



ST. JOHN'S WEEKLY

Welcome All, Tell The Story, Grow As Disciples

8:08 am

Communion Team

Karen Donoho, Celaine Montague, Gerry Peterson

Reader

Celaine Montague

Ushers/Greeters

Stuart, Sally, Peter and Nicholas Frantz

Media

Jay Cuccia, Tim Rader

Assisting Minister

Joel Grove

9:38 am

Communion Team

Riley McWilliams, Jamie Loomis, Hayden Dowla

Reader

Riley McWilliams

Ushers/Greeters

Dave & Gretchen LeKites

Music

Pastor Sarah & Mychael

Media

Mike Bitner, Dan Knott

11:08 am

Communion Team

Bill & Marge Markley, Noel White

Reader

Noel White

Ushers/Greeters

Dave Habicht, Ed Compber, Eric & Jennifer Roland

Media

Ed Compber, Gino Liberati

Assisting Minister

Joel Grove

Advent Conspiracy & Preparation

December 16, 2018

WELCOME ALL! Find a yellow card to place in the offering plate to share a prayer or a question or an update! Visit our Welcome Center in the lobby.

Advent is a season of preparation and means “coming.” Candles will help us count down in December. The color is blue for Hope, pink is the third Sunday. The coming of Jesus was unexpected and is about precious life and love shared.

Join the Story

There is a book mark in the pew Bible for you to take home. Our readings in worship will journey through the Bible. St. John’s has focused on a story each week, not just in worship, but also in children’s ministry, youth ministry, and adult groups. There are seven main acts of the Bible:

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1. Creation | 4. Israel | 6. The Church |
| 2. Fall | 5. Jesus | 7. Restoration |
| 3. Promise | | |

TODAY we Join the Story on Act 4 ISRAEL: Habakkuk I

We are at Act 4: Israel & the Prophets. Last week we heard the prophet Jeremiah remind people in worship to hear the Word of the Lord and act for justice. This week we hear from Habakkuk, the lesser known prophet who reminds us: Even when we see injustice in the world, God is still at work in the world. God does not turn a blind eye to pain and suffering but is working out a larger plan. Question of the week: What injustices are you crying out to God about now? How might God be trying to use you as a tool in God’s larger plan?

Meet our 2019 Church Council

**Celebrate the installation of Council at the 10 am Unity Service
December 30th**

Welcome our newly elected council members: **Jim Ritchie, Adam Drescher II, David Bycoffe, and Gwenn Crupi**. Thank you, **Susanne Kauffman, John Phelps, and Kim Hingardner**, for their service! Officers were elected at the December 10th Council Gathering. Council plans to meet the 2nd Monday of every month at 7 pm in the Children’s Theater (Room 1).

Jim Ritchie, President
David Bycoffe, Vice President
Cheryl Bitner, Financial Secretary
Linda Walsh, Secretary
Douglas Clark, Treasurer
Gwenn Crupi

Adam Drescher II
Gretchen LeKites
Bryon Lundell
Rick Matthai
Ross Smith
Sally Snell



Did you know we have devices for hearing impaired in the back of the church?

This Week @ St. John's

During the week, when Baltimore County Schools close, the office will be closed and ministries are cancelled at St. John's. If the county closes early, evening events are cancelled.

For Sundays, we want everyone to be safe. We will announce as soon as we can any changes by: e-mail, church telephone answering message, and our web page.

Weather or Not



Oasis Christmas Party

Friday, Dec. 21
7pm
Bring a white elephant gift.

"Gifts of Christ"

A new 8 week series starting Jan. 8 at 7pm.

Monday, December 17

- 10:00am Join the Story Planning (RR)
- 11:00am Staff Meeting
- 4:00pm Oasis Leadership (LR)
- 6:00 pm Tiger Cubs (Rm. 5)

Tuesday, December 18

- 10:00am Men's Bible Study-Train Gardens
- 10:30am Amazing Grace Mission
- 2:00pm Tuesday Bible Study (P)
- 6:30pm H2H (FH, rms. 1,2,4,CR)
- 7:30pm St. John's Bronze (WC)

Wednesday, December 19

- 7:00pm Staff Support (P)
- 7:00pm Troop 818 Christmas Party (FH)
- 7:00pm 9:38 Rehearsal (WC)
- 7:00pm Troop 818 (CH)

Thursday, December 20

- 7:15am Men's Ministry (FH)
- 9:30am Lydia Circle (P)

- 4:30pm Oasis Core Groups Cookies
- 7:00pm Senior Ministry (P)
- 7:37pm Oasis (YC)
- 8:00pm On-line Small Grp. Series
- 8:00 pm AA Mtg. (FH)

Friday, December 21

- 9:00am Prayer Group at the Clark's
- 7:11pm 360 Club (YC,CH)

Saturday, December 22

- 5:00pm Children's Ministry Christmas Eve rehearsal and Movie

-
- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| C ~ Chapel | N ~ Nursery |
| CH~ Chapel Hall | P ~ Parlor |
| CR~ Choir Room | WC~ Worship Ctr. |
| FH ~ Fellowship Hall | YC ~ Youth Ctr. |
| LR ~ Leadership Room | OS ~ Outside |
| PO ~ Pastor's Office | FP ~ Fire pit |
| Rm 1 - Theater Rm. | Rm 4/RR - Resource Rm |
| Rm 2/Pier- Pier 456 Rm | Rm 5- Voyagers K-1 |
| Rm 3 - Voyagers Begin. | Rm 6- Voyagers 2-3 |

JOIN THE STORY: AMAZING GRACE

Volunteers continue to share in the ministries of Amazing Grace Lutheran Church in east Baltimore. Year-round donations of food, school supplies, mittens, and clothing combine with helping hands from St. John's to Amazing Grace and surrounding community. If you donate a meal or winter attire, take an ornament from the tree to give as a gift. If you are a Thrivent member, you can request a \$250 action card that can sponsor an Amazing meal!

On December 18th, we will meet at 9am at St. John's and then carpool to Amazing Grace to sort the winter attire, prepare/serve the meal and distribute winter attire to the community. Then we will carpool to Amazing Grace, serve the meal and distribute all the items. Return at 3:30pm. Check last Thursday's Loop for the link to sign-up or see Pastor Sarah.

Save the Date ~ Upcoming December Events

- Dec 22nd** 5 pm Children's Rehearsal & Movie Party
- Dec. 23rd** Regular worship 808/938/1108 with children's rehearsal at 9:38
- Dec 24th** **Christmas Eve**
 - 10 am Traditional Worship (Chapel)
 - 1 pm Traditional Worship (Chapel)
 - 3 pm Family Worship (Worship Center) with childcare
 - 5 pm Contemporary Christmas (Worship Center)
 - 8 pm Traditional Christmas (Worship Center)
- Dec. 30th** **10am Unity Service** Ringing of bells (your own or church's).
11am Potluck & Family Feud Christmas Edition



MISSIONS IN MOTION

Jan. 13th Informational Lunch

If you always thought you might like to do an overseas mission, but you're not quite sure of the details, then come when the **Dominican Republic Team** hosts lunch and an **Interest Meeting** on January 13 at 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall. At the minimum you receive hot lunch, with the potential to change your life and the lives of many others. Questions? Contact Linda Walsh at lindawalsh@comcast.net or 410-804-9182.



DR Mission
Team

This month we are at an all-time high with just over \$17k in e-giving for the month! E-Giving helps us to maintain a consistent cash flow. You can visit our web page stjohnnssweetair.org for secure e-giving sign-up. It can also be changed any-time. –Cheryl Bitner, Financial Secretary



e-giving

THANK YOU from St. John's MOMS

Thank you for SARC recovery in Harford County. This organization stands for Sexual assault-Abuse Recovery Center. It supports persons in rehabilitation and also supports the families as well. St. John's will be donating all **toiletries** collected through food pantry this month to the organization. MOM's invite all moms to meet 3rd Thursday 11 am in the parlor (with nursery available)!



moms

Children's Ministry 9:30 check in station downstairs and then gather in the New Children's Theater.

NOTE: The last Sunday of every month will be Splash into Worship, Welcoming Children and Baptism

SPLASH: Baptismal Informational Workshop Next workshop is scheduled for January 27, 2019 at 11 a.m. in Children's Theatre (Room 1). All are welcome --Baby Bumps, Babies, Grandparents, Godparents/Sponsors, Siblings!



Save the Date ~ Upcoming January Events

- Jan. 5th** **Staff, Leaders and Council Retreat, 9:15 am – 1 pm**
Hereford Library Upper Room
- Jan. 13th** **Baptism of our Lord**
We will celebrate all those baptized in 2018 at all the worship services!
NEW: Everyone is invited to bring your baptismal picture or mementos.
Who can beat Pastor Sarah's baptismal mementos?
- Jan. 13th** **New Member Breakfast and Tour** in the Fellowship Hall. Choose 9:15 or 10:45 am
- Jan 13th** **Dominican Republic Interest Meeting lunch in Fellowship Hall (12:15)**
- Jan. 15th** **Everyone invited to Caring Paws Outreach Graduation, 7 pm**
Graduation includes our graduates crossing the stage and the presentation of official vests and blessings. Information on the history of the program.
Who is interested in a spring Dog Therapy Class?





**ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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Prophets

Dale Pickett, Jr.
Susanne Kauffman

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Partee Boliek

**Director of Adult
Discipleship &
Contemporary
Worship**

Rev. Sarah Wright

**Director of Music
& Organist**

Michael Chambers

**Director of Young
Discipleship**

Jeremy Morelock

**Children's Ministry
Coordinator**

Megan McBee

Pier456 Intern

Sophie Bates

Nursery Leader

938/1108

Leah Hunt

Nursery Helpers

Katie Koerber

Nick Lyons

Leslie Reese

Facilities Manager

Rev. Randy Terry

Office Managers

Laurie Krieger

Julie Pickett

**Communications &
Marketing Intern**

Bethany Ingram

This Week's Prayer List

Those with illness:

Pastor Boliek
Carolyn Bonsignore
Brandon & family
Grace Caldwell
Ruth Chicknoski
Cindy Christopher
Scott Clem
Ava Daniels
Beverlae Davis
Evan Davis & family
Iona Dorn & family
Tom Dreisch
Benton Gatch
Mark Habicht
Tiffany Henning
The Hobbs family
Orville Hughes
Emma Knicely
Vicki Kalabokes
John Kuchar III
Fred Meise
Melanie & family
Tony Montone
Jo Morrison
The Murphy family
Hitch Roland
Stacey Schneidereith
Sally Snell
Richard Spahr

Melanie Vohs
Ruth Welkner
Sophie Wittlesberger

Current ministries:

Empowerment of the Holy
Spirit in:
† Worship & Music
† Jubilee Singers
† St. John's Bronze

Prayers of thanksgiving:

John & Carol Kuchar,
John III, Nicholas
Barry Kuhne
Bill & Ruth Ann Langlotz
Doris Koerner
Thomas & Valerie Kress,
Christopher, Nicholas,
Nicole
George & Kim Kroener,
Jesse, Abigail

The bereaved:

Comfort for the family of
Ken Bareham. A memorial
service for the Barehams
will be Jan. 19 at St. John's.

Our mission partners:

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church –
Prs. Gary Dittman & Carol Perlie
Prs. Mercedes & Isaias Nelson
(Dom. Rep.)
Pr. Tyrone Smith (New Orleans)
National ELCA Bishop Elizabeth
Eaton
Delaware Maryland synod
Bishop Bill Gohl
Nicole & Kevin Fuhr,
serving Central America
Crucified Church in Johnstown,
PA – Pr. Josh Knipple
Freestate ChalleNGe Academy

Special needs:

Violence in our society
Rev. Randy's Mission Trip to
Haiti. Dec 15-22, 2018
We pray for Rev. Randy and
his team who are currently
on their mission trip in Haiti.
They will be doing God's
work in an area which is
vulnerable to natural disasters,
as well as poverty and limited
access to education.

Names on the prayer list are printed with permission of the person named. After receiving permission you may place a completed yellow prayer request card in the offering plate or contact the church office to add a name to the prayer list. After four weeks on the list a name will be removed unless the office is notified for an extension of time. Visitation: Please notify the church office if you anticipate a hospital stay. Thank you.

ST. JOHN'S BY THE NUMBERS

Prior Week's Grace Filled Giving: \$8,408

Prior Week's Attendance (12/9/2018)

8:08am.....75

9:38am.....130

11:08am.....60

Total: 282

2018 YTD Average...265

2018

New Members...52

New Members by

Baptism... 13

Children's Ministry...17 Adult Discussion 9:38...12

YTD Financials thru 11/30/2018

| | November | Year-To-Date |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Unified Offering | \$43,040 | \$568,702 |
| Operating Expenses | -\$44,844 | -\$557,080 |
| Designated Offering | <u>\$685</u> | <u>-\$21,307</u> |
| Net Op. Income | <u>(\$2,489)</u> | <u>(\$9,685)</u> |

Sunday Plate, e-Giving, Donations, Hall
Salaries, Utilities, Maint., Benev.
Designated To Non-Op. (e.g., Expansion)

Unable to meet normal expenses!

"Joyfully Giving To The Church"