

**Announcements for the week of
August 2, 2015
At St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Coffee & Donuts Today

Please join us after worship service for coffee, donuts and juice in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Group Swim Party – Today!

From 12:00 – 3:00 pm at the Penn Valley Athletic Club. Youth Group members and their families are invited to attend. Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided. *A nominal fee of \$5 per person* will be charged.

Elders Meetings

The meeting date for all future Elders meetings will be changed to *the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm.* The next meeting will be held on *Tuesday, August 4.*

Wanted by Pastor Zimmerman – Unwanted Magazines

Magazines will be used for a variety of projects for Catechism Class. A range of titles will be helpful. Please place them in the greeting area. Thank you.

Ladies Book Group – August 12

The next selection of the group is “The Invention of Wings” by Sue Monk Kidd. We will meet on *Wednesday, August 12 at 7:00 pm* in the Fellowship Hall.

Blessing of Backpacks – Sunday, August 30

The school year is fast approaching and as our children prepare to return to the classroom we will offer a *Blessing of the Backpacks during worship on August 30.* All children and youth are requested to bring their school backpacks to worship as we pray for a successful school year.

Webcast Racism Conversation

An excerpt from a letter by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton:

“The hard but undeniable fact of embedded racism in American society has come to the fore in painful ways this past year through high profile occurrences of racial discrimination, hatred and violence – including racially motivated killings. As Lutheran Christians, what should be our response and witness? As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, how are we to confront the sin of racism?”

“We need to talk and we need to listen, but we also need to act. As one important step in this process, I invite you to join me and *William B. Horne II*, an ELCA lay leader and member of the ELCA Church Council, for a live webcast conversation on the complexity and implications of racism on *Thursday, August 6 at 9:00 pm (EDT).*”

“You may read more about this webcast at www.ELCA.org/webcast, where a link to the live webcast will be embedded. A live stream also will be available at www.Facebook.com/Lutherans. Twitter hash tag is #ELCAConfront Racism.”

Note from Pastor Zimmerman: This is an important issue in our society at this time. We avoid talking about racism or deny that it exists, but it is still present in so many destructive ways. I encourage you to watch this webcast and also recommend reading our ELCA social statement, “Race, Ethnicity and Culture” available at <http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements>.

Martin Luther Reformation Tour

Complete Travel Service in Zelenople is arranging an *11-day tour beginning on May 10, 2016*. This tour will include the Brandenburg Gate, Holocaust Memorial, Luther House, Luther Birthplace, Augustinian Monastery, Wartburg Castle, Trinity Church and Reformation Monument, Rhine River Cruise and many other sites. If interested, contact Complete Travel Service at 724-452-8000 or CompleteTravelServiceLLC@gmail.com. Cost is \$2,329 per person based on double occupancy. \$250 deposit required at time of booking. For additional information see the flyer in the greeting area or contact Complete Travel.

This Week at St. John

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday – August 2 | Worship (Tenth Sunday after Pentecost) Donuts & Coffee | 9:00 am After Service |
| Tuesday – August 4 | Elders Meeting Deacons Meeting Trustees Meeting | 6:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm |
| Sunday – August 9 | Worship (Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost) | 9:00 am |