



ST. JOHN'S WEEKLY

Welcome All, Tell The Story, Grow As Disciples

8:08 am

Communion Team

Marjorie Espenscade

Reader

Marge Espenscade

Ushers/Greeters

*Tom & Emily Walton,
Chris Fullem & Kris
Walton*

Media

Doug Crowe, Tim Rader

Assisting Minister

Linda Walsh

9:38 am

Communion Team

Jim & Susanne Kauffman

Reader

Jim Kauffman

Ushers/Greeters

John & Laura Coleman

Media

Jay Cuccia, Dan Knott

11:08 am

Communion Team

Ed Compher

Reader

Louisa Rettew

Ushers/Greeters

*Dave Habicht, Ed
Compher, Eric & Jennifer
Roland*

Media

Jay Cuccia, Jason Jones

Assisting Minister

Don Zurwelle

Advent Conspiracy & Preparation

December 9, 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 |

TODAY we Join the Story on Act 4 ISRAEL: Jeremiah 7:1-7

We are at Act 4: Israel & the Prophets. Last week we heard the prophet Isaiah remind us that God will turn our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks, that we may be workers in the garden of creation again. This week we hear the prophet Jeremiah report a scathing observation from God: We cannot claim to be God's people without seeking justice. What does it mean to seek justice...for someone else?

Today’s Coffee Hour hosted by Finance Team

This team develops an annual mission plan (budget) for the Church Council and leads the way for faithful stewardship. Contact office@stjohnssweetair.org.

Update from Children’s Ministry Coordinator—Megan McBee

This Christmas, Children’s Ministry will be retelling the story of “The Star” through narration, hand chimes and costumes. We are so grateful for Louisa Rettew who is composing an original piece for this presentation. Gail Jothen is helping us include a Children’s processional with song.

Christmas Eve Rehearsal will be offered twice:

- The first practice will be offered with a pizza and movie party on Saturday, December 22nd @ 5 pm.
- The second practice will be during 9:38 service on Sunday, December 23rd.

The nativity set at the Welcome Center is on loan from Karis & Steve Colnitis! Many thanks!



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

This Week @ St. John's

Amazing Grace Mission

Dec 18th

Meet 9am at church to sort the winter attire and prepare the meal. We'll carpool there, serve the meal and distribute all the items. Return back at 330p. Watch the Loop for the sign-up.

Jan 13th

New Member Welcome

Program

9:30 am & 10:45 am Visitors & Members invited for bagels in Fellowship Hall and Walking Tour. Sponsored by Sweet Air Connections

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the holiday season and all December birthdays by Gail Blauvelt



A Bouquet is given to the Glory of God and in honor of Jessica & Erik Hafner's Wedding Anniversary Given by Dominick Pumilia & Henrick Hafner

Monday, December 10

10:00am Caring Hearts Outreach (FH)
11:00am Staff Meeting
4:00pm Oasis Leadership (LR)
7:00 pm Council /The Kauffman's

Tuesday, December 11

9:00am Mutual Ministry
10:00am Men's Bible Study-Jarrettsville Train
2:00pm Tuesday Bible Study (P)
6:30pm H2H (FH, rms. 1,2,4,CR)
7:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 1423 (CH)
7:30pm St. John's Bronze (WC)

Wednesday, December 12

5:30 pm Daisy Troop #10360 (Rm. 3)
7:00 pm 9:38 Rehearsal (WC)
7:00 pm Troop 818 (CH)

Thursday, December 13

7:15am Men's Ministry (FH)

7:37pm Oasis (YC)
8:00pm On-line Small Grp. Series
8:00 pm AA Mtg. (FH)

Friday, December 14

9:00am Prayer Group (P)
7:11pm 360 Club (YC,CH)

Saturday, December 15

12:00pm Senior Ministry Luncheon (FH)

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

Save the Date ~ Upcoming December Events

Dec. 15th 9 -11am Stewardship Workshop

Everyone invited to the Parlor. The goal will be to develop strategies to address three areas of: regular giving, major gifts and legacy planning and determine the initiatives we can pursue in 2019.

Dec. 15th An invitation from our Veterans Committee...

"Wreaths Across America" will be at Dulaney Memorial Gardens from 12 -1:30 pm, laying 3,500 wreaths on veterans' graves. Please share this information because they're looking for volunteers.

Q? Nelson Bengel, office@stjohnssweetair.org.

Dec. 15th 11am to noon St. John's Bronze at the Jacksonville Train Garden

Dec. 15th 12-4 pm Senior Ministry Christmas Party (Fellowship Hall)

Dec 22 5 pm Children's Rehearsal & Movie Party

Dec. 23 Regular worship 808/938/1108 with children's rehearsal at 9:38

Dec 24 Christmas Eve 10 am Traditional Worship (Chapel)
1 pm Traditional Worship (Chapel)
3 pm Family Worship (Worship Center)
5 pm Contemporary Christmas (Worship Center)
8 pm Traditional Christmas (Worship Center)

Dec. 30th, Unity Service 10am

Ring of bells (your own or church's).
NEW: Potluck to follow with game show for all ages!



MISSIONS IN MOTION

Dec. 10th 10 am Caring Hearts Outreach Workshop & Gathering

New people welcomed to FH. Special guest Cindy Hilbert Rayme on “the healing power of safe touch.” Caring Hearts Outreach makes connections by phone or visit with shut ins and those who are recovering from illness. We meet quarterly to share about phone calls and visits. Your work is so appreciated. -LuAnn Lundell



THANK YOU from St. John's MOMS

Thank you for SARC recovery in Harford County. This organization stands for Substance-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)!



Reminder...If you signed up for Music, Feasting and Fun on December 15th, please do not forget to send in your payment.



E-giving This month we are at an all-time high with just over \$17k in e-giving for the month! E-Giving helps us maintain a consistent cash flow through the summer months. You can visit our web page stjohnnssweetair.org for secure e-giving Sign-up. It can also be changed anytime.

-Cheryl Bitner, Financial Secretary

e-giving

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 9:15 am – 1 pm Staff, Leaders and Council Retreat

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 Informational Meeting. 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 many others'. Questions? Contact Linda Walsh at lindawalsh@comcast.net or 410 804 9182.



Jan. 15th 7 pm Everyone invited to Caring Paws Outreach Graduation

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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Lead Pastor

Rev. Dr. Lisa Arrington

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:

Jace Badros & family
Carolyn Bengel
Harvey Blevins
Pastor Boliek
Carolyn Bonsignore
Scott Clem
Ava Daniels
Beverlae Davis
Evan Davis & family
Iona Dorn & family
Tom Dreisch
Benton Gatch
Mark Habicht
Tiffany Henning
The Hobbs family
Vera Huggins
Orville Hughes
John Kuchar III
Jean Mace
Fred Meise
Tony Montone
Jo Morrison
The Murphy family

Stacey Schneidereith
Sally Snell
Richard Spahr
Ruth Welkner
Sophie Wittlesberger

Current ministries:

Empowerment of the Holy
Spirit in:
† 1824 Young Adult
Ministry
† Youth & Family Ministry
Team
† Church Council

Prayers of thanksgiving:

Mark & Judy Lapinski,
Maya, Joslyn, Madelena,
Marcus
Adam & Robin Larrimore,
Samuel
John & Monica Larsen

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 Challege Academy

Special needs:

Violence in our society

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: \$7,817

Prior Week's Attendance (12/2/2018)

8:08am.....69

9:38am.....111

11:08am.....74

Total: 277

2018 YTD Average...265

Children's Ministry...23

2018

New Members...52

New Members by
Baptism... 13

YTD Financials thru 10/31/2018

	October	Year-To-Date
Unified Offering	\$51,168	\$525,662
Operating Expenses	-\$47,516	-\$512,236
Designated Offering	\$2,638	-\$20,622
Net Op. Income	\$1,014	(\$7,196)

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

Vanco Simply Giving—\$160,211
thru October

"Giving Thanks And Thankfully Giving"