

# FORERUNNER

St. John



Lutheran Church

Williston, Ohio

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## From the Pastor....

2 *"Train yourself in godliness, for, while physical training is of some value, godliness*  
3 *is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to*  
4 *come."* (1 Timothy 4:7b-8)

4 I joined the 100 mile club at the YMCA. The goal is to swim 100 miles by the end  
5 of the year. You don't really get anything for being in the club (other than a t-shirt  
6 that I had to pay for) but it is a motivational thing for me; it helps me to be work-  
7 ing toward a goal. I do my best to swim at least a mile (33 laps) a couple times a  
8 week. Sometimes I don't make it two miles, sometimes I am able to do more. It  
9 all depends on how busy the week ends up being. I also stay away from fast food  
10 and try not to eat anything that is fried. I haven't been able to beat my addiction  
11 to chips and salsa, but burgers and fries are now a rare treat instead of a weekly  
12 meal. I do these things to have a moderately healthier lifestyle. I would certainly  
13 not call my time in the pool "physical training." People who are in physical train-  
14 ing for a race or a sport exercise every day; often multiple times a day. They have  
15 specific exercises and a specific diet that will help their bodies be in peak physical  
16 condition. True physical training takes a commitment. It's hard work.

13 But Paul isn't writing advice on an exercise routine for Timothy. He is making a  
14 comparison of physical training to spiritual training. We sometimes like to believe  
15 that "spirituality" is simply the sense I have of being in God's presence, being  
16 surrounded with God's love, sensing a transcendent dimension in the affairs of  
17 everyday life. It comes as a shock for some to be told that spirituality is some-  
18 thing we have to work at; not to mention the idea that it will take the same kind  
19 of hard work as going into training for athletics. Yet that is exactly what Paul is  
20 saying. Christians need to train in godliness, just as much as an athlete needs to  
21 train physically. We are not to sit back and wait for spirituality to somehow hap-  
22 pen to us, we are called to work to make ourselves more spiritually fit. That is  
23 part of the role of our Faith Practices – exercises to keep us spiritually fit. We  
24 grow spiritually when we do, and keep doing, the actions of a disciple – praying,  
25 worshiping, reading scripture, serving, inviting, giving, and encouraging one an-  
other. Such spiritual training will help us become the kind of person who reflects  
God's image, the kind of person who lives by faith, the kind of person who is truly  
able to live life in this world and whose life gives a glimpse of the world to come.

23 *If you would like to submit a question for "Ask the Pastor", Biblical, theological, church*  
24 *related, anything you have been dying to ask a pastor, you can hand me a note, ask me*  
25 *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 in-*  
*clude your name unless you explicitly ask me to.*

# SUMMER SCHEDULE

**Saturday 5:00 PM**  
**Sunday 9:00 AM**



## INTRODUCING...ARNOLD THE PIG!

Parish Education would like to support our youth who are going to the "This Changes Everything" Youth Gathering by raising MORE money for the ELCA World Hunger Global Farm Challenge outreach.

This worldwide program provides farm animals and assistance to families around the world, to end hunger and poverty.

All money donated at the gathering will be **MATCHED!** Sunday School offerings from this year will be donated, along with a new initiative ...Arnold the Pig! Arnold the Pig will be traveling this summer to yards in our community. The plan is this:

**Insurance to never get Arnold...\$30**

**To Remove Arnold...\$10**

**To request a friend get Arnold...\$10**

**To never get him back...\$10**

These are suggested donations; you are welcome to donate more! Remember, your donation will be doubled.

To "make a move" with Arnold, please contact Melissa Lammers at 419-836-3079

**The Forerunner**  
is published monthly  
by St. John Lutheran Church  
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**419-972-4003**

pastorobrien  
@stjohnwilliston.org

**Summer Worship Schedule**  
**Saturday at 5:00 pm**  
**Sunday Worship 9:00 am**

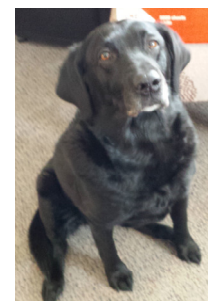
**Deadline for the**  
**August 2018 newsletter is**  
**JULY 23rd.**  
**Please send articles and/or**  
**information to**  
**office@stjohnwilliston.org.**



"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."



*LisaAnne Gregg*  
*Office*  
*Administrator*  
9am—3pm  
Mon. thru Fri.



*Bella*  
*Fredericksen*  
*The Greeter of*  
*St. John*



### ***Gifts made to St. John.***

If your name was inadvertently left off the list,  
please contact the office.

#### **In Memory of Clyde Sandrock**

Judith Baker

#### **In Memory of Ralph and Ethel Mae Vogtsberger**

Mary Schimming

Lowell and Diane Hartman

#### **In Memory of Jim Witty**

Evalyn Witty

#### **In Memory of Natasha Adler**

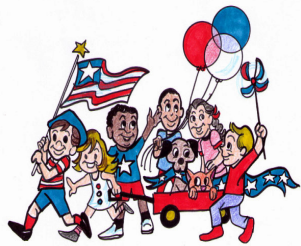
Carole Beamer

#### **In Memory of Son, Robert Begell**

Gary & LisaAnne Gregg



The Evangelism Committee would like to thank the congregation for all the donations of candy for the Genoa Homecoming Parade.



After a day of hot and humid weather, it cooled down and the rain held off until the parade was finished. Those helped decorate the float or rode/walked in the parade were: Rob, Kristen and Mason Orians, Tracy Orians, Karl and Roberta Orians, Jane Phillips,

Beverly Harder, Alice Witt & Eddie, Carol Vargo, Marilyn Sandrock, Carolyn Lassiter, Sue Harvan and Margaret Berger. *Thank you all for helping spread the Good News of St. John!*

#### **Many hands make light work....**

Thank you to the Forerunner Mailing Group who prepares the newsletter for mailing every month. Those who helped with last month's mailing were: Linda Schlievert, Betty Roecker, Terry Gast, Allen Harder, Madelayne Saionzkowski, Diane Hartman.



**Thanks** to all the Sunday School donations to the ELCA God's Global Barnyard Challenge, we were able to "purchase" **10 pigs** and **5 groups of chickens** and a **hive of honeybees** in support of this life-changing ministry of the ELCA. And now, thanks to generous friends of the ELCA, your gifts will go even further: All gifts toward the Global Farm Challenge will be matched – dollar for dollar – up to \$515,000, so together we can raise more than \$1 million this year to create healthier families, stronger economies and a future filled with hope.

**Way to go, St. John! Thank you for your support!!**

#### **Dear Friends at St. John.**

Thank you for your recent gift to Luther Home of Mercy designated for Pfeiffer House renovations. We are indeed blessed...with friends who care....seem to know our needs and who respond with love and generosity. Your gift is important and you are a vital part of the work being done here.

Please know that as we express appreciation for your kindness, you are in our prayers of thanksgiving.

Most Sincerely,

**Terri Rodriguez CEO LHM**

#### **4-H Club Kudos!**

A big thank you to the Livestock Unlimited 4-H Club for helping to "garden" around the church this summer.





The Salvation Army in Ottawa County is once again sponsoring a Back Pack Drive to benefit needy children here in our county. Last year over 600 backpacks filled with school supplies were handed out.

They would again appreciate our help. If you know of anyone who could use this assistance, applications are now available at Job & Family Services, as well as the Elmore, Oak Harbor and Genoa Libraries.

We will collect the following items through **Sunday, July 29th.**

The list is as follows: Book bags; pencils; colored pencils; red, blue and black pens; scissors (Fiskars); Elmer's Glue; Glue sticks; Crayons; Markers - 8 & 12 count - washable; pink large erasers; pencil top erasers; spiral notebook (70 sheet wide ruled); 1 subject spiral notebooks; wide-ruled loose leaf paper; pencil pouches or bags (zippered); highlighters; dry erase markers and erasers - Expo, black, low-odor; Post Its; sticky notes; 2 pocket folders; 3 pronged pocket folders; supply box; composition notebooks; and fine point black Sharpies.

A collection box will be located across from our church office.



*The Esther Circle will be going out for dinner at the Oregon Inn on Tuesday, July 10th at 5:30 PM.*

*We would be pleased to have you join us for food, fellowship and fun! Please call Diane Gerkensmeyer at 419-836-7052 by July 3rd if you would like to be included in the reservation.*

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

### What does the ELCA Justice for Women program do?

The Justice for Women program is shaped by the unique voices and experiences of a multitude of people across race, ethnicity, ability, class, sexuality and age. It is within this rich foundation that we work to:

- tap into Lutheran theological roots to address sexism
- connect this theology with specific issues in the world
- encourage men and women to work together



These action priorities nourish the work and service of this church and society.

Within the Jewish and Christian traditions, justice is linked to God's love, God's fervor for life lived out of grace for others. Lutherans affirm that because we are redeemed by God through Jesus Christ — because we are justified — we turn to others to find out what they need.

Justice infuses Scripture, from the Hebrew prophets to Jesus' parables and life. Broadly speaking, biblical justice concerns the integrity of the entire creation. The ELCA recognizes that the integrity of women and girls is constantly violated and/or compromised, physically, intellectually, economically, spiritually and emotionally.

"Justice for women" matters because through God's grace we are called to tend to women and girls and anyone who is gender-marginalized as our neighbors. The ELCA also recognizes that tending to our neighbors includes not only immediate needs, such as food, shelter and safety, but also changes in social and religious ideas and structures. **What can you do?**

#### **Educate for justice.**

- understand patriarchy and sexism \*analyze church and society in terms of the effects of patriarchy on all people

#### **Advocate for change.**

- Call for changes in church practices and interpretations, as well as social policy and practice, to support and reflect the full humanity of all people
- Call for gender justice and theological reflection in programs and policies

#### **Lead into the future.**

- Raise awareness and challenge societal, theological and ecclesial practices and beliefs that are patriarchal.

Work with a variety of people to create change that leads to gender justice, which affects everyone.





# CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

**JACOB LARUE****Son of Brad & Pamela LaRue**

Jacob graduated with honors from the University of Akron with Honors with a Degree in Survey in Mapping. He will be using his degree at his new job in NE Ohio at the Kokosing Company.

**STEPHANIE NEUMAN****Daughter of David and Deanna Neuman**

Stefanie Neuman graduated from the University of Toledo in May with a Masters Degree in Education. She will be teaching eleventh and twelfth grade English at Clay High School beginning in August.

**PAIGE NEUMAN****Daughter of David and Deanna Neuman**

Paige Neuman graduated from The Ohio State University in December with a Bachelors Degree in Engineering. She is currently employed at Boeing in Heath, Ohio as an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Test Equipment Engineer.

**CHRISTOPHER PFAFF****Son of Diana Pfaff and Mike Pfaff**

Christopher Pfaff graduated from Cardinal Stritch Catholic High School with an Honor's Diploma where he was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in his class. He is a member of the National Honor Society. He received high honors in both Math and Science courses during all four years of high school. Christopher has received the St. Sebastian Award for Track in 2018 and the Scholar Athlete Award from the Ohio High School Athletic Association. He earned a Varsity Letter in Track for 4 years and a Varsity Letter in Golf for 2 Years. He was the recipient of the John Phillip Sousa Band Award this year. He received a Varsity Letter in Band for 4 years. Christopher plans to attend Ohio Northern University and will be majoring in Pharmacy.

**CALEB JOHNSON****Son of Gary Johnson and the late Jennifer Johnson****Grandson of Roland & Janice Sandrock**

Caleb Johnson graduated from Genoa High School. Caleb earned his State FFA degree as a junior. He plans to attend Terra State Community College in Fremont, majoring in Agri Business Management. His future plan is to continue working on the family farm and eventually managing the family farm business.

**BENJAMIN NETRY****Son of Belinda Mathews and Matthew Netry**

Ben graduated from Genoa High School where he was a member of the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society. While at Genoa, he played baseball and football and represented Post 324 at Buckeye Boys State. He plans to enter into a pre-med program with a major in Bio-Chemistry. His long term goal is to become a Cardiologist.

**MICHAELA GOLDSTEIN****Daughter of Jerry and Beckie Goldstein**

Michaela graduated from Tiffin University with a Bachelors of Criminal Justice in Forensic Psychology, A Bachelors of Criminal Justice in Criminalistics with a Minor in Human Services. She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a 3.83 GPA. She will begin working in her field at CROSSWAEH Community Based Correctional Facility in Tiffin, Ohio as a Resident Supervisor.

**CHAD DENNIS HARTMAN**

Chad graduated with honors from Bowling Green State University in May with a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Science. He is currently a Paramedic in Oregon, Ohio. He is married to Jessica and has two sons, Maxwell and Lucas.



## *Congratulations to the 2018 St. John Scholarship Recipients.*

### **2018 Younker Scholarship**

Christopher Pfaff

Joshua Buhrow

### **2018 Tank Scholarship**

Caira Goldstein

Jacob Lammers

Kurtis Lee

Ben Netry

### **2018 Earl Johnson Memorial Scholarship**

Caira Goldstein

Jacob Lammers

Kurtis Lee

### **2018 Martin Parks Memorial Scholarship**

Caira Goldstein

Jacob Lammers

Kurtis Lee





# St. John Youth Group News

July, 2018

## ELCA National Youth Gathering June 27-July 1



Please keep these young men and women (and adult leaders) in your prayers that week. Pray for safe travels, pray for the people we will meet and interact with, and pray that we all may have a positive faith strengthening experience, gaining enthusiasm and excitement we can bring back home and apply to our lives.

We look forward to telling you about our trip when we get back to Ohio.

### Kayaking

Kayaking July 30. We will meet at the church on Monday at 10:00 and travel to Portage River Paddling Co. in Oak Harbor. We will paddle for about two hours and return to the church. There will be no charge for boating, but you will need to pack/purchase your own snacks. There is a sign up sheet outside Pastor's office. As always, friends are welcome.

### Williston Encounter

If any older youth are available Wednesdays at noon, we would love to have join us for Williston Encounter. Sometimes help is needed in the kitchen or with activities, but we mostly need 'ambassadors'; people to welcome our guest and make them feel at home at St. John.

### CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Don't forget to turn in Sermon Note and Service Point forms to your confirmation teacher. You don't want to start your 8th grade year with a deficit.

### Mark Your Calendar!

#### *Upcoming Youth Activities/Events*

**June 27 - Williston Encounter**  
St. John Carnival

**June 27-July 1 - National Youth Gathering, Houston, TX**

**July 11 - Williston Encounter**  
Nature's Nursery

**July 18 - Williston Encounter**  
Painting with Mary

**July 25 - Williston Encounter**  
Hot dogs, ice cream, and wiffle ball

**July 30 - Youth Group Kayaking**  
*Leave the church at 10:00am*

### 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 activates, please send them to Pastor O'Brien*

### 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>

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



Let yourself feel  
what you feel.

Allow others to  
care for you.

Don't keep  
your feelings  
bottled up.

It's  
Okay  
Not to  
"Be Strong"

Recognize and  
accept your  
limitations.

When we're going through a tough time, we often feel pressured to "be strong." But pushing down your feelings to put on a brave face often only makes things harder. True strength isn't being unemotional and completely independent; it's letting yourself be human. Stephen Ministers are here to help you through the process.

A Stephen Minister is someone

who shows God's love—

not just by what they say,

but also by the actions they take

to show they care.

The **HEART** of a Stephen Minister

H = Humble  
E = Eager to Care  
A = Always Listening  
R = Relationship with Jesus  
T = Transformed

stephen  
MINISTRY

God's Love in  
**ACTION**

STEPHEN  
ministry

YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

WE ARE HERE TO JOURNEY WITH YOU.

The Stephen Ministers at St. John are ready and prepared to help you. If you would like to speak to a Stephen Minister or would just like more information, about our Stephen Ministry, please call the office or Pastor O'Brien.



# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## ELCA presiding bishop, faith leaders issue statement on family separation

CHICAGO (June 7, 2018) – The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), has convened ELCA ecumenical and inter-religious partners in a statement addressing concerns over a recent U.S. government policy calling for more stringent enforcement of federal immigration laws. The policy will most likely result in an increase in family separations.

The letter follows:

Recently, the Administration announced that it will begin separating families and criminally prosecuting all people who enter the U.S. without previous authorization. As religious leaders representing diverse faith perspectives, united in our concern for the wellbeing of vulnerable migrants who cross our borders fleeing from danger and threats to their lives, we are deeply disappointed and pained to hear this news.

We affirm the family as a foundational societal structure to support human community and understand the household as an estate blessed by God. The security of the family provides critical mental, physical and emotional support to the development and wellbeing of children. Our congregations and agencies serve many migrant families that have recently arrived in the United States. Leaving their communities is often the only option they have to provide safety for their children and protect them from harm. Tearing children away from parents who have made a dangerous journey to provide a safe and sufficient life for them is unnecessarily cruel and detrimental to the well-being of parents and children.

As we continue to serve and love our neighbor, we pray for the children and families that will suffer due to this policy and urge the Administration to stop their policy of separating families.

**His Eminence Archbishop Vicken Aykazian**  
Diocesan Legate and Director of the Ecumenical Office  
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America  
**Mr. Azhar Azeez** President  
Islamic Society of North America  
**The Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera**  
Bishop of Scranton, PA  
Chair, Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs  
**Senior Bishop George E. Battle, Jr.**  
Presiding Prelate, Piedmont Episcopal District  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
**Bishop H. Kenneth Carter, Jr.**  
President, Council of Bishops  
The United Methodist Church  
**The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry**  
Presiding Bishop Episcopal Church (United States)  
**The Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer**  
General Minister & President  
United Church of Christ  
**The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton**  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
**The Rev. David Guthrie**  
President, Provincial Elders' Conference  
Moravian Church Southern Province  
**Mr. Glen Guyton**  
Executive Director  
Mennonite Church USA  
**The Rev. Teresa Hord Owens**  
General Minister and President  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
**Rabbi Rick Jacobs**  
President  
Union for Reform Judaism

**Mr. Anwar Khan**  
President  
Islamic Relief USA  
**The Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller**  
President, Provincial Elders' Conference  
Moravian Church Northern Province  
**The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II**  
Stated Clerk  
Presbyterian Church (USA)  
**Rabbi Jonah Pesner**  
Director  
Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism  
**The Rev. Don Poest**  
Interim General Secretary  
**The Rev. Eddy Alemán**  
Candidate for General Secretary  
Reformed Church in America  
**Senior Bishop Lawrence Reddick III**  
Presiding Bishop, The Eighth Episcopal District  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
**The Rev. Phil Tom**  
Executive Director  
International Council of Community Churches  
**Mr. Jim Winkler**  
General Secretary & President  
National Council of Churches USA  
**Senior Bishop McKinley Young**  
Presiding Prelate, Third Episcopal District  
African Methodist Episcopal Church

#KeepFamiliesTogether



**A Message from Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin**

Dear Friends in Christ,

**"Then the king said to me, 'What do you request?' So, I prayed to the God of heaven. Then I said to the king, 'If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor with you, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my ancestors' graves, so that I may rebuild it.' The king said to me (the queen also was sitting beside him), 'How long will you be gone, and when will you return?' So, it pleased the king to send me, and I set him a date" (Nehemiah 2:4-6).**

In Nehemiah chapter 2, King Artaxerxes grants Nehemiah permission to travel to Jerusalem to rebuild the city walls. Notice two things in the passage above:

1. Nehemiah prays a prayer.
2. Nehemiah puts forth a plan.

When we first meet Nehemiah in chapter 1:1, it is during the month of Chislev. When Nehemiah appears before King Artaxerxes in chapter 2:1, it is the month of Nisan... four months later. So, what is Nehemiah doing for four months? Nehemiah is praying and planning.

Nehemiah points us to an important truth about leadership: in addition to a season of prayer there must also be a season of preparation. God honors a plan, and in four months' time Nehemiah prayerfully developed a plan. Great leaders are both "pray-ers" and planners. Great leaders seek God's will and then do the necessary homework.

I remember attending a Long-Range Team meeting a few years back. We had an assortment of ideas, but nothing was coming together. As I walked out to the car, the chairperson of the team, a man who had built a multi-million-dollar business from the ground up asked me, "So, what's your plan pastor? Where are you leading us?" I confessed, "I really don't know." He looked me in the eye and said, "You're our leader and we'll follow you, but you need to know where we're going." Those words were hard to hear, but I needed to hear them.

There is no substitute for the discipline of daily prayer and there is no substitute for a well thought out plan. So, tell me dear leader, how is your discipline of daily prayer and how are you coming with your God given plan?

*Did You Know?*

The NWOS has a Prayer Group on Facebook.



Currently, there are about 215 members and counting.

We welcome you to post your prayer requests on this group page remembering not to post a name without permission. Please add others to the group - As Martin Luther said "Pray and Let God Worry"

Let us come together in prayer.

"Pray in advance.  
Pray as [you] wait.  
And when the  
**critical moment**  
comes,  
*pray again.*"

- Pastor Holladay



***"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.

Thank you!

**What's distinctly Lutheran about our witness to the gospel? ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton talks about what it means to be a Lutheran in the 2018 Synod Assembly video.**

Visit the video at <http://bit.ly/WeAreLutheran>





**Online giving is now available  
at St. John.**

**Simply visit our web site at  
[www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.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.**

You may scan this QR code to visit  
our mobile giving site.



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

# July Stewardship Page



*"When each separate part works as it should,  
the whole body grows, and builds itself up through love." Ephesians 4:16*

## ***Our Stewardship Prayer***

*"God the Father -*

thank you for all the gifts you  
have given me.

Help me to be more grateful and  
generous in building your  
kingdom on earth.

*Jesus Our Savior -*

I trust in You in all circumstances,  
in every moment of every day,  
good or bad.

*Holy Spirit -*

transform my life.

Guide my thoughts, words and actions.

I pray for strength and courage in all that

I do be for the glory of Your name  
and with every decision I make,

I move one step closer to You.

Amen."

*One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;  
another withholds what he should give, and  
only suffers want.*

*Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,  
and one who waters will himself be watered .*

Proverbs 11:24-25

## **Fifteen Random Stewardship**

### **Ideas for the Month of July**

1. Think of a charity which is amply blessed at Christmas. Remember them with a gift mid-year.

2. Invite a single friend over for a meal.

3. Attend a Bible Study on a weekday this month.

4. Abstain from something you like – meat, a latte, a cold drink – on Fridays and save the money for a charity.

5. Take your prayers with you for an early morning walk.

6. Recycle more.

7. Each day, say a prayer for one of the world's trouble spots.

8. Turn off the TV, phone, and computer, and spend an hour devoted to someone you love.

9. Surprise an old friend with a phone call.

10. Buy or pick a flower for someone without a "reason."

11. Take your family to a farmers' market.

12. Stop for a moment during your busy day and enjoy an ice cream cone or other favorite treat.

13. If you hear a great sermon, tell the Pastor.

14. Splurge on some produce and buy enough to share with someone in need.

15. On occasion, try turning your prayer before meals into a spontaneous prayer of thanks, using your own words.

# Annual St. John Chicken BBQ

**Sunday,  
August 12, 2018  
10:30 am until Sold Out**

**Dinners- \$ 10.00**

**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 benefit the Ministries of St. John**



## **CAN YOU HELP AT THE CHICKEN BBQ?**

Our annual Chicken BBQ will be held Sunday, August 12th.

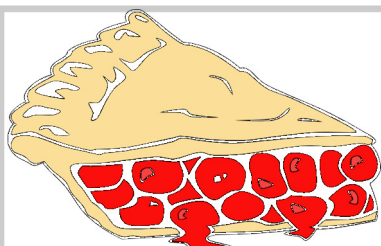
Helpers will be needed for the following: set up on Saturday morning,  
working the drive thru, serving the meals and clean up on Sunday morning and early afternoon.

Sign up sheets will be available in the Narthex starting in mid-July.

If you have questions, please contact Ann at 419.360.3474.

WELCA will once again provide delicious pies for this event.

Proceeds this year will go to support St. John ministries.



## **CAN YOU BAKE A PIE?**

We need pies for the chicken BBQ on August 12th.

St. John has become famous for our delicious home made pies  
- supplied by the donations of people like you!

There will be sign up sheets in the narthex also in mid-July.

It takes a lot of pies to fulfill all the orders, so please consider helping.  
See our pie lady, JoElaine Schimming for more information. Thank You!





# Thank You!

Thank you to all the wonderful  
leaders and volunteers who  
made our  
2018 High Seas Expedition  
Vacation Bible School  
a huge success.

Over 50 children enjoyed a week  
of fun, high seas adventure, crafts  
and bible stories and special  
snacks.

The children learned a bible verse  
everyday and learned the Good  
News of Jesus Christ!

Thanks to our wonderful helpers:  
Joe Brossia, Mary Brossia, Sophia  
Cashen, Riley Chesson, Payton  
Donnelly, Jackson Everett,  
Jonathan Everett, Beckie  
Goldstein, Caira Goldstein, Celia  
Detray, Caleb Goldstein, Jerry  
Goldstein, Michaela Goldstein,  
Mirandon Goldstein, Rachel  
Goldstein, Carol Jensen, Melissa  
Lammers, Carolyn Lasseter, Anna  
Mazure, Stephanie Neuman,  
Diana Pfaff, Marilyn Sandrock,  
Anna Sommers, Holly  
Sondergeld, Mona Vogelbacher,  
Jennifer Delventhal  
and Karlie Clark.







# 2018 St. John Vacation Bible School







## Yarn Anyone?

## Stewardship in Action!

Shirley Berger has joined a Knit and Crochet Group at Pat Catan's Craft Store in Oregon.

They collect left over yarn or crocheted rectangles to join together to make baby and adult blankets for those in need.

Yarn, of any color, may be placed in the basket in the Narthex.

Rectangles, of any color, should be 7" x 9" and made from #4 weight, acrylic yarn.

A small (baby) blanket consists of 36 blocks and a larger blanket (adult size) consists of 49 blocks.

Once these beautiful blocks are crocheted together to form a blanket, they are donated to shelters or shipped to areas where there has been a flood, hurricane, fire, etc.

No monetary donations are accepted.

If you would like more information on this Christian Stewardship Ministry, please call Shirley Berger at 419-836-3311



## Genoa Community Food Pantry

Needs for July

Canned Meats

(Tuna, Chicken, Turkey, Spam, etc.)  
(no expired food, please!)



## Worship Helpers needed!

We are running low on volunteers to assist in worship!  
Where would you like to help?

We need ushers, lectors, communion servers, greeters and audio/video techs.

Do you like kids?

You could help with children's moments on Sunday mornings!

Do you like computers? Sign up to help upstairs with the computer and sound system.

Like working behind the scenes?

How about setting up communion?

Whatever your gift, there is a place for you!

No experience needed!

Just see Pastor, Worship Life, or LisaAnne in the office!

## Did you know....

There is an adult bible study class that meets **Mondays at 10:00 am?**

This study is lead by Pastor O'Brien and concentrates on the lectionary lessons for the upcoming week. No experience needed and all are welcome!

Also, you are invited to join the **Reading Encounter Book Study** on Weds. mornings at 10:00.



The "Blanket Ladies" gather to make quilts on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am.

These beautiful blankets are then distributed to those in need all over the country!

Bed sheets are needed for quilt backings

Donations may be left in the box outside the church office.

Come join us! You only need to know how to tie a knot!





## 7th Annual Benevolence Golf Outing

*Proceeds to benefit St. John Good Samaritan Fund*

(Good Samaritan Fund assists with emergency requests from individuals and families of the community.)

**All Golfers Welcome and Needed!**

### **Foursome Team Scramble** **Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018**

**Chippewa Golf Club**

23550 St. Rt. 579, Curtice, OH 43412

12:00pm—Registration

1:00pm—Shot Gun Start

\$65 per player

18 Holes with cart

Includes Meal

**PRIZES PRIZES**  
**PRIZES**

# FOURSOME REGISTRATION FORM



7th Annual Benevolence Golf Outing 9/16/2018

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be contacted about next year's golf outing? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be contacted about next year's golf outing? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be contacted about next year's golf outing? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be contacted about next year's golf outing? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No



# **BAUMANN AUTO GROUP**

## **16TH 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 Tiffin-
- ProMedica Hospice - Safe Harbor of Sandusky -
- Ruth Ann's House of Port Clinton - Parker's Purpose -
- CASA of Seneca, Sandusky & Wyandot Co. -
- First Step of Seneca, Sandusky, Wood & Wyandot Co. -
- Back To The Wild - Easter Seals -
- 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 15 YEARS \$913,832**

Tickets will be available at the church before and after various worship services and in the office Mon-Fri.





# Church Council Highlights

## Council Meeting Minutes- May 17, 2018

**Pastor's Report:** Average attendance for April was 206.0. Last year's average attendance was 207.2

Pastor had 7 m hospital/homebound visit/individual or family visits-3 committee group meetings: 1 community/Youth/fellowship events-3 professional/clergy activities-7 classes/Bible studies-1 baptism

Baptism: Presided at the baptism of Brooklyn Ann Wojciechowski, daughter of Tommy and Tracy Wojciechowski.

New Members: (technically a May activity) We had a new member class on May 7 and welcomed new members on the 12th and 13th.

Ben and Katie Sommers; Ben Sommers Jr.; Jason, Stephanie, Everett and Owen Tank: Mark and Lucy Witt: and Judy and Allen Yocky.

Youth Gathering: We are within \$400 of our fundraising goal. On behalf of the youth, MANY thanks to the congregation for their support in helping us prepare for this trip.

Williston Encounter: Williston Encounter begins June 6. The schedule is finalized and a volunteer signup sheet has been posted..

Confirmation: Confirmation is Sunday May 20th. Having completed all the classroom work, the required number of service points, sermon notes, and a successful exit interview, I recommend the following young women for the rite of Affirmation of Baptism, Aubrey Lee, Lauren Martin, Kara Quigg, Mallory Nelson, and Lauren LaRue. Motion was approved. Thanks to all the Adults that helped with the reviews.

**Financial Secretary Report:** reported that a letter will be sent explaining the congregational giving has been sent. Ron Gerkenmeyer reported that the last years extra Sunday will be averaged out at the end of the year and all is on track

**Christian Community Life:** reported we are selling tickets for the Baumann Auto Group Big Charity Raffle. Ticket are \$5.00 and 100% of the tickets we sell goes to Genoa Food Pantry. You could win a Camano, Challenger or Mustang. Drawing will be October 13. Tickets will be available in the office and before various services between now and September 1. St John's is in charge of the Food Pantry on May 19. We need people to help. Hours are from 9:00am to noon. Call or text Cindy Hartman 419.304.0071 or Becky Tank 419.262.1828 if you can help.

We sent out about 125 Easter colored Pictures. We are all set for Moms and Dads Day. Planning sending popcorn to Vets in September. Three of the Wall of Honor posters on display in the basement of completely filled out and two more are ready to fill. If you have someone you would like to submit, contact Cheryl Berger [419.345.3941](tel:419.345.3941). August 11 -27 we will be collecting new and gently used equipment for Life Bridge. More to follow.

**Evangelism:** reported Final plans were made for the Genoa Homecoming parade. We will be in need of walkers, riders and wrapped candy. A special meeting will be held on the 2nd Thursday of August (August 9 at 7pm). We will be going over the inactive list and mail out letters to those with children of Sunday School age. LisaAnne had the post cards to send out to other inactive members.

A new member class was held on May 7th. Jan Sheahan, Beverly Harder and Margaret Berger were present along with Pastor and 11 prospective people. Nine have signed up to become members.

We are planning a community Christmas tree lighting..

**Parish Education:** reported at we now have Arnold the Pig! In conjunction with the Sunday Schools fund raiser this last year for the ELCA World Hunger Global Farm Challenge, Arnold will continue the fundraising similar to Charlie the Cat. The youth will take the money raised to the gathering and ELCA will match the funds.

The May Noisy Offering brought in \$121.44. May 20 is the last day for Sunday school. Gift certificates will be given to the teachers.

A 6th grade catechism teacher is needed.

VBS plans are going well

**Stewardship Committee:** reported no current update on the Pfeiffer House. No current update on the Golf outing. Stewardship page in the forerunner continuing. Shirley has been working with a group at Pat Catan's store in Oregon every Monday evening at 5:00pm. You can take your left over yarn to the store and place them in the barrels outside the classroom. For more information please contact Shirley Berger 419-7836-3311

**Worship Life:** report ed the committee has coverage of time off for Pastors vacation days. Summer worship time change will be the first weekend in June. Worship Life is still a member short.

**Property:** reported that the sanitary windows will be re-glazed. Automatic light on/off have been installed in the restrooms. After a lengthily discussion the motion off time at ten minutes seemed an appropriate time.

**New Business:** Camera on the balcony is due to the motion of the balcony.

No committee meetings in June/July/August unless called by committee.

No Council meeting in July

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm.**

Respectively submitted, Marcia Morgan, Council Secretary

# MONTHLY REPORT



St. John Lutheran Church  
Statement of Income and Expense  
As of: May 31, 2018

	Full Year	Month to Date			Year to Date				
		Budget	Budget	Actual	%	Budget	Actual	%	Prior Year Growth
Income: *	280,000	22,387	21,257	95%	114,107	115,674	101%	118,223	-2%
* does not include memorials and other dedicated offerings									
* online giving IS included.									
Expenses:									
Benevolence	38,000	2,958	2,958	100%	14,792	14,792	100%		
Board/Ministries	14,100	1,175	1,015	86%	5,875	4,047	69%		
Staff Salaries	96,999	8,083	7,865	97%	40,416	39,257	97%		
Staff Benefits	53,807	4,500	4,279	95%	22,400	20,972	94%		
Operating Expenses	74,100	4,607	4,499	98%	35,266	31,228	89%		
Expense Totals	277,006	21,323	20,616	97%	118,749	110,296	93%		
Income less Expenses	2,994	1,064	641		(4,642)	5,378			

## 2018 Dedicated Fund Balances

Building/Development	10,002
Activity Center Savings	271,572
Memorials	69,662
Music Fund	3,016
Endowment Fund	111,792
Roof Fund	39,558
Scholarship Tank	7,734
Scholarship Younker	11,250
Scholarship Johnson	36,168
Scholarship Parks	36,693
Other	25,765
Savings	30,272
<b>Total</b>	<b>653,484</b>

(Other includes Youth, Good Samaritan, Scholarship, etc.)

If you have questions, please contact the Board of Finance, Tim Titgemeyer, Ron Gerkenmeyer or Jennifer Nelson



**SATURDAY  
5:00pm—Worship**

**Acolytes**

7 Aidan O'Brien  
14 Lauren Martin  
21 Anna Sommers  
28 Mallory Nelson

**Lectors**

7 Diane Gerkenmeyer  
14 Shirley Berger  
21 Gene Bihn  
28 Doris Titgemeyer

**Ushers**

7 Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer  
Jim and Dilly Schimming  
14 Jack Mathews and AJ Rubeis  
Tom Truman and Zack Buhrow  
21 Ken and Pat Sievert, Dean and Mary Lowe  
28 Gene & Amy Bihn, Carol Vargo, Alice Witt

**Communion Servers**

7 Al Brown, Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer  
14 Doris Titgemeyer, Gene Bihn, Wayne Bauman  
21 Carol Vargo, Diane Gerkenmeyer, Al Brown  
28 Gene Bihn, JoElaine Schimming, Nancy Strohscher

**Communion Set-up**

7 Diane Gerkenmeyer  
14 Dilly Schimming  
21 Traci Brown  
28 Ruth Petersen

**Door Greeters**

7 Shelly Snider  
14 Joni Hillman  
21 Jo Elaine Schimming  
28 Ron & Diane Gerkenmeyer

**Sound/Projector Techs**

7 Traci Brown / JJ Milbrodt  
14 Phil and Matt Milbrodt  
21 Ron Gerkenmeyer / Amy Bihn  
28 Phil and JJ Milbrodt

**SUNDAY  
9:00 Worship**

**Acolytes**

1 Sophia Cashen  
8 Evan Kessler  
15 Tucker Fredericksen  
22 Sophia Cashen  
29 Lauren LaRue

**Lectors**

1 Christopher Pfaff  
8 Ann Mann  
15 Melissa Lammers  
22 Roland Sandrock  
29 Marcia Morgan

**Ushers**

1 Tim Titgemeyer Family  
8 Dave Neuman, Heather and Lindsey Cashen  
15 Dan & Andy Kessler, Dan Nelson  
22 Jeff Schimming, Cebie & Tim Titgemeyer  
29 Dave Neuman, Dan Nelson, Andy Kessler

**Communion Servers**

1 Carol Jensen, Jane Phillips, Carole Beamer  
8 Heather Cashen, Ann Mann, Mike Mann  
15 Marcia Morgan, Mona Vogelbacher, Jean Fowler  
22 Roland Sandrock, Wilma Smithers, **Need One**  
29 Mike Mann, Ann Mann, Karolyn Jansen

**Communion Set-up**

1 Pam LaRue  
8 Heather Cashen  
15 Nancy Brittan  
22 Cebie Titgemeyer  
29 Diana Pfaff

**Door Greeters**

1 Marcia Morgan  
8 Melissa Lammers  
15 Linda Schlievert  
22 Karen Jeffers  
29 Deb Wehner

**Sound/Projector Techs**

1 Andy Kessler  
8 Alex Lammers  
15 Joel Mann  
22 Andy Titgemeyer  
29 Paul Beamer



*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.*





## Worship Assistants

### SATURDAY 5:00pm—Worship

#### Acolytes

- 4 Aubrey Lee
- 11 Peyton Donnelly
- 18 Lauren Martin
- 25 Aidan O'Brien

#### Lectors

- 4 Diane Gerkenmeyer
- 11 Matt Milbrodt
- 18 Tracy Orians
- 25 Amy Schloegl

#### Ushers

- 4 Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer  
Jim and Dilly Schimming
- 11 Jack Mathews and AJ Rubeis  
Tom Truman and Zack Buhrow
- 18 Gene & Amy Bihn, Dean and Mary Lowe
- 25 Marty & Owen Schloegl, Carol Vargo, Alice Witt

#### Communion Servers

- 4 Al Brown, Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer
- 11 Doris Titgemeyer, Gene Bihn, Matt Milbrodt
- 18 Carol Vargo, Diane Gerkenmeyer, Wayne Bauman
- 25 Gene Bihn, JoElaine Schimming, Nancy Strohscher

#### Communion Set-up

- 4 Diane Gerkenmeyer
- 11 Joan Truman
- 18 Brenda Keeley
- 25 Traci Brown

#### Door Greeters

- 4 Mary and Dean Lowe
- 11 Jack Mathews
- 18 Jo Elaine Schimming
- 25 Ron & Diane Gerkenmeyer

#### Sound/Projector Techs

- 4 Traci Brown / Amy Bihn
- 11 Phil and JJ Milbrodt
- 18 Ron Gerkenmeyer / Amy Bihn
- 25 Phil and Matt Milbrodt

### SUNDAY 9:00 Worship

#### Acolytes

- 5 Sophia Cashen
- 12 Evan Kessler
- 19 Tucker Fredericksen
- 26 Lauren LaRue

#### Lectors

- 5 Mike Mann
- 12 Sophia Cashen
- 19 Melissa Lammers
- 26 Marcia Morgan

#### Ushers

- 5 Lammers Family
- 12 Dave Neuman, Heather and Lindsey Cashen
- 19 Dan & Andy Kessler, Dan Nelson
- 26 Jeff Schimming, Cebie & Tim Titgemeyer

#### Communion Servers

- 5 Carol Jensen, Jane Phillips, Carole Beamer
- 12 Heather Cashen, Ann Mann, Mike Mann
- 19 Marcia Morgan, Mona Vogelbacher, Jean Fowler
- 26 Rol Sandrock, Wilma Smithers, Karolyn Jansen

#### Communion Set-up

- 5 Pam LaRue
- 12 Heather Cashen
- 19 Melissa Lamemrs
- 26 Janice Sandrock

#### Door Greeters

- 5 Marcia Morgan
- 12 Melissa Lammers
- 19 Carole Beamer
- 26 Nancy Brittan

#### Sound/Projector Techs

- 5 Andy Kessler
- 12 Alex Lammers
- 19 Joel Mann
- 26 Andy Titgemeyer



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