

APRIL  
2016

# St. John Lutheran Church

St. John Lutheran Church <http://www.stjohnchurchmars.org>  
PO Box 411 (724) 625-1830  
420 Beaver Street Office email: [office@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto:office@stjohnchurchmars.org)  
Mars, PA 16046 Pastor Bob's email: [pastor@stjohnchurchmars.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnchurchmars.org)

## Mission Statement

*St. John is a living witness to the love of God as shown in Jesus Christ.*

*We gather faithfully in His name to worship and praise Him; and we go forth in peace to share the Good News and to serve the world around us.*

Dear friends in Christ,

Christ is Risen - He is risen indeed!

In the margin of this page you will find the mission statement of this congregation. We know it is there each month, but how often do we really "see it"? I do not know who came up with this statement or the process that was used, but inside these two sentences are key words that point to who we are as people of the Resurrection. There may be a historical exposition of our mission statement but I have not found it, so I offer my own in the light of the Risen Christ:

1. We are witnesses to the love of God. We have just celebrated/experienced the Passion and Resurrection. God so loved the world God gave God's only Son. We have a story to tell of God who is compassionate, self giving and fully enters into humanity's brokenness for our sake. This is the story we can tell- of a loving, compassionate God that enters into our world and gives - for us! How can we tell that story in our everyday lives?
2. We gather together as the people of God together. Those that have been claimed by the Risen Christ to be the Body of Christ on earth. In fellowship, in worship and in service we are together. Faith and spirituality is not a solo adventure despite what popular culture projects. St. Paul wrote that the church is the saints together. Jesus promised that there two or more are gathered he will be present. In an individualistic world the Church makes a proclamation that we are one in Christ together.
3. Sunday is the first day of the week: Resurrection Day. We are people of the resurrection where all things are made new as we worship together receiving forgiveness and new beginnings. We pray our praises and concerns and hear God's promise as the Word is read, sung and proclaimed, and bread is broken, and wine is poured in the Sacrament.
4. Worship concludes with "Go in Peace." We go forth on Sunday to live out the Good News of Christ in word and deed as we live out our baptismal promises in our weekday lives. We share Christ and serve others in the name of Christ. One congregation I attended put in the bulletin at the end of the liturgy, "Our service of worship now ends, our worship through service begins."

Living in the light of the resurrection, I invite you to reflect on how we live out this declared mission of St. John. A mission statement can be words on a page or a document filed away, or a mission statement can be a guide and driving force behind all we do as the people of God in this place.

Easter Blessings,  
Pastor Bob Zimmerman



## Bible Studies

**Brown Bag Bible Study** will continue throughout April on Wednesdays at Noon. Bring your lunch and join us!

**Evening Bible Study** has resumed and will continue through May as well. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7 pm.

## Adult Sunday School Class

Pastor Zimmerman continues leading a study of the Lutheran Document, "The Use of the Means of Grace", which discusses the importance of hearing and proclaiming the Word, the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, and the connection between God's Grace and mission. Grab a cup of coffee and join us during the Sunday School hour in the pastor's study.

At the Easter Vigil Service, **Mykaela Schneider** and **Ciara Schneider** were baptized and received their First Communion.

On Sunday, April 3, **Sydney Brower** and **Serafina Julio** received their First Communion.

Please welcome them all into a fuller life of faith with the rest of the St. John Community.



## Member Information Form

In order to update and maintain accurate records of all members of St. John, a form is included in this newsletter so we may verify and update all information. Some of the information (name, address, phone numbers, emails) will also be used to update the Member Directory. If you do not wish your phone number or email to be published in the Directory, please indicate on the form.

### Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Zimmerman will generally be available for "drop in" visits according to the following schedule.

**Tuesdays in office – 9:30 am-1 pm**  
**Wednesdays – "Coffee Hours" at Mars Brew House – 9:30 – 11 am.**  
**Wednesday evenings in office – 5 -7 pm**  
**Thursdays in office – 9:30 am – 1 pm**

### Quilting Group April 11 – 6:00 pm



If you already know how to quilt, or would like to learn, join us as we make more quilts to be distributed to LWR and other worthy causes.

**St. John  
Second Quarter Mission Emphasis –  
Glade Run Lutheran Services**



### **Camp Blast - May 7, 2016 – 11am - 4:30 pm**

A **FREE** day at camp for the entire family! Let's get a group together and go as a congregation!

Visit [www.lutherlyn.com/campblast](http://www.lutherlyn.com/campblast) for more details.

### **Remnant Confirmation Camp – June 26-July 1**

For all youth in confirmation or just confirmed this past year. Join Pastor Zimmerman and other pastors and youth from several Lutheran congregations for a week at Lutherlyn to continue growing and experiencing your faith.

### **Fellowship Light Breakfast Sunday, April 3**

Please join us for a Light Fellowship Breakfast for good food and good conversation! All are welcome!



### **Pizza Lunch & Bowling Sunday – April 24**



Join us after late service for pizza at St. John's and then bowling at Mystic Lanes on Route 8 at 1:00 pm. Fun for the whole family! The cost is \$8 or \$10 depending on participation.

### **Ladies Book Group April 27- 7 pm**

## **Confirmation Camp Sponsorships Needed**

**Remnant Confirmation Camp, held June 26- July 1 this year at Camp Lutherlyn**, is a unique opportunity for youth to experience and grow in their faith and understanding. A group of pastors have formed this special camp to offer experiences to supplement and enrich the regular confirmation class program. This week of camp in a community of fellow confirmation students, camp staff and pastors, our youth live out their faith in hands on activities, bible study, service opportunities and regular camp fun. It is strongly encouraged that all confirmation students join Pastor Zimmerman and attend this camp at least once during their three year confirmation journey and even the summer following.

The cost for this week of fun and learning is \$338 per camper. This is less expensive than a regular week of camp at Lutherlyn, because the pastors serve as leaders of the group. Though a good value for the experience this is still a good deal of money.

St. John is looking for people who can step up and sponsor all or a portion of a youth's camp fee at Confirmation Camp. We currently have six youth that are eligible to attend. If you are able and willing to be a sponsor please contact Pastor Zimmerman, Denise Hager or Sally Foster.

## *Ladies Tea*

### *Saturday - April 23*

St. John's Annual Ladies Tea will be **on Saturday, April 23 from noon till 3:00 pm**. Ticket cost is \$15 per person. There will also be a Fashion Show by Justice and Dress Barn.

Mark the day on your calendar and plan to join us!



### **Saturday – April 16 9am till Noon**

Many hands make the work lighter. Come join us and help clean up the church grounds and dig in the dirt! All are welcome!

**St. John Lutheran Church**  
**PO Box 411**  
**Mars, PA 16046**

Please complete as much information as you can. We need this information to update and complete the membership rolls. Thank you.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ (CELL) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIDEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN'S NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BAPTISM: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE OF BAPTISM: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF FIRST COMMUNION: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE OF FIRST COMMUNION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF CONFIRMATION: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE OF CONFIRMATION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF MARRIAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE OF MARRIAGE: \_\_\_\_\_



### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 04/07 John Fritz
- 04/07 Zachary Claus
- 04/11 David Hrach
- 04/11 Todd McCormick
- 04/13 Nicholas Schnelle
- 04/13 Jonathan Brower
- 04/16 Ray Hackworth
- 04/17 Deanna McDonald
- 04/18 Lyndsey Murphy
- 04/20 Martha Ward
- 04/22 Ben Knauff
- 04/24 Susan Bielo



**May 1 – Fellowship Breakfast**  
**May 7 – Camp Blast at Lutherlyn**

### Communion Bread Schedule

**April – Sally Foster**  
**May – Cindy Knauff**



April 3 – Jim & Davena Hopson  
 April 18 – Clarence & Marlene Strabel  
 April 30 – Joe & Gretchen Baysek

### Worship Helpers for April

Please check the bulletin board in the greeting area for the new worship helper sign-up sheet for all worship helpers for each Sunday in April.

#### Usher

8:00 am Chuck Olescyski  
 10:30 am Leikauf's

#### Assisting Minister

8:00 am Clarence Strabel  
 10:30 am Martha Ward

# April Newsletter

Address service requested

ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 420 BEAVER STREET  
 P.O. BOX 411  
 MARS, PA 16046