

**Announcements for the week of
August 21, 2016
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Pastor's Office Hours: Generally Tuesdays & Thursdays – 9:30-1:00 pm
Wednesdays – 9:30-11:00 am “Coffee Hours” at Mars Brew House
Available other times by appointment.**

Blessing of Backpacks – Next Sunday

As our children head back to school for another year, bring their backpacks next Sunday for a special blessing during worship.

Youth & Families Mini Golf – August 28

There will be a Youth & Families Mini Golf Outing *next Sunday, August 28 after worship at Fun Fore All* in Cranberry Township. We will meet at Fun Fore All about 11:00 am. \$6.50 – adults; \$5.50 –child; \$4.50 – seniors; free for toddlers. Lunch may also be purchased at the park.

SAVE THE DATE - September 13-14 will be Picture Days for our new Church Photo Directory

Our church family photo album will not be complete without you, so everyone should try to participate. Every household will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait for participating and have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits. Signup is now available online at our website: www.stjohnchurchmars.org; or after worship at the table in the gathering space; or by calling Margie at the church office at 724-625-1830. Photography will take place in the church *Fellowship Hall on Tuesday & Wednesday September 13-14 from 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*

Bible Studies Resume – September 14

Both the Noon (Brown Bag) Bible Study and Evening (7:00 pm) sessions will resume for fall beginning on *Wednesday, September 14* and will continue on subsequent Wednesdays. If you would like to participate in either of these sessions, please contact Pastor Bob or just come to the session of your choice. If you come to the Noon study, then bring your lunch with you. All are welcome!

Donations for Charities

Several items are needed for charities. These are items that you may have around the house and normally just throw away. There is a box under the table in the greeting area for you to place these items if you are able to help.

Here is a list of what is needed:

1. Tabs from pop cans to be given to Ronald McDonald house.
2. Medicine bottles (orange) to be used for the poor in the US and overseas. Pharmaceutical companies send medicines to these areas in bulk so the bottles are needed to give to patients for their medicines.
3. Wine corks – these are given to a man who makes trivets and sells them with all profits going to breast cancer research. His wife died from breast cancer.

Music Together Classes at St. John

Music Together is an early childhood music class for ages birth through age 5 and the adults who love them. *The fall session will begin on Wednesday, September 7 at 10 am here at St. John's in the Fellowship Hall.* The 10-week class features our “Flute” song collection. The class includes a CD of the song collection, a family songbook, access to Music Together's online Family Music Zone and Hello Everybody app. To register online go to <http://marylynnebennettstudio.weebly.com/music-together-registration.html>. For additional information, call 412-436-9579 or email Mary Lynne Bennett at mlobiel@gmail.com.

Church Renovations

The renovations are almost complete and it looks great! These improvements will insure that our church remains in good repair for years to come. Total cost of the renovations is \$8,500. If you are able to and inclined to donate, please designate your contribution as Church Renovation 2016 Expense and fill out one of the forms that are on the table in the greeting area. In addition, if you wish we can acknowledge your contribution in the Book of Remembrance. If you have any questions, please contact John Tully or Clarence Strabel.

Free Hospice Volunteer Training

This free training is scheduled for *Thursday, September 1 at 9:00 am at the Woodlands Lodge at the Arbors Valencia Woods campus*. Training includes an introduction to hospice care, responsibilities, etc. A light lunch and certificate of completion will be awarded. For more information or to register, call St. Barnabas Hospice at 724-444-5541.

Council Minutes

Copies of the minutes from the council meeting and reports from other meetings are available on the table in the greeting area.

This Week at St. John

Sunday – August 21	Worship (Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost)	9:00 am
Sunday – August 28	Worship (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost) Blessing of Backpacks	9:00 am