



# ST. JOHN'S EPISTLE

## March 2020

Volume 25 *To sing the Praises of God, to Live the Grace of Jesus, to Share the Gift of the Spirit.* Issue 2



### March At-A-Glance

**Thursday March 5**  
**9:15 am**  
World Day of Prayer  
(Church Women  
United)  
**3:00 pm**  
Christian Outreach  
Meeting  
**6:30 pm**  
Sunshine Circle

**Saturday March 14**  
All Day  
Scrapbooking  
**8:00 am**  
Men of the  
Congregation Mtg

**Monday March 16**  
**9:00 am**  
Sew Day

**Friday March 20**  
**10:30 am**  
Soup Kitchen  
**5:00 pm**  
Christian Singles  
St. Patrick's Day  
Party

### A Message from Pastor Kristin

Pastor Kristin's Ash Wednesday Sermon 2.26.2020

"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."

I've been in many conversations with people lately that have talked about the "doom and gloom" of our world. About the pain and suffering of so many people, about concerns over the flu and the coronavirus, about divisions in our nation and divisions among people, about concerns for our safety and the environment. It seems that as chicken little said "the sky is falling" and maybe it is.

But while there are so many overwhelming challenges around us, some of us go on living like it doesn't and won't affect us, while some of us are feeling so overwhelmed we can't make a difference.

All of this reminds me of "The Starfish Story."

A young man is walking along the ocean and sees a beach on which thousands and thousands of starfish have washed ashore. Further along he sees an old man, walking slowly and stooping often, picking up one starfish after another and tossing each one gently into the ocean. "Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?," he asks. "Because the sun is up and the tide is going out and if I don't throw them further in they will die." "But, old man, don't you realize there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it! You can't possibly save them all, you can't even save one-tenth of them. In fact, even if you work all day, your efforts won't make any difference at all." The old man listened calmly and then bent

(continued on page 2)



Annual Meeting  
Sunday, March 22  
following the 10:30  
am service. Pick  
up packets on  
March 15.

### Content .....

Birthdays .....	17
Calendar .....	10
Council Member List.....	16
Finance .....	19
Lent Info .....	1-5
Prayer List .....	18
Thank You .....	12
Worship Leaders .....	11



(continued from Pastor Kristin's article on page 1)

**Down to pick up another starfish and threw it into the sea. "It made a difference to that one."**

It made a difference to that one.

Today is Ash Wednesday – it is a day when we remember our mortality. We hear the words **"remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."** **A day some people may choose to avoid because many of us don't like to think about death at all, we try to avoid it.**

Today we remember that God created us up out of the dust, that God gave life to us and one day whether we want to think about it or not we will return to the dust. It happens to all of us – none of us is immune from death.

**Someone recently said to me, "death is the great enemy." Death is an enemy, yes, but for those of us who have faith and believe we are reminded that sin and death are not the last words for us and in the midst of all that overwhelms us we have hope and the promise of everlasting life.**

Today is a very solemn day in the church year, second to Good Friday. This is not a shiny happy people **day but a day we remember we've come from the dust and to the dust we will return.**

In this season of lent we are called once again to love and serve God and our neighbors. We are **invited to "self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love."** What is it that you will do or not do these next 40 days to grow in your relationship in love and service to God and your neighbors?

**Will you take time to pray? Maybe it's as simple as praying "The Lord's Prayer" each day. Will you take time to read the bible? Maybe start a plan with the Bible App or take the bulletin home each week and read through the readings throughout the week. Will you decide to increase your giving to our congregation? Supporting the ministry which happens here and far beyond our walls. Will you take time to be still and know that God is with you each day? Take time to enjoy God's creation, listening to where God is calling you? Is it giving up something? Take these 40 days to focus on loving God and our neighbors more – just one thing each day can make a difference.**

The sky might be falling, but we are called to be like the man walking along the beach tossing starfish back into the sea. We are called to do our part to make a difference, no matter how big or how small because for that one, it makes all of the difference.

**"Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." And remember that the one who gave life to you out of the dust is with you in these 40 days and every day.**

AMEN

God's Peace,



Pastor Kristin Dubsky

# THE SEASON OF LENT

Here is the schedule for this year's Lenten mid-week services:

**6:30 pm Soup & Sandwich Supper**

**7:15 pm Holden Evening Prayer**

(see page 5 for more details)

## WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

**March 4**

*Ham and Bean Soup with ham sandwiches provided by the Sunshine Circle*

**March 11**

*Noodle Soup provided by the Christian Outreach Committee*

**March 18**

*Assortment of soups with hot dogs provided by the Evangelism Committee*

**March 25**

*Chili with grilled cheese sandwiches provided by the Adult Bible class*

**April 1**

*Potato soup with tuna fish and PB&J sandwiches provided by Bonnie Konsen and Friends along with the Choir*



## Holy Week and Easter

**Maundy Thursday - April 9 - 6:30 pm**  
Worship with dinner, Holy Communion and the Stripping of the Altar

**Good Friday - April 10 - 7:15 pm**  
The Seven Last Words of Christ in Word and Music

**Children's Event - Saturday, April 11**  
Children's Easter Program, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

**Easter Sunday - April 12**  
**6:30 am** Sunrise Service in the Chapel in the Woods  
**8:00 am & 10:30 am** Festive Easter Worship  
No Sunday School Classes

*Easter Breakfast served between 7:00 am - 10:00 am (Free-will offering will be collected for Youth Service Trip this summer).*

## 2020 Lent & Easter Special Offerings

## The Season of Lent

**February 26 (Ash Wednesday): Community of St. Dymas** – prison ministry of Delaware-Maryland Synod.

**March 4 (Wednesday Lenten Service): Access Carroll** – provides medical treatment and prescriptions to those people who do not have healthcare coverage.

**March 11 (Wednesday Lenten Service): Sober Truth Substance Abuse Treatment Program** – hope to be a model for other treatment programs. We want to provide temporary transitional housing, employment guidance and nutritional counseling in the future.

**March 18 (Wednesday Lenten Service): Carroll County Food Sunday** – food distribution center for those in need.

**March 25 (Wednesday Lenten Service): Mosaic, Inc.** – helps those who are suffering from mental illness

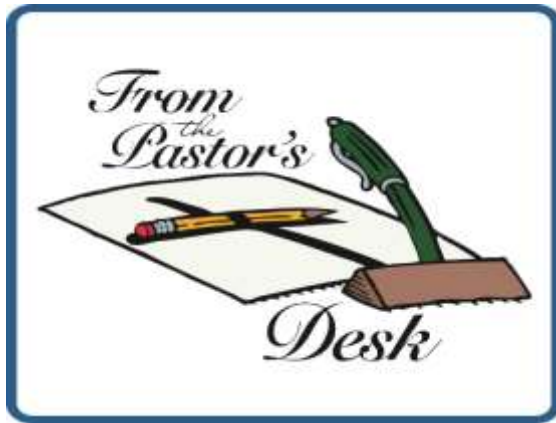
**April 1 (Wednesday Lenten Service): Fisher House** – a network of comfort homes where military and veterans' families can stay at no cost while a loved one is receiving treatment. These homes are located at major military and VA medical centers nationwide.

**April 9 (Maundy Thursday): Carroll Hospice** – Non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for patients needing end-of-life care, allowing them to live as fully and comfortably as possible by providing quality palliative care, pain and symptom management and support for their families.

**April 10 (Good Friday): Pregnancy Support Center** – seeks to create a safe non-judgmental environment where individuals can come to discuss their pregnancy related concerns in hope of a positive choice.

**April 12 (Easter): ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service. Lutheran Disaster Response** – has a rich history of responding to disasters. This work encompasses the disaster response work of the ELCA in both the USA and internationally. In both areas, there has been a long commitment to working with local communities in a way that allows them to develop their own response. **Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service - working diligently with government and service partners to care for Central American children and families fleeing to the US for refuge.** LIRS is playing a national advocacy role as well as a service role during the current emergency. LIRS provides services to unaccompanied migrant children that uphold their best interests and recognize their vulnerabilities to exploitation and abuse.





## Digging Deeper this Lent

This Lent we are digging into God's word a little deeper. If you are on our email list, you will receive a lesson or two for the following Sunday on Monday morning for your reflections. You can reply to Pastor Kristin ([pastor@stjohnswestminster.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnswestminster.org)) with your thoughts (if you care to), and we will reflect on the gospel text during Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesday Nights each week as well.

Questions to reflect on:

- 1) What catches your attention?
- 2) What questions do you want to ask the text?
- 3) What are we hearing in this text (where might the Spirit be nudging us)?
- 4) What thoughts, stories, connections with what's happening in the world come to mind in reading the texts?

Lent 1 - March 1 - Matthew 4:1-11

Lent 2 - (Wednesday, March 4) Sunday, March 8 - John 3:1-17

Lent 3 - (Wednesday, March 11) Sunday, March 15 - John 4:5-42

Lent 4 - (Wednesday, March 18) Sunday, March 22 - John 9:1-41

Lent 5 - (Wednesday, March 25) Sunday, March 29 - John 11:1-45

God's Peace,  
Pastor Kristin Dubsky

# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHURCH



The Christian Singles Group will celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Friday, March 20, at 5:00 pm beginning with a covered dish dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a covered dish, your favorite St. Patrick's Day poem, joke or story and a friend.

## All Day Scrapbooking

Join us on Saturday, March 14 for a day of scrapbooking. Please contact Kristy Lea Dean at [buyabasket@kristydean.com](mailto:buyabasket@kristydean.com) or Genny Resch at [gresch@mghus.com](mailto:gresch@mghus.com) for more information.



## World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer Service will be on Thursday, March 5, at 10:30 am in Krug Chapel at Carroll Lutheran Village. The theme is "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk!" This Service is sponsored by Church Women United in Carroll County and will include the participation of some of the students from Carroll Lutheran School.



The Soup Kitchen Committee would like to say THANKS to all who have previously answered the call for plastic containers. The time has arrived to put out the call for MORE plastic containers. We appreciate any that you could provide us to assist with this ministry.



St. John's Soup Kitchen Committee will work at The Shepherd's Table on Friday, March 20 at 10:30 am at Westminster United Methodist Church. Please contact Lisa Gavin-410-857-1499 or Jackie Leister-410-857-0505, if you can help work or if you can donate baked goods. This is a great way to work and get to know our church family while feeding God's hungry people.



The Evangelism Committee continues to collect used eyeglasses. Please put them in the bin in the Caring Corner.

# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHURCH

## Eleven More People Have A Blanket



The last sew day produced 11 more blankets for Lutheran World Relief! Seven ladies did all that work - thanks to Sue, Maggie, Audrey, Carol, Dale, and Lois S. Just knowing that 11 people will benefit - whether it be in the United States, or developing countries across the world - makes it worth the three hours that we all put in that day.

Come help us out! The next sew day is **March 16** at 9:00 am or whatever time you can get there. It is very easy - just tie knots in fleece blankets or mission quilts. There are several people who help us with purchasing material and supplies through their Thrivent Action Team money or cash donations. We thank them also because without that support we would not have any quilts. Hope to see you on March 16. Questions? Call Gloria.

The Sunshine Circle will resume their monthly meetings March 5 at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Devotions will be by Audrey Byrd and the hostess is Carol Blubaugh. Carol will lead the program by directing us in making St. Patrick's Day favors for CLV. Special offering is toothpaste. All ladies of the church are invited to attend. For questions call Audrey Byrd at 410-848-1995.



## LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday March 22 - The Annual Meeting will take place following the 10:30am service.

Friday and Saturday May 1 & 2 - The Spring Yard and Rummage Sales will be from 8 am until 2 pm both days. A bake sale and turkey corn soup sale will be held on Saturday.

The Strawberry Festival will be on Saturday, June 13. The Peach Festival will be on Saturday, August 22. Please mark these dates on your calendar. The Festivals require a lot of help to be successful.

# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHURCH

## Men of the Congregation

### News for March



#### March Meeting:

March's meeting will be on Saturday, March 14 at 8:00 AM. The meeting will be held at the Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren.

#### Upcoming Events:

April 11: Breakfast, 8:00 am at Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren (This date is subject to change due to the Day before Easter.)

April 27: Westminster District Men's Dinner meeting (See information elsewhere)

May 9: Breakfast, 8:00 am at Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren

June 9: Cleaning of the Pavilion, 6:00 pm, in preparation for the Strawberry Festival

June 11: Rain date for cleaning pavilion

June 13: Breakfast, 8:00 am at Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren followed by final preparations of the Pavilion for the Strawberry Festival

Any changes in the schedule will be placed in the Sunday bulletin, the Epistle on Friday, or via direct email to those on the email list. For more specific information contact Dennis Kniss (717-359-7681) or email [dennisrkniss@gmail.com](mailto:dennisrkniss@gmail.com); or John Bucacink (410-857-5339).

All are welcome to join in these activities. For additional information, contact Dennis Kniss or John Bucacink.

Church Women United in Carroll County is sponsoring a bus trip to see "Queen Esther" at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster on Tuesday, May 5. The cost is \$110 which includes the cost of the bus, the show and lunch at the Good & Plenty Restaurant after the Show. The cost for children - Ages 4 - 12 - is \$70. You may go to Kohl's parking lot or to Lazarus UCC Church parking lot to get on the bus. The bus will leave Kohl's parking lot at 8:15 am It will leave Lazarus UCC Church parking lot at 8:45 am To reserve a seat on the bus, call Mary Jane Graf at 410-374-4478. Checks should be made payable to Church Women United of Carroll County and can be mailed to Mary Jane Graf, 5115 S. Church Street, Lineboro, Maryland 21102. All money is due by April 1.





# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHURCH

## SPRING YARD AND RUMMAGE SALES ON THE HORIZON!!

The Adult Bible Class is making plans to coordinate the Spring Yard and Rummage Sales to be held on May 1st and 2nd. As in the past the sales will be from 8 am until 2 pm both days. A bake sale and turkey corn soup sale will be held on Saturday. Watch for additional information in the next newsletter, in the Friday E-pistle and in weekly bulletins.

As you do your spring cleaning and/or have some unwanted items, keep us in mind. We are currently collecting if you need to move items now. (Small items only at this point) Contact Dennis or Gloria Kniss if you need items picked up for the sale. We can be of help because you help others!

The Fall sales were very successful and with your continued help, we will have another successful effort this spring. Several charitable organizations have benefitted by your generosity and with your continued support we hope to continue that outreach with the proceeds that are realized. More next month!



Sunday March 8 at 2:00 am  
- Remember to move those clocks ahead and check your smoke detectors!

### ***Please Recycle!! Be a responsible steward of the environment!***

We have been recycling for many years through the Hanna Paper Retriever Program. The green and yellow bin allows us to recycle the following items:

Paper, newspapers, mail, magazines, and shredded paper (please place shreds in a bag)

Boxed office records, booklets, school and office paper, file folders, glossy paper, and reports

\*\*\*\*\*HARD BACK and PAPERBACK BOOKS\*\*\*\*\*




\*\*\*\*\*CARDBOARD (if it is flattened)\*\*\*\*\*

\*Paper clips, staples and fasteners are okay to be with paper

So as you make your journeys to the church, bring your recyclables with you. Help to keep our environment clean and green.



# MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>8:00 am Worship</p> <p>9:15 am Education</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Dale Miller</p>	<p>6:00 pm 4-H Meeting</p>	<p>6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 pm Church Council</p>	<p>Lent 1</p> <p>6:30 pm Soup &amp; Sandwich</p> <p>7:15 pm Service</p> <p>Choir Immediately following service</p>	<p>10:30 am World Day of Prayer at CLV</p> <p>3:00 pm Christian Outreach</p> <p>6:30 pm Sunshine Circle</p>		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p><b>SPRING FORWARD</b> </p> <p>8:00 am Worship</p> <p>9:15 am Education</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Dot Bean</p>		<p>6:00 pm Cold Weather Shelter</p> <p>6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal</p>	<p>Lent 2</p> <p>6:30 pm Soup &amp; Sandwich</p> <p>7:15 pm Service</p> <p>Choir Immediately following</p>			<p>All Day Scrapbooking</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Breakfast at Meadow Branch</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p>8:00 am Worship</p> <p>9:15 am Education</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Lois Bankert</p>	<p>9:00 am-noon Sew Day</p>	<p>6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal</p>	<p>Lent 3</p> <p>6:30 pm Soup &amp; Sandwich</p> <p>7:15 pm Service</p> <p>Choir Immediately following</p>		<p>10:30 am Soup Kitchen</p> <p>5:00 pm Christian Singles</p>	<p>10:00pm - 5:00pm Fellowship Hall In Use</p>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>8:00 am Worship</p> <p>9:15 am Education</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>11:45 am Annual Mtg</p> <p>Altar Flowers: The Bucacinks</p>	<p>6:30 pm Coin Club</p>	<p>6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal</p>	<p>Lent 4</p> <p>6:30 pm Soup &amp; Sandwich</p> <p>7:15 pm Service</p> <p>Choir Immediately following</p>			
29	30	31				
<p>8:00 am Worship</p> <p>9:15 am Education</p> <p>10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Altar Flowers: Melanie Martindale</p>		<p>6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal</p> <p>7:30 pm Council Mtg</p>				

# MARCH 2020 WORSHIP LEADERS

DATE	SERVICE	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	ALTAR GUILD	USHERS/OFFERING (10:30)	GREETERS	COUNTING TEAM
3/01	8:00am	Dennis Kniss	Dennis Kniss	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Mark Howard	Donna Yeager  Bryan Yeager
	10:30am	Donna Yeager	Teresa McCulloh	Jacob Yadush	Nancy & Bill Squires	The Gavin Family	Wanda Little The Martindale Family	Teresa McCulloh
3/08	8:00am	Melody Hession	Melody Hession	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Carol Lynn & Ken Siegman	Joan Phillips  Jean Seitz
	10:30am	Andy Kleinschmidt	Stephanie Dean	Mason Dean	Nancy & Bill Squires	Barbara & Richard Smith	Jean Seitz Joan Phillips	Ken Seitz
3/15	8:00am	Tracey Sanford	Tracey Sanford	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Sue Shaffer	Stewart Sterner  Drew Dean
	10:30am	Carl Rebert	Steve Findeisen	Lara Findeisen	Nancy & Bill Squires	The Leister Family	Lois and Phil Short	Steve Findeisen
3/22	8:00am	Melody Hession	Melody Hession	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Della Dell	Deb Schaefer  Michael Schaefer
	10:30am	John Bucacink	Mia Hoyer	Tate Gavin	Nancy & Bill Squires	The Findeisen Family	Gloria Kniss Carol Blubaugh	Dale Miller
3/29	8:00am	Carl Rebert	Carl Rebert	*****	Lois Bankert Dale Miller	*****	Linda & Stewart Sterner	Gloria Kniss  Dennis Kniss
	10:30am	Roseann Kleinschmidt	Nancy Dean	Grace Kleinschmidt	Nancy & Bill Squires	Genny Resch Roxanne Malbrough	Andrea and Jon Consentini	Darry Gross

# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CHURCH

*The Lutheran Church Men of the Westminster Conference will hold their Spring Dinner Meeting at 6:30 pm on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at Calvary Lutheran Church, 16151 Old Frederick Road, Mt. Airy, Maryland, 21771. The ladies of the church will be serving a family-style Baked Ham dinner. A free-will offering will be received for the meal with at least \$12.00 expected.*

*These semi-annual dinners have become a wonderful opportunity for the men of the churches of our conference to socialize and renew friendships. We look forward to welcoming a large group of men and the pastor from your church. When you arrive, please meet in the sanctuary for Greetings and Opening Prayer prior to dinner.*

*An estimate of reservations is due by Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> with an updated firm reservation count by Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Dennis Kniss by email at [dennisrkniss@gmail.com](mailto:dennisrkniss@gmail.com) or cell phone 443-605-4963 with your reservations or any questions. The host church has asked that no additional reservations be added after the cutoff date of Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Please identify your church with your reservation. (Note: Please reserve as early as possible as space is limited.)*

*Note: The Fall Dinner will be on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Grace Lutheran Church.*

## WITH GRATITUDE

Dear St. John Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and patients we serve, Access Carroll is appreciative of your 2019 Charitable Contributions totaling \$363.00. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

Over the past year, Access Carroll has continued to provide the highest quality integrated medical, dental and behavioral health services for those most in need living in Carroll County, Maryland. Your generous financial support has directly impacted the lives of nearly 10,000 friends, family and neighbors in need. Thank you for making a difference in the health and wellness of your community!

With gratitude,  
Tammy Black, BSN, RN  
Executive Director and CEO.

To St. Johns,  
I would like to thank everyone who helped me during my recent illness. I appreciate the visits, the cards, prayers and kindness that I received from many of you.  
God Bless,  
George Fleming



# CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CONTINUES GIVING

**Join us at our next meeting on Thursday March 5 at 3:00 pm.**

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Empty Bowl Fundraiser for The Shepherd's Staff** will be held on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Catholic Church Portico (11:00 am, 12:30 pm and 2:00 pm seating). Help combat hunger, one bowl at a time. At the Empty Bowl of Carroll County, you will experience a delicious sampling of soups provided and served by several of the area's best restaurants. Tickets are \$20.00 per person (children 5 and under are free) and can be purchased at <https://emptybowls2020.bpt.me/>. Tickets includes soup, bread, water and a take-home, ceramic bowl as a reminder of those whose bowls remain empty. Bowls are provided by local schools, groups and volunteers. Desserts and beverages will be available for an additional donation. For more information, please call 410-857-5944.

**Empty Bowl** – The Shepherd's Staff needs donations of baked goods for their Empty Bowl Fundraiser. If you are willing to donate baked goods, please fill out the sheet located in the narthex and bulletin board (near Caring Corner) in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your donations to St. John's Portico on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 12:00 pm or Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 10:00 am. Don't forget to bring the sheet with you when dropping off your donation. For more information, contact Linda Sterner – 410-596-3921 or email [sternerlm@outlook.com](mailto:sternerlm@outlook.com).

**Cold Weather Shelter Committee** will serve a meal at the shelter on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. The committee is asking for donations of brownies. Please bring your donation to St. John's Lutheran Church by 4 pm on Tuesday, March 10th. The committee greatly appreciated the support they received from members of St. John's and for the previous donations of baked goods. For more information contact Linda Sterner 410-596-3921 or [sternerlm@outlook.com](mailto:sternerlm@outlook.com).



# CHRISTIAN OUTREACH AT THE COLD WEATHER SHELTER



Our Christian Outreach committee is represented at the Cold Weather Shelter by (left to right) Roxanne Malbrough, Andrea Cosentini, Lisa Gavin and Linda Sterner. The Cold Weather Shelter Committee and The Soup Kitchen Committee (both part of the Christian Outreach Committee) are very appreciative for the support and encouragement from the members of St. John's. Both committees also thank you for your generous donations of food, plastic containers and gift cards from Thrivent Financial (Thrivent Action Teams Projects). Christian Outreach is always looking for a few good people to help them spread God's message, so COME JOIN US!

The Brethren Home Community of the Cross Keys Village in New Oxford, PA has a group that collect used stamps. The group processes them and sells them to buy items needed for the residents of that facility. With the money they have received, they have purchased wheelchairs, ride on scales, recliner chairs, defibrillators, geriatric chairs and shampoo recliners, just to name a few. You can help in this ministry by saving your used stamps. Simply cut the envelope in half to eliminate the address or cut around the stamp by 1/2 inch and bring it to the bin in the Caring Corner in Fellowship Hall marked Stamps. Thank you for helping the residents of this community. For questions contact Audrey Byrd at 4120-848-1995.



## EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

**Deadline:** April 1, 2020

**Cost:** \$11.00 for each container of flowers

**Payment:** Cash or check (made payable to St. John's Lutheran Church with "Easter Flowers" written in the memo line)

**Return to:** The offering plates or the Office manager's mailbox.

**IMPORTANT:** *The Information you fill in BELOW is what will appear in the special Easter Sunday bulletin insert.*  
Please print clearly.

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Lilies \_\_\_\_\_ at \$11.00 per plant

Number of Tulips \_\_\_\_\_ at \$11.00 per plant

TOTAL Number of plants: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$11.00 per plant

**Total Due:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Easter Plant purchase(s) is (are) given:

\_\_\_\_\_ in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to the glory of God

\_\_\_\_\_ Give my flowers to a shut-in.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

*You may pick up your flowers after any service.*

## CHICKS FOR EASTER SUNDAY

*Purchase paper chicks to remember or honor a loved one this Easter!*

**Deadline:** April 1, 2020

**Cost:** \$10.00 for each paper chick

**Payment:** Cash or check (made payable to St. John's Lutheran Church with "Easter Chicks" written in the memo line)

**Return to:** The offering plates or the Office manager's mailbox.

## EASTER CHICKS ORDER FORM

**IMPORTANT:** *The Information you fill in BELOW is what will appear in the special Easter Sunday bulletin insert.*  
Please print clearly.

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Number of paper chicks \_\_\_\_\_ at \$10.00 per paper chick (buys TEN live chicks)

**Total Due:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Easter Chick purchase(s) is (are) given:

\_\_\_\_\_ in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to the glory of God

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)



# COUNCIL NOTES

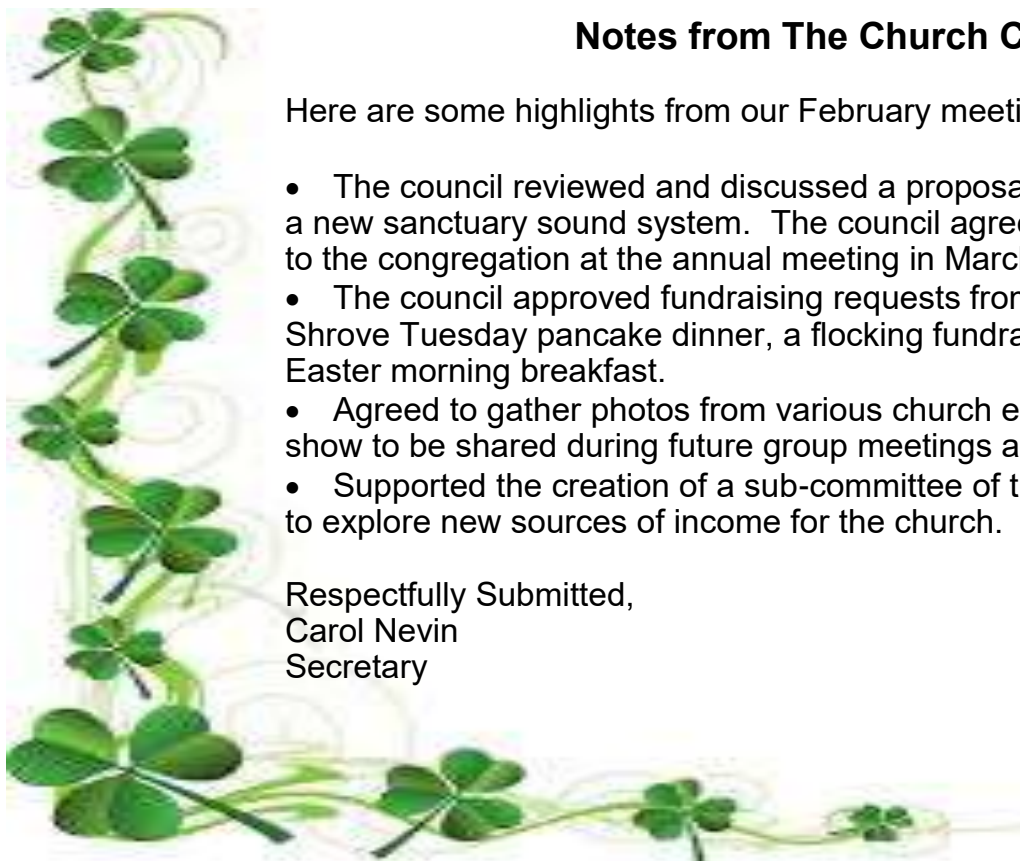
2020 Council Members	2020 Committee Chairs
<p><b>Lori Bucacink - President</b> 410-857-5339 lisj@comcast.net</p> <p><b>Andy Kleinschmidt - Vice-President</b> 443-621-7279 ajk3797@yahoo.com</p> <p><b>Carl Rebert - Treasurer</b> 443-253-1573 cjrebert@comcast.net</p> <p><b>Carol Nevin - Secretary</b> 410-876-2589 fburgman@aol.com</p> <p><b>Gary Leister</b> 443-340-2835 grleister71@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Melanie Martindale</b> 443-789-4592 mmartindale23@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Sharon Minor</b> 443-789-3019 ssismminor@hotmail.com</p> <p><b>Matthew West</b> 410-848-4414 camelotwest@comcast.net</p> <p><b>Mick Zechman</b> 443-398-4299 mzechman@westgov.com</p> <p><b>Pastor Kristin Dubsky</b> 410-299-4853 pastor@stjohnswestminster.org</p>
	<p><b>Cemetery</b> ..... Ken Seitz</p> <p><b>Christian Education &amp; Youth</b> ..... Genny Resch</p> <p><b>Christian Outreach</b> ..... Roxanne Malbrough</p> <p><b>Evangelism</b> ..... Open</p> <p><b>Fellowship</b>..... Karen Siegman</p> <p><b>Finance</b> ..... Janet Gross John Bucacink</p> <p><b>Property</b> ..... Open</p> <p><b>Stewardship</b>..... Carl Rebert</p> <p><b>Worship &amp; Music</b>..... Dennis Kniss</p>

## Notes from The Church Council

Here are some highlights from our February meeting:

- The council reviewed and discussed a proposal from DLS Sound, Inc. for a new sanctuary sound system. The council agreed to present the proposal to the congregation at the annual meeting in March.
- The council approved fundraising requests from the Youth Group for the Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner, a flocking fundraiser during Lent, and the Easter morning breakfast.
- Agreed to gather photos from various church events to prepare a slide show to be shared during future group meetings and events.
- Supported the creation of a sub-committee of the Stewardship committee to explore new sources of income for the church.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carol Nevin  
Secretary





## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Richard Sies	03/01	Jessie Martindale	03/14
Adelina Sabo	03/01	Dave Basler	03/15
Lois Bankert	03/03	Eric Scherbarth	03/17
Crystal Dell	03/04	Thomas Tracey	03/17
Richard Daniels	03/05	Harry Maempel	03/21
Glenn Monroe	03/05	William Tasker	03/23
George Nelson	03/05	Brett Barber	03/24
Francis Kramer	03/06	Donald Lipscomb	03/24
Margaret Parsley	03/08	David Guenthner	03/25
Sheila Menchey	03/09	Alannah Van Horn	03/26
Donald Dell	03/11	Patrick Brehm	03/27
Jennifer Holbrook	03/12	Rose Haller	03/27
H. Wright	03/12	Daniel Schindler	03/29
Gracie Kleinschmidt	03/13	Bonnie Wilson	03/29
Darius Gross	03/14	David Ogg	03/30

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS

### Heads Up!

Westminster Conference Day Camp at Carroll Lutheran School will be held June 22 - 26, 2020. Vacation Bible School for Campers ages 3 - 5 will be from 9:00 am - noon. Before and after care is available for an additional cost. Mobile Mar-Lu-Ridge Day campers who have completed Kindergarten - 6th grade will be from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Before and After Care is available for an additional cost. For more information please go to: <https://www.trinitywired.org/mobilemarlu/>

## Prayer



## Requests

MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S: George Amoss, Jacob Armacost, John Barnes, Dave Basler, Levi Blubaugh, Lily Blubaugh, Family and Friends of John Boone, Betty Boone, Charles Brehm, Pat Brehm, Beverly Dutterer, Janet Gross, Donald Heath, Jeanne Joiner, Betty Knisley, Paul LeDuc, Olivia Leister, Yvonne Mathias, Sue Mencer, Phyllis Menchey, Joseph Olenik, Family and Friends of Stanley Parks, Doris Rebert, Muriel Sabo, Tracey Sanford, Anna Rae Siegman, Roy Vest, The West Family, Lorrie Wilson, Jean Yeakel, Gloria Yingling, Pastor Michael Dubsy and Chaplain Jimmie Schwartz.

FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S: Karen Aldridge, Helen Armacost, Ed Arnold, Joann and Lou Bardiche, Keely Barkell, Taylor Barnes, Family & Friends of Rita Batho, Marcia Batista, The Bogdan Family, Ronald Boone, The Bordenski Family, Chris Clise, Scott Cronkite, Tammy Crosby, Jerry Day, Demetrius, Frank DiTaranto, Lindsey Durm, Ella Edwards, Robin Ehrenfeld, Jackie Farver, Christian Filippo, Morley Frodo, Red and Carol Fun Danish, Marg Goodlin, Gini Gordon, Pat and Jerry Gratefully, Family and Friends of Laurel Greeley, Natalie Halpin, The Family of Brad Hamilton, The Family of Doris Henry, Dave Haschert, Elwood Hawes, Sr., Sherry Honeycutt, Dawn Itzel, Pastor Bob Kidd, The Knepp Family, Mamie Koontz, Don & Charlotte Ludwig, Nick and Darlene Majorcazak, The McGuire Family, Joe McLaughlin, The Mesick Family, Pastor Richard Michael and Eva Michael, Wyatt Miller, Jeanne Mueller, Kay Murphy, Tim Riddle, Hal Roche, Beverly & Jack Rose, Jessica Runnels, Ann Schmidt, Zella Sherman, The Family of Haylee Shifflett, Ms. Wilda Simpson, Anne Smith, David & Debbie Smith, Carolyn Snyder, Aileen Strobel, Joan Tait, Elizabeth Watson, Hal Water, Tammy Williams.

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

*This prayer list was updated on February 27, 2020*

## 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 this fund will be 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](http://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**  
FINANCIAL®

*Connecting faith & finances for good.®*

### 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.

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.

Gloria and Dennis Kniss, Congregational Advocate for Thrivent  
717-359-7681 or 443-605-4963  
Email: [dennisrkniss@gmail.com](mailto:dennisrkniss@gmail.com)

## St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

827 Leister's Church Road Westminster, MD 21157 410-848-6402 [www.stjohnswestminster.org](http://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 April/May Newsletter should be submitted no later than March 15, 2020!** Please send the articles to Deb, the Office Manager, at [office@stjohnswestminster.org](mailto:office@stjohnswestminster.org) or place them in her mailbox.

*Thank you!*

# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

827 Leister's Church Road, Westminster, MD 21157 • 410-848-6402 • [www.stjohnswestminster.org](http://www.stjohnswestminster.org)

**Pastor:** The Rev. Kristin Dubsy • [pastor@stjohnswestminster.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnswestminster.org) - 410-299-4853

**Office Manager:** Deb Priester • [office@stjohnswestminster.org](mailto:office@stjohnswestminster.org)

**Organist:** Maggie Langdon - [mlangdon47yahoo.com](mailto:mlangdon47yahoo.com) **Choir Director:** Dennis Kniss - [dennisrkniss@gmail.com](mailto:dennisrkniss@gmail.com)



## Worship Schedule - September 8 - May 31, 2020

8:00 am Holy Communion Worship Service

9:15 am Education Hour

10:30 am 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.

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage PAID  
Permit No. 469  
Westminster, MD

Return Service Requested  
Time Value Material

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
827 Leister's Church Rd.  
Westminster, MD 21157