

NEWSLETTER

St. John's Lutheran Church
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Pastor: James D. Riley, Jr.
September, 2011



Choir News

Our choirs will begin their new music season on September 7th and rehearse each Wednesday from 6:30-8PM in the chapel. Our director, Heather Watkins has brought a lot of energy and excitement to our choirs and we want to build on that progress this coming fall.

The choir is hoping to recruit new members in the near future and they are very anxious that each member hear their invitation to join them in singing to the Lord.

Music is a wonderful and magnificent segment of worship and choir singing is especially glorious. Please think about sharing your voice with the choir!

Feed My Sheep

This month our gifts of food will be shared with the **Martinsburg Union Rescue Mission** located on King Street across the railroad tracks. The Mission is dedicated to serving the needs of homeless men and women. Meals are offered to all in need on a daily basis as are sleeping facilities. It is a food pantry and open to all in the community.

As always, when thinking of gifts of food, think of the staples of life. Pastas, soups, canned goods all are appropriate. Think about kids and most likely you will have a pretty good idea about what to buy.

Nursery Workers Wanted

All interested members should contact the church office or contact Susie Smith at 754-3147. The church attempts to provide nursery care during the second service each Sunday.

Children's Sermon Providers

Children's sermon time during worship has become an important part of "church." We are looking for people who will help provide this special time for our little worshipers. Andrew Banks heads this project, so please contact him or the church if you are interested in helping.

RALLY DAY, "Move-Up" Day, and Church Picnic

Sunday, September 11 - 9:45AM

RALLY DAY is our name for the beginning of a new Sunday School year at St. John's. We gather in Luther Hall for some food, fellowship and time to meet our Sunday School teachers and then talk about the coming new year of learning. There will be a couple of fun activities but especially an opportunity to get excited about a new year of learning about Jesus.

We also call this day "Move-Up" Day since it is the time that students are recognized for moving up to their new classes and teachers.

The church picnic will begin around 3PM at the pavilion to the right of the main one in War Memorial Park on Tennessee Avenue. The church will provide fried chicken, plates, cups, etc. You are asked to bring the veggies, desserts, and drinks and utensils.

The church also provides free golf for the whole family at the miniature course in the park. There is also a volleyball court for all ages and it has seen a lot of use over the years. And, of course, there are slides, swings, and merry-go-rounds for the little ones.

This is a wonderful time of fellowship for the congregation and I hope you will plan to be present.

St. John's Mother and Father of the Year Recognition

Sunday, September 11th during the Sunday School Hour

Our recognition was delayed by the absence of our honorees at our regularly scheduled time.

Adult Sunday School Announcement

The Adult Sunday School Class will meet in the main room of Luther Hall on Sunday, September 18 at 9:45AM. Our first session will be dedicated to determining what our course of study will be. Individual suggestions will be welcomed.

Past classes have included studies of biblical books, social themes within the church and ethical studies developed by the ELCA.

The sessions are open to all members of the church and Pastor Riley is the leader.

Budget Requests

Members of the Trustees, Finance Committee and Church Council will be meeting this month on the 26th to begin the process of developing the General and Benevolence Funds budgets for 2012. It is important that all requests for funding be submitted early. The deadline for requests is Sunday, September 18th. Please submit your requests to the church office.

From the Parish Register The Sacrament of Holy Baptism



Affirmation of Baptism and First Communion

On Sunday, August 7, Andrew Warren Barrows was confirmed a member of St. John's and took his first communion. Andrew is the great grandson our member Kay Fix and is the grandson of Dale and Pamela (Fix) Sites. Andrew is the son of Rachael Lynne Sites Hadsell who is Kay's granddaughter. How about all of these relationships? These types of events are not often held.

Andrew lives with his mother and stepfather just outside of Mons, Belgium in the small community of Horrues where his step dad is employed at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe.

Collection of Feminine Personal Items for the Shenandoah Women's Shelter

In the picture you see the tremendous amount of items collected just at St. John's. Your generosity was extraordinary indeed. **THANK YOU** everyone!

The Women of the ELCA in West Virginia held their convention last month and made the Center their project of the convention. Again, a large amount of products were collected and distributed.

In a time of such personal financial difficulty for everyone, this kind of generosity is wonderful and a powerful statement of your desire to serve the Lord.



One More Report

Earlier in the year Andrew Banks had approached a number of youth about collecting their spare change for World Hunger. The challenge was accepted and \$35.10 was collected for this important effort of the ELCA. **THANKS** to everyone who participated.

Some Repair Work Is Coming!

A number of you have commented on the poor condition of the walls in the two narthexes and now something is going to be done. Buddy Newman has been talking with a plaster restoration specialist about our problems and soon will have estimates on what the work will cost and how long it will take.

Thanks Buddy for taking the initiative to get the work moving!

Please Remember Our Recycling Effort!

We continue to take aluminum pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Morgantown. The container is found just inside the front doors in Luther Hall. This facility offers low-cost housing for families receiving medical treatment at the WVU hospital center.

We also continue to take aluminum cans for the Grove Center in Martinsburg. This facility offers employment help to special-needs individuals.

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A monthly publication of
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John Prytz - Sexton
Michelle Seidel -Mustard Seed

St. John's Women of the ELCA
Invite You To A

SALAD SUPPER

September 20, 2011
6:30PM in Luther Hall

Just bring a salad and enjoy a time of fellowship
and seeing everybody after the summer break!

Thankoffering will be collected!

**All circle members and women of the
church are invited to attend!**

Remember to submit your budget requests by
Sunday, September 18th!
Our Finance Committee will be meeting the next week!