



ST. JOHN'S EPISTLE

JUNE 2017

Volume 22 *To sing the Praises of God, to Live the Grace of Jesus, to Share the Gift of the Spirit.* Issue 5

A Message from Pastor Kristin



REMINDERS:

Sunday, June 4
Last Day of Education Hour
9:15 a.m.
All Ages Kick Ball Game
10:30 a.m.
Honor our Graduates

Saturday, June 10
3:30-8:00 p.m.
Strawberry Festival

Sunday June 11—
Summer Worship Schedule
8:00 a.m.-Inside
9:30 a.m.-Outside
Chapel In The Woods (thru
September 3)

June 25—July 1
High School Work Camp in
Erie, PA

July 10—14
Vacation Bible School
“Christmas in July”

June – It’s graduation, strawberry festival, “Chapel in the Woods,” Last day of School, Workcamp mission trip month! It’s a busy time of the year as school comes to a close for the summer and summer activities begin.

Join us on June 4 – Last day of Sunday School (Kickball game for all ages at 9:15)

Honor our Graduates at 10:30am Worship followed by fellowship

June 10 – Strawberry Festival 3:30-8:00pm (Bring your family and friends or volunteer to help before, during or after the festival)

June 11 – Summer Worship Schedule begins – 8am – Inside, 9:30am Outside in our Chapel in the Woods

June 25-July 1 – Work Camp Mission trip to Erie, PA

And then we prepare for Vacation Bible School – July 10-14 “Christmas in July” Please talk to Sandi West and watch the bulletin and newsletter for ways you can volunteer to support this year’s VBS.

God is at work in the mist of all that is happening in June and this summer. Please continue to pray for our congregation that we might be following God’s will for the life of our congregation.

Keep our missionary, Sara Bucacink, in our prayers. She is enjoying her time in El Salvador and is so thankful for St. John’s prayers and financial support.

God’s Peace –

Pastor Kristin Dubsky



VBS-Christmas In July
July 10 -14
Remember to register for
Vacation Bible School on
St. John’s website:
www.stjohnswestminster.org

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ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL



ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 10, 2017

3:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Rain or Shine!

Music by

Never Too Late Band 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Alesia Band 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Games for Children

The menu for the Festival includes turkey corn soup, turkey salad sandwiches, hamburgers, hot dogs, hamburger barbecue, pulled pork barbeque, vegetable and dip packets, strawberries and ice cream, strawberry shortcake and a variety of baked goods.

"Thank You" to those who have already signed up to help at the Strawberry Festival. Additional help is needed. This is an excellent opportunity for those who need community service hours. Contact Nancy Dean (410-848-2140) if you can help.

A percentage of the profit from the Festival will be donated to Shepherd's Staff and Carroll Lutheran School.

Invite your friends and neighbors to come for an evening of good food, music and fellowship. Bring your lawn chairs so that you can sit back and relax as you enjoy the Strawberry Festival!



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 July/August newsletter should be submitted no later than Monday, June 12, 2017! Please send the articles to Frances, the Office manager, at office@stjohnswestminster.org or place them in her mailbox. Thanks!

CONGRATULATIONS HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2017!

Join us on Sunday, June 4, at the 10:30 service as we recognize our graduates for 2017! Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall following worship! Come celebrate these accomplishments with food and fellowship.



Emma Findeisen, daughter of Robin and Steve , sister of Lara, is graduating from Westminster High School and plans to attend McDaniel College. Emma enjoys reading, music and traveling.



Dietrich Konsen, son of Thomas and Bonnie, grandson of Milton and Doris Zepp, brother of Derek and Kirstyn, is graduating from Westminster High School and will attend Carroll Community College for the next two years. Dietrich enjoys basketball, skiing, swimming, golf, art, drums, ping pong, hiking, camping and weight lifting.



Derek Konsen, son of Thomas and Bonnie, grandson of Milton and Doris Zepp, brother of Dietrich and Kirstyn , is graduating from Westminster High School and plans to attend a culinary institute. Derek enjoys soccer, snowboarding, golf, marching band, camping and cooking.

Christopher Short, son of Robert and Elizabeth, brother to David and Allison, is graduating from Manchester Valley High School and will attend Towson University.



Alannah Van Horn, daughter of Emily and Dwayne, is graduating from Westminster High School and The Carroll County Career and Technology Center Textiles and Fashion Program. Alannah won the Congressional Art Competition, and her art work is hanging in the US Capitol! She plans

to go to High Point University in North Carolina for Interior Design.

CONGRATULATIONS COLLEGE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2017!



Sara Bucacink, the daughter of John and Lori and the sister of Ian, graduated from Towson University with a degree in Business Administration. Sara plans to continue missionary work in El Salvador and then to work in and consult small businesses.



Lauren Dean, daughter of Chris Dean, granddaughter of Nancy Dean, graduated from the University of Missouri with a Master's Degree in History specializing in Modern German History. Lauren plans to take a year or two off to decide whether or not to pursue a PhD in History or Anthropology. She enjoys going to the gym, listening to podcasts, reading fiction books and spending time with dogs.



Tess Gavin, daughter of John and Lisa, sister of Jack, Tate and Lily, graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology, Minor Degrees in Administration of Justice and Nonfiction Writing. Tess will be attending Hofstra University of Law in the fall.



Katie Nevin, daughter of Carol and Steve, sister of Jennifer, and granddaughter of Tom and Nancy Tracey, graduated from IONA College, New Rochelle New York with a Bachelor of Arts Degree – Mass Communication/Public Relations, and a Minor in Marketing. Katie plans on job searching and to find out, now that she has time, what she enjoys doing! While in college, she was a 4 year member of the Iona Swimming and Diving Team, Captain in her Senior year; was on the Dean's list 4 years; 2 years in the Mass Communications Honor Society; enjoyed various local volunteer and charity events with her swim team.

HAPPENING AROUND THE CHURCH

EVANGELISM

We are blessed to have a vibrant and active church living our faith together through dedication to serving as God's hands and feet on this earth!

The committee filled 18 surprise bags with donated surprises from them for visitations to the homebound! Those members who filled the bags are Audrey Byrd, Lavena Basler, Jean Seitz, Joan Phillips, Carole Coppersmith, Della Dell, Barbara Smith, Richard Smith, Nancy Boone, Jackie Leister, Gloria Yingling, Dot Bean and Dolly Long. They visited 18 members taking prayers, smiles, cards and some offered to lend a helping hand with a needed chore! Well done committee!

Audrey Byrd has been sending weekly bulletins to shut in members! Communicate with the committee if you would like this service, or if you want it discontinued.

A new church note card has been designed to send to visitors! Designed by Jackie Leister, they include our new narthex.

We are collecting used eye glasses again this year for our needy friends! Our goal again this year is 100 pairs! We have done this since 2006. Help us do it again! Place them in the box in the Fellowship Hall.

We continue to do stories on our senior citizens age 75 or above! Please nominate members you would like to read about!

St. John's has been blessed with a lovely outdoor scenic setting where we hold our strawberry festival on Saturday, June 10. How can you help? Spread the word, invite two families, bring a lawn chair, listen to the two bands, buy supper, serve on a committee, dip ice cream, wait on tables, meet your friends there and treat them or just come and enjoy yourself! Drop by or stay all evening! Donate your skills, time and talents, bake a cake or come help make chicken salad sandwiches! Get involved! Have some fun!

Watch what God is doing with the change of seasons as summer comes this month! If we can help you in any way, let our committee know!

Be at peace !

Loretta Basler
443-289-8938

**Vacation Bible
School 2017**



**Christmas
July**

**Registration Now
Open! Get Started!**

Vacation Bible School Time is Coming!

Christmas in July VBS - 2017

July 10th through July 14th

9:00 am until noon

Ages 3 years - 5th grade

We will be learning about the Angels, Mary and Joseph, the Shepherds, Baby Jesus and the Three Wise Men. We will have visitors throughout, telling us of their experiences during this time, and we will explore what Christmas means to us, with lots of great Bible lessons, snacks, crafts and activities for all ages.

Registration is required and ends July 1st.

Register online at www.stjohnswestminster.org/vbs.php

ST JOHN'S YOUTH

Youth Missionary Stock Program

Support St. John's 2017 Summer Youth Trip
Work Camp in Erie, PA – June 25th – July 1st

Please consider purchasing stock or making a donation to our 2017 Youth Mission trip. We have 16 youth and adults attending our summer mission trip this summer. Your money and prayers are a way to support the team and be part of our mission. Purchase stock or make a donation and effect change in the hearts of a community.

Last day to purchase stock is June 18, 2017

Thank you for your support of our 2017 WorkCamp Mission Trip Team!

On Sunday, June 25, Derek and Dietrich Konsen, Emma Findeisen, Lily and Tate Gavin, Christopher Short, Olivia Leister, Ashley and Austin Leister, Spencer Goodson, Mary West, Sarah Dubsky, Laurie Logue-Ruckman, Matt West, Genny Resch, Jimmy Bean, and Pastor Kristin will load up their cars and head to Erie, PA for a week of service and growing in faith (Sarah and Laurie are members of Messiah Lutheran in Sykesville). Thank you for continued prayer and financial support of this important ministry. In the fall, we will share stories and pictures from our week.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

The Sunshine Circle is very grateful to Dave, Drew, Milton, Derek, Dietrich, Larry, Gregg, Dale, Fred, Carl, Whitey and Dennis for serving the food at the Mother-Daughter banquet and for cleaning up after the Banquet. You did an excellent job and we are so thankful for your help. Sunshine Circle

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped to make the Rummage Sale a huge success. Even with lots of rain and flooding during the week, it was another successful sale! Thank you to everyone who donated items or came out to help to unload all the treasures. As always, we are blessed to have many dedicated people who give their **"time, talent and manual labor"** to help with this event. Also thanks to those who mopped up the floor on Friday so the sale could go on! **THANK YOU EVERYONE!!** So far, our profit is \$4,400.00 - and we have other treasures that are being sold which will be added to our profit. **THANK YOU!!! SEE YOU OCTOBER 20TH AND 21ST!!!**

At this time, I would like to thank my church family for all the "Get Well" cards, food, flowers, gifts and prayers. My recovery is coming a long but I still have a long road ahead. I wouldn't be where I am today without your continued support and prayers. God Bless my church family and my family! Linda Sterner

2017 Council Members

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Pastor Kristin Dubsky

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pastor@stjohnswestminster.org

2017 Committee Chairs

CemeteryKen Seitz

Christian Education &

Youth.....Julia Wolfe

Evangelism.....Loretta Basler

Fellowship.....Karen Siegman

Stewardship.....Carl Rebert

Property.....Michael Grothe

Worship & Music.....Dennis Kniss

Christian Outreach.....Roxanne Malbrough

Finance.....Janet Gross

John Bucacink

HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

The Carroll County Farm Museum Presents
Food Truck
June 11, 2017
Sunday Funday
Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday June 11

❖ Food Truck Contest ❖ Live Entertainment ❖ Artisans
❖ Children's Games ❖ Face Painting ❖ Crafts ❖ And More!

Free Admission

CARROLL COUNTY FARM MUSEUM

500 S. Center Street, Westminster, MD 21157 - 800-654-4645 - carrollcountymuseum.org

Mar-Lu-Ridge Camp & Retreat Center Newsletter

web: www.mar-lu-ridge.org #301-874-5544 E-mail: mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org Jefferson, Maryland

Summer camp is only 5 weeks away, and staff training begins in just 3 weeks! We are hard at work organizing camper files, taking inventory in the nurse's cabin, stocking the store (just wait until you see all the new items!), and cleaning up the pools. We continue to host retreat groups and are thankful for one of the busiest retreat seasons we've ever experienced. If you haven't registered for camp yet, be sure to visit the website and choose your camp today! Several sessions are already closed, so check the information on the Summer Camp page before making your decision. We have plenty of room in [Family Camp](#), [Grand Adventure](#), Civil War, Makers, Mini 2, and Day Camp - read about all of the options in the [brochure](#) and plan to visit the final OPEN HOUSE, this Sunday, May 21 from 2-4 pm. See you soon!

Save the Date!

Reformation 500 – Westminster Conference Worship Service – Sunday, October 29, 2017 – 3:30pm – Big Baker Chapel at McDaniel College

Mark your calendars now for an exciting worship experience sponsored by the Westminster conference Lutheran churches to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Our goal is to fill Big Baker with 500 people.

The preacher will be The Rev. Dr. Mark Oldenburg of Gettysburg Seminary. The music will be coordinated by Ted Dix, Organist/Choirmaster at Grace Lutheran Church, assisted by Dr. Margaret Boudreaux, professor music at McDaniel College and director of the Masterworks Chorale. The Masterworks Chorale and the College Choir will provide special music and they, along with a joint choir of our conference churches' choirs will support the singing during the service.

More information will be coming soon!



JUNE



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
<p>4 <i>Pentecost</i> 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Last Day of Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Graduation Reception—Fellowship Hall Altar Flowers: <i>Della Dell</i></p>	5	6 7:30 p.m. Council	7 6:30 p.m. Sunshine Circle	8	9 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Strawberry Festival Workday	10 8:00 a.m. Men's Group Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren 3:30p.m.-8:00p.m. Strawberry Festival
<p>11 <i>The Holy Trinity</i> 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Chapel in the Woods Begins Altar Flowers: <i>Audrey Byrd</i> 12:00—3:00 p.m. Leister Family Reunion</p>	12 July/August Newsletter Input Due	13	14	15	16 6:30 p.m. Christian Singles	17 ALL DAY Scrapbooking
<p>18 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Chapel in the Woods Altar Flowers: <i>Lori & John Bucacink</i></p>	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>25 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Chapel in the Woods Altar Flowers: <i>Dale Miller</i> 12:00-5:00p.m. Basler Family Reunion</p>	26 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. ← Shepherd's	27 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Staff Newsletter →	28 10:00 a.m. July/August Newsletter Assembly	29 9:30 a.m. Pickup SS Newsletter	30	
 WORK CAMP — ERIE, PA —						

B I H A P P Y A Y		Benjamin Crowl	06/01	Robin Findeisen	06/11	Drew Dean	06/22
		Dorothy Bauer	06/01	Heather Lang	06/11	Emily Bollinger Miller	06/22
		Richard Smith	06/02	Ashley Leister	06/11	Melanie Martindale	06/23
		Douglas Dell	06/03	Dale Miller	06/11	David Coppersmith Sr.	06/27
		Jackie Leister	06/04	Janet Gross	06/14	Tamara Anderson	06/28
		Kathryn Nevin	06/04	Justin Powell	06/18	Roxanne Sabo	06/28
		Chuck LeDuc	06/05	La Rue Crowl	06/19	Daniel Amoss	06/29
		Benjamin Yeager	06/05	Emily McDonald	06/21	Jeanne Joiner	06/29
		Bonnie Brittingham	06/07	Norman Wilson	06/21	Pamela Sisler	06/29

JUNE 2017 WORSHIP LEADER CALENDAR

DATE	SERVICE	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	USHERS/ OFFERING (10:30 /9:30 SERVICE)	COUNT TEAM
06/04	8:00am	Maggie Langdon	Maggie Langdon		Marion & George Fleming	The Findeisen Family	Sarah LeDuc Paul LeDuc Genny Resch
	10:30am	Julia Wolfe	Nancy Dean		The Findeisen Family		
06/11	8:00am	Jimmy Bean	Jimmy Bean		Mark Howard	John & Lori Bucacink	Stewart Sterner Drew Dean Audrey Byrd
	9:30am	Dennis Kniss	Dennis Kniss		Kristi, Drew & Mason Dean		
06/18	8:00am	Jack Joiner	Jack Joiner		Della & Greg Dell	Barbara & Richard Smith	Dale Miller Deb Schaefer Michael Schaefer
	9:30am	Donna Yeager	Donna Yeager		Jean Seitz & Joan Phillips		
06/25	8:00am	Tracey Sanford	Tracey Sanford		The Nevin Family	The Brian Leister Family	Gloria Kniss Dennis Kniss Darry Gross
	9:30am	Doris Zepp	Doris Zepp		Gloria & Dennis Kniss		

For the month of June, the Altar Guild is Lois Bankert & Dale Miller (8:00 a.m.) and Carol Blubaugh & Dale Miller (10:30 a.m./9:30 a.m.).



MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S: George & Theo Amoss, Jacob Armacost, Dave & Loretta Basler, Amber Blubaugh, Lily Blubaugh, John & Betty Boone, Charles & Zadie Brehm, Pat Brehm, Grover Conrad, Mittie Coppersmith, Beverly Dutterer, Donald & Pat Heath, Marc Hoyer, Jeanne Joiner, Nancy and the family and friends of Harry Jones, Betty Knisley, Edith Linthicum, Harry Maempel, Yvonne Mathias, Bonnie Null, Claire Null, Muriel Sabo, Tracey Sanford, Ken Seitz, Adelaide Sies, Richard Smith, Emily Van Horn, Matthew West, Lorrie Wilson, Milton Zepp and Charles Zincon.

FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S: Denna Aldridge, Ann Alexander, Rita Bauhof, Ronald Boone, the Bordenski Family, Congregations of the Delaware/Maryland Synod, Patty & Jim Coolson, Ashley and Andrew Davis, Jerry Day, Mark Reshnet & Pam Dempsey, The Family of Barry Durm Sr, Sarah Egan, Jerry Farver, Christian Filipov, Jenn Freed and Family, Deb Freeland, Lily Glennon, Seth Goldsmith, Ginni Gordon and the Family of Len Gordon, Matthew Gordon, Jen Granek, Chuck Gyory, Marilyn Habicht, Mark Habicht, Debbie Haggerty & Family, Natalie Halpin, Jeremiah Harlan, Ron Harris, Ellwood Hawes, Sr., Diane Heil, Governor Larry Hogan, Nancy Hollingsworth, Paula Holmes, Norma Hooks, Eila Howe, Ameilia James, Precious Johnson, Gary & Dennis Keirle, Gabriel Knepp, Rhoda Kniss, Family and Friends of Woody Kocher, Mamie Koontz, The Jim Kroneberger Family, Sara & Nick Lacasse & Gage, Cole & Nathaniel, Dave & Rachel Lal, Lazarus UCC Church, Richard LeDuc, The Family of Shirley Leisner, Edward Leister, Jeannie Leister, Gerry Long, Don & Charlotte Ludwig, Paula Martin, Sue Mencer, Elizabeth Mesick, Katie Miller, Wyatt Miller, Debbie Morrish, Robyn Moses-Harney, Jeanne Mueller, Erin Murphy & the Haitian Timoun Foundation, Kay Murphy, Christina (Fletcher) Muth, Donald and May Nelson, Harold Nelson, Jackie Nelson, Mark Nelson, The Family & Friends of Richard Nelson Sr., Troy Petty, The Pyle Family, Fred & Kathi Polanco, Eric Redilius, Ronald Resch, Hal Roche, Beverly & Jack Rose, Doug Sanford, Sue Schildwachter, Connor Schlude, Ms. Wilda Simpson, Joshua, David, & Debbie Smith, Finley Smith, Madelyn Smith, Gene Sines, Wendy Steil, Roger J. Stewart, Nick Tasker, Bikiltu Wakgari Wakjira, Eileen West, Paul Yeager.

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Shane Anderson, Keith Blizzard, Marshall Brown, Barry Durm, Michael & Lucia Gaffney, Private Joshua Gaske, Katie & Brian Fenstermaker, Hannah Sisler, Pam Sisler, Capt. Corey S. Squires, Heidi Scherbarth Tompkins and Will Yingling.

This prayer list was updated on May 23, 2017.

Please help keep this list current and accurate. Contact the office at 410-848-6402 or office@stjohnswestminster.org with changes (changes include updates, corrections, deletions, new names).

THANK OFFERING FUND

Our Thank Offering Fund has had a great kick-off. 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 that a member can contribute to 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.

Keeping You Current

JANUARY - MARCH 2017

Total Income	42,522
Total Expense	65,105
Net Income (Deficit)	-22,583
Improvement Fund Income	1,435
Improvement Fund Expenses	689
Benevolence Income	3,551
Thankoffering Income	997

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.

Thank you to all Thrivent Financial members for directing Choice Dollars to **St. John's Lutheran Church.**

By directing Choice Dollars[®] through Thrivent Choice, eligible members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars among thousands of participating nonprofit organizations and congregations. (Directing Choice Dollars and receiving funds from the Thrivent Choice program are subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Thrivent Choice program.)

If you have any questions about this deposit or Thrivent Choice in general, or if you have updated bank, email or other contact information, please call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say, "Thrivent Choice" or email us at mail@thrivent.com.

Does your organization have a Facebook page? Remember to LIKE Thrivent Financial on Facebook by visiting www.thrivent.com/facebook and encourage your friends and fans to do the same!

How Thrivent Choice Works

Eligibility requirements

Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership.

Members are designated Choice Dollars that they can direct to enrolled charities.

Choosing a charitable organization

There are thousands of participating organizations. You can direct Choice Dollars to as many participating organizations as you'd like, but you may not direct less than five Choice Dollars to an organization. Enrolled organizations must be:

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit or congregation that meets program eligibility rules.

Recommended by a benefit member.

Approved by a Thrivent Member Network leadership board before being added to the online catalog.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00-3:00

Summer Worship Schedule — June 11 — September 3

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Chapel in the Woods

Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion

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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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church