
ST. JOHN'S HERALD

Newsletter | February 2017



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St. John's Lutheran Church

8808 Harford Road
Parkville, MD 21234

410-665-1234
stjohnsparkville.org

Pastor's Paragraphs

I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out—plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for. Jeremiah 29:11 The Message

As we enter this New Year, with many things already very different than usual, these words from Jeremiah are for me and I hope for you words of hope and comfort. It reminds me that no matter what might change, we have a steadfast God who has a plan for our life that includes a future we hope for. So in the midst of change, we can hold tight to God's promise and move forward into the uncertain knowing we have a God of certain love and grace.

St. John's has already experienced some things new and different this year. Our bulletin has fewer pages, giving us the opportunity to experience the rich liturgy while utilizing the hymnbook. We are also being good stewards of the creation, lessening our carbon footprint by at least a ream of paper a week, and reducing our printing and paper costs as good stewards of financial resources. The bulletin is a work in progress and we appreciate the helpful input that you have provided.

We are also seeking to find additional ways to help us experience the changing seasons of the church year and experience the richness of each season. For Epiphany, we had added the beautiful candelabras to remind us that Epiphany is the season where we celebrate that the Light of the World, Jesus Christ, breaks into the darkness and brings hope, peace, joy and love. Pay attention to how the ambience in the worship center (sanctuary) might change to remind us of the call to repentance and returning to the Lord that we hear during the Lenten season.

In addition to new things in worship, we have also added two new task forces under the Stewardship Ministry Team. In the past years, St. John's had depended upon reserves to help

balance our annual budget. We have been blessed to have a strong reserve balance. However, throughout the years, as we have continued to use reserves to balance the annual mission and ministry budget, those reserves have been reduced. If we continue this trend, eventually our reserves will be gone and we will have to make hard decisions about reductions to our expenses to be able to continue God's mission and ministry at St. John's.

So this year, we are being proactive and starting a new trend. We passed the 2017 Mission and Ministry Budget that had approximately a \$50,000 difference between revenue and expenses. To bridge that difference, Stewardship Ministry Team, with approval by the Council, has established the 3-17 plan. We have asked both the Cost Savings Task Force and Fundraising Task Force to find or raise \$17,000 for each task force.

The Cost Savings Task Force, chaired by Mike McDonough, has already begun to look at our expenditures for ways that we can reduce our expenditures, while still doing the mission and ministry we are called to do. For example, we purchased the starter kit for 2017 VBS from Cokesbury. That is what we have done every year for many years. As we prepared to purchase other items for VBS, we noted that some other websites have the same product at a reduced cost. We could have saved \$50 on the kit if we would have purchased at another website. This is just a small savings, however each savings count. The Cost Savings Task Force asks each ministry team, as you go about fulfilling your part of God's mission and ministry at St. John's, to be the very best stewards you can be. Please look for ways to accomplish your same goals, while being good financial stewards. Thank you in advance for helping us with this opportunity to model good stewardship.

The Fundraising Task Force, chaired by Doug Meekins, has also already begun to find ways to raise \$17,000 in 2017. Check out the first fundraising opportunity in this newsletter with Brooks-Huff. Share this opportunity with your friends, coworkers and whomever you wish. The goal of the task force is to have at least one fundraiser a quarter. The Task Force also plans to ask each ministry team and active group at St. John's to host a fundraiser once during the year or if you have an existing fundraiser to tithing (10%) your net profit. The fundraiser could be a restaurant night or something else. Think of how your ministry team or active group can help with a fundraiser and let Doug know of your idea and your willingness to help.

The third leg of the 3-17 Stewardship plan is to invite us, as members, to find ways that we can increase our financial support to God's mission and ministry at St. John's in 2017. We have already asked everyone to consider increasing their giving by 10% of what they gave last year. We had approximately \$275,000 in regular giving last year. If everyone was able to increase their giving by 10% that would well exceed the \$17,000 goal. Think about it, pray about it and be active participants in the spiritual discipline of stewardship. Thank you for help as you can with us accomplishing God's mission and ministry at St. John's.

Thank you for being part of this journey of moving into God's preferred and promised future, a future that we hope for. God bless us all in this journey. May we continue to move into God's plan, confident that even in the midst of change, we have a steadfast and faithful God, walking with us every step of the way, guiding our steps.

God's blessings and my prayers,

Pastor Lesley



Notes from the Organ Bench

One of the greatest gifts in life is grandchildren. I am fortunate that I am able to spend every Friday with mine. In the morning I get to devote my attention to Emma, who will turn 2 in March. We play, read books, do the laundry and see what new adventures we can have. After Ryan, now 4, gets home from preschool and Emma is in for her nap, we get to play a game and do something special.

At Christmas I received the ingredients for monkey bread. Ryan and I love to cook and had a great time mixing, rolling, coating and adding the final touches. Through the process I realized that things that I thought were easy and natural needed to be taught, like rolling dough into a ball. It was a learning experience for me as well as Ryan.

So, how does this relate to worship? Last month I told you that we were going to begin singing the psalms. Well, I'm sure that you have realized that that was a bit of an overstatement. The decision was made to have the 11:00 congregation sing a response several times during the psalm as well as read the psalm responsively. As I write this, this has happened only once and each time the response was repeated, the congregation sang with a little more confidence. This is a learning process and we will get better over time.

By the time you are reading this, you have noticed that different people are leading the response, and they are not necessarily choir members. If you would like to lead the response, come and talk to me. I hope to have enough leaders so that each person will only have to lead once every other month.

Before the end of February, the Adult Choir will begin to work on “The Weeping Tree,” this year’s Good Friday service. If you would like to sing with us, let me know and I will see that you get the music and a listening CD to help you learn the music. This is a beautiful service that touches all of us every time we present it.

So, hang in there as we learn a new psalm response each week, and by the time Easter arrives we will be up to any challenge. And, remember to keep

Making a Joyful Noise!

Martha Requard

Director of Music

Oh, Ryan and I got the sample the monkey bread before anyone else. It was delicious! Thanks Lisa and Autumn!

February Ushers

8:15

Keith & Lisa Duerling
Wayne Byers

11:00

Tony & Judy Jasinski
Sue Addison
Laurie Kreiger
Bonnie Spellman

Acolyte Schedule

Date	8:15 am	11:00 am
2/5	Kayla Tilton (C) Gigi Tilton	Joshua Hills (C) Garrett Morgan Corinne Brock
2/12	John Meyers (C) Sophia Shull	Michael Rash (C) Sarah Flagle Hannah Houston
2/19	Molly Cummings (C) Mara Wolfe	Noah Jones (C) Ava Mueller Kate Schwartz-Mitchell
2/26	Andrea Nufea (C) Autumn Winterling	Hayden Evans (C) Marissa Evans Julianna Johnson

If you are unable to keep your scheduled time, please use the Acolyte List to find a replacement. Contact Rachel Hills at 410-592-3587 with any schedule changes as soon as possible. Thank you!

Lector & Communion Assistant Schedule

Date	8:15 am	11:00 am
2/5	L Jim Morrow CA Jim M. & Karen Ermer	L Shirley Snyder CA Shirley S. & Rachel Hills
2/12	L Milt Dutcher CA Milt D. & Lee Smith	L Rachel Hills CA Rachel H. & Amanda Portera
2/19	L Joan Kraft CA Joan K. & Lisa Duerling	L Kathleen Wiles CA Kathleen W. & Sharon Carletti
2/26	L JoAnn Weiland CA JoAnn W. & Charles Bender	L Claire Miller CA Claire M. & Ed Ford

If you cannot serve on your designated date, contact Sheila Bender (410 592-3084). The Office will send out your readings by email. Call the church office (410-665-1234) if you do not receive it. *Communion Assistant who did not lector - you commune the Pastor and the Assisting Minister at the conclusion of communion. This schedule is posted monthly on the bulletin board in the Vestry where you robe.

Thank you,
Sheila Bender

Lector/Communion Assistant Coordinator



Upcoming Donut Schedule

Date	
February 5	Candi & Chad Votta
February 12	Linda & Randi Burkhardt



2017 VBS Hero Central

July 17-21 | 9:00 am-12:30 pm

Now is the time to start telling your friends and family... and stay tuned for more information!

February Birthdays

2/1 Aubree Liller
2/1 Cynthia Weeks
2/2 Corinne Brock
2/2 Brooke Dougherty
2/2 Beth Gray
2/2 Sophia Shull
2/3 Marissa Evans
2/3 John McLaughlin
2/3 Susan Straw
2/4 Christopher Franz
2/4 Rebecca Page
2/5 Shirley Kreh **(85th!)**
2/6 Scott Addison
2/7 Cathy Crites
2/7 Gatha Dembeck
2/7 Leroy Hohne **(95th!)**
2/8 Michelle Alkire
2/9 Anthony Jasinski, Jr.
2/10 Lynda Gehrig
2/10 Maija Kamp
2/11 Michael Wisniewski
2/13 Emma Nicholson
2/13 Patrick O'Connell
2/15 Jeffrey Alkire
2/15 Bob Murphy
2/15 Katie Neal

2/15 Chad Votta, Sr.
2/15 Autumn Winterling
2/16 Wayne Byers
2/16 Jeffrey Ring
2/16 Kerri Smith
2/17 Raquel Baker
2/17 Oliver Blazakis
2/17 Catherine Carroll
2/20 Michael Rash
2/20 Brooke Retkowski
2/21 Emily Lipka
2/21 Margaret Marshall
2/21 Judy Neal
2/21 Natalie Wager
2/22 Patricia Rozankowski
2/24 Steven Dawson
2/25 Ryan Cummings
2/25 Nancy Gross
2/25 Archie Saby
2/26 Patrick Merrey
2/26 Danny Toner
2/27 Mary Hohne
2/27 Michele Kellner
2/28 Richard Baker
2/28 Nicole Johnson
2/28 Isabella Kirby

2/28 William Ortloff, Jr.
2/28 Brynn Snyder-Mitchell



February Baptismal Anniversaries

2/ Bonnie Spellman
2/ Linda Wiley
2/ Robert Gray
2/ Mandy Gray
2/ Jessica Merrey
2/1 Lesley Radius
2/2 Ruth Skarda
2/2 Noah Gamber

2/4 Rebecca Page
2/7 Oliver Snapp
2/10 Allison Smith
2/17 Austin Flagle
2/18 Jerome Mead
2/18 Linda Watts
2/19 Katherine Schwartz-
Mitchell

2/20 Michael Rash
2/23 Shelby Kirby
2/23 Joshua Hills
2/24 Ava Buddenbohn
2/24 Gabrielle Gray
2/25 Ethan Sommer

February Wedding Anniversaries

2/14/1987 Robert & Sandy Scott
2/22/1975 Anne & Robert Suznick

2/22/1992 Arlene & Jack Meyers, Jr **(25th!)**
2/24/1967 Joyce Pickett & Dale Pickett, Sr. **(50th!)**

Monthly Calendar

Black – normal; Red – special Worship; Purple – special events; Green – outside St. John’s events;
Blue – outside groups; Brown – St. Ursula events; Pink – Pastor’s events; Maroon – Preschool events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:30-1:30 Busy Bees SB 12:00 Young at Heart FH 6-9:00 pm Choirs MR 6:00p Bible Study SB Pastor Lesley-Vac	2 7-8:15a AA SB 10a Bible Study SB 8-9p AA FH Pastor Lesley-Vac	3 Pastor Lesley (off) 6-9 pm Sewing Guild SB Pastor Lesley-Vac	4 9am Men in Mission Breakfast (Denny’s) 10-3:30 Confirmation FH, YR, MR Pastor Lesley-Vac
5 8:15 & 11 Worship Souper Bowl Sunday (youth sponsored) 9:30 SS/AF 9:45 Handbells MR Pastor Lesley-Vac Gerry Rickel Presiding & Adult Forum	6 10:00 Bible Study SB 5:00 Impact DUI SB 6:30 AA FH Pastor Lesley-Vac	7 7-8:15a AA SB 10-11:30 Pericope 7p Men in Mission YR 7:00 AA Group FH 7:30 ALANON ChEd Pastor Lesley-Vac	8 9:30-1:30 Busy Bees SB 6-9:00 pm Choirs MR 6:00p Bible Study SB Pastor Lesley-Vac	9 7-8:15a AA SB 7p Exec Mtg MR 8-9p AA FH	St. Ursula MC Event	11 St. Ursula FC Bull Roast 1:00p Memorial Service/Luncheon (Dipeppe) S/FH
12 8:15 & 11 Worship 9:30 SS/AF 9:45 Handbells MR 9:15 WELCA P 9:45-10:30 New Member Classes P 12:15 Lunch w/ Lesley MR 12:30 Lunch Bunch	13 10:00 Bible Study SB 5:00 Impact DUI SB 6:30 AA FH	14 Valentine’s Day 7-8:15a AA SB 10-11:30 Pericope 6p Trinity Circle 7p Men in Mission YR 7:00 AA Group FH 7:30 ALANON ChEd	15 9:30-1:30 Busy Bees SB 10a-3p Valentine Celebration FH 6-9:00 pm Choirs MR 6:00 Tech Mtg - Tech ofc 6:00p Bible Study SB NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	16 7-8:15a AA SB 10a Bible Study SB 7:00p Council SB 8-9p AA FH	17 Pastor Lesley (off) 10:30-1p AARP Mtg FH	18
19 Healing Sunday 8:15 & 11 Worship 9:30 SS/AF 9:45 Handbells MR 9:45-10:30 New Member Classes P 12:15 Lunch w/ Lesley MR	20 Presidents’ Day (office closed) 10:00 Bible Study SB 5:00 Impact DUI SB 6:30 AA FH Preschool closed	21 7-8:15a AA SB 10-11:30 Pericope 12:00 Ascension Cir SB 7p Men in Mission YR 7p Altar Guild SB 7:00 AA Group FH 7:30 ALANON ChEd	22 9:30-1:30 Busy Bees SB 6-9:00 pm Choirs MR 6:00p Bible Study SB St. Ursula Basketball Tourny	23 7-8:15a AA SB 10a Bible Study SB 8-9p AA FH St. Ursula Basketball Tourny	24 Pastor Lesley (off) St. Ursula Basketball Tourny	25 11a-8p Scrapbooking FH/K
26 8:15 & 11 Worship Welcome New members at both services 9:30 SS/AF 9:45 Handbells MR 12:15 Lunch w/ Lesley MR St. Ursula Dinner Member function (Jasinski) FH/K	27 10:00 Bible Study SB 5:00 Impact DUI SB 6:30 AA FH	28 7-8:15a AA SB 10-11:30 Pericope 6p Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper FH (youth sponsored) 7p Preschool Board Mtg. Preschool room 7:00 AA Group SB 7:30 ALANON ChEd				



Celebrate Reformation 500

March 4 Dinner with Entertainment

St. John's is celebrating the Reformation's 500th Birthday with dinner and entertainment. Everything comes together for one magical Saturday night at 4:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The Hospitality Committee will provide an outstanding German style meal. The highlight of the evening will be a performance by Steve Seyfried, who will transport us to Germany and guide us as we walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther, stand where he stood and see what he saw.

As a professional playwright and performer, Steve will, through his production of **A Layman's Guide to the Reformation**, entertain, delight and inform us. Tickets for this Reformation 500 event will go on sale February 5 and can be purchased during Forum in Fellowship Hall from 9:30 am to 10:30 am on Sundays from Claire Miller. They are also available through the Church Office during working hours, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. They are also available by mail, St. John's Lutheran Church, 8808 Harford Road, Parkville, MD. 21234. Questions regarding this dinner may be addressed to the Church Office, 410-665-1234.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this informative and fun filled event. The cost for dinner and a show is \$15.00 for adults, ages 13 and above, \$7:00 for children ages 7-12 and those under seven are free.

New Members Class

(Anyone who wants to learn more about what we are up to at St. John's and beyond is invited!)

- Want to know more about what it means to be a Lutheran?
- Want to know how St. John's is living into God's Mission and Ministry?
 - Want to know how **you** can plug into the Mission and Ministry activities here at St. John's?
- Want to have a cup of coffee with Pastor Lesley?

Any or all of these are good reasons to join Pastor Lesley from 9:45 am -10:30am in the Parlor (3rd Floor by the Main Entrance Hall) on February 12th and 19th. We will receive into membership anyone who wishes on February 26th at both 8:15 am and 11:00 am.

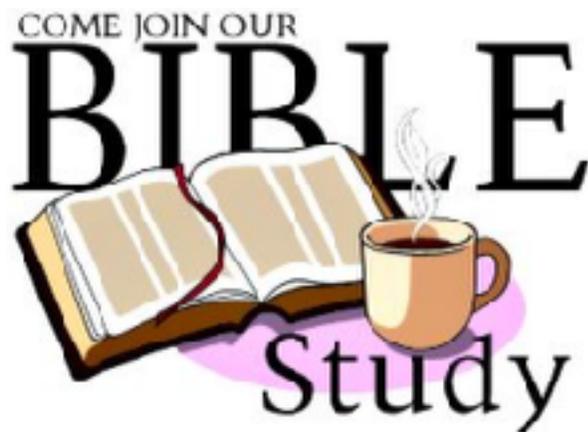
P.S. Even if you have been a member for a long time and want to come for a refresher, you are most welcome!



For all your generosity this Christmas season, Roxie and I thank you. We feel very cherished and appreciated. Thank you, Thank you and Thank you. May God continue to bless us all as we move forward in God's mission and ministry.

Pastor Lesley and Roxie

Thank you to our Executive Council and Council. Each month they meet to help provide leadership as we seek to follow God's preferred and promised future. Please thank Tony for his many years of service on Council and especially for this past year as he served on Executive Council as Past-President. He continues to serve God tirelessly through his work at St. John's. Thank you, Tony. Well done, you good and faithful servant. Please thank Cindy for her service on Council. She served, sharing her God-given gifts and talents with St. John's. Please continue to keep the new Executive Council and Council in your prayers, that God might grant them wisdom as they share their gifts of leadership with us at St. John's. For the new Council and list of the Ministry Teams each Council member represents, check out the list on page 11 in this newsletter.



Come to the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am on Sundays and join the fun, fellowship, and of course learning at Adult Forum!

Feb 5th... St. Dysmas...Rev. Gerry F. Rickel

Feb 12th and Feb 19th... Luther's Catechism... Ardi Scarborough

Feb 26th... Intergenerational Forum...What is Lent...what do we give up and/or what do we add..Pastor Lesley

March 5th...Food for the Poor..Rev. Burke

March 12th and 19th...Luther's Catechism...Ardi Scarborough

March 26th...Wrap up of Luther's Catechism...Intergenerational Forum...Ardi Scarborough and Pastor Lesley

Sunday School News

During the month of February, the Sunday School will be collecting pasta and pasta sauce, which will be donated to the food pantries that the church supports. Please bring these to your child's classroom.

Join us on Sunday, February 26th in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am for our intergenerational activity about Lent. More information will be coming home with your student later in the month.

Thank you,
Rachel Hills

Martin Luther

By Cam Rose

Martin Luther, born in Germany in 1484, changed the course of religion by sparking the Protestant Reformation. Luther spent his early years as a monk and scholar. Martin Luther's writings made a huge impact on religion, making him one of Western history's most significant figures. During the Late medieval period, the Catholic Church sold indulgences, claiming that buying them, absolved sin. This corrupt practice motivated Luther to write the "95 theses" which focused on the beliefs that the bible is central religious authority and that humans may reach salvation only by faith and not deeds. Without Martin Luther, Lutheranism, one of the largest denominations of Protestantism, would not exist.



St. John's CARES

This past November we sent care packages to 17 of our current St. John's college students. We used a Thrivent Action Grant along with money received during the Buckets of Change collection one month. The goal was to cheer up those away at school and remind them that their church was thinking of them and praying for them. It was a big surprise to those that got them. To keep this ministry going, we are planning on another mailing in early March. If you know of a student that we missed, let me know and we will add them to the list. There will be a donation request board set up during the month of February for things that you can purchase to go into the care packages. If you want to help pack the boxes and mail them we are tentatively looking to do this on March 4th. If you have questions, feel free to email me at cr_hills@yahoo.com.



St. John's Lutheran Church - Congregation Council - 2017

Position	Term	First Name	Last Name	Address	Home Phone	Cell Phone	E-Mail	Committee(s)
Senior Pastor		Lesley	Radius	2935 Neifeld Avenue Parkville, MD 21234		423-999-5185	pastorlesley@stjohnsparkville.org	All / Executive / Worship & Music
	2018 (2)	Sue	Addison	8524 Harris Ave. Parkville, MD 21234	410-882-6308	410-382-8899	safamilydaycare@comcast.net	Altar Guild / Property Hosp. & Fellowship Pre-school / Christian Ed.
	2018 (1)	Erick	Brock	361 Enfield Road Joppa, MD 21085	410-538-7888	443-791-1607	ebpro66@yahoo.com	Family Ministry
	2019 (2)	David	Evans	8538 Kings Ridge Road Parkville, MD 21234	410-661-1680	410-802-2268	ravenfan79@yahoo.com	Communication
	2019 (1)	Michelle	Evans	7900 Elmhurst Avenue Parkville, MD 21234	410-665-0475	443-791-0485	michelle.evans14@yahoo.com	Stewardship
	2018 (1)	Stewart	Graf	4300 E. Joppa Road Baltimore, MD 21236	410-529-9551		grafhouse@msn.com	Youth
Financial Secretary	2019 (1)	Debra	Haacke	9519 Orbitan Court Baltimore, MD 21234	410-661-8970	410-336-0769	haackefamily@comcast.net	Social Ministry
Secretary	2017 (1)	Donna	McDonough	40 Bangert Avenue Perry Hall, MD 21128		443-465-2061	donnamcd40@gmail.com	Executive / Technology
Vice-president	2019 (2)	Scott	Miller	47 Hyacinth Road Parkville, MD 21234		443-570-9870	smiller118@gmail.com	All / Executive / Finance
President	2017 (2)	Lee	Smith	3802 Pinedale Dr. Baltimore, MD 21236	410-529-2165	443-831-0148	wleesmith3@verizon.net	Worship & Music / Memorial
	2017 (2)	Bonnie	Spellman	10 Widebrook Ct. Parkville, MD 21234	410-661-5351	443-653-4332	babeface10@comcast.net	Personnel
	2018 (1)	Maureen	Vogtman	2518 Wendover Road Baltimore, MD 21234	410-661-0064	443-845-7384	davidandmaureen@comcast.net	Evangelism
	2017 (1)	Kathleen	Wiles	9705 Oak Summit Ave. Baltimore, MD 21234	410-661-0022	443-610-0344	katwiles1@gmail.com	

Church Staff

Church Secretary		Carol	Erpenstein				office@stjohnsparkville.org	
Organist / Choir Director		Martha	Requard		410-838-5256			
Sexton		Scott	Becker					
Treasurer	2017	Chris	Hills	6500 Brinton Rd. Fork, MD 21051	410-592-3587	410-952-4929	cr_hills@yahoo.com christopher.hills@ssa.gov	Executive / Finance / Tech / Pre-school
Financial Secretary	2018	Debbie	Haacke	9519 Orbitan Court Baltimore, MD 21234	410-661-8970	410-336-0769	haackefamily@comcast.net	Finance

Main Church Phone Number: 410-665-1234

Pastor's Emergency Contact: 443-844-9314

Web Site: www.stjohnsparkville.org

Rev. 1/14/2017

Brooks-Huff Fundraiser Letter

St. John's Parishioners,

As many of you are aware I am the general manager for Brooks-Huff Tire & Auto Centers. Brooks-Huff is a family owned independent Goodyear Dealer that has served Baltimore since 1943. We have seven locations to serve you with stores in Towson, Timonium, Hunt Valley, Shrewsbury PA, York PA, Manchester, PA, and Hanover PA.



Brooks-Huff performs vehicle maintenance and repair on most all foreign and domestic cars, SUV's, and light trucks. Most of our ASE Certified Technicians have over 20 years service working for us. Most all of the service we do is backed by Goodyear's Nationwide two year/24,000 mile warranty. Brooks-Huff sells most major brand tires including Goodyear, Michelin, Bridgestone, Dunlop, Kelly, and many others.

During the month of February 2017 Brooks-Huff is partnering with St. John's for a very unique fundraiser. During February when any St. John's parishioner or friend of a St. John's parishioner purchases tires from us we (Brooks-Huff) will donate 10% of the total tire purchase amount (before tax) right back to St. John's Lutheran Church Of Parkville. It must be pointed out that the amount donated back to St. John's will be on the tire or tires purchased and not on any service.

You may find Brooks-Huff locations with phone numbers by visiting our website at www.brookshuff.com. When you call a Brooks-Huff location to make an appointment for tires just let them know you are with St. John's Lutheran Church and wish to support our the fundraiser. My team at Brooks-Huff will be making a "St. John's Fundraiser" notation on the invoice and faxing it to me. Once the month is over I will make an announcement to the congregation letting everyone know the outcome of the fundraiser.

With everyone's help, I'm confident we can make this fundraiser an overwhelming success for St. John's. Here's what I am asking all of you to do to help. Please reach out to all of your family members, friends, and coworkers either by mouth or on social media and ask them to please consider supporting this fundraiser if they or anyone they know are in need of tires. Ask them to in turn also forward this along to their friends on social media. Many folks think of new tires in the springtime as they start sprucing up their vehicle before summer travel. Encourage them to buy now and help support our wonderful church at the same time.

For those of you on the St. John's Facebook site, I will post all the particulars about

this fundraiser on it very soon so that you may copy and paste to your site.

Lastly, if you have ANY questions regarding this fundraiser please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I'm in church most every Sunday or you can reach me through email at doug@brookshuff.net. you may also telephone or text me if either of these are your preferred method of communication.

Cell# 410-790-1790 Work# 410-527-1000 Home# 410-661-1716

Regards,

Doug Meekins

St. John's Lutheran Church, Parkville does not endorse individual vendors, products or services. Therefore, any reference herein to any vendor, product or services by trade name, trademark, or manufacturer or otherwise does not constitute or imply the endorsement, recommendation or approval of the product or vendor.

St. John's Caring Friends Ministry presents...

A Valentine Day Celebration

February 15, 2017 | 10:00 AM to 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall



All are invited for:

- * *Service of the Word* * *Lunch*
- * *Chair Massages by Appointment*
- * *Movie Memories* * *Sing-a-long* * *Crafts*



RSVP to the Church Office (410-665-1234) by February 10th
or complete the form below and place it in the box
in the hallway outside the Sanctuary.

Valentine's Day RSVP Form

Name _____

attending _____

Men in Mission Update

The Men-in-Mission meetings continue to take place on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Room. We will meet for breakfast on Saturday, February 11th at 9:00 a.m. at the Church of the Brethren on Long Green Road. Since we are no longer assisting the child in the Philippines, we have decided to help support the St. John's Food for Thought program in 2017.

Peace be with you!

Keith Duerling



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28th
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
St. John's Fellowship Hall

Hope you can come !

Sponsored by Youth Ministry



tackle hunger

SOUPER BOWL **OF CARING**

Sunday, February 5, 2017

Sponsored by: St. John's Youth Ministry

MORE THAN 20 YEARS AGO, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”

Since that day, more than \$90 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving. Through this mission, young people make a positive difference in the world – as they collect food, raise money, and volunteer to work in charities that provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to those in need.

**Please help us share God's love with those in need . . .
Bring a can of food to church on February 5th to help stock our local food pantries at Victor's Vittles and St. Peter's.**

We will also be collecting a free will offering after both services on Super Bowl Sunday for donation to Victor's Vittles and St. Peter's food pantries and ELCA World Hunger.

Soup pots will be placed outside the Sanctuary for donations.

VOTE FOR YOUR TEAM & FEED THE HUNGRY!!



*Thanks for your
generosity and support,
St. John's Youth Ministry*

Lunch with Lesley

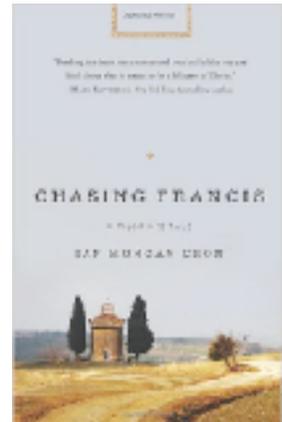
Come join us **Sundays around 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm**
Jan 8, 15, 29, Feb 12, 19 and 26 in the music room
for a book discussion

Chasing Francis: A Pilgrim's Tale

By Ian Morgan Cron

What happens when the pastor of a mega church loses his faith?

Pastor Chase Falson has lost his faith in God, the Bible, evangelical Christianity, and his super-sized megachurch. When he falls apart, the church elders tell him to go away: as far away as possible. Join Chase on his life-changing journey to Italy where, with a curious group of Franciscan friars, he struggles to resolve his crisis of faith by retracing the footsteps of Francis of Assisi, a saint whose simple way of loving Jesus changed the history of the world. Read this riveting story and then begin your own life-changing journey through the pilgrim's guide included in this powerful novel.



Hidden in the past lies the future of the church.

When his elders tell him to take some time away from his church, broken Pastor Chase Falson crosses the Atlantic to Italy to visit his uncle, a Franciscan priest. There he is introduced to the revolutionary teachings of Saint Francis of Assisi and finds an old, but new way of following Jesus that heals and inspires. Chase Falson's spiritual discontent mirrors the feelings of a growing number of Christians who walk out of church asking, Is this all there is? They are weary of celebrity pastors, empty calorie teaching, and worship services where the emphasis is more on Lights, Camera, Action than on Father, Son, and Holy Spirit while the deepest questions of life remain unaddressed in a meaningful way.

Bestselling Author Ian Morgan Cron masterfully weaves lessons from the life of Saint Francis into the story of Chase Falson to explore the life of a saint who 800 years ago breathed new life into disillusioned Christians and a Church on the brink of collapse. *Chasing Francis* is a hopeful and moving story with profound implications for those who yearn for a more vital relationship with God and the world.

We will journey through the pilgrim's guide included in the book.

You can purchase the book at
<https://www.amazon.com/Chasing-Francis-Ian-Morgan-Cron/dp/0310336694>
for \$9.75

**Email Pastor Lesley at pastorlesley@stjohnsparkville.org
to let her know to expect you.**