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*Pastor for Family and Youth*

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### Church Council

†**Gary Tartanian**

*Council President*

CouncilPresident@stjohnmd.org

†**Mike West**

*Council Vice President*

\*Council President

\***Bill Thomas**

*Council Vice President*

**Christina Merchant**

*Treasurer*

**Lisa Strutz**

*Secretary*

### Council Members

**Julie Alzin**

†**Garland Jackson**

\***Nestor Rodriguez**

**Alicia Slahetka**

†**Denise Stepanik**

\***Joy Wingert**

Council@stjohnmd.org

*\*Incoming Council Members*

† *Council Members completing terms*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Everyone comes before Christ carrying a heavy load. Daily we pray for the hurts and the hopes of all who are touched by the mission & ministry of St. John. This week we pray especially for:

### Members

Thelma Heber  
Gloria Allen  
Charlotte Bibleheimer  
Lillian Dasher

Gene & Maria Boritz  
Judy Anderson  
Ruth Katzsco  
Sylvia Christenson

Bob & Leora Grinde  
Bowen & Shannon Pope  
Kurt Wheeler  
Lisa Thompson

### Friends

Good Samaritan Orphanage,  
in Mbeya, Tanzania  
Living Water Baptist  
Church  
Community of St. Dymas  
Bishop Jerry Knoche  
Those anticipating layoffs  
Those seeking employment  
Those battling cancer  
Those fighting depression  
Those battling addiction  
Those fighting for sobriety

Mary Jo Wessel  
Tara Wessel  
Nate Wessel  
Colson Tackett  
Marie Pietsch  
Amos & Sallie Thornton  
Tom Klein  
Dave Piel  
Beverly Johnson  
Preston Johnson  
Joey Johnson  
Mark & JoAnn Geier  
Frannie Knisley  
Corrie & Mike  
Peggy Brannan  
Lyndsey Fields  
Peggy Warner  
Doug Warner, Sr.  
Ruth Holmes  
Lila Purdy

Dot Horn  
Gary Rosenthal  
Val Albitre  
Bob Dom  
Diana Long  
Earl Lester  
The Marvel Family  
Brandon, Terrel & Family  
Melanie  
Lucille McGuire  
Megan Estey  
Howard Matthews  
Susan Coon  
Tim  
Nicole  
Janet Johns  
George & Laura  
Kevin  
Barbara Bowen  
Students & Teachers

**We pray for those expecting:** Charlene and Richard "Lee" Harding are expecting their first child around January 15th.

### Our Vision:

**Making Disciples of Jesus Christ,  
Growing in Faith, Hope & Love**

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit." *Matthew 28:19*  
"faith, hope, and love abide" — *1 Corinthians 13:13*

**WEEKLY UPDATE**  
August 30, 2009



**St. John**  
Lutheran Church

### Many, many thanks to our Sunday School Teachers!

As we began registering our children for Sunday School for the coming program year, it became apparent that we didn't have enough teachers for the number of students we anticipated in the fall. The plea went out to the congregation for 4-5 more teachers and *we're very pleased* to say that the Sunday School teacher positions are filled! We'd like to thank all of those who set aside their Sunday mornings, throughout our program year, to teach our little ones and those maturing in their faith about what it means to be a child of God.

### Confirmation 2009-10 Registration

#### Attention parents of all 7th-9th graders

We are asking all families (new and returning) to complete a Confirmation registration form to ensure that we have the latest contact information for each Confirmand and family. Registration forms are available in the church entrance and outdoor worship space. Please complete your registration form and place it in the specially-marked box in the Narthex (or at Outdoor Worship). The first night of Confirmation is September 9th, 7-8:30 PM, (dinner at 6 PM for a small cost). **All parents are required to attend this first night for the All Parents Meeting with Pastor Mike following the opening worship service.** We anticipate making some improvements to this year's Confirmation program that you'll want to know about! If you have questions about confirmation, please contact Chris Irvin at by email at [Confirmation@stjohnmd.org](mailto:Confirmation@stjohnmd.org). We still need one adult female Confirmation Guide for the incoming 7th grade students. If you want to know more about being a guide, contact Pastor Mike at [Mike@stjohnmd.org](mailto:Mike@stjohnmd.org).

[www.stjohnmd.org](http://www.stjohnmd.org)

**St. John Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

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Columbia, MD 21045  
Office: 410/799-8888  
Fax: 410/799-3614

*Growing in faith, hope, and love*

## ITEMS OF INTEREST AT ST. JOHN

**Can you Count?** — We're looking for one additional teller team member for the third



**Sunday of the month from 1- 3 PM.** Also needed are some teller substitutes for occasional Sunday afternoons or Monday mornings. Contact Karen Heist.

**T** The THEO group will meet for lunch at St. John Park  
**H** on **Wednesday, September 9th from 11:30 AM**  
**E** 'til about 3 PM. They traditionally meet on the 2nd  
**O** Wednesday of each month at alternating locations.

**Revolve Tour 2009** is coming to Baltimore the weekend of **September 25 thru 26**. Revolve tour is an event sponsored by the Women of Faith and is geared toward girls 11 – 17. It is a Friday night and Saturday event for only \$62.00 and that includes a lunch on Saturday. **Only 4 tickets remain**, so contact Jean James ASAP at [JeanJames2@verizon.net](mailto:JeanJames2@verizon.net).



**The Chapel Choir of St. John Needs YOU!** The Chapel Choir, which sings during the 9 AM service, is currently seeking new members. Rehearsals begin on **Wednesday, September 9th in the choir loft at 7:15 PM**. All that is required is a love of singing sacred music. The ability to read music is not required. Stop by the first rehearsal!



**Contemporary Worship times change soon** — On **September 13th**, the Sunday following Labor Day, we will bring Contemporary worship back inside at **10:15 & 11:30 AM**.



**Piecemakers News** — Since January, the Piecemakers of St. John have made 13 quilts and 104 layettes which will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. In addition, the Fixsen, Roth, Clemens, Lemich and Karman families have generously made 6 school kits, that will be sent with the quilt shipment. The Piecemakers group meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month. For more information contact Linda Chalfin at [Chalfs@comcast.net](mailto:Chalfs@comcast.net) or stop by one of their gatherings to see the quilting magic up close and personal.



**Senior Christians Cookout** — As the Senior Christians of St. John reconvene after the summer break, they'll be gathering on **Wednesday, September 16th from 11:30 AM 'til around 2 PM** for a cookout. All seniors are welcome to attend this event. Judy Anderson will provide additional details in next week's Update.



## SUMMER Readings Reflections

**Sunday, August 30**

Mark 7:1-5

The Pharisees traveled for several days so that they could check up on Jesus. He recognized that they were already biased against him. How can our inner attitudes become self-fulfilling?

**Monday, August 31**

Mark 7:6-7; Psalm 24:1-5

Jesus called the Pharisees "hypocrites" because they were going through the motions of faith for their own status. Check yourself. Where do you find a shadow of hypocrisy in your life?

**Tuesday, September 1**

Isaiah 29:13-16

The Jews had a history of claiming to be close to God while they lived in a way that lacked integrity of faith. Suppose others could hear your innermost thoughts — Do you focus on what God says, or what you say?

**Wednesday, September 2**

Mark 7:8; Matthew 5:8

How do you know what is a *command of God* and what is a *tradition of men*?

**Thursday, September 3**

Mark 7:9-13; Hebrews 10:16-25

The Pharisees added many rules to religious life. What unnecessary rules (or legalism) invade your faith journey? Receive God's grace to allow freedom in Christ.

**Friday, September 4**

Mark 7:14-19; 1 Timothy 2:22

Jesus is concerned with inner purity, rather than outer cleanliness. Sin begins from our attitudes and intentions. How can you fill your heart & mind with pure, instead of unclean, thoughts?

**Saturday, September 5**

Mark 7:20-23; Psalm 51:10-13

Reflect on the thoughts and actions that have come out of your heart and mind this week. What is God calling you to address? Ask for His help.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, August 30th	9:00 AM 9:15 AM 10:45 AM 11:30 AM  1:30 PM	Liturgical Worship Book Discussion Group (Room #20 'til 10:30 AM) Contemporary Worship (Outdoors, weather permitting) Living Water Baptist Church Bible Study/Fellowship (St. John Park 'til about 1 PM) Living Water Baptist Church (Sanctuary 'til about 3 PM)
Monday, August 31st		<b>Howard County Schools Open</b>
Tuesday, September 1st	7:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM	Executive Leadership Team Meeting (Office Meeting Rm. 'til 8:30 PM) Confirmation Guides Meeting (Fellowship Hall 'til 8:30 PM) AA (Fellowship Hall 'til about 9 PM)
Wednesday, September 2nd	7:00 AM 1:00 PM	Wednesday Morning Men's Group (Office Meeting Room 'til 8 AM) Passport to Learning Play Group (Fellowship Hall and Education Wing 'til about 3 PM)
Thursday, September 3rd	9:00 AM  10:30 AM 6:00 PM  7:30 PM 8:30 PM 8:30 PM	Passport to Learning (Ed. Wing 'til 3:30 PM & St. John Park from 2 'til 4:30 PM) Staff Meeting (Office Meeting Room 'til about noon) Sunday School Teacher (2 year Olds through 6th Grade) Training & Meal (Office Meeting Room 'til about 8 PM) Praise Team Rehearsal (Studio 'til about 9 PM) AA (Fellowship Hall 'til 9:30 PM) Alanon (Available Classroom 'til about 9:30 PM)
Friday, September 4th	10:00 AM 3:30 PM 6:00 PM 9:00 PM	Women's Fellowship (Room #20 'til 11:30 AM) Organist Rehearsal (Sanctuary/Choir Loft 'til 4:30 PM) LWBC Praise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary 'til about 11 PM) Living Water Women's Prayer (Room #20 'til 1 AM)
Saturday, September 5th		<b>Howard County Schools Closed</b>
Sunday, September 6th	9:00 AM 10:45 AM 11:30 AM  1:30 PM	Liturgical Worship Contemporary Worship (LAST Outdoor Worship) Living Water Baptist Church Bible Study/Fellowship (St. John Park 'til about 1 PM) Living Water Baptist Church (Sanctuary 'til about 3 PM)
Monday, September 7th	NOTE	<b>Church Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday</b>

**WAVE & Confirmation begin on Wednesday, Sept. 9th**  
**Family Worship & Fellowship Brunch on Sept. 13th**  
**10:15 AM Family & Children and 11:30 AM Family & Youth**

**Vacation time is upon us!**

**While you are away...** the work of the church goes on. Summer vacation is a good motivation to sign up for *Simply Giving* a free electronic transfer arrangement for the mission of St. John. It's easy and confidential for you; consistent for our ministry. Pick up an enrollment form and return envelope in the church entry or for more information about the *Simply Giving* program, contact our Business Manager, by leaving a message at the office or by email [Murl@stjohnmd.org](mailto:Murl@stjohnmd.org).

### Our Financial Stewardship

	Actual	*Budget
Last Week's General Fund Giving	\$8,593	\$12,283
Year-to-Date General	\$593,895	\$638,716

\* Based on 53 Sundays

**REGISTER YOUR CHILD(REN) FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**and 7th-9th GRADE STUDENTS FOR CONFIRMATION TODAY!**  
**RALLY DAY, SEPTEMBER 20th, IS THE START OF SUNDAY SCHOOL.**