

St. John's Journal

NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2017

From Pastor Faron's computer



Time seems to travel faster with each passing year and here we are about to begin a new church year with Advent. Throughout the year I tend to think about God a lot and I always ask God, "What is the next step?"

When I came here several people suggested that a church should be run like a business. In the way of fiscal accountability, I can understand that to a point. However, any direction like that one taken to an extreme can be damaging. For as a church and the people of God we believe that the Holy Spirit leads and guides us. Therefore, in modeling that faith before you, there are many things and functions of the church that I really don't need to know about. The reason for this is because I expect and trust you to follow Jesus. I expect you to seek God's will in all things and to learn to listen to God.

In fact, this is the reason that we come to church and participate in the church's activities. We come to worship God and to be formed in faith, to grow.

So, while reflecting upon that this morning I thought about the time I have spent with you. I reflected on the things I have been told by you, things you have shown me, and about those who have been gathered to God in the passing years. As I stated earlier, another year is beginning, and it gives us all reason to reflect and to anticipate the things we will encounter in the coming church year.

As part of your reflection I want to give you a task. The reason a pastor is called is to walk with people in their spiritual journey of faith. But how does a pastor know how people are affected or are growing? Well, there are some things that are visible and evident in our actions, but otherwise, things remain hidden from the pastor. So, I am asking that you reflect upon your faith journey and ways that you have grown in faith and understanding since God has brought us together. Pray about these things and write them down along with your name. Then I ask that you share them with me.

You can give them to me directly or put them through the slot in my office door. If you wish to sit and talk about your growth and faith with me, then that can be arranged. However, my question is how is your faith, how have you grown?

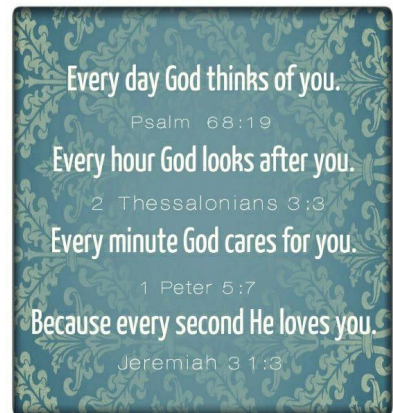
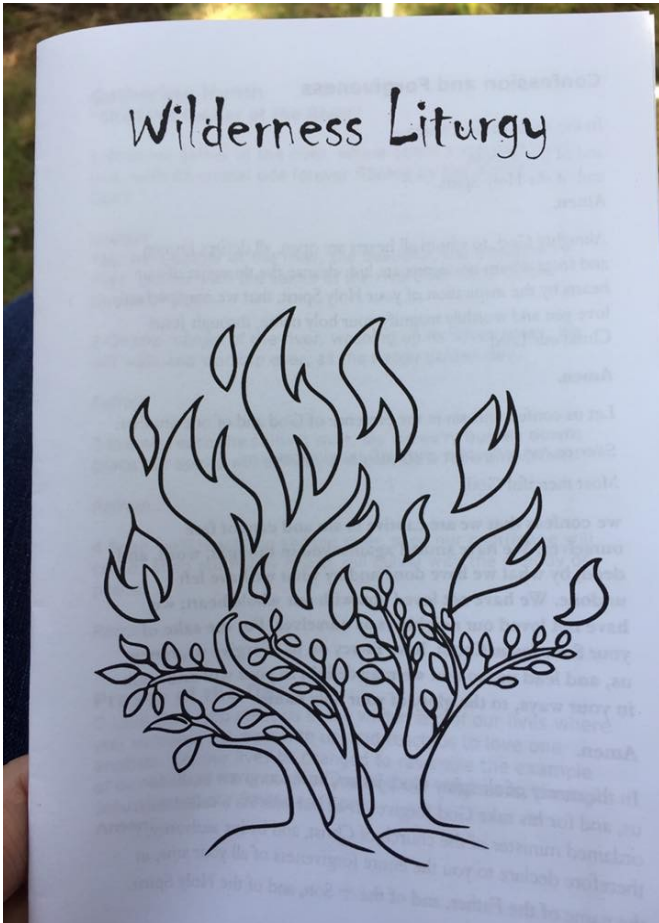
In Christ,

Pastor Faron

CHURCH SERVICE IN THE PARK

Pastor Faron designed his own bulletin

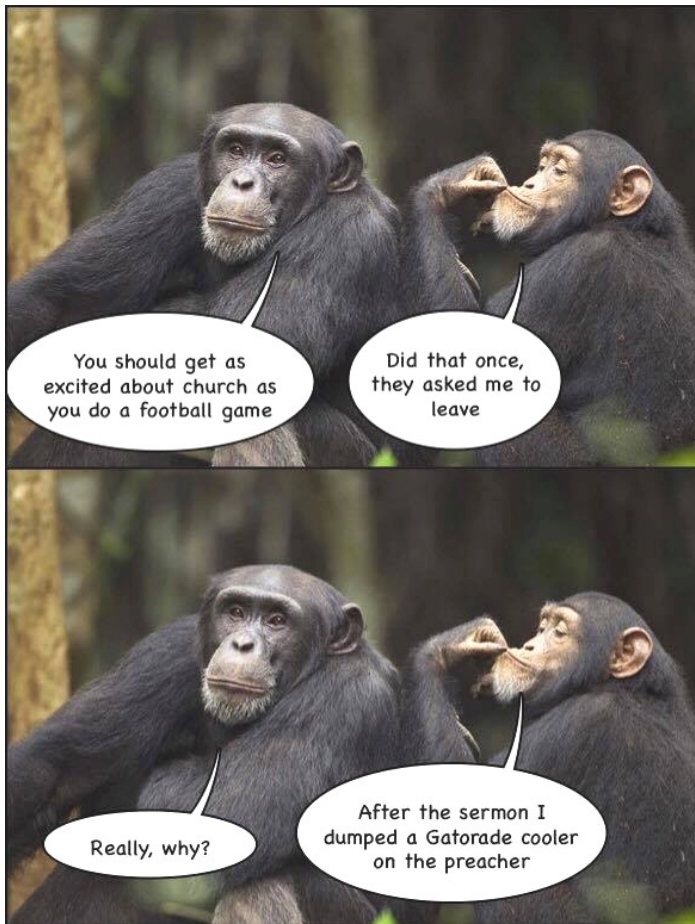
Sept. 2, 2017





The rolling surface of green gives way to an array of mottled colors adding to the depth and intricacy of the land beneath as leaves began to fall. They collide with the earth below like so many memories throughout a lifetime among the silvery birch sentinels that protect their secrets. They await a mantle of white that will shroud them in a snowy silence. And there in the ending, life begins. Pastor Faron 9/18/17

Distance is often thought of as the greatest of hurdles, especially in the way of relationships. However, the distance can bring so many of our misconceptions into focus. For every time that I must say farewell, I am reminded of how fragile this thing we call life is, where one day or one moment spins us around sending us in new directions. In one instance, those that we love might walk into the light of another place leaving our hearts to ache, while realizing how great the love that we shared remains within us. Now that you're gone, I know how much I loved you. Pastor Faron 9/21/17



Ministerial Service

A local minister was engaged to conduct a private interment service in a small country community.

Unfortunately, his travel was delayed. As he drove, he noticed in a distance that two men were shoveling earth into a hole. He quickly parked his car, took his pastoral service book and went to the site and conducted the proper service.

As he pronounced the benediction, he thanked the two men for accommodating him, and drove off.

The elder Workman looked puzzled at his coworker and remarked, "in all the years that he has performed his work, he never experienced such a glorified blessing on the installation of a septic system." Author Anonymous

Committee packed 7 care kits for students living on campus and sent 5 gift cards for students who commute.

Journal entry by Thomas Applegate — 9/12/2017

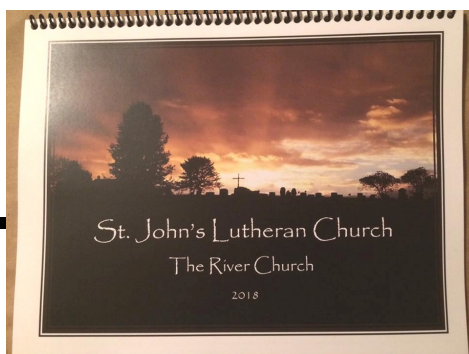
Well last Friday we moved everything out of Hope Lodge. Took us a few weeks to feel comfortable that we would not need the room. They also reassured us if needed they can usually fit us in if needed. Tina is enjoying being home. She goes to Hershey 3 days a week yet to the Infusion Center. Numbers are going up gradually. She is ready for visitors at the house. We just ask that you call ahead and also make sure you do not have any active illness. Even though her white counts are up the cells are still immature and are not advanced enough to combat a lot of illness so we are still very cautious. But she definitely would enjoy friends coming over. Update, Tina is now going once a week and reports are looking good.



Remember these? There are several keep sakes left. Nice gift for someone on your Christmas List. See Barbara or Pastor Faron

ON SALE NOW—

St. John's is selling 2018 calendars consisting of pictures Pastor Faron has photographed of the church and church grounds. All proceeds benefit the the youth. Pre orders are being taken until Sunday, November 12th. Cost is \$16.00. Sign- up sheets are located on the bulletin boards.



Another nice Christmas gift to give to someone on your list.



People sometimes ask why I go to the city so often. Well, many reasons. I love the shows, the arts, whether it's performance or museums. I love the culture. I love to be reminded of how so many people from so many places can get along and live together in harmony. I am reminded of this by the myriad of languages you hear walking down the avenues. I love the serenity of Central Park. And considering my own life, it's a place where I can disappear. No one there knows me other than a couple of people that come to mind. There I am not Faron, Reverend, or Pastor. I become just another nameless face in a sea of faces. There I can walk away from all that I carry and do on a daily basis and just be. I never know what the future may hold, so when I live near a wonderful place like the city it makes sense to drink in all it has to offer. The same would occur if it were LA, London, Paris, etc. A nice way to live. And people who know me best also realize another reason that I go and that has to do with what we might say are "the least of these."

Pastor Faron Oct. 6, 217



NHN THANKSGIVING/CHRISTMAS FOOD COLLECTION-

Social Ministry will be collecting "Thanksgiving/Christmas" food items from October 22, 2017 through November 12, 2017. Items such as canned vegetables, gravy, instant mashed potatoes, stuffing, etc. (no glass items, please) can be placed in the Narthex or in the rear of the Social Hall.

There is a Reformation Service Celebrating the 500th anniversary of the reformation on Sunday, October 29th at 3 PM at the Historic Warrior Run Church.

Country Gospel Music Sunday November 5th , an evening of Country Gospel music at Zion Lutheran Church 39 Paradise St. Turbotville refreshments at 5 PM music at 6:30

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND DINNER

Sunday, November 12, 2017

Potluck dinner being planned.

Crystals student of the month**■ ROTARY ANNOUNCES STUDENT OF THE MONTH**

Lewisburg Sunrise Rotary Club is proud to announce our SUN Area Technical Institute Student of the Month for September. Congratulations to BriAunna Shetterly, a student in the cosmetology program. Shetterly hopes to have her own salon one day. Her instructor, Crystal Gutshall, describes BriAunna as very creative, kind, and a natural at working with all types of hair designs. BriAunna was accompanied by her guardians, Alicia & Dave Engle. From left, Club President Marty Gates, member Marcia Murray, Shetterly and Gutshall.

Photo provided

Emily Kilgus Rupert's hopes came true on Oct. 18, 2017. She wanted to be around for her 100th Birthday. She had two parties and three cakes. A party with her immediate family on Oct. 14th and a party with St. Johns friends, relatives and friends at Milton Rehab. On Oct. 18th.



Emily very happy to receive a letter and Birthday Greetings from President Trump.

THE HAY RIDE GANG Oct. 22, 2017



17 on the ride including the driver, Carl. Three came later to enjoy our fun time together. Hot dogs, lots of goodies to eat, guessing how many pieces of candy in jar and fun playing Bingo. Thanks to Francine and Jay for the wagon and thanks to Carl for tractor and driving.



*HAPPY
THANKSGIVING
DAY*

CONGRATULATIONS to Amanda and Joe Heider. They are the proud parents of a daughter Quinzel Elizabeth Ferris Heider born Oct 20, 2017. There was a pink rose bud on the piano in her honor.



DID YOU KNOW?



NEW PHONE NUMBER Sharon & Gene Greninger 570-547-0103

Martin Anspach is recuperating at his home after surgery.

Nellie Crawford is at Milton Rehap.

No fellowship meal for Nov. First Lutheran serves a meal.

Was good to see Ellen Messinger in church after her illness.

Lois Yoder was scheduled for surgery soon.

Did you notice the fresh new white paint on the front doors and windows.

Thanks to Jack .

Aladean and Don Weaver are well know in the Watsontown area. Ten years ago, their son Jeff passed on and now this year on September 29th, they lost a second son Scott who lived in Hawaii. They are neighbors to Barbara & Jr. , and Aladean, Barbara and myself were classmates in school. Our church family extends our deepest sympathy to them and their families.



Peace be with you

GW

REMINDERS

EVERY SUNDAY- 9AM CHURCH & COMMUNION- SUNDAY SCHOOL TO FOLLOW

2017 Council Officers

Jeff Reitz, Pres., Jack Mincemoyer,
Vice President, and

Mitzi Kurtz, Treas.

Also serving are

Crystal Gutshall, Lois Rathmell,
Amy Rickert, and Ken Crawford

Christmas choir rehearsal begins Nov. 16,
2017

Christmas caroling is being planned.

Christmas Eve service , look for de-
tails in the future Sunday bulletins



MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

Thanks to each one who attends and
thanks to all who do extra things around
the church . Thank you Pastor Faron.



Continuing Prayer Needed

Ken Crawford, Emily Rupert, Henry Reinsburrow, Tina Applegate, Earl Yoder, Norma Jean Herr, Diann Rupert , Nancy Yordy ,Elaine Klingler and Bryon Krapf.

On deck for counting the offerings Month of

NOVEMBER Mitzi & Gene Kurtz

On deck for counting the offerings Month of

DECEMBER Lyn & Jeff Reitz

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
6590 Musser Lane



It doesn't matter how
many Sundays you sit in
church or if you
think you are saved.
God sees what you do and
how you treat people.
That's what really matters.

Amen

ADDICTION HOTLINE 800.815.6308