

# St. John Lutheran Church

Williston, Ohio

# FORERUNNER

Volume 0630 Issue 255  
July 2017

## Ask the Pastor

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*Did you know in the early church stained glass windows were used to tell Bible stories to Christians who couldn't read? The pictures, images, and symbols in Christian art often tell a story and inform our faith. During a recent Committee Night devotion, we talked about some of the symbols we see around the church and even the symbolism of the church itself. This month I wanted to share some information about colors in the church. The information below is from an ELCA blog post (<http://blogs.elca.org/worship/?p=541>). I have edited for space. If there are any other symbols you are curious about, please let me know.*

### Why the colors?

In the Christian tradition, colors are used for vestments and paraments, but a unified system of colors developed only gradually and haphazardly until and through the Middle Ages. Today, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America provides a system of colors for use by its congregations; for the most part, the same system is also used by Roman and Anglican churches, at least in the United States; and by many churches around the world, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

The colors serve to adorn the worship space, and to call attention to the nature of the season or festival being celebrated.

### A brief summary of color usage, according to the church year:

**Advent:** Blue is associated with Advent, suggesting hope. This association originated in Scandinavia, probably because purple dye was too expensive for churches to use. Some assemblies use purple in Advent, a color associated with royalty as the church awaits the newborn king. (note, this is a different meaning than when it is used in Lent; see below).

**Christmas:** White, calling to mind the purity of the newborn Christ, and to our light and joy in him. Some also use Gold.

**Epiphany of Our Lord:** White (see Christmas).

**Baptism of Our Lord:** White (see Christmas).

**Time after Epiphany:** Green is used for its symbolism of our growth in Christ. Green, in a sense, is a "neutral color," used when more festive or more somber color is not appointed.

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Continued from page 1..

**Transfiguration of Our Lord:** White (see Christmas).

**Ash Wednesday:** Purple is the preferred color as this is the first day of Lent. Historically, black has also been used on this day, since it is the color of the ashes to which we will all return.

**Lent:** Purple is typically associated with Lent, suggesting repentance and solemnity.

**Sunday of the Passion:** Scarlet is the preferred color of this first day of Holy Week, as it suggests the deep color of blood. (Scarlet is to be distinguished from the brighter color of red, which is appointed for the Day of Pentecost, martyrs' days, and certain church celebrations). If a parish does not have scarlet vestments, purple may be used.

**Maundy Thursday:** For this fourth day of Holy Week, celebrated as the institution of the Lord's Supper, scarlet or white is used.

**Good Friday:** No vestments or paraments are used on this day, after the stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday night.

**Vigil of Easter:** White or Gold suggests of joy in the Resurrection is used on this night. Easter Day: Gold or white is suggested for this day. The gold color symbolizes that this day is the "queen of feasts," unique in the entire church year.

**Sundays of Easter:** White suggests the joy of the resurrection.

**Day of Pentecost:** Red as the color of fire is used on this day when we remember the tongues of fire descended on the crowd in Jerusalem. In contrast to the color of scarlet, Pentecost's red is a bright color.

**The Holy Trinity:** White is suggested, the expression of joy in the mystery of the Triune God.

**Time after Pentecost:** Green is used, to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ. Some assemblies use differing shades of green throughout the Sundays after Pentecost, a lighter green in summer and a darker green in fall.

**Christ the King:** The final day of the church year uses white, a festive color suggesting light, joy, and the celebration of our Lord.

Lesser festivals and commemorations are white, unless a martyr is celebrated, in which case bright red is suggested.

*If you would like to submit a question for "Ask the Pastor", Biblical, theological, church related, anything you have been dying to ask a pastor, you can hand me a note, ask me after church, send an e-mail, or sneak into the church after dark and anonymously slide a sealed envelope under my office door. If I answer your question in print, I will not include your name unless you explicitly ask me to.*



### **The Forerunner**

is published monthly  
by St. John Lutheran Church  
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### **Worship Schedule**

**Beginning June 4th**

**Saturday Worship 5:00 pm**  
**Sunday Worship 9:00 am**

**Deadline for the**  
**AUGUST newsletter is**  
**Monday, August 20th**

**Please send articles and/or**  
**information to**  
**office@stjohnwilliston.org.**

**At St. John, we are**  
**"Creating and nurturing life**  
**changing relationships based**  
**on the love of God in Jesus**  
**Christ, so that we may grow in**  
**faith, serve God and**  
**serve our neighbor."**



**9am—3pm**  
**Mon. thru Fri.**



# Notes of THANKS

## **To the People of St. John,**

Thank you for the prayers and recent visits during my recent surgery and recovery. They were greatly appreciated.

**Fritz Lau and family**

## **St. John Family,**

Thank you for the love and support shown during our time of loss. Thank you for the luncheon and your presence during this time following the loss of our mother.

**Mischelle Fisher & Family**

## **Dear Friends,**

Thank you for your recent gifts to the Luther Home of Mercy from your Lenten Donations and your Pancake Supper. We are indeed blessed with friends who care, who seem to know our needs and respond with love and generosity. Your gift is important and you are a vital part of the work being done here. Work that is indeed effective and truly makes a lasting difference not only in the lives of those we serve, but in their families and in the community. Please know that as we express appreciation for your kindness, you are in our prayers.

**Terri Rodriguez**  
**President/CEO Luther Home**

## ***Thank you to our Forerunner Mail Group!***

*Linda Schlievert  
Madelayne Saionzkowski  
Allen Harder*

*Terry Gast  
Betty Roecker  
Diane Hartman  
Audrey Milbrodt*

## ***A Parade of Thanks!***

The Evangelism Committee would like to thank all who participated in the Genoa Homecoming Parade. Also, a thank you to those who donated candy.

We purchased 400 religious bracelets and attached a tag naming the summer church services and events. Thanks to Roberta and Karl Orians for the use of the golf cart and trailer. The decorations were done by Rob Orians with help from his work for the banners. Those who walked or rode in the parade were

Carolyn Lasseter, Marilyn Sandrock, Beverly Harder, Jane Phillips, Tracy Orians, Rob and Kristen Orians, Anna Sommers, Sophie Cashen, Pastor O'Brien, Aidan O'Brien and Margaret Berger.

## **Thank you for Serving!**

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Food Pantry on June 17th.

Linda Schlievert  
Gene Bihn  
Jim Vogelbacher  
Diana Pfaff  
Cole Kwiatkowski  
Beverly Harder  
Dick and Shirley Crosskill  
Jordan Blausey  
Richard and Jane Phillips  
Ann Pfeiffer  
Pat Delventhal  
Lily Sondergeld  
Marilyn Sandrock  
Carolyn Lasseter  
Carole Beamer  
Joanne Luebke  
Janice Sheahan  
Nancy Csizek  
Becky Tank  
Cindy Hartman

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank you for your generous support of the Good Samaritan Fund.

# BAPTISMS

On June 10th, the following family members were welcomed into the family of Christ through Holy Baptism.

Melissa Erin Grosjean,  
wife of Randy Grosjean and  
their children,

Ella Marjorie Grosjean,  
Rowan Elisabeth Brossia and  
Taysen Karl Brossia.

*May the Lord bless and keep  
them and continue to  
guide them on their way.*

*“Whatever you ask for in  
prayer with faith,  
you will receive.”  
Matthew 21:22*

*When there is illness, a  
special need, or a time of  
thanksgiving in your family,  
or among friends or neighbors,  
you may wish to ask  
for the prayers of your  
sisters and brothers  
at St. John.*

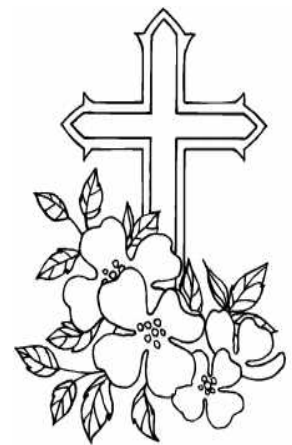
*If such a need arises, call  
Pastor O'Brien (419-972-  
4003) cell ph: (419-378-  
1112) or the church office  
(419-836-5514) who will  
begin the prayer chain.*

*Please keep your message  
to the minimum to avoid any  
errors in passing on.*

# memorials & gifts

## In Memory of Forest Sabin

Madelayne Saionzkowski  
Doris Titgemeyer  
Phil and Audrey Milbrodt



## Altar || Flowers

### Did you remember to order your Altar Flowers?

The flower chart for the remainder of 2017 is posted in the Narthex on the west wall. Please sign up for dates you would like to provide for the cost of the altar or chancel flowers. Altar flowers are **\$25.00** and the Chancel flowers are **\$20.00**.

Please fill out a blue slip, and send it along with your check to the office or place it in the offering plate. Please note on your slip if you would like to provide your flowers in celebration or in memoriam. Please send in your check and form as soon as possible. You do not need to wait until your “order date.” The blue slips are needed to order your flowers, so please remember to turn them in. Thank you!



**There are no circle meetings in July or August.**

The **Esther Circle** will be going to dinner at the Oregon Inn on Tuesday, July 11 at 5:30 PM. We would love for you to join us. To be included in the reservation, please contact Diane Gerkenmeyer at 419-836-7052 by July 5th.

**Save the date!**

It is official. The theme for the July 29 Synodical Convention is



**Saturday, July 29, 2017**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**935 Bigelow Ave. Findlay, OH**  
**8:15 AM Registration**  
**(with Continental Breakfast)**  
**to 5:00 PM closing service.**

***“Called to be a Living Voice: 500 Years of Faith”***

Our theme will be divided into three Bible Studies:

**Word alone– at worship**  
**Faith alone– at business meeting**  
**Grace alone– at sending**

**Worship and Study Leaders:**

Pastor Juli K. Lejman-Guy. She is the pastor of St. John’s Bellevue. Pastor Juli will serve as Worship Leader under the theme Word Alone and lead our second Bible study under Faith Alone

Michelle Schafer is Preschool Director and member of St. Paul Norwalk. She will lead our third Bible Study under the theme of Grace Alone.

**\$25 Registration/ \$15 Lunch and snacks**

**Deadline for registration is July 15.**

**Checks payable to Women of the ELCA**

**Registration Forms are available from Ann**

**Mann or in the church office.**



**all anew**  
**WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

“All Anew” is the theme for Women of the ELCA’s Tenth Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis, Minn., July 13-16, 2017. The theme is supported by several biblical texts that speak of renewal. The churchwide executive board accepted “All Anew” as the theme following a July 20 conference call meeting.

Because the Tenth Triennial Gathering falls during the observance of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation in 2017, the theme resonates with *reformation* and *transformation* images. At the gathering, participants will explore ways in which the Holy Spirit changes us, acknowledging that reformation and transformation have happened and continue to happen within the community of women known as Women of the ELCA.

One theme verse, Psalm 104:30: “Lord, send forth your spirit...and renew the face of the earth” calls on God to send the Holy Spirit to renew not just God’s people, not just God’s church—but all God’s earth, the creation that God called good.

In addition to Psalm 104:30, other supporting theme verses include:

Romans 12:2: ... Be transformed by the renewing of your minds. ...You’ll be changed from the inside out.

2 Corinthians 4:16: ...Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.

Titus 3:4-5: ... [God] gave us a good bath, and we came out of it new people, washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 43:19: I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

<http://www.welcatg.org>



## A Message from Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin



Dear Friends in Christ,

**"...and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love" (Ephesians 4:17).**

My oldest son, Joshua and his wife Michelle are currently in Ecuador. They are leading a 6-week mission trip with a number of college students from central Ohio. Their purpose is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with college students in Ecuador. It does my heart good to see my son and daughter-in-law live their young adult lives rooted and grounded in the love of Jesus Christ.

I've noticed in newsletters and on social media that many of our Northwestern Ohio Synod congregations are gearing up for Vacation Bible School and heading out on mission trips. One of the things that I recall on the last day of Vacation Bible School and as I unpacked my bags from a mission trip was a strong sense of grateful exhaustion. I was always fully drained, but also filled with gratitude for faithful witness and loving service in the name of Jesus Christ.

Thank you, people of God, for sharing the love of Christ with the children of the community through Vacation Bible School. Thank you also for serving those in need through summer mission trips. May you be fully and gratefully exhausted, **"...and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."**

### Staffing for Mission

We are currently posting (through Wednesday, **July 5**), and prayerfully seeking someone to fill the position of *Director for Leadership Development and Congregational Care* of the Northwestern Ohio Synod.

The purpose of this newly developed position is to serve God by sharing in the mission of the Northwestern Ohio Synod (NWOS) through equipping, developing, and strengthening lifelong learners and strong, mission-minded leaders; implementing strategies that assist the NWOS in its transformation to a discipling culture, and providing care and guidance to congregations in times of transition, conflict, stability, and growth.

Please find a detailed position description and the application process by visiting [www.NWOS-ELCA.church](http://www.NWOS-ELCA.church).

### 2017: The Year of Grace Memory Verse

**Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God"**

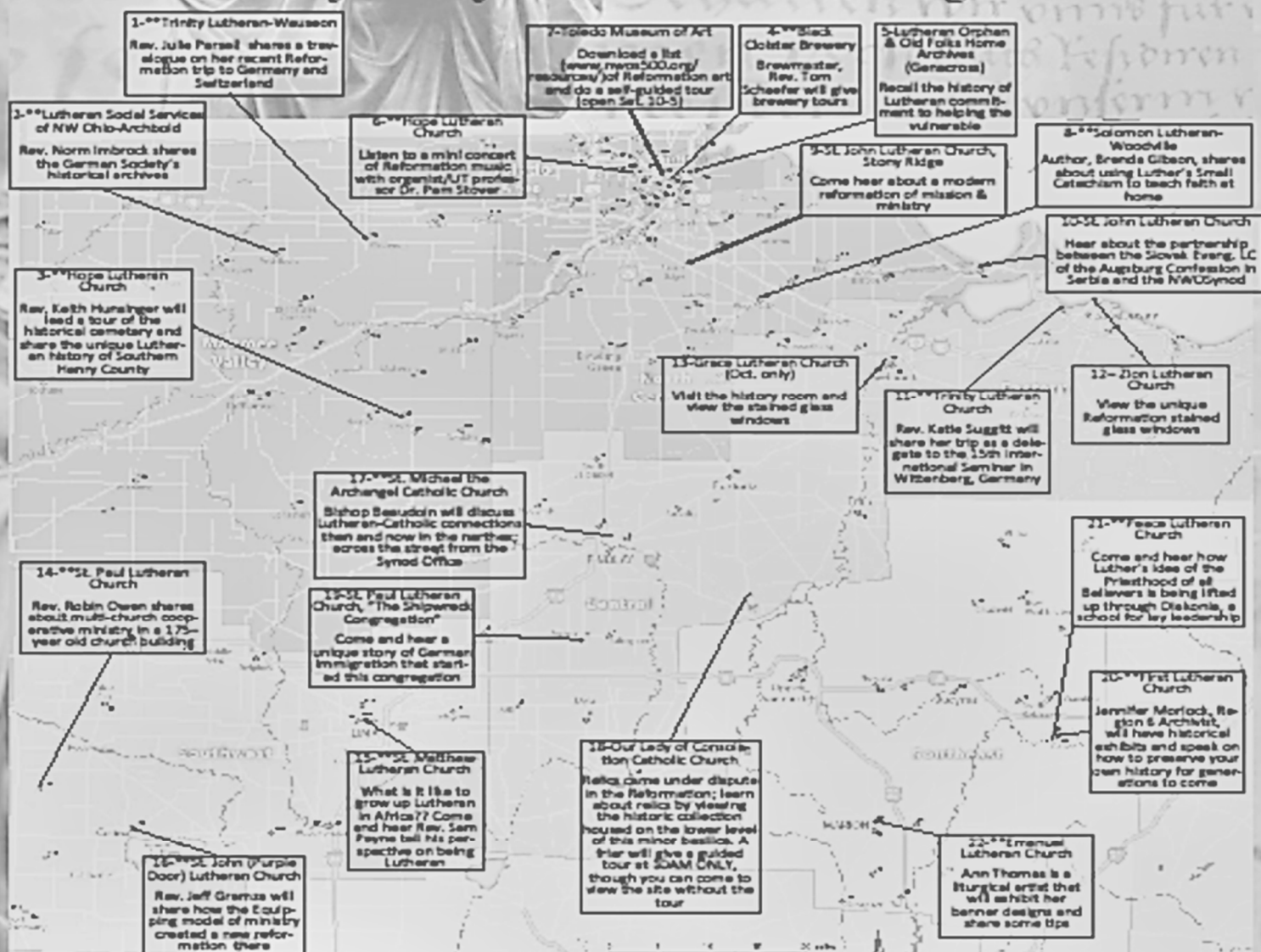
**Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin**

# Northwestern Ohio Synod Reformation 500 Crawl

Saturdays, July 29 & October 21

10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Travel to different locations throughout our Synod  
to experience unique presentations celebrating  
500 years of our Lutheran heritage!



USE THE ADDRESS LIST BELOW WITH YOUR GPS TO PLAN YOUR ROUTE!!

1--\*\*Trinity Lutheran Church, 398 S. Shoop Ave., Wauseon

2--\*\*Lutheran Social Services, 1-793 State Route 66, Archbold

3--\*\*Hope Lutheran Church, 10036 State Route 18, Hemler

4--\*\*Black Clotter Brewery, 629 Monroe St., downtown Toledo

5--LOOF (Genecross) Archives, 2411 Seaman St., Toledo

6--\*\*Hope Lutheran Church, 2201 Secor Rd (at Benckhoff), Toledo (Offene Hills)

7--Toledo Museum of Art, 2445 Monroe St., Toledo (open Saturdays 10-5)

8--\*\*Solomon Lutheran Church, 305 W. Main St., Woodville

9--St. John Lutheran Church, 5520 Fremont Pike, Stony Ridge

10--St. John Lutheran Church, 207 Adams St., Port Clinton

11--\*\*Trinity Lutheran Church, 502 Bardner Rd., Sandusky

12--Zion Lutheran Church, 503 Columbus Ave., Sandusky

13--Grace Lutheran Church, 705 W. State St., Fremont (OCT. ONLY)

14--\*\*St. Paul Lutheran Church, 9530 Wabash Rd., Rockford (Liberty Twp.)

15--\*\*St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 5050 St. Matthew Dr., Lima (Cridersville)

16--\*\*St. John Lutheran (the Purple Door) Church, 1100 N. Main St., Collins

17--\*\*St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, 750 Bright Rd., Findlay

18--Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church, 315 Clay St., Carey

19--St. Paul Lutheran Church, 9340 Township Road 32, Jensen

20--\*\*First Lutheran Church, 127 S. Columbus St., Gallon

21--\*\*Peace Lutheran Church, 129 W. Walnut St., Gallon

22--\*\*Emanuel Lutheran Church, 241 S. Prospect St., Marion

\*DENOTES PRESENTATIONS AT 10AM, 11:30AM & 1PM (others are open house)



## What happened in the Reformation?

Martin Luther posted his “Ninety-Five Theses” in Wittenberg on Oct. 31, 1517, and the resulting debate about Christian teaching and practice led to changes that have shaped the course of Western Christianity for almost 500 years. At the heart of these wide-reaching changes was a deep conviction that God’s mercy or grace in Jesus is given freely to all. When Luther and others learned to trust God’s mercy with “a living, daring confidence,” they discovered in that faith the freedom to give themselves generously, lovingly in all of life’s undertakings with everyone they met.

The changes began with a critical look at confession and forgiveness, preaching and the sacraments — what Luther called the “means of grace.” The sale of indulgences, the practice of penance, the content of preaching, the administration of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper — all the restrictions that impeded the message of God’s mercy from being heard and received fully by all came under close scrutiny. Repeatedly, Luther made changes and took initiatives to give full and free expression to the gospel, the message of God’s liberating mercy in Jesus Christ. He translated the Scriptures into German so that ordinary believers could hear the Word of God in their everyday language. He composed many hymns including “A Mighty Fortress” (based on Psalm 46) that put the Word of God to music, the language of the heart. He preached for the people in Wittenberg in simple, everyday terms, and he used those sermons as the basis for teaching resources that parents and local pastors could use — his Small and Large Catechisms.

## Why is the Reformation still relevant?

The Lutheran Reformation offers to Christian communities everywhere a liberating way of listening to and speaking the Scriptures. The Reformation teaching that Christ’s life flows through faith into a life of service to the neighbor is especially liberating in our culture today.

The evangelical Lutheran Reformation offers the promise of God’s love that makes possible a life of “living, daring confidence in God’s grace.”

The Reformation teaching that faith is the work of God’s Holy Spirit is especially liberating in a culture that assumes a faith relationship with God is an act of human “free will.”

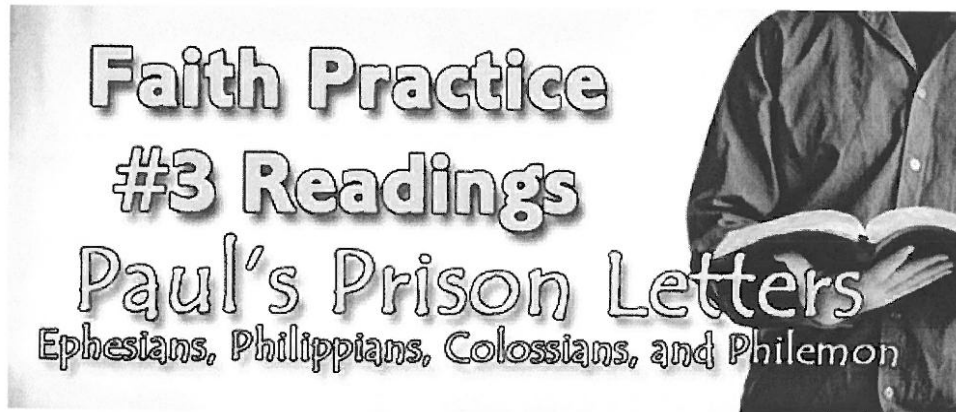
Many, both within Christian communities and beyond, are held captive by ideologies that limit the full scope of God’s mercy in Christ to demographic groups defined sociologically by certain beliefs, behaviors or experiences. The Reformation teaching that Christ’s life flows through faith into a life of service to the neighbor is especially liberating in a culture that makes religious life into a demonstration of one’s own worthiness and privilege to the disadvantage of others.

## How is the ELCA observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation?

The ELCA is one church body organized in three expressions — congregations, synods and the church-wide organization. Each expression has its particular functions, but all three share a common mission of doing God’s work in the world and proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. Congregations, members, synods and other institutions of the ELCA will be observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation by a variety of events and activities in the coming years. Many of the local activities will reflect the magnitude of work being done on a national and international scale.

Some areas of engagement will surround acknowledging what Martin Luther did to spark the Reformation, revisiting the roots of our Lutheran beliefs and what those roots mean today for us and our engagement with others.

In all of these activities, the ELCA seeks to find in this historic milestone an occasion to give a confident and joyful witness of the life and freedom in Jesus Christ that is for all. [www.elca500.org](http://www.elca500.org)



For our next Faith Practice Reading, we will be looking at some of Paul's letters. The so called "prison letters" (Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon), were written by the apostle Paul during his incarceration (more like house arrest) in Rome. They are the latest of Paul's letters, written around the years 60-62 AD. We will begin our reading with the last several chapters of Acts to refresh our memories on Paul's backstory; his arrest, trials, and journey to Rome. (Chapter 28 of the book of Acts tells more about Paul's time in prison when these letters were written.) Then, starting in September we will begin to read the letters themselves.

Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians are letters written to churches Paul had started on his missionary journeys. As you will see (or perhaps already know) these letters reflect Paul's love and concern for those he thought of as his spiritual children.

Philemon is a personal letter to one of his friends regarding a runaway slave. Apparently his friend's slave had become a Christian and Paul writes to ask for the slave's freedom.

We will continue with our "one chapter per week" schedule, although it might be helpful to first read the letter all in one sitting (they are not very long), and then go back and re-read the chapter for the week. I hope you will consider joining with us as we practice our faith!

Acts 22	July 17
Acts 23	July 24
Acts 24	July 31
Acts 25	August 7
Acts 26	August 14
Acts 27	August 21
Acts 28	August 28

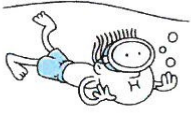
Ephesians 1	September 4
Ephesians 2	September 11
Ephesians 3	September 18
Ephesians 4	September 25
Ephesians 5	October 2
Ephesians 6	October 9

Philippians 1	October 16
Philippians 2	October 23
Philippians 3	October 30
Philippians 4	November 6
Colossians 1	November 13
Colossians 2	November 20
Colossians 3	November 27
Colossians 4	December 4
Philemon	December 11

# ST. JOHN YOUTH GROUP NEWS

July 2017

## Swimming and cookout at the Titgemeyer's



On Sunday, July 9 at 3:00p we will meet at the Titgemeyer's house for swimming in their pond, outdoor activities, and a cookout. The Titgemeyer's will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks. Participants are asked to bring chips, salads, or deserts to share. There is a sign-up sheet next to Pastor O'Brien's office door. Please sign-up with the number attending and the dish you will be bringing (to avoid duplications). Parents and siblings are welcome to attend. And as with all our events, friends are welcome too.

## Portage River Kayaking



## Home Plate at the Toledo Mud Hens

A sign-up sheet has been posted for interest in the Home Plate event on August 13. We will meet at the church at 2:30 and travel to the Hensville Park stage for a Q & A session with Mud Hens players and team chaplain, followed by a 'yet to be announced' Christian band concert (a picture of Sanctus Real is on the website). We then watch the Mud Hens play the Buffalo Bisons (a name that sounds redundant, but what do I know?). The event is free, but tickets for the game are \$10 if you sign-up and pay by July 30th. See Pastor O'Brien for more information.



## Mark Your Calendar!

*Upcoming Youth Activities/ Events*

### July 9 – Swimming and cookout at the Titgemeyer's

*Meet at 9751 Brown Road in Curtice, at 3:00p for swimming and food.*

### August 13 – Home Plate

*Sign-up now: there will be a Christian band, members of Toledo Mud Hens will share their faith stories, and Q&A with the players before the game.*

## Bulletin Board Pictures

*If you would like any of the pictures from the bulletin board outside of Pastor's office, and they have been there longer than a week, feel free to take them home. (Help make room for more!)*

*If you HAVE any pictures from our Youth Group activities, please send them to Pastor O'Brien*

## St. John T-Shirt

If you do not have one of our blue St. John t-shirts and want one; AND can wear an adult S, L, or XL. Contact Pastor O'Brien. He has a box he needs to get out of his office.

## Email/Text Reminders

If you would like to be reminded of youth events through email or text, join St. John Youth on Remind... Text @32g677 to 81010 or (419) 679-4578. For reminders by email, go to <https://www.remind.com/join/32g677>

## Sunday Acolytes Needed:

In this coming year, we are going to have a shortage of Sunday morning acolytes. If you are willing to serve on the Sunday acolyte schedule (instead of or in addition to Saturday), please contact the church office.

Youth/Parents: If you have an idea for an activity, please contact Pastor O'Brien and he will help you make it happen.



# Williston Encounter is here!

**The fun begins on June 14th!**

**Join us every Wednesday from  
noon to 1:30 pm for free lunch, fun and activities.**

June 21-Ottawa County Sheriff K-9 Unit– Deputy Diesel

June 28- Farm Day– Animals, Tractors and Equipment

July 5-Toledo Zoo Education Day-Fun with Mammals

July 12– Jake the Snake with Reptiles & Amphibians

July 19-Painting with Mary

July 26-Homemade Ice Cream and Wiffle Ball

*We are looking for volunteers to help with this wonderful outreach! Here is who is needed:*

**Activity Helpers:** *We have scheduled activities, so you will not need to plan the activity, but we will need people to help and participate. This could mean anything from playing games with the kids to basic crowd control” to keep them from wandering off.*

*We need at least two people to sign up, but we welcome as many people as want to help each week!*

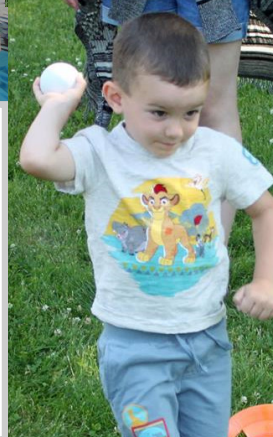
**Bible Study Leaders:** *This is less intimidating than it sounds. It is simply telling a Bible Story or giving a short lesson and leading a prayer before our meal. We have a selection of Sunday School lessons available or you may use your own. Pastor will also be available for technical and or moral support!*

**Lunch Coordinators:** *The Lunch Coordinator is the person with a team responsible for serving the noon meal. This person purchases, prepares and cleans-up. Now, this does not mean one person does all the work. You are encouraged to form a team and solicit help from members, family and friends. We do have Williston Encounter funds available, so you may be reimbursed for your purchases.*

***There is a sign up sheet next to the Pastor’s office door,  
Come for lunch and stay for the fun!***



At our **MIGHTY FORTRESS** Vacation Bible School, over 40 children learned that in Jesus, the victory is won! They played games, learned songs, listened to Bible Stories and explored God's Word! We topped off the week with lunch and a water slide! The kids also collected food and money for the Genoa Food Pantry. Thank you for your help and support!





# IN OUR PRAYERS

Each year we will be making an effort to lift up one Faith Practice.

In 2017 we will be focusing on “Worship Weekly”. If you have ideas on how we can help people focus on worship or lift up the practice of weekly worship, please speak to Pastor O’Brien or any church council member.

In 2016, our focus was our first Faith Practice, “Pray Daily.” One of the ideas we started last year, paying through the membership list, is continuing into this year.

During our personal prayer time or during prayers on Sunday morning, we often pray only for those who are sick, in the hospital, or have special needs. These are important prayers, but we should remember in his letter to the Thessalonians, Paul gives some important advice. *“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”* (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). We should strive to pray for everyone, not just those with specific requests.

Therefore, each weekend, during the prayers, we will have special prayers for families from the congregation, recognizing that along with the prayers for those with special needs, we are called to pray for everyone and give thanks for the members of the church family God has given us.

Each weekend we will continue to pray for five families from our congregation. Last spring we started with the Baumans and we will work our way through the list and continue praying for our church family until we make it to the Zieglers.

This project has a few components that we need your help with...

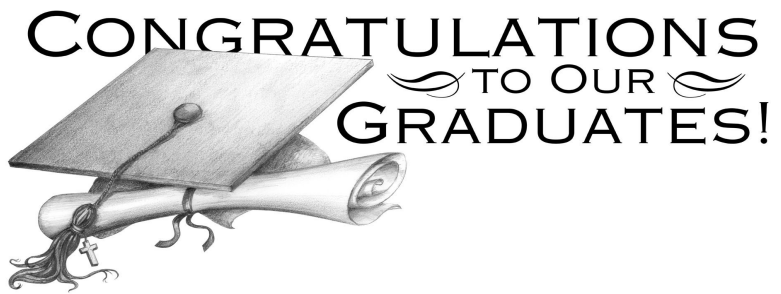
First, please take home an announcement page each week and include the five families in your prayers. Lift them up to God whether you know them well or only by name.

Second, please let the church office know if we include someone who does not consider themselves a member, or if we skip someone who does. We try to keep good records, but no system is perfect.

Third, the church council recently shared a devotion that talked about the action side of prayer. If we pray to end hunger, but don’t work for it, what does that say about the authenticity of our prayers? If we pray for peace and then stir up conflict, where is the integrity in that prayer? So we would like to include some sort of follow-up with our new prayer program. We realize that EVERYONE contacting the families could potentially get overwhelming, therefore we would like to put together a group of people who will contact the families we are praying for each week. Especially the families who were not able to worship with us the week we prayed for them. The contact can be anything from a person visit to a phone call; something to link the prayer to action. If this sounds like a group you would be willing to be a part of, please contact Pastor O’Brien for more details.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions about our plan to pray through the membership, please contact Pastor O’Brien or any church council member.

# Congratulations to the St. John 2017 Scholarship Award Recipients



## 2017 Younker Scholarship

Caira Goldstein  
Jacob Lammers  
Kurtis Lee  
Alyssa Ulrich

## 2017 Tank Memorial Scholarship

Nicholas LaRue  
Anna Mazur  
Kaulee Buhrow  
Alliston Bench

## 2017 Earl Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Anna Mazur  
Kaylee Buhrow  
Allison Bench

## 2017 Martin Parks Memorial Scholarship

Anna Mazur  
Kaylee Buhrow  
Allison Bench  
Jeremiah Berger  
Andrew Schloegl  
Michaela Goldstein

**Alexa Nicole Wegman** graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing with Highest Distinction. She is the daughter of Steve and Kathy Wegman and the granddaughter of Lowell and Diane Hartman. She has accepted a position in Houston, Texas.

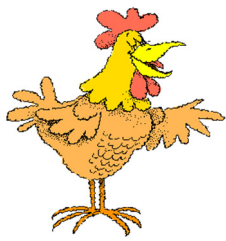
**Jacob Lammers** graduated from Clay High School with a GPA of 4.42. He was Clay's Valedictorian. Jacob was involved in tennis, band, student government, Sunday School, Boy Scouts and Choir. He was in National Honor Society and received an Honors Diploma. He is also an Eagle Scout. He plans to attend the University of Toledo and major in Chemical Engineering. He is the son of Fred and Melissa Lammers.

**Alyssa Ulrich** graduated from Clay High School with a 4.1 GPA. She was in the National Honor Society, Band/Flag Corp, Strive, Math Club, and she is a Humane Society Volunteer. She will attend Wittenburg University and major in Environmental Science. Her parents are Frank and Kellie Ulrich.

**Caira Grace Goldstein** graduated from Oak Harbor High School. She was involved in Concert and Marching Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Music Performance and was a varsity Cheerleader. She was Cheer captain for 2 years. She was involved in Student Council, Science Club and the National Honor Society. She graduated with a 4.02 GPA and an Honors Diploma. She will be attending Heidelberg University where she will study Education. She has also been accepted into the music program. Her parents are Jerry and Beckie Goldstein.

**Kurtis Lee** graduated from Genoa High School. He was involved with the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, The Fellowship of Christian Athletes and he played Baseball. Kurtis will attend Lourde's University in the fall and major in Nursing. He is the son of David and Kris Lee and the brother of Aubrey Lee.

**Ricky Kiss** graduated from Clay High School. He was in the band in the percussion section for 4 years. His plans for the future is to enter the field of taxidermy. He currently works for Chippewa Golf Course. He is the son of Owen and Karolyn Jansen



## Can you help at the Chicken BBQ?

Our annual **Chicken BBQ** will be held Sunday, **August 13th**. Helpers will be needed for the following: set up on Saturday morning, working the drive thru, serving the meals and clean up on Sunday morning and early afternoon. Sign up sheets will be available the weekend of July 15th. If you have questions, please contact Ann at 419.360.3474. Proceeds this year will go to help with expenses for those youth attending the National Youth Gathering in Houston next year. WELCA will once again provide delicious pies for this event. Sheets to sign up for making pies will also be made available prior to August 13th.

This event takes a lot of work, but together we get the job done and have a fun time doing it.



The Ottawa County Women's Club is once again sponsoring a **BACK PACK DRIVE** to benefit needy children here in Ottawa County. The Port Clinton Salvation Army office is again in charge. A collection box will be located in the entry across from the church office to place items you would like to donate. We will collect these items until July 30th. The "Tools for Schools" list is as follows:

**Back Packs (special need for Boy Backpacks)**  
**Pencils and Crayons, 1 subject notebooks**  
**Erasers and glue sticks, Red, black and blue pens, Dry erase markers, Composition books**  
**Pencil pouches, Scissors and supply boxes, and markers**

If you know of anyone who could use this assistance, applications are now available locally at Job and Family Services, as well as the Elmore, Oak Harbor and Genoa Libraries.

**Online giving is now available at St. John. Never miss a week!**



**With online giving, it's easy to stay on track. Simply visit our web site at [www.stjohnwillistion.org](http://www.stjohnwillistion.org) and click on the "online giving" link at the top of the page.**

**You may give one time or set up reoccurring donations to automatically give from your checking or savings account.**

*Not online? See LisaAnne in the office to set up an account or fill in an "Authorization Form" and return it to the office.*

# ELECTRONIC GIVING AUTHORIZATION FORM

St. John Lutheran Church PO Box 235 Williston, OH 43468  
[www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.org) (419)836-5144 email: [office@stjohnwilliston.org](mailto:office@stjohnwilliston.org)



<b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b>		<b>ENVELOPE/DONOR #</b>		<b>DATE</b>	
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____					
<b>Type of authorization:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation					
Last Name			First Name		
Address					
City				State	Zip
Email Address				Phone #	
<b>DATE OF FIRST DONATION:</b> ____/____/____		<b>FREQUENCY OF DONATION:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly – DAY ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Monthly – 1 <sup>st</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 <sup>th</sup>		<b>FUNDS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify below) <input type="checkbox"/> Add'l donation to offset fees <div style="text-align: right;"><b>Total</b></div>	
<b>AMOUNTS:</b> \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____					
If you would like to designate your giving to another fund not listed: please state your desire here. Thank You.					
<b>CHECKING / SAVINGS</b>	Please debit my donation from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below)			Routing Number: _____ <b>Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3</b>  Account Number: _____ <div style="font-size: small; text-align: center;">                     1234567890 123 1234567 0001                      Routing Number      Account Number      Check Number                 </div>	
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.				
	Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____				
<b>CREDIT / DEBIT CARD</b>	Card Brand (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Discover Card				
	Card Number:			Expiration Date:	
	Name on Card:				
	Billing Address (if different from above):				
	I authorize the above organization to process transactions in accordance with the information above.				
Signature (as it appears on the card): _____ Date: _____					

*If using a checking account, please attach a voided check over the credit/debit card section above.  
 We do urge you to use a checking or savings account as opposed to a credit card to save transaction fees. Thank you.  
 Please allow 2-3 business days for processing. Thank you for being a blessing to St. John Lutheran Church.*



# stewardship



Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17 NIV

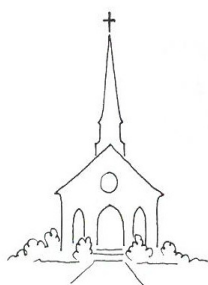
## ***Our Stewardship Prayer for July***

*Almighty God, we thank you for all the gifts You have given us: our lives, our loved ones, all that we have and all that we are. Most of all, we thank You for Jesus, your Son and our Redeemer, who came among us to show us the way to eternal life. Jesus was the perfect steward of your gifts, showing that complete trust in You is necessary, and that giving of self is a most important part of following Him. May the offerings of our time, our talents, and our material resources be made in the same spirit of sacrifice that Jesus taught us by His life and death for us. Amen.*

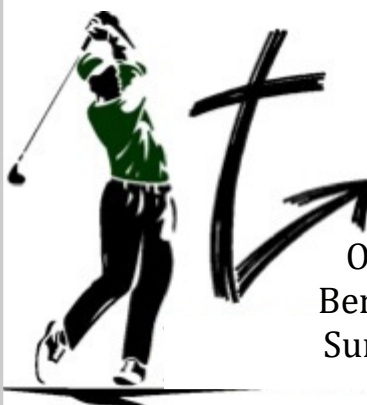
### **STEWARDSHIP OF HEALTH** of BODY and MIND

God gave human beings superior minds-- to be used to fullest capacity in discovering God's plan, in understanding self and others.

We were also given bodies in which to accomplish God's work-- bodies to be treated with respect (taken care of), not abused (harmed).



**WE PRESENT  
our BODIES and  
we RENEW our  
MINDS as  
OFFERINGS  
to GOD.**



### **Mark your calendars!**

Our 6th Annual St. John Benevolent Golf Outing is Sunday, September 17th!

This Foursome Team Scramble Event starts with registration at Noon and a shotgun start at 1:00 PM. Prizes, Prizes, Prizes and Food!

**Call Tom Cashen for details  
at 419-836-8028!**



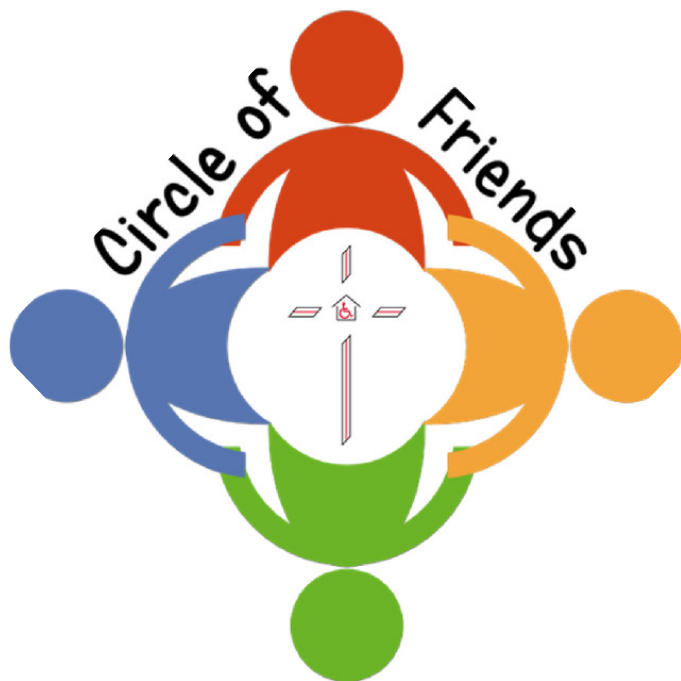
Serenity Farm paid a visit to our campus month with two of their therapy mini horses, Thunder and Sunny. Their visit brought a lot of smiles to the individuals we serve. The residents enjoyed petting the horses, taking them on a stroll around the gymnasium track and some were even lucky enough to get a kiss from the horses. [#enrichinglives](#)



Summer fun is in full swing in and around our ministry. Recently, individuals who attend the Genesis Community Center kicked off their summer with a trip to a Toledo Mud Hens game. [#enrichinglives](#)

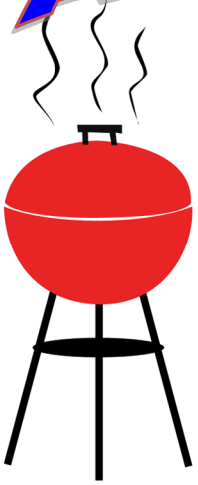


## Luther Home of Mercy/ Lutheran Ministries News



Luther Home of Mercy is excited to announce a new volunteer opportunity. **Circle of Friends** is a volunteer group that will focus on building fellowship and providing involvement opportunities at LHM events and activities, as well as informing participants of happenings within our organization. Whether you are a family member of an individual we serve, staff member, current volunteer, LHM client or an individual interested in getting involved at Luther Home, we welcome you to join this group. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Arielle Semer at 419-972-4431 or [asemer@lutherhome.org](mailto:asemer@lutherhome.org).

# **St. John Williston Annual Chicken BBQ**



**Sunday, August 13, 2017  
10:00 am until Sold Out**

**Dinners- \$9.00**

**1/2 chicken, baked potato, coleslaw,  
roll/butter, beverage and homemade pie.**

**Eat in or drive thru available!**

**Pies provided by the Women of the ELCA**



Proceeds will help St. John Youth attend  
the National Youth Conference  
in Houston, TX!

# **BAUMANN AUTO GROUP**

## **15TH ANNUAL BIG CHARITY RAFFLE**

*100% Of Vehicle Donated By Baumann Auto Group*

**WINNER WINS CHOICE OF**

**NEW CHEVROLET CAMARO**



**NEW FORD MUSTANG**



**NEW DODGE CHALLENGER**



## **100% Of Proceeds To Benefit**

Liberty Center of Fremont - SCAT of Tiffin-  
Community Hospice Care of Tiffin  
ProMedica Hospice - Safe Harbor of Sandusky  
Ruth Ann's House of Port Clinton - Parker's Purpose  
Piggyback Foundation (When Pigs Fly)  
First Step of Seneca, Sandusky, Wood & Wyandot Co.  
Back To The Wild - NAMI of Huron County  
NAMI of Seneca, Sandusky & Wyandot County  
The Salvation Army of Ottawa County  
Riders Unlimited - Sandusky County Cancer Care Fund  
F.A.C.T. of Seneca Co. - Genoa Area Food Pantry  
Oak House of Port Clinton - Arc of Ottawa Co.  
Village House of Fremont

**\$5.00 PER TICKET**

**100% OF TICKET SALES GOES TO CHARITY!**

**TOTAL MONEY RAISED FOR CHARITIES IN  
THE PAST 14 YEARS \$854,787**

Tickets will be available in the church office. 100% of the proceeds from  
St. John sales go to the Genoa Food Pantry!



## Worship Assistants

**SATURDAY**  
**5:00pm—Worship**

### Acolytes

- 1 Peyton Donnelly
- 8 Anna Sommers
- 15 Drew Posey
- 22 Riley Chesson
- 29 **Lauren Martin \*\*\* change**

### Lectors

- 1 Diane Gerkenismeyer
- 8 Tracy Orians
- 15 Doris Titgemeyer
- 22 Gene Bihn
- 29 Shirley Berger

### Ushers

- 1 Ron and Diane Gerkenismeyer  
Jim and Dilly Schimming
- 8 Dean & Mary Lowe, Gerald & Jeanette Lentz
- 15 Ken & Pat Sievert, Al & Beverly Harder
- 22 Carol Vargo, Alice Witt, Gene & Amy Bihn
- 29 The Lee Family

### Communion Servers

- 1 Al Brown, Ron and Diane Gerkenismeyer
- 8 Wayne Bauman, Gene Bihn, Carol Vargo
- 15 Al Brown, JoElaine Schimming, Doris Titgemeyer
- 22 **Ron & Diane Gerkenismeyer, Carol Vargo,\*\*\***
- 29 Wayne Bauman, JoElaine Schimming, Gene Bihn

### Communion Set-up

- 1 Diane Gerkenismeyer
- 8 Carol Vargo
- 15 Dilly Schimming
- 22 Joan Truman
- 29 Brenda Keeley

### Door Greeters

- 1 Shelly Snider
- 8 Joni Hillman
- 15 Ron and Diane Gerkenismeyer
- 22 Jack Mathews
- 29 Jo Elaine Schimming

### Sound/Projector Techs

- 1 Phil and JJ Milbrodt
- 8 Ron Gerkenismeyer/Amy Bihn
- 15 Phil and Matt Milbrodt
- 22 Kurtis Lee/ Traci Brown
- 29 Ron Gerkenismeyer /Amy Bihn

**SUNDAY**  
**9:00 Worship**

### Acolytes

- 2 Andy Kessler
- 9 Sophia Cashen
- 16 Lauren LaRue
- 23 Evan Kessler
- 30 Andy Kessler

### Lectors

- 2 Jill Kao
- 9 Melissa Lammers
- 16 Tim Titgemeyer
- 23 Kris Johnson
- 30 Marcia Morgan

### Ushers

- 2 Heather, Sophia and Lindsey Cashen
- 9 The Fred Lammers Family
- 16 The Tim Titgemeyer Family
- 23 Jeff Schimming, Clarence Smithers, Dan Nelson
- 30 Dave Neuman, Bob Kapp, Fred Lammers

### Communion Servers

- 2 Carol Jensen, Kris Johnson, Jane Phillips
- 9 Marcia Morgan, Mona Vohelbacher, Jean Fowler
- 16 Elaine Foss, Pat Delventhal, Wilma Smithers
- 23 Mike Mann, Jill Kao, Carolyn Jansen
- 30 Roland Sandrock, Pat Delventhal, Carole Beamer

### Communion Set-up

- 2 Nancy Brittan
- 9 Melissa Lammers
- 16 Pam LaRue
- 23 Diana Pfaff
- 30 Janice Sandrock

### Door Greeters

- 2 Melissa Lammers
- 9 Linda Schlievert
- 16 Marcia Morgan
- 23 Deb Wehner
- 30 Karen Jeffers

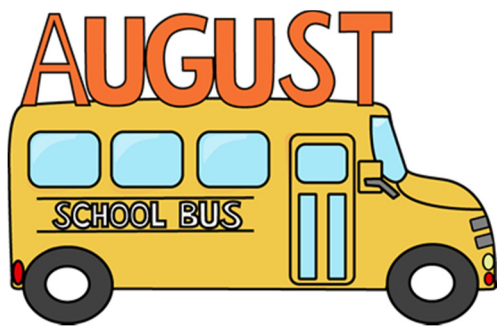
### Sound/Projector Techs

- 2 Andrew Titgemeyer
- 9 Alex Lammers
- 16 Joel Mann
- 23 Andy Kessler
- 30 Tim Titgemeyer

*Thank you for  
serving the Lord!  
If you cannot  
make your  
assignment, please  
make  
arrangements for  
a replacement or  
let the office know  
as soon as  
possible.*



We need to add volunteers to our list of Worship Assistants! Can you help? Call the office today and sign up to help in Worship!



## Worship Assistants

### SATURDAY 5:00pm—Worship

#### Acolytes

- 5 Andrew Blausey
- 12 Aubrey Lee
- 19 Mallory Nelson
- 26 Aidan O'Brien

#### Lectors

- 5 Diane Gerkenmeyer
- 12 Shelley Snider
- 19 Amy Schloegl
- 26 Nancy Strohscher

#### Ushers

- 5 Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer  
Jim and Dilly Schimming
- 12 Dean & Mary Lowe, Gerald & Jeanette Lentz
- 19 Tom Truman, Gene Bihn, Jack Mathews, Zach Buhrow
- 26 Carol Vargo, Al & Bev Harder, Alice Witt

#### Communion Servers

- 5 JoElaine Schimming, Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer
- 12 Amy Schloegl, Gene Bihn, Nancy Strohscher
- 19 Al Brown, Wayne Bauman, Doris Titgemeyer
- 26 Diane Gerkenmeyer, Carol Vargo,  
Jo Elaine Schimming

#### Communion Set-up

- 5 Diane Gerkenmeyer
- 12 Dilly Schimming
- 19 Traci Brown
- 26 Brenda Keeley

#### Door Greeters

- 5 Kris Lee
- 12 Jo Elaine Schimming
- 19 Linda Bauman
- 26 Dean and Mary Lowe

#### Sound/Projector Techs

- 3 Kurtis Lee/ Traci Brown
- 10 Ron Gerkenmeyer/Amy Bihn
- 17 Phil and Matt Milbrodt
- 24 Ron Gerkenmeyer /Amy Bihn

### SUNDAY 9:00 AM Worship

#### Acolytes

- 6 Sophia Cashen
- 13 Lauren LaRue
- 20 Evan Kessler
- 27 Andy Kessler

#### Lectors

- 6 Heather Cashen
- 13 Roland Sandrock
- 20 Cebie Titgemeyer
- 27 Ann Mann

#### Ushers

- 6 Heather, Sophia and Lindsey Cashen
- 13 Jeff Schimming, Clarence Smithers, Dan Nelson
- 20 Tim & Cebie Titgemeyer, Bob Kapp
- 27 The Fred Lammers Family

#### Communion Servers

- 6 Carol Jensen, Kris Johnson, Elaine Foss
- 13 Marcia Morgan, Mona Vohelbacher, Jean Fowler
- 20 Jill Kao, Pat Delventhal, Wilma Smithers
- 27 Mike Mann, Ann Mann, Karolyn Jansen

#### Communion Set-up

- 6 Pam LaRue
- 13 Janice Sandrock
- 20 Deanna Neuman
- 27 Melissa Lammers

#### Door Greeters

- 6 Dave Neuman
- 13 Carole Beamer
- 20 Marcia Morgan
- 27 Deb Wehner

#### Sound/Projector Techs

- 6 Joel Mann
- 13 Paul Beamer
- 20 Andrew Titgemeyer
- 27 Tim Titgemeyer

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