

**Announcements for the week of  
August 20, 2017  
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.**

**Stewardship Snippet – August 20, 2017** (11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost), Year A

*Jesus said, “Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart comes evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.” – Matthew 15:17-20*

“Watch your mouth,” your parent might have told you growing up. Jesus would agree, because as he teaches above, words reveal the thoughts of your heart. What do your words say about you? If you find your words bitter, foul, insulting, complaining or cynical, what can you do? Pray to God for a renewed heart.

**Worship Planners – Today**

Please plan to meet after worship today.

**Blessing of Backpacks – August 27**

It's that time of year again and the children will be heading back to school. Please ask them to bring their school backpacks to church with them on **Sunday, August 27** for a special blessing during worship.

**Sunday School Teachers and Youth Helpers - Clearance Sunday - August 27th**

For the protection of our children, it is Pennsylvania state law that anyone who works directly with children, including volunteers such as Sunday School teachers or scout leaders, present a current criminal background check and PA Child Abuse clearance. It is free and easy to do online. For convenience, on Sunday August 27th after worship there will be access to the churches computers and helpers to guide you through the online process.

If you prefer to apply for the checks on your own, the links are below:

Criminal background check: <https://epatch.state.pa.us> PA Child Abuse History clearance:

<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home> If you have not lived in PA for at least ten years, you need to be fingerprinted after submitting the online registration form. (Local place to do this is the UPS store in Cranberry):

[https://www.pa.cogentid.com/index\\_dpw.htm](https://www.pa.cogentid.com/index_dpw.htm) If you are a less than 10 year resident you also must provide this form: [http://keepkidssafe.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/c\\_160267.pdf](http://keepkidssafe.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/c_160267.pdf)

For anyone volunteering for Sunday School, Kids Club, Youth Group or any other child related activity it is essential that you obtain these clearances and have a copy on file at the church.

**Six-Week Revelation Bible Study – September 6 & 7 – Two Separate Days!**

Sign up now to join Pastor Zimmerman on **Wednesdays at noon beginning September 6 or Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm, beginning September 7**. We will meet in the fellowship hall, so children can play in the nursery either time/day. There is a sign-up sheet in the greeting area, please indicate if you plan to attend so sufficient handouts can be made available.

**Rally Day – September 10 & Fall Worship Schedule Begins**

Mark your calendars as we celebrate the beginning of a new year of Sunday School on September 10 with waffle and ice cream breakfast at 9:00 am! Also, we will return to our fall/winter worship schedule on **September 10. Services will be at 8:00 am and 10:30 am.**

**Chili Cook-Off at St. John – September 23**

Do you make the best chili on the “planet?” Now is your chance to prove it! Bring your roaster of chili for judging on **Saturday, September 23 from 11 am to 2 pm**. Enter your special chili recipe! **Entry fee is \$25, tasters are welcome for a fee of \$5**. Forms are available on the table in the greeting area. We hope to see you there!

**This Week at St. John**

**Sunday – August 20**

**Worship**  
**(Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost)**  
Worship Planners

**9:00 am**

After Worship

**Sunday – August 27**

**Worship**  
**(Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost)**  
Blessing of Backpacks

**9:00 am**

During Worship