



Welcome to the online  
version of the  
**August Forerunner!**

If you are reading this online  
and no longer need a copy  
mailed to your home,  
please let the office  
know by calling  
**419-836-5514**  
or by email at  
**[office@stjohnwilliston.org](mailto:office@stjohnwilliston.org)**

**Thank You!**

# FORERUNNER

**Summer Worship Hours**  
**Saturday 5:00 PM**  
**Sunday 9:00 AM**

## Inside this issue:

Thank You	2
Memorials/Im Sympathy	3
WELCA/Graduate News	4
Golf Outing Info	5
Golf Outing Registration	6
Baumann Charity Raffle	7
Faith Practice #4/Blood Drive	8
August Stewardship	9
Faith Practice #3 Reading	10
St. John Kid's Connection	11
Luther Home of Mercy News	12
From the Bishop-ELCA	13
NWOS-ELCA News	14
New Roof Reprt	15
Finance Report	16
Online Giving Form	17
August Celebrations	18
August Worship Helpers	19
Sept. Worship Helpers	20
August Calendar	21

## Ask the Pastor

### Not really a question, but sharing information and a request...

As you hopefully know by now, 2019 has been the Year of Service. In order to highlight our fourth Faith Practice: Serve at and beyond St. John, we have been seeking to schedule one 'outside the church' service activity each month in 2019. In August we have two...

We will be serving at the Genoa Food Pantry again this month; August 17 from 9am until noon. Contact Cindy Hartman if you would like more information.

In addition, August 13 – 20, we have a group making a trip to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church on the Rocky Boy Reservation near Box Elder, Montana for an adult servant/work trip. Thank you to the women of the church for their donations of bedding and a mattress for the bunk beds we will be making, and thank you to the other members of the congregation who have made donations to support Our Saviour's layette ministry. We will be loading the truck on the evening of August 8, so any additional donations need to be to the church by then.

Finally I would like to make a request. Kent Delventhal, Richard Phillips, Dave Neuman, Rol Sandrock, Caleb Johnson, Brenda Lowe, Jack Matthews, Rick Buhrow, Sandra Toth (St. John, Stoney Ridge) and I will be making the trip. Please keep this group of men and women in your prayers that week. Prayers for safe travels, beneficial work in our tasks, productive learning about the ministry of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and the life/culture of the Native American people they serve, as well as a positive, faith building experience for those who attend.



I am looking forward to spending time with this group as well as taking greetings from St. John Lutheran Church in Williston all the way to Montana.

*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.*



The Williston Flag Committee would like to say a very big "Thank You" to all who donated to replace the flags here in Williston.

Without your monetary donations this big project could not happen.

The new flags were flown over the 4th of July Holiday. Those from our congregation who contributed were as follows: Dave and Deanna Neuman, Steve and Carol Jensen, Ron and Diane Gerkensmeyer, Lowell and Diane Hartman, Gertrude Eckermann, Daniel Peterson, Linda Schlievert, Carole Beamer, Barry Kinsel in memory of his parents, Olen and Dorothy Kinsel, Jean Rollins, Denny and Cindy Hartman, Elaine Gruetter, Madelyne Saionzkowski, Virgil and Betty Roecker, Pam Threet, Margaret Berger, Eugene and Amy Bihn, Brian Skotynski, Richard and Jane Phillips, Dan & Joyce Lentz, Phyllis Parks, Janis Sheahan, Alice Witt, James and Mona Vogelbacher, Denny and Sandy Nissen, Mike, Ann and Joel Mann and Gary and Darlene Carstensen.

Also a big Thank You to the Scouts and Diana Pfaff who organized the Flag Retirement Ceremony on July 13th. It was a very moving ceremony and the old flags which have flown in Williston since 2011 were retired in a very dignified manner.

And also a big Thank You to the Christian Community Committee who set up a wonderful supper for us after the flag retirement ceremony.

Ann Mann

### Always Appreciated!

Thank you to the workers who prepare the Forerunner for mailing each month!

This month's helpers were:

Linda Schlievert

Terry Gast

Carolyn Lasseter

Marilyn Sandrock

Diane Hartman

Allen Harder

Madelayne Saionzkowski



### Big Thanks!

Big Thanks to all of those who helped organize and participated in Williston Encounter this year!

We had wonderful lunches and great programs!

Kids of all ages enjoyed Cooking, Painting, Jake the Snake and his friends, Critters from Maumee Bay

State Park, playing Wiffleball,

watching Extreme Science

with Imagination Station,

meeting the Ottawa County

Sheriff's K-9 Unit and

playing games and having fun

at a Carnival!

It was a wonderful time and a great

outreach to our community!

We will see you next year!!

### Thank You, St. John!

Thank you for allowing the community of Williston to hold its First Annual Williston Block Party in the parking lot of the Church. The turn out was good and everyone had a great time meeting their neighbors and making new friends. Thank you so much for being such an important main stay in our community and allowing this event to happen!

### The Forerunner

is published monthly  
by St. John Lutheran Church  
Williston, Ohio  
21140 W. Toledo Street  
Corner of Main and Toledo St.

Telephone: 419-836-5514

e-mail:

office@stjohnwilliston.org

www.stjohnwilliston.org

### Pastor Shawn O'Brien

Home Telephone:

419-972-4003

Email:

pastorobrien

@stjohnwilliston.org

Worship at St. John

Saturday at 5:00 PM

Sunday School 8:30 AM

Sunday Worship 9:45 AM

Deadline for the

September 2019 newsletter is

**Monday, August 26, 2019 at 9 AM**

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."**



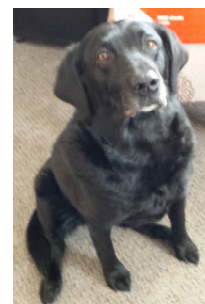
LisaAnne Gregg  
Office Administrator

9am—3pm

Mon. thru Fri.

(419) 836-5514

office@stjohnwilliston.org



Meet Bella!

The  
Door  
Greeter of  
St. John



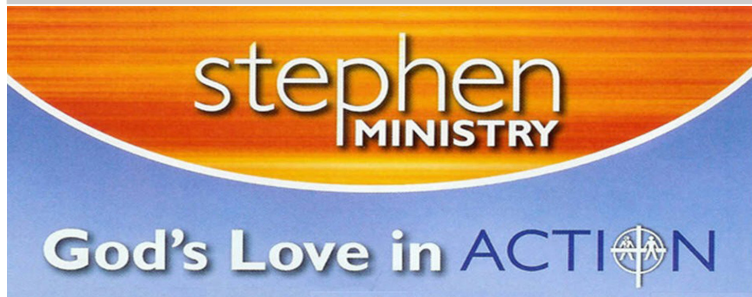
# memorials & gifts

# In Christian Sympathy

**In Memory of Stephen Harmeyer**  
Mary Harmeyer

**In Memory of Jim Witty**  
Evalyn Witty

If we inadvertently missed your name, please let the office know.



## *Stephen Ministers: The After People*

Frequently friends will ask, "I know you're involved in Stephen Ministry. Can you tell me exactly what a Stephen Minister is?" Stephen Ministers are "After People."

### *Stephen Ministers are there:*

- ...after you've washed and returned the last casserole dish.
- ...after the divorce papers have been served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ...after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems incredibly empty.
- ...after you arrive home following the funeral service and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ...after the relationship has ended, but the wounds are still bleeding and painful.
- ...after the doctors have said, "There's nothing more we can do."
- ...after the door has slammed shut—for the very last time.
- ...after the phone call you'd always hoped you'd never get.
- ...after you realize the hands on the gold watch you received at your retirement party move more slowly than you ever imagined.
- ...after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- ...after the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ...after the baby has arrived, putting more demands on you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ...after you find the pink slip inserted with what is now your final paycheck.
- ...after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

*Are you going through a difficult time?  
A Stephen Minister can help. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through a difficult time. They are ready to come alongside you or your neighbors, friends, co-workers or relatives to provide comfort and support for as long "after" as they are needed. To learn more, contact Pastor O'Brien, any one of our Stephen Ministers or the church office.*

**Donald L. Ruthsatz, Sr.**  
**December 27, 1922—July 15, 2019**



Donald L. Ruthsatz, 96, of Williston, Ohio, died Monday, July 15, 2019, at the Genoa Retirement Village in Genoa, Ohio. Don was born in Sandusky, Ohio, on December 27, 1922, the son of Rudolph R. and Pearl M. (Miller) Ruthsatz. He married Nancy M. Slater on June 22, 1942, in Frenchburg, KY, and she preceded him in death on January 9, 2003.

**Don was the Patriarch of St. John Williston since April, 2015**

Don was a meter engineer for Columbia Gas of Ohio for 36 years, retiring in 1985. He served in the U.S. Army Infantry during WWII with stations in Central Europe, Normandy, Northern France and Rhineland. Don was very active in the Masonic Order and was a member and Past Master of the Genoa Masonic Lodge F. & A.M. #433, Genoa Council #138, Oak Harbor Chapter #162 member and former High Priest, member of the St. Omer Commandery of Toledo #059, Scottish Rite-Valley of Toledo, Zenobia Temple and the Zenobia Jeepster Unit. He was also a member of Genoa American Legion Post #324 and St. John Lutheran Church in Williston, Ohio.

Survivors include his son, Donald L. Ruthsatz, Jr. of Wisconsin, five grandchildren, four great grandchildren and step sister, Iverna (James) Westfall. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, son, John Ruthsatz, step father, Robert Burger, half brother, Harold E. Burger and step sister, Sylvia Mewmaw.

Services were held on July 20 at St. John.

In lieu of flowers the family recommends memorial contributions to the St. John Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 235, Williston, Ohio 43468; Luther Home of Mercy, P.O. Box 187, Williston, OH 43468; or the Shriners Hospital for Children, 3229 Burnet Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45229.

## **St. John Prayer Chain is there for you....**

**"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.



No Circle Meetings in August

## Coming up in September

ESTHER CIRCLE: Tuesday, September 3, 7:30 p.m.

Bible Study: Diane Hartman

Hostess: Diane Gerkenmeyer, Jan Sheahan

REBEKAH CIRCLE: Tuesday, September 3, 7:00 p.m.

Bible Study: Sue Kozina

DORCAS CIRCLE: Thursday, September 5, 1:30 p.m.

Bible Study: Group study

WELCA Board Meeting Monday, September 9, 7:00 p.m.

The Women of the Northwest Ohio Synod will be having their convention on September 20-21, 2019 at the Heritage Inn, Sauder Village in Archbold, Ohio.

Offerings will go to Butterflies 15 (a support and recovery group for those victims of human trafficking) and Pillars of Success.

The in-kind offerings will be going to Together We Can Make a Difference.

More information will be made available soon.

## Handy Tips!

### *Wine-Stained Communion Napkins*

For those in the congregation who are so gracious to setup and take down communion each week, it might be good to know that if there are wine-stained napkins it's best to treat them immediately.

When the napkins have wine stains the sooner they're removed the better chance of getting the stain out.

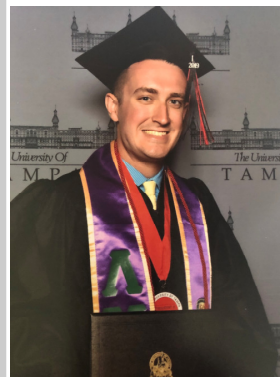
Good ways to remove the wine stain --

1) Mix one tablespoon of Dawn dishwashing detergent and a tablespoon of white vinegar; add 2 cups of hot water (not boiling) from the spigot. Let soak for 15 or 20 minutes. Launder immediately.

OR

2) Place the napkin over a small bowl and pour boiling water through it.

Either way will remove the stains. Thanks!



Drew Schloegl, son of Marty and Amy Schloegl, graduated on May 11, 2019 from The University of Tampa with a Bachelors of Science in Finance.

Drew has accepted a job and will begin his career as a member of the Financial Accounting department at Tech Data in Clearwater, Florida.

Drew will be residing in Tampa, Florida and is very thankful and appreciative for all of the support and love that he has received from his St. John family!

## Fall Worship Hours Return

### September 8th

### Saturday Contemporary Service 5 PM

### Sunday School 8:30 AM

### Sunday Traditional Service 9:45 AM



## 8th 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. 15, 2019**

**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**

For information: Tom (419) 836-8028 or (419) 205-1942 Church Office (419) 836-5514



# FOURSOME REGISTRATION FORM



8th Annual Benevolence Golf Outing 9/15/2019

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**

## **17TH ANNUAL BIG CHARITY RAFFLE**

*100% Of Vehicle Donated By Baumann Auto Group*

**WINNER WINS CHOICE OF**



**NEW CHEVROLET  
EQUINOX**

OR

**NEW JEEP  
COMPASS**

## **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 16 YEARS \$973,002**

Tickets are available in the office while supplies last.  
We will also be selling them before and after various  
worship services.

# Faith Practice

## Number Four



**Take a moment out of your  
summer fun to  
give the gift of life!**

### **All types are needed!**

**With the summer heat and increased  
incidents of trauma during the summer  
season, the demand for  
donated blood is great  
and donations are low...  
so let's step up to save lives  
this summer at St. John!**

**American Red Cross Blood Drive  
Sunday, August 18th  
Noon to 5 PM  
St. John Williston**

**Lunch provided!**

**Please make an appointment  
to avoid long waits.**

**[www.redcrossorg.org](http://www.redcrossorg.org) or call LisaAnne at  
the church office (419-836-5514)  
to make your appointment today!!**

### *Our Seven Faith Practices*

I will strive to...

1. **PRAY** daily
2. **WORSHIP** weekly
3. **READ** and study the Bible
4. **SERVE** at and beyond St. John
5. **INVITE** others into a loving relationship with Jesus
6. **GIVE** of my time, talents, and resources
7. **ENCOURAGE** spiritual growth in others



**St. John will be serving at the pantry on  
Saturday August 17 from 9:00 am to noon.**

**We need volunteers.**

**Please call Cindy Hartman 419-304-0071  
or Becky Tank at 419-262-1828.**

**As always, donations of unexpired and non perishable  
food items are always accepted!  
Please leave them in the basket by the office.**

***Genoa Food Pantry needs for August:***

***Canned fruits and vegetables***



**Please be in prayer for those from St. John who will be  
serving the Lord in Montana this month.**

**Kent Delventhal, Richard Phillips, Dave Neuman,  
Rol Sandroock, Caleb Johnson, Brenda Lowe, Jack  
Matthews, Rick Buhrow, Sandra Toth (St. John, Stoney  
Ridge) and Pastor O'Brien.**





# August Stewardship Page



## 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.

## Our Prayer for August

As we prepare for the transitions  
of August;  
of routines becoming regular,  
signs of schools beginning to emerge,  
and traffic patterns getting heavier,  
help us to appreciate the sacred rhythms in  
our lives.

Give us the wisdom to make our hearts be  
still, much as the August wind is still,  
so that we may listen to the gentle words  
you speak to us.

Help us understand that you alone are the  
source of every good gift,  
of the vast array of our universe,  
and the mystery of each human life.

And help us see that we are called to be  
good stewards of all the gifts you have en-  
trusted to us;  
tending them faithfully and responsibly so  
they may ultimately be returned to you with  
increase.

In this month of August while a measure of  
summer's stillness remains,  
speak to our hearts,  
guide us in your Son's ways,  
and through your Spirit,  
give us the strength to proclaim your  
justice and peace in our every day words and  
deeds.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*We're still here*  
while you're on vacation!

Use Online Giving from your computer  
or smart device to schedule one-time  
or recurring donations!

Online Giving

GIVE  
TODAY!



### Planning a summer vacation?

Could you use one less worry?  
Online giving is now available at St. John.


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.

Not online? See LisaAnne in the office to set up an ac-  
count or fill out an "Authorization Form"  
and return it to the office.

**Thank you for being a blessing to St. John!**



# Faith Practice #3 Readings PROVERBS



Proverbs comes from a section of the Old Testament called Wisdom Literature. It is a collection of sayings written to uncover something true about the nature of reality in a way that makes the reader or listener wiser. As we read through these sayings, we should be aware that in the Bible, wisdom is rarely presented as a single decision, belief, or rule, but rather as a “way” or “path”. Those pursuing wisdom must continually seek the path amid the twists and turns of life. We should also note that Wisdom is situational. It isn’t just about knowing what to say; it’s about knowing when to say it. That is why we will often find two Proverbs next to each other that seem contradictory. Wisdom is not just about knowing what is true; it’s about knowing when it’s true. As one commentator succinctly put it, “You reap what you sow – except when you don’t.”

This might be a difficult book of the Bible to come up with questions for, but it should be a good one for us to read. We will continue with our ‘one chapter per week’ reading plan as follows:

*for the week starting...*

April 29 – Proverbs 1

May 6 – Proverbs 2

May 13 – Proverbs 3

May 20 – Proverbs 4

May 27 – Proverbs 5

June 3 – Proverbs 6

June 10 – Proverbs 7

June 17 – Proverbs 8

June 24 – Proverbs 9

July 1 – Proverbs 10

July 8 – Proverbs 11

July 15 – Proverbs 12

July 22 – Proverbs 13

July 29 – Proverbs 14

August 5 – Proverbs 15

August 12 – Proverbs 16

August 19 – Proverbs 17

August 26 – Proverbs 18

September 2 – Proverbs 19

September 9 – Proverbs 20

September 16 – Proverbs 21

September 23 – Proverbs 22

September 30 – Proverbs 23

October 7 – Proverbs 24

October 14 – Proverbs 25

October 21 – Proverbs 26

October 28 – Proverbs 27

November 4 – Proverbs 28

November 11 – Proverbs 29

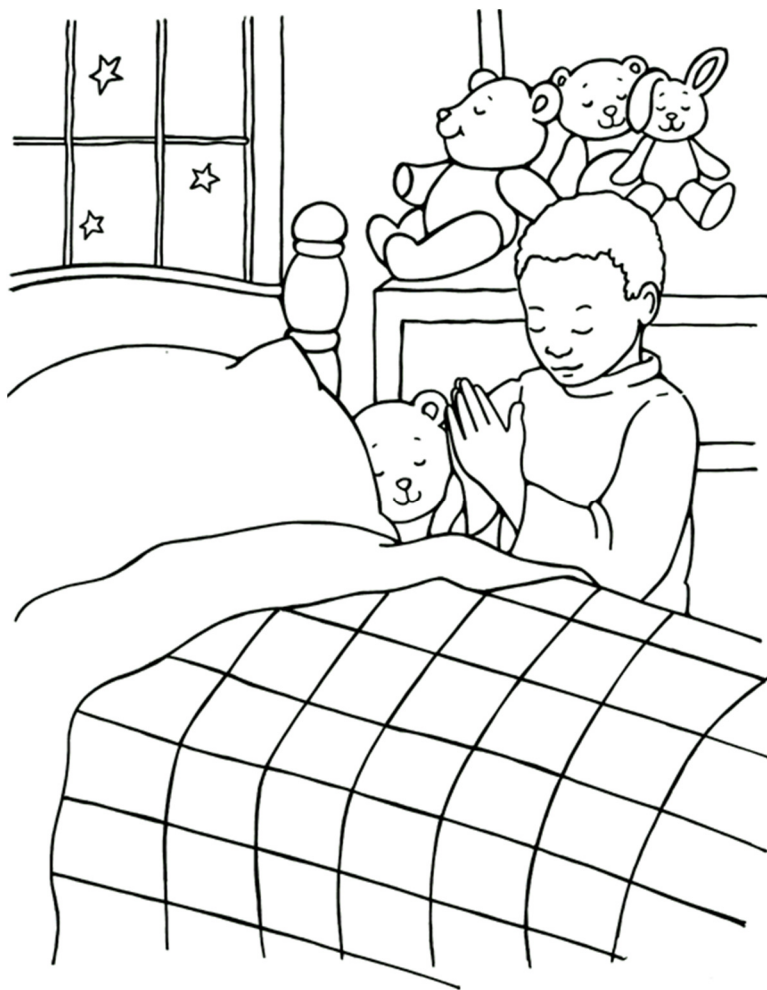
November 18 – Proverbs 30

November 25 – Proverbs 31

CONNECTING KIDS TO CHRIST

# The Connection

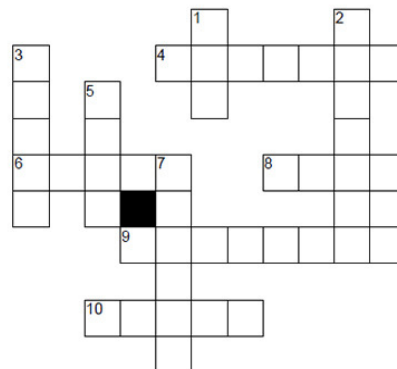
St. John Kid's Page



## Teach Us to Pray

And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Luke 11:2-4 (KJV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 11:1-4



### ACROSS

4. A country whose ruler is a king or queen
6. To instruct someone on how to do something
8. Something bad; wicked
9. Holy, sacred, worthy of praise
10. A baked food made from flour

### DOWN

1. To break God's laws
2. To remove the blame for doing wrong
3. The planet where we live
5. To speak to God with praise, confession, asking, or thanksgiving
7. The place where God is

KINGDOM	FORGIVE	EARTH	PRAY	BREAD
HALLOWED	EVIL	HEAVEN	SIN	TEACH

Copyright © Sermons 4 Kids, Inc. • All rights reserved • [www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com)



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Kickoff

**Join us for Sunday School Rally Day!**

**Sunday, September 8th– 8:30 AM**

**Invite a friend to Sunday School!**





Luther Home of Mercy

# Happenings at the Home



## ***Hooves at the Home!***

Serenity Farm's mini therapy horses, Thunder and Sunny, came to campus for a fun-filled visit.

We took strolls around the gymnasium, watched the horses perform tricks and got plenty of horse nuzzles.

Their visit was a rewarding treat!



## ***Fishing with the Scouts***

Fishing is one of our favorite ways to have summer fun and we love it when friends lend a hand. Families from Williston Scout Troop 342 spent a recent evening helping several cottages bait hooks and get up close to their catch. [#enrichinglives](#)



## ***Take Me Out to the Ball Game!***

Summer is our favorite time of year with lots of individuals traveling and going on outings in their community.

Sonny & Jim got a little Muddy at a recent Mud Hens game.







# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## God's work. Our hands.

### **World Council of Churches' Conference on World Mission and Evangelism Moving in the Spirit: Called to Transforming Discipleship The Arusha Call to Discipleship**

The World Council of Churches' Conference on World Mission and Evangelism met in Arusha, Tanzania, from 8-13 March 2018. More than one thousand participants—all of whom are engaged in mission and evangelism—gathered from many different Christian traditions and from every part of the world.

We joyfully celebrated the life-giving movement of the Spirit of God in our time, drawing particular inspiration from African contexts and spiritualities. Through Bible study, common prayer and worship, and by sharing our stories together, we were encouraged to be witnesses to the reign of God that has come to us through the life, crucifixion, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Despite some glimmers of hope, we had to reckon with death-dealing forces that are shaking the world order and inflicting suffering on many. We observed the shocking accumulation of wealth due to one global financial system, which enriches few and impoverishes many (Isaiah 5:8). This is at the root of many of today's wars, conflicts, ecological devastation, and suffering (1 Timothy 6:10). This global imperial system has made the financial market one of the idols of our time. It has also strengthened cultures of domination and discrimination that continue to marginalize and exclude millions, forcing some among us into conditions of vulnerability and exploitation. We are mindful that people on the margins bear the heaviest burden.

These issues are not new for 2018, but the Holy Spirit continues to move at this time, and urgently calls us as Christian communities to respond with personal and communal conversion, and a transforming discipleship.

Discipleship is both a gift and a calling to be active collaborators with God for the transforming of the world (1 Thessalonians 3:2). In what the church's early theologians called "theosis" or deification, we share God's grace by sharing God's mission. This journey of discipleship leads us to share and live out God's love in Jesus Christ by seeking justice and peace in ways that are different from the world (John 14:27). Thus, we are responding to Jesus' call to follow him from the margins of our world (Luke 4:16-19).

#### **As disciples of Jesus Christ, both individually and collectively:**

**We are called** by our baptism to transforming discipleship: a Christ-connected way of life in a world where many face despair, rejection, loneliness, and worthlessness.

**We are called** to worship the one Triune God—the God of justice, love, and grace—at a time when many worship the false god of the market system (Luke 16:13).

**We are called** to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ—the fullness of life, the repentance and forgiveness of

sin, and the promise of eternal life—in word and deed, in a violent world where many are sacrificed to the idols of death (Jeremiah 32:35) and where many have not yet heard the gospel.

**We are called** to joyfully engage in the ways of the Holy Spirit, who empowers people from the margins with agency, in the search for justice and dignity (Acts 1:8; 4:31).

**We are called** to discern the word of God in a world that communicates many contradictory, false, and confusing messages.

**We are called** to care for God's creation, and to be in solidarity with nations severely affected by climate change in the face of a ruthless human-centered exploitation of the environment for consumerism and greed.

**We are called** as disciples to belong together in just and inclusive communities, in our quest for unity and on our ecumenical journey, in a world that is based upon marginalization and exclusion.

**We are called** to be faithful witnesses of God's transforming love in dialogue with people of other faiths in a world where the politicization of religious identities often causes conflict.

**We are called** to be formed as servant leaders who demonstrate the way of Christ in a world that privileges power, wealth, and the culture of money (Luke 22:25-27).

**We are called** to break down walls and seek justice with people who are dispossessed and displaced from their lands—including migrants, refugees and asylum seekers—and to resist new frontiers and borders that separate and kill (Isaiah 58:6-8).

**We are called** to follow the way of the cross, which challenges elitism, privilege, personal and structural power (Luke 9:23).

**We are called** to live in the light of the resurrection, which offers hope-filled possibilities for transformation.

#### **This is a call to transforming discipleship.**

This is not a call that we can answer in our own strength, so the call becomes, in the end, a call to prayer:

*Loving God, we thank you for the gift of life in all its diversity and beauty. Lord Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, we praise you that you came to find the lost, to free the oppressed, to heal the sick, and to convert the self-centered. Holy Spirit, we rejoice that you breathe in the life of the world and are poured out into our hearts. As we live in the Spirit, may we also walk in the Spirit. Grant us faith and courage to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus: becoming pilgrims of justice and peace in our time. For the blessing of your people, the sustaining of the earth, and the glory of your name.  
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*



# Northwestern Ohio Synod

## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Bishop Daniel Beaudoin



Dear Friends in Christ,

<sup>1</sup>“Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
in all generations.

<sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to dust,  
and say, “Turn back, you mortals.”

<sup>4</sup>For a thousand years in your sight  
are like yesterday when it is past,  
or like a watch in the night.

<sup>5</sup>You sweep them away; they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning; (Psalm 90:1-5)

Sunday, June 30, we reached the half way point. We are half way through reading the Bible in One Year. We have read through Torah, History, and a bit of Wisdom (Job). We look forward to the Old Testament Prophets, the Gospels, and the New Testament letters. While I have enjoyed this daily discipline, and have learned a lot, there are some mornings when I am ready for some Jesus.

This morning, as I read through Psalm 90, the psalmist's words made me think of the hymn, “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” (ELW #632). So, I Googled it. Sure enough, Isaac Watts (1674-1748), wrote the words of the hymn, “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” based on the words of Psalm 90.

**See if you can find some similarities between Psalm 90 (above)  
and the lyrics to “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” (below)**

- 1 Our God, our Help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
our Shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal Home.
- 2 Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,  
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight are like an ev'ning gone,  
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 Our God, our Help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
still be our Guide while troubles last, and our eternal home!

*Bishop Beaudoin wants to encourage and challenge you to join with the rest of the Northwestern Ohio Synod and read through the entire Bible in One Year. Back in 2004 and 2012, the parishes he was serving read through the Bible in One Year as a community spiritual practice. Scripture is meant to be read in community, so please don't do this alone.*

**2019 NWOS Daily  
Bible Readings for August**

August 1: Isaiah 18-22  
August 2: Isaiah 23-27  
August 3: Isaiah 28-30

August 4: Isaiah 31-35  
August 5: Isaiah 36-41  
August 6: Isaiah 42-44  
August 7: Isaiah 45-48  
August 8: Isaiah 49-53  
August 9: Isaiah 54-58  
August 10: Isaiah 59-63  
August 11: Isaiah 64-66  
August 12: Jeremiah 1-3  
August 13: Jeremiah 4-6  
August 14: Jeremiah 7-9  
August 15: Jeremiah 10-13  
August 16: Jeremiah 14-17  
August 17: Jeremiah 18-22

August 18: Jeremiah 23-25  
August 19: Jeremiah 26-29  
August 20: Jeremiah 30-31  
August 21: Jeremiah 32-34  
August 22: Jeremiah 35-37  
August 23: Jeremiah 38-41  
August 24: Jeremiah 42-45  
August 25: Jeremiah 46-48  
August 26: Jeremiah 49-50  
August 27: Jeremiah 51-52  
August 28: Lamentations 1-2  
August 29: Lamentation 3-5  
August 30: Ezekiel 1-4  
August 31: Ezekiel 5-8





\$130,000	Goal!
\$120,000	123649.00
\$110,000	
\$100,000	
\$90,000	
\$80,000	
\$70,000	
\$60,000	
\$50,000	

The New Roof Project is complete and we are almost to our goal of \$130,000 to cover the costs of the project.

Roofing Services Plus of Holland, OH did a wonderful job.

They also replaced the old gutters and installed snow jacks on the new roof.

Thank you to ALL who contributed to this much needed improvement!

The St. John Family always comes through to care and preserve this wonderful building and its congregation with most generous hearts!



**St. John Lutheran Church**  
**Statement of Income and Expense**  
**As of June 30, 2019**

	Full Year	Month to Date			Year to Date				
		Budget	Actual	%	Budget	Actual	%	Prior Year	% Growth
Income: *	283,000	28,793	24,668	86%	141,563	135,569	96%	136,501	-1%
* does not include memorials and other dedicated offerings * online giving IS included.									
Expenses:									
Benevolence	38,000	4,208	4,208	100%	19,000	19,000	100%		
Board/Ministries	14,400	1,147	1,881	164%	7,394	7,258	98%		
Staff Salaries	96,800	7,888	8,152	103%	45,595	47,729	105%		
Staff Benefits	56,170	4,681	4,513	96%	28,085	26,284	94%		
Operating Expenses	73,130	5,881	5,519	94%	40,483	37,843	93%		
Expense Totals	278,500	23,805	24,273	102%	140,557	138,114	98%		
Income less Expenses	4,500	4,988	395		1,006	(2,545)			

**2019 Dedicated Fund Balances**

Building/Development	8,305
Activity Center Savings	278,801
Memorials	65,631
Music Fund	4,307
Endowment Fund	114,763
Roof Fund	66,601
Scholarship Tank	5,795
Scholarship Younker	10,000
Scholarship Johnson	34,169
Scholarship Parks	34,694
Youth	20,577
Other	19,961
Savings	16,993
<b>Total</b>	<b>680,597</b>

Roof	
56573	down payment
66601	roof fund acct.
123174	



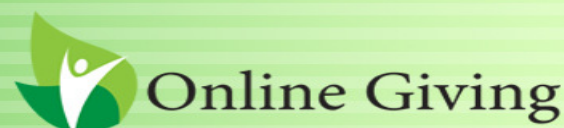
(Other includes Youth, Good Samaritan, etc.)

If you have questions, please contact the Board of Finance, Tim Titgemeyer, Dave Neuman or Kent Delventhal.

Finance pg. 1

**Online Giving, an easy and secure way to give to the church**

**It's Easy It's Secure..**



Did you know St. John offers online giving?  
 We process giving through VANCO, a nationally recognized leader in church giving.  
 It's easy, it's secure and you can get started today!  
 Not online? No problem! Just fill out an authorization form or see LisaAnne in 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)



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		ENVELOPE/DONOR #		DATE	
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____					
Type of authorization: <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 #	
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____/____/____		FREQUENCY OF DONATION: <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>		FUNDS: <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;">Total \$ _____</div>	
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; margin-top: 5px;"> </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.*



## *Worship Assistants*

**SATURDAY**  
**5:00pm—Worship**

### **Acolytes**

- 3 Payton Donnelly
- 10 Aidan O'Brien
- 17 Seidona Brossia
- 24 Shane O'Brien
- 31 Riley Brossia

### **Lectors**

- 3 **Bev Harder**
- 10 Shirley Berger
- 17 Ruth Petersen
- 24 Gene Bihn
- 31 Doris Titgemeyer

### **Ushers**

- 3 Jim & Dilly Schimming , **Carol Vargo, Alice Witt**
- 10 Allen Harder, Madelayne Saionzkowski,  
**Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer**
- 17 John & Helen Meyer, Ken and Pat Sievert
- 24 Gene & Amy Bihn, Marty & Owen Schloegl
- 31 David Lee Family

### **Communion Servers**

- 3 Al Brown, **Gene Bihn, Margaret Berger**
- 10 Doris Titgemeyer, **Ron & Diane Gerkenmeyer**
- 17 No communion this week
- 24 Wayne Bauman, Ron Gerkenmeyer, Amy Schloegl
- 31 Gene Bihn, Diane Gerkenmeyer, Doris Titgemeyer

### **Communion Set-up**

- 3 **Carol Vargo**
- 10 **Diane Gerkenmeyer**
- 17
- 24 Ruth Petersen
- 31 Brenda Keeley

### **Door Greeters**

- 3 Jo Elaine Schimming
- 10 Joni Hillman
- 17 Dean Lowe
- 24 Arline Sabin
- 31 Jack Mathews

### **Sound/Projector Techs**

- 3 Traci Brown / **need one**
- 10 Phil and JJ Milbrodt
- 17 Ron Gerkenmeyer/Traci Brown
- 24 Phil and JJ Milbrodt
- 31 Traci Brown/ Ron Gerkenmeyer

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

### **Acolytes**

- 4 Evan Kessler
- 11 Sophia Cashen
- 18 Tucker Fredericksen
- 25 Jake Titgemeyer

### **Lectors**

- 4 Mike Mann
- 11 Marcia Morgan
- 18 Melissa Lammers
- 25 Diana Pfaff

### **Ushers**

- 4 The Titgemeyer Family
- 11 Dave Neuman, Heather and Lindsey Cashen
- 18 Dan & Andy Kessler, Bob Kapp
- 25 Jeff Schimming, Dan Nelson, Jennifer Delventhal

### **Communion Servers**

- 4 Margaret Berger, Jane Phillips, Carole Beamer
- 11 Heather Cashen, Mike and Ann Mann
- 18 No Communion this week
- 25 Roland Sandrock, Karolyn Jansen, Bob Kapp

### **Communion Set-up**

- 4 Pam LaRue
- 11 Heather Cashen
- 18
- 25 Janice Sandrock

### **Door Greeters**

- 4 Melissa Lammers
- 11 Marcia Morgan
- 18 Linda Schlievert
- 25 Margaret Berger

### **Sound/Projector Techs**

- 4 Andy Kessler
- 11 Paul Beamer
- 18 Tim Titgemeyer
- 25 Joel Mann

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

**More Worship Helpers Needed! Sign up in the office today!**





## *Worship Assistants*

### **SATURDAY 5:00pm—Worship**

#### **Acolytes**

- 7 Payton Donnelly
- 14 Seidona Brossia
- 21 Shane O'Brien
- 28 Anna Sommers

#### **Lectors**

- 7 Diane Gerkenismeyer
- 14 Tracy Orians
- 21 Bev Harder
- 28 Nancy Strohscher

#### **Ushers**

- 7 Ron & Diane Gerkenismeyer  
Jim and Dilly Schimming
- 14 Allen Harder, Madelayne Saionzkowski,  
Tom Truman, Gene Bihn
- 21 Ken and Pat Sievert, John and Helen Meyer
- 28 David Lee Family

#### **Communion Servers**

- 7 Al Brown, Ron & Diane Gerkenismeyer
- 14 Carol Vargo, Nancy Strohscher, Amy Schleogl
- 21 JoElaine Schimming, Wayne Bauman, Gene Bihn
- 28 Nancy Strohscher, Diane Gerkenismeyer, Carol Vargo

#### **Communion Set-up**

- 7 Diane Gerkenismeyer
- 14 Ruth Petersen
- 21 Dilly Schimming
- 28 Joan Truman

#### **Door Greeters**

- 7 Carol Vargo
- 14 Kris Lee
- 21 Dean Lowe
- 28 Arline Sabin

#### **Sound/Projector Techs**

- 7 Traci Brown / Amy Bihn
- 14 Phil and JJ Milbrodt
- 21 Ron Gerkenismeyer / Amy Bihn
- 28 Phil and JJ Milbrodt

### **SUNDAY**

**9:00 Worship/9:45 beginning Sept 8**

#### **Acolytes**

- 1 Evan Kessler
- 8 Megan Hoeft
- 15 Sophia Cashen
- 22 Lindsey Cashen
- 29 Jake Titgemeyer

#### **Lectors**

- 1 Cebie Titgemeyer
- 8 Ann Mann
- 15 Roland Sandrock
- 22 Deanna Neuman
- 29 Tim Titgemeyer

#### **Ushers**

- 1 The Lammers Family
- 8 Dan & Andy Kessler, Jennifer Delventhal
- 15 Bob Kapp, Jeff Schimming, Dan Nelson
- 22 Dave Neuman, Dan Nelson, Jeff Schimming
- 29 The Titgemeyer Family

#### **Communion Servers**

- 1 Marcia Morgan, Bob Kapp, Mike Mann
- 8 Karolyn Jansen, Tim Titgemeyer, Ann Mann
- 15 Rol Sandrock, Carole Beamer, Margaret Berger
- 22 Marcia Morgan, Mona Vogelbacher, Jean Fowler
- 29 Jill Kao, Wilma Smithers, Bob Kapp

#### **Communion Set-up**

- 1 Heather Cashen
- 8 Nancy Brittan
- 15 Diana Pfaff
- 22 Melissa Lammers
- 29 Janice Sandrock

#### **Door Greeters**

- 1 Melissa Lammers
- 8 Karen Jeffers
- 15 Jennifer Delventhal
- 22 Margaret Berger
- 29 Debbie Wehner

#### **Sound/Projector Techs**

- 1 Joel Mann
- 8 Paul Beamer
- 15 Tim Titgemeyer
- 22 Joel Mann
- 29 Andy Kessler

#### **Children's Moments**

- 8 Caira Goldstein
- 15 Bells
- 22 Stef Neuman
- 29 Puppets!



**More Worship Helpers Needed!**  
**Sign up in the office today!**