

NEWSLETTER

St. John's Lutheran Church
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Pastor: James D. Riley, Jr.

November, 2011



Celebrating Their First Communion

On Sunday, November 6 the following young people will share in their first communion at St. John's: Kendall Snyder and Benjamin Byers. A picture of this year's class is included on the second page of this newsletter.

Thank you parents for encouraging your child with your presence in class and your support at home.

Feed My Sheep Gifts

This month our gifts of food will be shared with the Shenandoah Women's Center located on Raleigh Street. The center exists to aid women and their children suffering through abusive relationships. Housing, meals and clothing are provided throughout each family's transition period.

As with all our food drives, the usual staples are very important - soups, pastas, peanut butter, jelly, cereals and canned vegetables.

Covenants

If you have not turned in your covenant, please do so as soon as possible. The church office is in the process of completing committee assignments for next year and a new worship assistants schedule is due for mailing. Thank you!

50-Year Members

This year's class was presented on Sunday, October 30 and the honorees included: Kathryn Windholz Murphy, Susan Coffinberger Wenger and Hayward Plotner. Congratulations and thank you for your faithfulness in serving our Lord.

Time Change - November 6

Fall back one hour, which means you get to sleep one extra hour. YEAH!

"Harvest Home" (Our Thanksgiving Offering)

Included with this newsletter is a special offering envelope, which is part of a project our parish has sponsored for over 35 years. We call it the "Harvest Home" Appeal and intend it to raise monies for our National Lutheran Home in Rockville, Maryland.

Every year we talk about offering our thanksgiving to God for his many blessings and we know it is an important part of every Christian's life and ministry to take time to thank our creator for his gracious blessings and love.

One of the ways St. John's attempts to do this is in remembering those elderly who depend so completely on the support of their fellow Christians. Over 90% of the more than 300 residents of this retirement and nursing facility have exhausted all their assets.

The monies we receive from the "Harvest Home" Appeal are forwarded to the Home with the only request being that they be used to provide something "special" for the residents. Often times our gifts are used to provide

something extra in a dietary way, and occasionally, our gifts provide an unusual entertainment event. The idea is always that our gifts be used to bring something "extra" to the residents' lives.

I hope you will want to participate! Whatever you give will truly be a blessing!

Church Decorating and Graham Cracker Houses

The members of the Good News Sunday School Class invite members of the congregation to join them on Sunday, November 20 to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

There will also be an opportunity for our young people to make graham cracker houses in Luther Hall while their parents are decorating the church. However, please notify Linda Riley to make sure that a house is available for your child. All participating parents are asked to bring a package of candy for the decorating. These will be provided.

A potluck meal will end the activities.

Confirmation Classes Beginning

The new classes will be starting Sunday, November 6 at 4PM in Luther Hall. Bess Day will be leading the 8th grade class and Pastor Riley will head the 9th grade class. All classes will be held in Luther Hall.

For the first class parents are asked to accompany their child/children to help with scheduling issues and to answer any questions there may be.

Again this year, the class schedule will be limited and parents are especially asked to make a special commitment to have their child/children present for classes.

Women of the ELCA Soup and Sandwich Sale

10AM-3PM Friday - November 4th in Luther Hall



From the Parish Register

First Communion Class

On Sunday, October 16, the final class in this year's 1st Communion instruction was held. Members of the class from left to right were: Benjamin Byers and Kendall Snyder.

Kendall will receive her first communion on Sunday, November 6th and Ben will receive his first communion on November 20th. Each year the class is offered to young people in the 5th grade of school or ten years of age.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism and New Members

Isabelle Ruth White

On Sunday, October 9th Isabelle was baptized in St. John's. She is the daughter of Richard Leo White and Erica Louise Klein White of Brookdale Avenue in Martinsburg. Serving as sponsor was Erica's sister Kristin DiQuattro of New York (inset).

At the same service we welcomed the Whites into membership of the church. Erica is an English teacher at Sherando High School in Frederick County, Virginia and Rick is a deputy sheriff also in Frederick County. The couple live not far from the Coffinberger family.



Karen Thornton and James Nutter

On Sunday, October 16th we welcomed into membership by Affirmation of Baptism Karen Sue Thornton and James Patrick Nutter. They have been worshipping with us for a number of months and it is good to have them become a part of our fellowship. Karen is a dental assistant at Kool Smiles in Winchester and Jamie is the executive chef at McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland. They live on Starbright Court in Martinsburg.



Please take a few minutes to personally welcome this couple. They are a delight and I know you will truly enjoy getting to know them.

Linda Payne and Jerry Olsen

On Sunday, September 25 we welcomed into membership Linda and Jerry by Letter of Transfer from Community Lutheran Church in Sterling, Virginia. Linda is a former Loudon County, Virginia teacher and Jerry owned a food business before selling to Utz Foods. Jerry is the president of the Redskins Alumni Association. The couple lives on Putters Court in Martinsburg and they both are avid golfers. Take a few minutes to welcome them personally. They are lovely people with a varied and interesting background.



John and Helen Rowe and Laura Boggs

On Sunday, September 25 we welcomed into membership John and Helen Rowe by Letter of Transfer from Trinity Lutheran Church in Leesburg, Virginia. The Rowes had formerly been members before leaving to move to Middleburg, Virginia. They recently returned and are living in retirement on Tennessee Avenue in Martinsburg. John keeps his hand in the security profession by working for the sheriff's auxiliary.

Laura (Rowe) Boggs reactivated her membership on the day her parents joined the congregation. Laura lives in Hedgesville and is employed at City Hospital.



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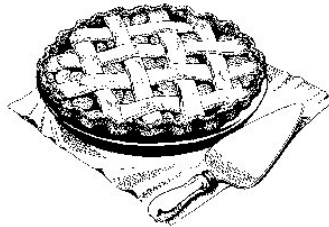


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Monday - Friday
8:30AM -3:00PM

James D. Riley, Jr. - Pastor
Martha Seitler - Office Manager
John Prytz - Sexton
Michelle Seidel -Mustard Seed



Pie Social

Please come and celebrate Thanksgiving, enjoy fellowship and kickoff the **2012 Scholarship Fund** at the **ANNUAL PIE SOCIAL**.

**Sunday November 20th
after both services!**

Bring your favorite pie to share, and if possible, a donation for St. John's 2012 Scholarship Fund. Helpers would be appreciated. Call the Cottrills.

November Special Events

November 4 - The Women of the ELCA
SOUP AND SANDWICH Sale in Luther Hall.

November 13 - The Rev. Dr. Kathleen O. Reed, Chief Advancement Officer at Gettysburg Seminary will be our guest preacher of the day.

November 20 - Members of the congregation are invited to decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. Graham cracker houses will be made for the children and a potluck meal will conclude the evening.

The CHURCH OFFICE will be CLOSED Thanksgiving Day, November 24th, and Friday, November 25th.

Thank You everyone who volunteered to write an Advent devotional!



T.J. Davis was at the **APPLE HARVEST PARADE**.

THANK YOU everyone who helped the Women in their food tent!