

**Announcements for the week of
September 11, 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.**

Sharing Faith - Today

Today 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.

Dedication of Quilts – Today

Today during worship we will be dedicating the quilts that were made here at St. John by our Quilting Group. They will be sent to Lutheran World Relief to be used where they are most needed. The members of this group do a beautiful job making these quilts and giving of their time in this very useful ministry.

Last Chance to Sign up Today - Church Photo Directory- September 12, 13, 14

Photo Directory picture days will be held in the Fellowship Hall on these days. Today is your last chance to sign up, either after service in the greeting area or online. Every household will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait for participating and have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits. Signup is 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 Monday, September 12 from 4:00-8:00 pm, and Tuesday & Wednesday September 13-14 from 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.*

Congregation Council Meeting – Moved to September 20

Due to our photo directory days falling on a day when council would normally meet, we will move the day for the council meeting one week ahead to *September 20 at 7 pm.*

St. John Online Giving Now Available

We are excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! It is safe, easy, and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online history from anywhere you can access the internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit the church website at <http://www.stjohnchurchmars.org/>
2. Click on the {Giving} button
3. Click on the {Create Profile} button
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please see the church Financial Secretary, Christine Dishong.

Noon Bible Study – September 14

Please note there will be a *Bible Study session this fall at Noon (Brown Bag session)*, beginning this *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 & Commissioning & Blessing of Christian Education Leaders – September 18

As we begin a new year of Sunday School *on Sunday, September 18*, we will recognize at both services during worship those that give their time and abilities to the formation and growth of our children's faith. Also, join us for *breakfast and ice cream between worship services to celebrate the beginning of Sunday School!*

Women's Retreat – October 8

English Lutheran Church in Zelenople is offering a Women's Retreat on October 8, 2016 from 9 am – 2:30 pm. The topic is "God is the Potter – We Are the Clay." A continental breakfast and light lunch will be provided. A free will offering will be taken. *Please RSVP by September 30 to the church office at 724-452-8110 or office@elczelenople.org.*

This Week at St. John

Sunday – September 11	Worship (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost) Dedication of Quilts Sharing Faith Presentation Picnic Lunch	9:00 am After service After service
Monday – September 12	Quilting Group Church Directory Pictures	6:30 pm 4:00 - 8:00 pm
Tuesday – September 13	Church Directory Pictures	2:00 – 9:00 pm
Wednesday – September 14	Music Together Program Brown Bag Bible Study Church Directory Pictures	10:00 am Noon 2:00 – 9:00 pm
Sunday – September 18	Worship Commissioning & Blessing of Teachers Sunday School Rally Day Breakfast/Ice Cream Worship Catechism Class	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 1:00 pm