



ST. JOHN'S EPISTLE

May 2018

Volume 23 *To sing the Praises of God, to Live the Grace of Jesus, to Share the Gift of the Spirit.* Issue 3

A Message from Pastor Kristin



May at a Glance

May 4 — 5
8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Annual Spring Rummage Sale

May 8
6:30 p.m.
Mother and Daughter Banquet

May 13
Mother's Day

May 15
June Newsletter articles due

May 18
6:30 p.m.
Christian Singles

May 20
Pentecost / Confirmation

May 21
6:30 p.m.
Coin Club Banquet

May 27
Holy Trinity

May 28
Memorial Day Holiday
Office Closed

May 31
"Buy A Mile" fundraiser ends

On Sunday, May 20, Pentecost Sunday, at our 10:30 a.m. worship service, Christopher Gillman, Lara Findeisen and Megan Martindale will affirm their baptism and be confirmed! It is an exciting day in their lives and in the life of our congregation as we give thanks to God for the gift of faith given to these young people.

For the past three years, we have met each Sunday School hour and shared our high and lows and a "God sighting" from our week. We have learned together about The Apostles' Creed, The Lord's Prayer, The 10 Commandments, Holy Baptism, Holy Communion, and the Bible. Each fall, we went on a confirmation retreat to Mar-Lu-Ridge camp and continued our learning and had a lot of fun as well. We have learned about each other and about God's great love for us.

The confirmands have invited Chris & Jenna to lead the music for us at that service. We encourage you to join us that day to celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christopher, Lara and Megan. A reception will follow the service. All are welcome.

God's Peace –

Pastor Kristin Dubsky

St. John's 2018 VBS

Monday, July 9
Through
Friday, July 13
9:00 a.m.—Noon

Register at
stjohnswestminster.org

See page 4 for details

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***The ADULT BIBLE CLASS is once again sponsoring
THE ANNUAL SPRING SALE DAYS***

YARD

RUMMAGE

BAKE (Saturday only)

FRIDAY, May 4 and SATURDAY, May 5

8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. BOTH DAYS

IN THE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL and PAVILION AREA

Bargains galore!

Lunch served starting at 11:00 a.m. on both days

Pre-order turkey salad sandwiches and turkey corn soup for pick-up on Saturday, May 5.

Drop off any donations - Monday thru Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. (if that time doesn't suit your schedule, contact Dennis or Gloria Kniss for pick-up or alternate times)

*** We can give you a receipt for your donation**

Donations of Baked Goods are greatly appreciated for the Baked Table on Saturday!! (due to Health Department regulations – please bring your recipe – or the box directions)

QUESTIONS?? Contact Karen Siegman (410-848-4496)
Dennis/Gloria Kniss (717-644-8803 – cell)
(717-359-7681 – HOME)

PRE-ORDER FORM FOR FOOD

		Quantity	Price
TURKEY SALAD SANDWICHES	\$2.50	_____	_____
TURKEY CORN SOUP	\$5.50	_____	_____
		TOTAL	_____

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE _____

Give orders to Karen Siegman, Gloria/Dennis Kniss or call us with your order. Orders to be picked up on Saturday anytime after 11 a.m.

HAPPENING AROUND THE CHURCH

St. John's Annual

Mother and Daughter Banquet

May 8, 2018

in the Fellowship Hall.

The menu will include fried chicken and ham and all the trimmings. Cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for ages 6-12 and 5 and under are free. **Please call Audrey Byrd for questions at 410-848-1995.**

Christian Singles: Christian Singles will meet on Friday, May 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The evening will begin with a covered dish dinner followed by a time of sharing. Each person is asked to bring a covered dish, a friend and something to share with the Group. All adult Singles are invited to attend for an evening of fun and Christian fellowship.

THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL.

The Strawberry Festival will be held on Saturday, June 9, from 3:30 – 8:00 p.m. Many volunteers are needed for the festival. Clipboards with a list of volunteer opportunities and signup sheets will be passed around prior to the worship services on May 6 and May 13. Signup sheets will also be located on the buffet table in the Fellowship Hall. Your help will be greatly appreciated.



The Soup Kitchen Committee will meet May 18, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

Pastoral Acts:

Funeral

Loretta Joyce Leister Basler
April 17, 2018



Sunshine Circle.

The Sunshine Circle will hold its May 2018 meeting on May 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Lois Bankert will lead us in devotions, the program will be presented by Dolly Long and Della Dell will be the hostess. **This month's special offering is liquid or dry soap.** All ladies are invited. Contact Audrey Byrd at 410-848-1995 for more information.

HAPPENING AROUND THE CHURCH

Sew, Tie & Roll Day. The next Sew, Tie and Roll Day will be on Monday, May 14 from 9:00 a. m. until noon. For questions or information, call Gloria Kniss at 717-359-7681.

The Sunshine Circle is sponsoring a **FILL THE BLESSINGS CLOSET** drive for **Shepherd's Staff** during the month of May. There will be marked containers in the Narthex and Caring Corner in the Fellowship Hall. Suggested items are bars of soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes, toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, powdered laundry detergent, Kleenex, combs/brushes, etc.

News from the Men of the Congregation

May Meeting:

The May 2018 meeting will be on Saturday, May 12, at 8:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren.

Westminster District Spring Dinner Meeting.

Eleven members of our congregation attended the Spring District Meeting on April 23 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Manchester. The next District Meeting will be held October 22, 2018. As of this writing the location has not yet been announced. Watch for details throughout the summer and fall.

Upcoming Events:

May 12: Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. at Meadow Branch Church of the Brethren

June 5: Cleaning of the Pavilion, 6:00 p.m., in preparation for the Strawberry Festival

June 7: Rain date for cleaning pavilion

June 9: Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. 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 email 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 or John Bucacink (410-857-5339).

All are welcome to join in this fellowship!



This year, St John's Lutheran Church's Vacation Bible School is going to be a "Marvelous Miracles Carnival"

July 9—13, 2018

9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Children will learn about Miracles like Jesus feeding 5,000 followers, Walking on water and many more. Songs, crafts, Carnival activities and food will make this week amazing for children ages 3 years through 5th grade.

Everyone is invited to come join us for a

Closing Program

Friday night July 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

See what fun the children had during the week.

Tour our Craft Tent

Walk the Midway for snacks

Meet the week's visitors and let the children tell us in song what they learned in the sanctuary.

HAPPENING AROUND THE CHURCH



EVANGELISM

For many years, the **Evangelism Committee here at St. John's** functioned under the faithful and talented leadership of Loretta Basler. On April 12, 2018, we lost our devoted leader to spend Eternal Life with her Lord. She can now see and is no longer suffering. God is Good! Under her leadership and guidance, we were able to complete many projects. To mention a few: the annual Superbowl Sub sale to raise funds for different groups, goodie bags for our shut-ins several times a year along with visits and cards sent to visitors. We are sure each of us has received a reminder to bring a baked item for the rummage sales, Strawberry and Peach Festivals and Lenten meals. **"If you cannot bake a dessert for the Lenten Supper, can you make a soup?"** We also remember all of those senior profiles in our monthly newsletter. Truly, these are just a few. We give thanks to God for Loretta's life and for all of her guidance and leadership over the years.

We believe Loretta and Bobbi Corun, who was her assistant for years, are in heaven planning the next event! Well done, good and faithful servant. Rest in Peace.



Thrivent Financial® Action Teams Help Us Help The Community and Beyond



The Humane Society of Carroll County (left) and the Rescue Mission in Westminster (far left) were each presented a check as a portion of the proceeds from the latest **St. John's Yard and Rummage Sale**. The Adult Bible Class received Action Team

money from Thrivent Financial to assist in covering some of the costs of the sale. The next sale will be May 4 and 5, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. each day. Donations of saleable clothing and merchandise will be accepted May 1, 2, and 3 from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.



Lois Short and Gloria Kniss are pictured purchasing fleece that will be used for the construction of blankets at the next Sew, Tie and Roll Day, May 14. Thrivent Action team monies were used to purchase the materials for blanket making. Finished blankets will be given to Lutheran World Relief for distribution

YOUTH

Buy A Mile Fundraiser – It is 1244 miles to Houston. Help our group get to Houston as you “buy a mile” (or a few miles). Cost: \$10/mile. We have displays in the narthex and in the Fellowship Hall showing you how we are doing in raising the money we need to get to Houston. (This fundraiser will take place of our “stock” fundraiser that normally began at Easter.) This fundraiser will run through May.



Buy A Mile

Fundraiser For ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston



\$10.00 per mile

Name: _____

Donation amount: _____

Thank you for your donation!

Buy A Mile Update – Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our many fundraisers this past year! We currently have raised \$8,875.00 and need \$3565.00 more to get to Houston for the Gathering. Help us get to Houston! Thank you!

“Houston, We have a Gathering...” June 26-July 1, 2018

On June 26, Tate Gavin, Megan Martindale, Spencer Goodson, Lara Findeisen, Olivia Leister, Mary West, Melanie Martindale, Matthew West, Genny Resch and Pastor Kristin (along with 30,000 other youth and adults from around the country) will be headed to Houston for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. The Theme is “This Changes Everything” and the theme verses are Ephesians 2:8-9 “⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast.”



Graduate Sunday – On Sunday, June 3, at the 10:30 a.m. service, we will honor our graduates. Please contact the church office ASAP at 410-848-6402 and let us know if there are other graduates. So far we are aware of...Lily Gavin and Erik Gillman (high school), Kirstyn Kosen and Candyce Callahan (Carroll Community College), Julia Wolfe (graduate degree). Let us know if there are others so we can honor them as well. Thank you! A reception will follow the service.

CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMANDS!

Our 2018 Confirmands



Lara Findeisen

Hi, my name is Lara Findeisen and I'm in 8th grade at West Middle School and I'll be confirmed this spring. Here are some things that I like/do. Two things that I like to read/watch are "Star Wars" and "Harry Potter". Another thing that I like to do is karate. I'm about to get my black belt this spring. I enjoy karate because it's fun to do stuff that I will never learn in school. I'm also in Girl Scouts as a Cadette. Just last week, my troop hosted a spring dance for all the girls in the community, and it was amazing!

I like being in Confirmation Class with Pastor Kristin and Mr. John. We talk about our week and Jesus sightings we have had. We read Bible stories and talk about what they mean.

Christopher Gillman

Hello my name is Christopher Gillman. I am in 8th grade at East Middle School. My hobbies include drawing and traveling. I've learned about The Apostle's Creed during confirmation class. My favorite activity that I looked forward to each year is going to Mar-Lu-Ridge.

Megan Martindale

Hi, I'm Megan, I'm 14 years old and am currently an 8th grade student at Mount Airy Middle School. Next fall, I'll begin my freshman year at South Carroll High School. I play basketball for OTF Elite and have been taking ballet since I was five years old. Some of my favorite things are to hang out with my friends and I love to eat. I LOVE food!

I've enjoyed confirmation classes and getting to know Lara and Chris better. We have a lot of fun in class and have become good friends. Going to Mar-Lu-Ridge was one of my favorite things to do. It is always fun and you get to meet a lot of new people. I will miss not being able to go anymore.

Those who most shaped my faith are my mom, grandmom, pop-pop, P.K. and Mr. Gavin. They always remind me that I am never alone, that God is always with me. I am thankful for their guidance and support during this time in my life.

Here is Theo Amoss' new address:

Theo Amoss Room 20
Columbia Cottage
2288 Grandview Rd
Hanover, PA 17331

She Loves receiving cards!

Thank you,
Lisa Ogg

Church Women United will be celebrating May Friendship Day, Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at Lazarus United Church Of Christ, 5101 S Church St., Lineboro, Md. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the program at **10:00 a.m. The theme is "REACHING FOR WHOLENESS IN GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S PRESENCE". Lunch will be served for \$7.00.** Two offerings will be taken: the regular offering, which stays in the unit, and the special offering of Least Coin, which is sent to the National Church Women United. Please call Audrey Byrd at 410-848-1995 by May 11 if planning to attend.

CHILDREN'S EASTER PROGRAM



HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

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

For by Grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Eph. 2:8

Our campers will begin arriving in just 9 short weeks! This time of year always rushes by as we prepare activities, make reservations for special off-site trips, hire staff and prepare for training sessions, uncover the pools and mulch the trails. We are excited to try out our new Challenge Course elements: Wild Woozy and Track Walk! Building confidence and helping our campers learn the importance of cooperation and community are key points in our program. There is still space available for that perfect week of camp! (Sorry, Makers and Adventure are full).

Check out the schedule by going to www.mar-lu-ridge.org/ and share it with friends - we can't wait to show you how Grace, and the unconditional love of Christ, changes everything!

Camperships are available for families in need. Family Camp is great inter-generational fun for all. Gather your family and register today!

2018 Council Members

Steve Findeisen

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stevefindeisen@verizon.net

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jjoiner66@aol.com

Dennis Kniss

717-359-7681

dennisrkniss@gmail.com

Pastor Kristin Dubsy

410-299-4853

pastor@stjohnswestminster.org

2018 Committee Chairs

CemeteryKen Seitz

Christian Education &

Youth.....Julia Wolfe

Evangelism.....

Fellowship.....Karen Siegman

Stewardship.....Carl Rebert

Property.....

Worship & Music.....Dennis Kniss

Christian Outreach.....Roxanne Malbrough

Finance.....Janet Gross

John Bucacink

Continue to Use Our Recycle Bin!

We continue to do well with our recycling effort! Please continue to recycle the natural gifts that have been given to us as we use God's earth and its resources. Encourage family and friends to recycle and save the environment, also. We can all be good stewards and manage God's great gifts! Think Green!

Reminder: Paper and cardboard only—no plastic (except shredded paper in plastic bags).



THANK YOU

Our hearts are full of thanks and love for all of you. There are so many of you who helped us during **the difficult time of Mom's illness and her funeral. There were prayers, gift baskets, cards, flowers,** and visits while she was ill. Since her passing, there have been many more kind words, cards, and **visits. We have been surrounded by the prayers and comfort of the St. John's family. The pastor held a lovely service. The organist's music was uplifting. The ladies prepared a wonderful** luncheon.

We have been comforted by your care and thank you all.

With sincere appreciation,
Charles Brehm and Family

Much thanks to the Evangelism Committee for the donation to The Jacob Armacost Foundation from the Super Bowl Sub Sale! Thanks to everyone who bought subs and supported the sub sale for their generosity!

Jake has taught us to appreciate the little miracles that happen everyday We have learned to **embrace Jake's gifts and be joyful that he is happy and healthy. Jake is a blessing to us and everyone whose life he touches. He is perfect in God's eyes.**

Please continue to pray that God sends the tools we need to help Jake continue to be happy and healthy and to give us the strength to do our best for him.

May God bless you all!
Donna and Doug Armacost and family

Friends at St John's,

After almost 9 weeks I am finally back in my home. My poor kitty was very lonely and so glad to see me. Throughout all that happened during this time, the members of St. John's have demonstrated true Christian caring and friendship. I want to thank the Evangelism Committee for the 'goodie bag', everyone who remembered me on my birthday and Valentine's Day with cards and get well cards. Special thanks to Genny Resch's elementary Sunday School class whose card was signed by all students who could make the letters of their name. A very special card indeed. I was blessed with many visits from members, a special dog named Journey and altar flowers delivered by a member who lives in the Village. Pastor Kristin not only visited but also texted me to keep in touch.

My sincere thanks to all of you for prayers and visible acts of kindness. It is at times like this that being a member of a caring faith community is so appreciated.

Muriel Sabo

The Christian Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone for their donations to NESAP We have a very generous and caring congregation.

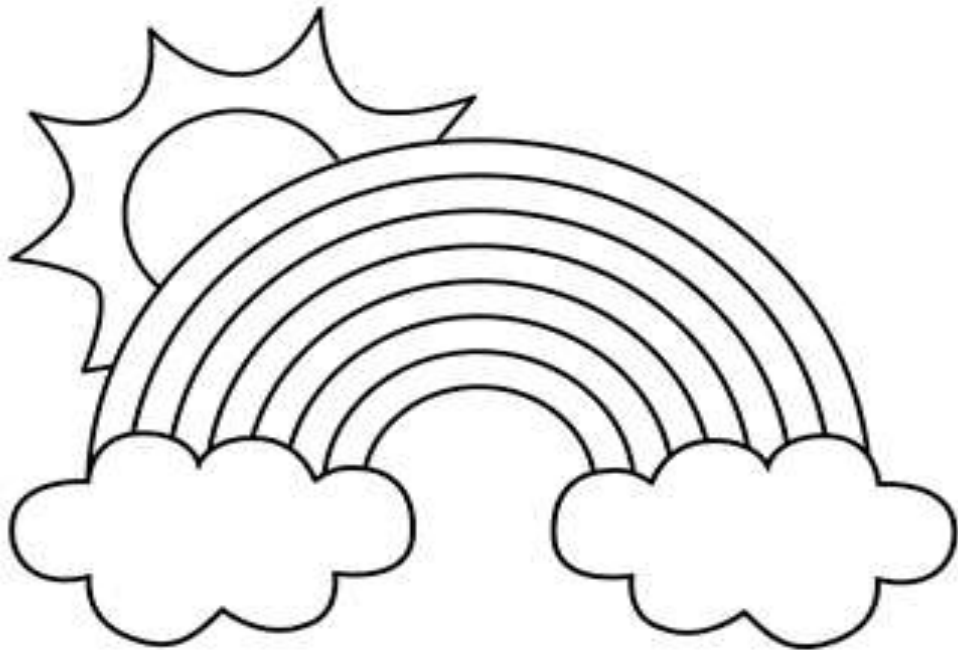
Dear St. John's Family,

Our sincerest thanks to all for the gorgeous flower arrangement sent along with the many expressions of sympathy shown to us on behalf of Ton's passing.

We are truly blessed to have so much love and support during this most difficult time.

God Bless You All. In Christian Love,
Carole Brothers and Family

Happy Spring!



God is always with me.



MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S: George & Theo Amoss, Jacob Armacost, Dave Basler and the family and friends of Loretta Basler, Lavena Basler, Lily Blubaugh, John & Betty Boone, Nancy Boone, The Family of Zadie Brehm, Pat Brehm, Mittie Coppersmith, Ron & Beverly Dutterer, Wayne Grauel, Janet Gross, The Family of Helen Harris, Donald & Pat Heath, Jeanne Joiner, Nancy Jones, Betty Knisley, Pat Lipscomb, Yvonne Mathias, Bonnie Null, Claire Null, Muriel Sabo, Tracey Sanford, Adelaide Sies, Richard Smith, Emily Van Horn,

The West Family, Lorrie Wilson and Charles Zincon.

FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S: Helen Armacost, Taylor Barnes, Sherry Bauer, Rita Bauhof, Dawn Bitzel, The Bordenski Family, Beth Anne Basler Busch, Amber Blubaugh, Ronald Boone, Joann Bradich, Andy Cashman, Scott Cronkite, Tammy Crosby, Jerry Day, Demetrius, Ella Edwards, Christian Filipov, Morley Frado, Ginni Gordon, Laurel Greeley, Pat and Jerry Groffely, Andrew ("Will") Hacke, Natalie Halpin, Elwood Hawes, Sr., Eila Howe, Linda Basler Holland and Ken Holland, Sherry Honeycutt, Lisa and Kevin Jones, Gabriel Knepp, Lorraine Kopp, Jeannie Leister, Don & Charlotte Ludwig, Joe McLaughlin, Pastor Richard Michael and Eva Michael, Wyatt Miller, Jeanne Mueller, Erin Murphy & Haitian Timoun Foundation, Kay Murphy, Harold Nelson, Pauline Nelson, The Family of John Neudecker, Jr., Leann R., The Family of Ron Resch, Tim Riddle, Beverly & Jack Rose, Jessica Runnels, Sharon Schiavone and family, Ms. Wilda Simpson, David & Debbie Smith, Aileen Stroebel, Courtney Topolski, Wendy Steil, Elizabeth Watson, Laura Welty, The Family of Virginia Whitehead, Tammy Williams.

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


This prayer list was updated on April 26, 2018.

MAY 2018 WORSHIP LEADER CALENDAR

DATE	SERVICE	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	USHERS/ OFFERING (10:30)	COUNTING TEAM
5/6	8:00am	Carl Rebert	Carl Rebert		Marion & George Fleming	Gloria Kniss	Gloria Kniss Dennis Kniss Sylvia Moklak
	10:30am	Dennis Kniss	Spencer Goodson	Christopher Gillman	Gloria Kniss Carol Blubaugh		
5/13	8:00am	Tracey Sanford	Tracey Sanford		Phyllis & Jim Menchey	Jean & Ken Seitz	Maggie Langdon Muriel Sabo Carl Rebert
	10:30am	Doris Zepp	Austin Leister	Ashley Leister	Sharon Minor Lavena Basler		
5/20	8:00am	Jack Joiner	Jack Joiner		Stanley Parks	David Ogg	Bryan Yeager Donna Yeager Teresa McCulloh
	10:30am	Donna Yeager	Teresa McCulloh	Xander LeDuc	Bonnie Konsen Milton Zepp		
5/27	8:00am	Jack Joiner	Jack Joiner		Audrey Byrd	Barbara & Richard Smith	Pat Heath Donald Heath Sylvia Moklak
	10:30am	Pat Heath	Dolly Long	Olivia Leister	Dolly & Dan Long		

For the month of May, the Altar Guild is Lois Bankert & Dale Miller (8:00 a.m.) and Lynne Scherbarth & Dale Miller (10:30 a.m.)

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:15 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Council	2 6:30 p.m. Sunshine Circle 7:30 p.m. Choir	3	4 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Yard & Rummage Sale	5 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Yard, Rummage and Bake Sale
← Preparation for Rummage Sale →						
6 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Altar Flowers: Carol Blubaugh	7 6:00—9:00 p.m. 4-H Achievement Dinner	8 6:15 p.m. Handbells 6:30 p.m. Mother & Daughter Banquet	9 7:30 p.m. Choir	10 Ascension Day	11	12 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast—Meadow Branch
13 Ascension of our Lord 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Altar Flowers: Wanda Little Happy Mother's Day!	14 9:00 a.m.—Noon Sew, Tie & Roll (quilts/bandages)	15 June Newsletter Input Due 6:15 p.m. Handbells	16 7:30 p.m. Choir	17	18 10:30 a.m. Soup Kitchen 6:30 p.m. Christian Singles	19 ALL DAY Scrapbooking
20 Pentecost/Confirmation 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Confirmation Reception Altar Flowers: Lois & Phil Short	21 6:30 p.m. Coin Club	22 6:15 p.m. Handbells	23 7:30 p.m. Choir	24	25	26
27 The Holy Trinity 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Altar Flowers: Audrey Byrd	28 Memorial Day Office Closed 	29 6:15 p.m. Handbells	30 10:00 a.m. June News Letter Assembly 7:30 p.m. Choir	31		

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 Charlotte Bitzel	7 Lisa Maempel	18 Emily Ogg	24 Claire Null
1 Shirley Frederick	8 Riley Dell	19 Janet Amoss	24 Marjorie Williamson
2 John Joiner	8 Michelle Jefferson	19 Gary Dell	26 Sara Bucacink
4 Gregory Dell	9 Jessica Frebertshauser	19 Allison Short	26 Denise Menchey
5 Lauren Dean	13 Sara Coppersmith	20 Erik Gillman	26 Emily Van Horn
5 Christopher Gillman	13 Nicholas Monroe	20 Philip Short	29 Daryl Blubaugh
5 Kelly Gross	17 Lavena Basler	22 George Amoss	30 Jade Sabo
6 Ashley Brothers	17 Jack Gavin	22 Deborah Bean	31 Tess Gavin
7 Robert Bean	17 James Menchey	22 Phyllis Menchey	
7 Brian Leister	18 Ethan Dell	23 Milton Zepp	



Happy Birthday!



Spring Word Search



N Q F I P F S D R I B L S B F Z R
 J V P X X O X S B G P I S R E P S
 T D X M R A W S N P T R R F S Q E
 N M Z B G T E A E O Z P E N J M O
 Y D B M P G A R N I X A W A J E U
 G S Y C T X S G I U R V O T N V V
 G I S N Q E T X H V U L H Q X Q C
 E V P F J V E K S Y U S S Z B Y L
 V D T L C P R E N A P R E E Q M I
 K D W O R Y D R U M B R E L L A W
 M R G W D Z B A S E B A L L L R Q
 R R T E Q W Q Y V T J D L A H C E
 M B H R M W D Q T W W Q R Q X H U
 M F M S E R J F N O T T A G S H E
 N G N I R P S X X B G A I S I V W
 E R H I I I L M G R E E N Y L T R
 Y R W D M L G Q T T I A O A F F B

SPRING
 MAY
 GREEN
 WARM
 UMBRELLA



MARCH
 FLOWERS
 GRASS
 SHOWERS
 EASTER



APRIL
 BASEBALL
 SUNSHINE
 RAIN
 BIRDS



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.



On May 6, containers will be available in the church for loose change to be used for the Sunshine Circle's "Adopt a Child" program. **Thank you for helping change this young girl's life!** We will continue to share information on Bikiltu.

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
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.**

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. We 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 us or call us if you need ideas and are willing to use the Action Team money (\$250.00). We 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

Our office manager will be out of the office beginning May 8 and returning May 22. Call the office with your needs and concerns and, if no one answers, please leave a message. Thank you.

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 June newsletter should be submitted no later than Tuesday, May 15, 2018! *Please send the articles to Frances, the Office Manager, at office@stjohnswestminster.org or place them in her mailbox. Thank you!*

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Pastor: Pastor Kristin Dubsky • pastor@stjohnswestminster.org

Office Manager: Frances DeBruyn • office@stjohnswestminster.org

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

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00-3:00



Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship Service

9:15 a.m. Education Hour (All are Welcome)

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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