

**Announcements for the week of
August 28, 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 – Today

As our children head back to school for another year, there will be a special blessing today during worship.

Youth & Families Mini Golf – Today

There will be a Youth & Families Mini Golf Outing *today after worship at Fun Fore All* in Cranberry Township. We will meet at Fun Fore All about 11:30 am. \$6.50 – adults; \$5.50 –child; \$4.50 – seniors; free for toddlers. Lunch may also be purchased at the park.

Sharing Faith - September 11

On Sunday, September 11 we will continue with one worship service at 9:00 am as we welcome The Rev. Doctor Blair Morgan, Director for Evangelical Mission for the SW Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA. He will share ideas and suggestions on sharing faith in this increasingly secular world. Pastor Morgan will offer his presentation immediately following worship to help us be more comfortable with talking about our faith with others. We will conclude with a picnic style lunch in the Fellowship Hall. A free will offering will be collected to cover the cost of lunch.

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 Study Resumes – September 14

Please note there will be *one Bible Study session this fall at Noon (Brown Bag session)*, beginning on *Wednesday, September 14* and will continue on subsequent Wednesdays. If you would like to participate in this session, please contact Pastor Bob or just come to the Fellowship Hall at noon on the day of the session and bring your lunch with you. All are welcome!

Fall Schedule for Worship begins September 18

We will return to our fall worship schedule on *Sunday, September 18 with services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am.*

Sunday School Rally Day – September 18

We begin a new year of Sunday School *on Sunday, September 18.* Join us for *breakfast and ice cream* to celebrate!

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 mlobie1@gmail.com.

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 28	Worship (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)	9:00 am
Wednesday – August 31	Elders Meeting	6:15 pm
Sunday – September 4	Worship (Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost) Affirmation of Vocation	9:00 am