set up an automatic donation plan,** change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

THRIVENT MEMBERS: UPDATE ON ACTION TEAMS AND DIRECT CHOICE DOLLARS

Congratulations! Eligible Thrivent members utilized \$5,250 last year for church related activities and mission projects. There were 21 action team projects in all! Thank you for taking the time to apply and utilize Action Team money. If you did not apply for your Action Team money, the money was put back into **Thrivent's account.**

January 1 began a new year for Action Team funds! Hopefully, this year we can use even more of the allotted Thrivent Action Team Money for projects. If you are a Thrivent Insurance holder, you may be eligible for Action Team Money. I have a list of projects that you can pick from if you are not sure of where to put your Action Team Money. Talk with me or call me if you need ideas and are willing to use the Action Team Money (\$250.00). I can assist you in the paper work and ideas for the money.

Also, anyone eligible for Direct Dollars from Thrivent must allocate this money before March 29. If you are not sure how to proceed with this, please contact me, also.

Gloria and Dennis Kniss, Congregational Advocate for Thrivent
717-359-7681 or 443-605-4963

Email: dennisrkniss@gmail.com



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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

827 Leister's Church Road Westminster, MD 21157 ~ 410-848-6402 ~ www.stjohnswestminster.org

St. John's Epistle is published each month by St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Westminster, Maryland.

St. John's is a congregation of the Delaware-Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Articles for the October newsletter should be submitted no later than September 10, 2018! *Please send the articles to Deb, the Office Manager, at office@stjohnswestminster.org or place them in her mailbox.*

Thank you!

OTHER TIDBITS...

The Soup Kitchen Committee is in need of plastic containers with lids to be used for carry-out meals. Containers from lunchmeat or Cool Whip are good sizes. Please bring any clean containers/lids and place on the Blessings Closet shelf in the Fellowship Hall. Our next Soup Kitchen will be on Friday, September 21. If you would help us that morning or would like to make or donate a dessert for this please contact Lisa Gavin 410-857-1499 or Jackie Leister 410-259-5535. Your support is much appreciated as we serve our community.

Youth Volunteer Opportunity

Audrey Byrd volunteers for the Tender Care Pregnancy Center and has been asked if our youth would consider volunteering at The Westminster Fall Festival making scare crows. The festival is scheduled for September 27-30, 2018. They are in need of volunteers for the event starting Thursday 4pm-6pm. Additionally, they are looking for people for 4 hours shifts -- Friday (schools are closed) 10am-10pm, Saturday 10am-10pm and Sunday 10am-6pm. You can register to volunteer on the attached link. Please select that you are volunteering on behalf of the Tender Care Pregnancy Center. <http://www.westminsterfallfest.com/volunteer/>



MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S: George & Theo Amoss, Jacob Armacost, Dave Basler, Lily Blubaugh, John & Betty Boone, Nancy Boone, Charles Brehm, Pat Brehm, Mittie Coppersmith, Ron & Beverly Dutterer, Janet Gross, Donald & Pat Heath, Jeanne Joiner, Nancy Jones, Betty Knisley, Pat Lipscomb, Yvonne Mathias, Bonnie Null, Claire Null, Muriel Sabo, Tracey Sanford, The Family of Adelaide Sies, Richard Smith, Emily Van Horn, The West Family, Lorrie Wilson, Jean Yeakel, Gloria Yingling and Charles Zincon.

FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S: Karen Aldridge, Helen Armacost, Ed Arnold, Taylor Barnes, Marcia Batista, Rita Bauhof, Dawn Bitzel, The Bordenski Family, Beth Anne Basler Busch, Amber Blubaugh, The Bogden Family, Ronald Boone, Joann and Lou Bradich, Scott Cronkite, Tammy Crosby, Jerry Day, Demetrius, Ella Edwards, Jackie Farver, Christian Filipov, Morley Frado, Red and Carol Fundanish, Virginia Furry, Debby Gilbert, Marg Goodlin, Ginni Gordon, Laurel Greeley, The Family of Burnell Grogg, Pat and Jerry Grotfelty, Andrew ("Will") Hacke, Natalie Halpin, Elwood Hawes, Sr., Eila Howe, Linda Basler Holland and Ken Holland, Sherry Honeycutt, Lisa and Kevin Jones, Pastor Bob Kidd, The Knepp Family, Lorraine Kopp, Ed Langdon, The Family of Jeannie Leister, Don & Charlotte Ludwig, Maria Malbrough, Joe McLaughlin, The Family of Nevin Meck, Pastor Richard Michael and Eva Michael, Wyatt Miller, Jeanne Mueller, Erin Murphy & Haitian Timoun Foundation, Kay Murphy, The Family of Donald Nelson, Harold Nelson, Pauline Nelson, The Family of Ron Resch, Tim Riddle, Hal Roche, Beverly & Jack Rose, Jessica Runnels, Zella Sherman, Haylee Shifflett, Ms. Wilda Simpson, David & Debbie Smith, Aileen Stroebel, The Family and Friends of Wendy Steil, Elizabeth Watson, Bladen Wheatley and Tammy Williams.

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Keith Blizzard, Marshall Brown, Barry Durm, Michael & Lucia Gaffney, Katie & Brian Fenstemaker.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Xander LeDuc	17 Daniel Over, Jr.	
2 Seth Moklak	20 Keith Reed, Jr.	
3 Karen Reinhold	21 Kevin Mapp	
5 Donald Heath	21 Robert Mapp	
8 Victoria Barber	21 Craig Peregoy	25 Matthew Leister
8 Rebecca Sisler	21 Caroline Schindler	26 Leeann Brothers
11 Steven Parsley	21 Sarah Weisse	26 Britney Brothers
11 Steve Findeisen	22 Stephanie Dean	27 Pamela Dodson
12 Della Dell	22 Charles Zincon	28 Tate Gavin
12 Rose Frebertshouser	22 Robert Bitzel	29 Bradley Maempel
16 Pastor Joe Lettrich	25 Bonnie Konsen	



YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT

On Saturday, July 28 our Youth group (along with a few from Messiah Lutheran) participated in a synod service project in East Baltimore. We worked with the Baltimore Waterfront Partnership to weed and mulch. Here are a few pictures. It was a great day.



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

827 Leister's Church Road, Westminster, MD 21157 • 410-848-6402 • www.stjohnswestminster.org

Pastor: The Rev. Kristin Dubsy • pastor@stjohnswestminster.org - 410-299-4853

Office Manager: Deb Priester • office@stjohnswestminster.org

Director of Music: Wayne Grauel • music@stjohnswestminster.org—410-804-8407

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday, 10:00-4:00



Worship Schedule — September 9 — June 2

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Service

9:15 a.m. Education Hour

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Service

Please contact the church office....

... if you move to a new address or your telephone number or email address changes.

... if you or a member of your family is admitted to the hospital so the pastor may schedule a hospital visit.

... when a member of your family leaves home for college.

... when your committee or group plans a meeting or an activity—the date needs to be cleared and the church calendar noted.

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