

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, CLARKSBURG, WV



Rev. Amadeus Gandy is the first resident LCMS pastor in Clarksburg. His first service at St. John's was Sunday, November 11. He was installed by Pastor Brian Westgate, English District Pittsburgh Circuit Visitor. Pastor Westgate, in his sermon on Ezekiel 37:1-14 and Hebrews 12:18-29, talked about how God uses the Office of the Holy Ministry to bring new life to the dry bones of people born dead in trespasses and sins; He does this through the preaching of Law and Gospel and through the Sacraments, which purify us from our sins that we might approach God in His sanctuary.

The congregation was blessed to have present Pastor Charles Lehmann, who now serves congregations in the Bozeman, MT area. He was the pastor of St. John's in the Cove, Accident, MD, who began the mission work in Clarksburg exactly 10 years ago. He served as liturgist for the occasion and also gave a speech during the reception following the service; he also read a letter from Pastor Robert Riebau, who served the congregation after Pastor Lehmann left and before Pastor James Oester came to the Cove and Clarksburg. Pastor Oester served as lector for the service. Both Pastor Lehmann and Pastor Oester were recognized by the congregation at the conclusion of the service. Pastor Douglas Spittel served as Master of Ceremonies and Vicar Timothy Kern served as crucifier. Several other pastors from both the English and the Eastern Districts were present.

Pastor Gandy went right to work inside and outside the building. He invited the community to his installation, is preparing one room in the church undercroft to be his office and has restored the church building's historic Altar to the Sanctuary.

Pastor Gandy's arrival will allow the congregation to hold regular Sunday morning services. If you are ever in the Clarksburg area on a Sunday morning, or a Wednesday evening in Advent or Lent, please drop in to visit and worship our Good Shepherd!

Please keep Pastor Gandy and his new flock in both your prayers and your offerings and pray our Savior will richly bless this congregation. We give Him thanks for all the blessings He has bestowed on it throughout this past decade, and especially during this past year as it became a congregation of our LCMS English District and received its first pastor.



