

**Announcements for the week of
July 31, 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.**

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 to be available online at our website: www.stjohnchurchmars.org; starting next week 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.*

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.

Cookout Benefit – August 12

Pastor Peggy-Suhr-Barkley and Pastor Nathaneil Christman invite you to a cookout benefit to be held on Friday, August 12, beginning at 4:00 pm for Pastor Dave Saylor and his family. Dave Saylor has served in Western Pennsylvania for more than 30 years. In 2014, he took a call in Ohio that did not work out. Complicated circumstances have since left him in a “waiting place.” The Saylor family is living in our parsonage at a reduced rent while Pastor Dave is On Leave From Call. He worked as a substitute teacher over the school year and started a graveyard shift at Walmart as school got out for summer. Unfortunately, he was recently hospitalized with cellulitis and missed a number of unpaid days of work. Also, he was given notice that his job at Walmart is in jeopardy (due to the hospitalization). He is the sole provider for a household of five. Pastor Dave and his family trust that the Lord will provide and that doors will open even as others close. In the meantime, Pastor Peggy and Pastor Nathaneil decided to host a cookout benefit to show support and help raise funds to pay the Saylor's bills. Enjoy good food and offer your support. See the flyer on the bulletin board for details. RSVP is requested.

Church Renovations

At the July 12, 2016 meeting, Church Council approved the expenditure of funds for specific renovations for the church. These are: Columns in front of church (\$2,600); exterior painting (\$4,300); and replacement of basement windows (\$1,600). Total expense is \$8,500. We are looking to the congregation to help defray the cost of these much needed renovations. If you are able to and inclined to donate, please designate your contribution as Church Renovation 2016 Expense and fill out the form attached to this bulletin. In addition, if you wish we can acknowledge your contribution in the Book of Remembrance. Painting of the church exterior will begin on July 25. If you have any questions, please contact John Tully or Clarence Strabel.

Prayer List

Please take a few moments to review the prayer list requests listed at the end of these announcements. If you have requested someone to be on this list and they can now be removed, please notify the church office at 724-625-1830. Also, if you have someone you would like to add to this list you may contact the office or fill out one of the cards located in the church pews.

Summer Offerings and Finance

Don't forget to provide your regular offering when you are away on vacation this summer. The ministry of St. John depends on the regular support of your tithes and offerings. Though our giving has been strong this year, we are significantly behind where we should be according to our budget, so please remember your church.

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 – July 31	Worship (Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost)	9:00 am
Tuesday – August 2	Deacons Meeting Trustees Meeting	7:00 pm 7:00 pm
Sunday – August 7	Worship (Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost)	9:00 am