

FORERUNNER

Volume 0667
Issue 292
August 2020

Let your smile
change the world.....
But don't let the world change
your smile
~unknown



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Ask the Pastor

"A family member (a retired Baptist minister) told us we need to be born again to be saved, or we're going to hell. We've shared Mark 16:16 with him many times - "The one who believes and is baptized will be saved..." but he still insists we're wrong. Is there a simple answer we can give him, especially since we have different views?"

Unfortunately, there is really no simple answer you can give. "Soteriology" is the fancy name for the study of religious doctrines of salvation. There have been hundreds if not thousands of volumes written on the topic of soteriology, so it would be difficult to boil it all down to a simple answer. So I am going to give you a simple non-answer... how you respond to your family member (how you approach soteriology) depends a lot on your theology, what you think God is like, how you view the Bible, what you think of Jesus, and the interpretation of certain words. A "retired Baptist minister" probably doesn't view these things the same as you – a long time Lutheran.

For example, Lutherans would say being "saved" or "born from above" (born "again" is a wordplay that Nicodemus misunderstands in John's gospel) are God's actions toward us. These are things God has already done on our behalf, not something we do. The emphasis is not on how I "get saved" or "what I have to do?" but rather, "what difference does it make that that God has acted on my behalf?" Or the follow-up, "how will I live my life *because* I am saved?" The primary focus is on God's action, i.e. the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The secondary focus is on my response to God's action. Debating who is right and who is wrong about such things is futile. (Assuming you don't want to take up the study of soteriology. If you do, I'm currently reading "That All Shall Be Saved: Heaven, Hell, and Universal Salvation" by David Bentley Hart. It's pretty heavy reading, so if you could explain it to me I would appreciate it. J)

Perhaps rather than focusing on the differences you have with your family member, arguing theology, etc. you can find the 'responses' you have in common; love God and love one another; seek kindness, justice, and mercy; forgive one another; etc. These are things Christians do despite denomination/theological differences. I hope this helps.

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.

grateful « thankful » blessed

To My St. John Family,
I want to thank Margaret Berger and the ladies for the beautiful blanket. I would also like to thank Carolyn, Marilyn and Diane Gerkenmeyer for the beautiful prayer shawl. It's really nice to have people who care. Thanks to Pastor O'Brien for his prayers and to all who called, sent cards or kept me in their prayers during my trips to the hospital. God bless all of you.

Terry Gast

Dear St. John Family,
Thank you so very much for giving me the Younker Memorial Scholarship. I am so grateful and it will help so much as I continue my education at BGSU. I am excited to start college. I am very blessed to be part of such a supportive, generous, and kind church family.

Thank you again,
Owen Schloegl

Thank you to everyone that helped with the June Food Pantry.

Margaret Berger
Carolyn Lasseter
Marilyn Sandrock
Carole Beamer
Linda Schlievert
Gene Bihn
Ellen Bergman
Thomas Bergman
Fred Huss
Gene & Barb Myers
Dave Imlay
Becky Tank
Cindy Hartman



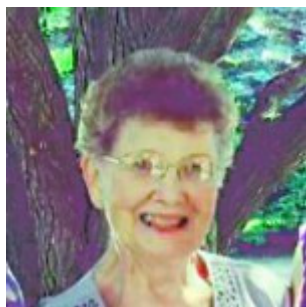
At the beginning of the COVID19 pandemic, Andy Kessler stepped forward to help with our video/online worship services. Hopefully you have had the opportunity to see he has made our simple recordings into quality productions. Also, what we thought would be a few weeks

has turned into a commitment of a few months. Some have asked how they can appropriately thank Andy, so the Worship Life Committee is establishing a Laptop Fund as a "Thank You" to Andy Kessler for all his help and assistance with the production of the digital live and recordings of the church worship services during the last few months. If you would like to contribute to this fund, just send your donation in an envelope marked as such to the church office to show your appreciation for Andy Kessler's production assistance and expertise.



Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one caregiving ministry. God works through Stephen Ministers to plant a seed of hope and healing in a person whose life seems barren and forlorn because of a crisis or tragedy.

The Stephen Ministry of St. John is here for you. If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister or need more information, please call Pastor or the church office.



HELEN "JEAN" (BRINKER) ROLLINS

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of our mother, Helen "Jean" Rollins, on Sunday, July 12, 2020. She was born to Lawrence and Helen Brinker on October 21, 1935 and married Darrell Rollins on April 18, 1959. Jean enjoyed singing in her church choir at St. John Lutheran in Williston, collecting porcelain dolls, and putting together jigsaw puzzles.

Left to cherish her memory are her children, Marsha (Jeff) Mihalko, Ronald (Jeanne), and John (Kelly); her grandchildren, Andrea and Adam Mihalko, Angela, Victoria, Jaclyn and Zachary Rollins; her siblings, Ruth Ann Hentges, Kathleen Hahn, Paul (Marlene) Brinker,

Marilyn (Ken) Hamen, and Janell (Dave) Vickers; her sisters-in-law, Barb Rollins, Joyce Brinker, and Debra Plumadore and brother-in-law, George Brinker; and well over 70+ nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; and brother, Richard Brinker.

A memorial service led by Pastor Dawn Balduf was held in Genoa at St. John's United Church of Christ. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Jean's name may be made to Hospice of NW Ohio or St John Lutheran Church, Box 235, Williston Ohio.



**In Honor of Roland and Janice Sandrock's
50th Anniversary**

Doris Titgemeyer

In Memory of Virgil Roecker

Bob and Elaine Frobose
John, Tammy and Anna Mazur
John Hirt
Mary Younker
Beth Johnson
Debbie and Lee Wehner
Roland and Janice Sandrock
Linda Schlievert
Mary Harmeyer
Madelayne Saionzkowski
Carole Beamer
Lynette Patterson
Edgar and Mary Hurdelbrink
Walter Minarik
Phyllis Dehring
Thomas Siglar
Mark Diefenthaler
Carolyn Lasseter
Marilyn Sandrock
Edna Sandrock
Diana and Christopher Pfaff
Jim and Delores Schimming
Carol Vargo
Alice Witt
Warren and Rosemary Schlievert
Rhea Widmer
Phyllis Haeft
Gretchen Drummond
Lowell and Diane Hartman
Tom and Alice Siglar
JoElaine Schimming
Beckie and Jerry Goldstein and Family
John and Sandra Harmon
Jane and Richard Phillips
Carol and Steve Jensen
Elaine Gruetter
Regina and Richard Myers
Brenda Lowe
Mike and Ann Mann
Gertrude Eckerman
Gary and Darlene Carstensen
Randy and Tonya Cartstensen
Bob and Diane Kapp
Richard and Shirley Crosskill
Larry and Nancy Strohscher
Ronald and Debra Clark
Sharon M. Cornell
Sheldon, Marie and Lyle Overmeyer
Thomas and Joan Truman

Arline Sabin
Doris Titgemeyer
Gene and Amy Bihn
Janice Sheahan
Jim and Mona Vogelbacher
David and Sue Wengert & family
Dennis and Cindy Hartman
Gary and LisaAnne Gregg
Larry and Karen Schanke
Diane Dickinson
Mary Schimming
American Legion Auxiliary
Ray and Judy Robaszekiewicz
Kent Delventhal
Merle and Shirley Berger
Henry and Carrol Kurkemyer
Gertrude Henningsen
Ron and Diane Gerkenmeyer
In Memory of Norma Jean Gast
Terry Gast
In Memory of Jean Rollins
Gertrude Eckerman
Larry and Nancy Strohscher
Diane and Lowell Hartman
Arline Sabin
Diane Dickinson
Glenn and Shirley Rahe and family
Carol and Steve Jensen
Elaine Mihalko
Al and Traci Brown
Margaret Berger
Tom and Joan Truman
Connie K Hill
Henry & Carrol Krukemyer
Todd and Amy Krukemyer
Shawn McDole & Wanda McDole
Annette and Eric Prehn
Donna Morlock
Linda Schlievert
Alice Witt
Carol Vargo
Tom and Judy Sevits
Lawrence and Nancy Bunde
Jeremy & Brandy Hahn
Mark and Julie Stahl
Dean Lowe
Joe and Ellen Palmert
JoElaine Schimming
Anne Smith
Jim Tomor & Brenda
Thomas and Sandra Garverick
Kitty Hahn
Joseph and Anne Zielinski
David and Janell Vickers
Doris Titgemeyer
Mary Schimming
Robert and Linda Wolf
Phyllis Dehring
Donald Geismann
Dennis and Rosemarie Dickinson
Daniel and Dawn Balduf

The Forerunner

is published monthly
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Corner of Main and Toledo St.

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Pastor Shawn O'Brien

Home Telephone:

419-972-4003

Email:

pastorobrien

@stjohnwilliston.org

Summer worship hours
Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

**Deadline for the
September 2020 newsletter is
Monday, August 24th
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



Email:

Office @stjohnwilliston.org



Our new Patriarch– Leroy Fowler

The elders of a congregation are a blessing because they are its living heritage. There is a spiritual maturity that comes with walking a long lifetime with the Lord. There is a wisdom that comes only with many years lived upon this earth. This spiritual example and wisdom should be shared and honored in the community of faith.

We are reminded of our responsibility in the book of Leviticus: "Show respect for old people and honor them." And likewise Peter instructs us in his first letter: "...I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, ...not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it, not for shameful gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. In the same way, you who are younger must accept

the authority of the elders. And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for 'God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.' " 1 Peter 5:1-5

We recognize this gift from God by honoring the oldest living man of St. John Lutheran Church, Williston, Ohio as **Leroy Fowler** becomes the fifth Patriarch of St. John. Congratulations, Leroy!



*I baptize you in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit*

Welcome, Levi!

On August 1st, we will welcome

Levi Timothy Tank,

into the St. John Lutheran Church Family
through Holy Baptism.

Levi is the son of Justin and Kerri Tank,
the brother of Audrey Tank and the
grandson of Becky Tank.

His sponsors are Jason and Stephanie Tank
and Danny and Mandy Marous.



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. Please keep your message to the minimum to avoid any errors in passing it on. Thank you!

Worship with us from HOME

Missing Church? Not ready yet?

That's ok! We have the answer!

**We are gathering together in person for worship but
you can also worship with St. John ONLINE!**

Until we can all join together comfortably in worship, we will be live streaming our worship services on our Facebook page and on our YouTube channel on Saturdays at 5PM and will show it again Sunday mornings at 9AM. Not online? That's ok. Let the office know and we will send you an Audio CD of the latest worship service.

Our Facebook link is <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnwilliston/>

For continued services, you may also search YouTube for Shawn O'Brien and look for the St. John logo.

Email/Text Reminders

If you would like to be notified about events, activities, schedule changes, etc. through email or text, join St. John on Remind...

Text @stjohnw to the number 81010. (You'll receive a welcome text from Remind.)

(If you have trouble with 81010, try texting @stjohnw to (419) 679-4578.)

Visit rmd.at/stjohnw to sign up for email notifications.

If none of those work, send a message to the church office.

We can sign you up.



Don't Miss Out! Sunday School at HOME!

The Parish Education Committee has put together some different activities parents and students can use for faith development while Sunday school is not able to meet. We will send out a different activity each day, so watch your news feed and please share them with a friend. <https://biblepathwayadventures.com>

There are also Bible stories and Sunday School Lessons at www.biblewise.com. Just click on the Kid's Korner for stories, games and songs!

And, check out the many ideas for fun on our website at www.stjohnwilliston.org! There are several lessons listed under the "Ministries and Activities" tab.

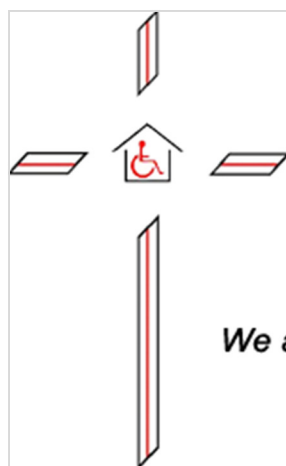




SAVE THE DATE
Luther Home of Mercy
Golf Outing
August 21, 2020
Maumee Bay Golf Course

The BSA comes to LHM! Drumroll, please ..

We are excited to introduce to you....the initial scouts of Pack 928! After over a year of planning with the [Boy Scouts of America Erie Shores Council, Boy Scouts of America](#), we have all of our paperwork and applications complete to begin a Cub Scouting pack for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The BSA recognizes the need for all to belong and allows those we serve to participate based on interests to the best of their abilities regardless of age. Uniforms were delivered and the newly minted Scouts were welcomed to their pack. We will soon begin holding meetings virtually with the use of cottage I-pads. This project was funded in part by a grant from the Brian and Robin Beck Gift Fund of the [Ottawa County Community Foundation, Ohio](#), an affiliate organization of the [Greater Toledo Community Foundation](#). Our many thanks to all who helped make this possible! [#enrichinglives](#)



**Luther Home
of Mercy**

*We are a Ministry Enriching Lives
and Individual Abilities*

Community involvement and relationship building is an important part of what we do. Each year, we host or participate in a number of special events to make new friends, keep our constituents informed and have fun!

At this time, we are still planning to have our **Annual Golf Outing on Friday, August 21, at Maumee Bay Golf Course** with a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. Given that the full extent of what we will be able to offer is not presently clear, we are postponing registration. Watch our website and our FACEBOOK page for registration information. If you have questions

before that time, please contact

Megan O'Brien: 419-972-4436 or at
mobrien@lutherhome.org

AUGUST STEWARDSHIP



Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure

Stewardship of TIME

In Ephesians 5, (*Contemporary English Version*) the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to write, "Act like people with good sense and not like fools. These are evil times, so make every minute count. Don't be stupid. Instead, find out what the Lord wants you to do."

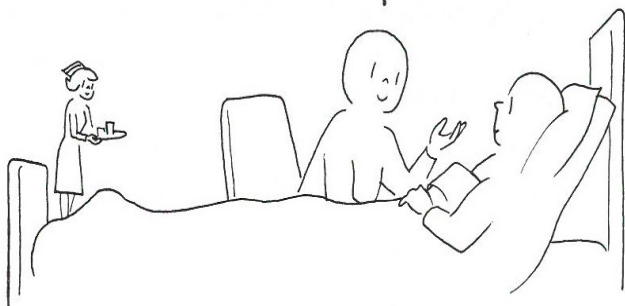
STEWARDSHIP OF TIME

When God gives us LIFE, we don't know how much TIME we have to use that life.



But whatever time we have is a GIFT FROM GOD and we must use it WISELY, in every activity throughout the day.

We must budget our hours so that we are able to
GIVE OF OUR TIME
to fulfill God's plan.



Lord,
We know that you give our earth and its people all of life. Let us pray that we use our time wisely in your Holy Name.
Amen.



Online Giving...Easy and Secure!

Did you know? Online giving is available here.

Even during these uncertain times, your church continues to serve! When not meeting in person for worship, or while you are on vacation, you can still give to the church you love so much. St. John works with VANCO, a nationally recognized online giving program to make it easy and secure to give...no matter if you are near or far!

It's easy...go to our website at www.stjohnwilliston.org and click on the online giving link or fill out an authorization form and send it in to the office.

You can set up for weekly, monthly or special giving! We recommend using a checking or savings account-not a credit card-to avoid processing fees.

Questions? Call LisaAnne if the office and she will walk you through it.

CONNECTING KIDS TO CHRIST The Connection



Join the Flock at Sunday School!

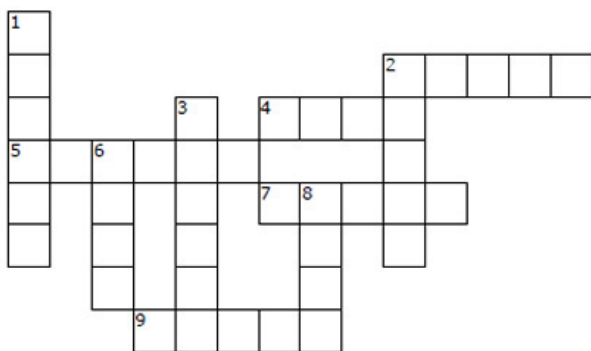
Starting Sept. 13th @ 8:30 AM
details coming soon!

Wash *your*
HANDS
& *say* **YOUR**
PRAYERS
cause *Jesus* **GERMS**
are **everywhere**

Rest for the Weary

"For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:30 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)



ACROSS

2. Not heavy
4. The opposite of go
5. A heavy load that you carry
7. The place within a person where their feelings or emotions are
9. Very tired, especially after working hard for a long time

DOWN

1. Not proud or not believing that you are important
2. To get knowledge or skill about a subject
3. Calm, kind or soft; not violent
6. Stop and relax to regain your strength
8. Not difficult

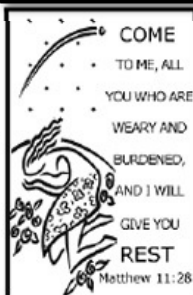
WEARY
COME

HUMBLE
HEART

EASY
LIGHT

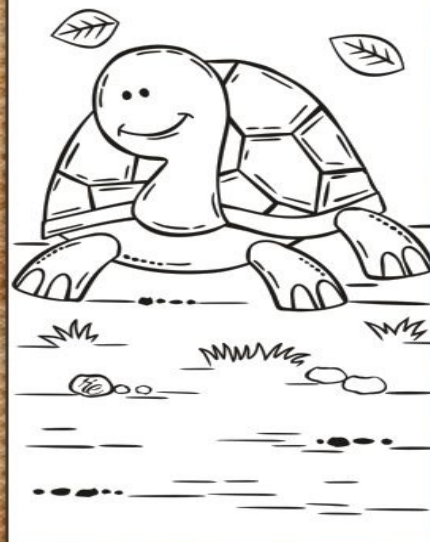
BURDEN
GENTLE

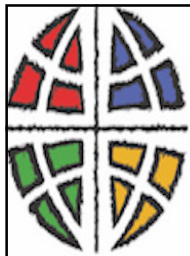
REST
LEARN



#RicLDP
For
my yoke
is easy
and my
burden
is light.

Matthew 11:30





Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Season of Creation devotions offered by four heads of communion

CHICAGO — The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and leaders from The Episcopal Church, the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada have prepared a series of devotions to observe the Season of Creation 2020, Sept. 1–Oct. 4.

The season, which begins with the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, is a time to join with the global Christian community in renewing, repairing and restoring commitments to God, to one another and to all of creation. For the four churches, it is also a time for strengthening relationships with one another. Through Scripture, hymns, advocacy and action, the weekly devotions, which begin Sept. 6, invite people to live out their vocation as stewards of creation.

"We pray that our actions as stewards of God's good creation will continue to deepen not only in this season, but for all time," said Eaton. "Even as our relations as churches are not bound by national or ecclesiastical borders, neither is our witness to the One who came to redeem all of creation."

In addition to Eaton, the devotions were contributed by the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, presiding bishop and primate, The Episcopal Church; the Rev. Susan C. Johnson, national bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; and the Most Rev. Linda Nicholls, archbishop and primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.

"I pray that these reflections will open hearts and minds to experience our relationship in and with all of creation in new ways," said Nicholls.

In the opening devotion, the leaders stress the significance of a collective responsibility in caring for creation. "Waking up to matters of climate justice and environmental stewardship are among the most important callings people have today. Over many years, through many voices, our churches have come to a growing conviction that loving our neighbor includes loving Mother Earth as a neighbor."

"It is timely, relevant and exciting for our churches to join together in prayer, worship and reflection during the Season of Creation," said Johnson. "With open hearts, minds and souls may we discern new actions and practices to show love for God's creation."

"In this season of activism as we seek God's liberating, life-giving love for all, may these prayers and devotions inspire us to care for a world in which all creation can flourish," said Curry.

The relations among the four churches have moved more closely toward "mutual recognition," bringing into mutual relation the two churches of "Called to Common Mission" in the United States and those of the Waterloo Declaration in Canada. One notable feature of the agreement is that it cites the experience of Indigenous people "not divided by national borders established by colonialist power" as grounds for expanding shared life among the churches. A Memorandum of Mutual Recognition (MMR) was approved by both Canadian churches in July 2019. The 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly adopted constitutional changes embracing the Anglican Church of Canada, and in November 2019 the Church Council adopted the MMR. Once The Episcopal Church acts, the mutual recognition of the four churches will come into full effect.

The devotions described above are available at [https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Seasons of Creation Devotional pages.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Seasons%20of%20Creation%20Devotional%20pages.pdf)

We will also make them available on our website at www.stjohnwilliston.org and at the church.



SHARE YOUR HEALTH

As coronavirus concerns intensify, we need healthy blood donors more than ever.



Is it safe to give right now?

Donating is a safe process and healthy individuals should schedule a blood or platelet donation to help maintain the nation's blood supply.

Safety at Blood Drives

Red Cross employees implemented added precautions to ensure blood drives and donation centers are safe for donors and staff.



Using Sterile Collection Sets



Spacing Beds 6 Feet Apart Where Possible



Having Hand Sanitizer Available



Using Aseptic Scrubs on Arms



Donor and Staff Temperature Checks Before Entering Drives



Wiping Down Donor-Touched Areas



What if a donor becomes sick after donating?

We provide a call back number donors should call if they become sick with any illnesses days after their donation.

If you're healthy and well, we're urging you to make a blood appointment.

Visit www.RedCrossBlood.org.



Help maintain the blood supply.

We're all in this together!

American Red Cross Blood Drive

THURSDAY AUGUST 20th

1:00—6:00 PM

St. John Lutheran Church
Williston, Ohio

Appointments required
(no walk ins)

Call 1-800-REDCROS or visit
www.redcrossblood.org to make your appointment.

*please wear a mask

*only donate if you are feeling well and have not been exposed to COVID 19 for at least 14 days.

*your temperature will be taken at door.

*please download the Blood Donor App and answer questions ahead of time.

*Power Red (double unit) donations are greatly appreciated!

Faith Practice #3 Reading Daniel



Week of August 3

Daniel 12

Michael shall stand up at a time of trouble. The Jewish people shall be delivered, if their name is found written in the book. The dead will be resurrected, some to everlasting life, some to everlasting contempt. The righteous and wise shall shine like the stars. Daniel is told to shut up his words, and seal the book until the end of time.

Sharing our Many Blessings!



The St. John Mini Pantry /Blessing Box is Open!

The St. John Mini Pantry will be stocked with ready to eat or easily prepared food items and hygiene items available to those in our community who may need a little help. We will stock it with much of the same items we distribute in our Tuesday Food bags and will accept donations of these items anytime.

We are also accepting donations of travel size personal items like toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps, travel size tissues and shampoo.

Drive Thru Food Assistance at St. John

We are putting together supplemental food bags for people in our community. Our distribution is on **TUESDAYS** at 11:00 AM.

If you want to help with this project, we are seeking donations of 16oz jars of peanut butter and spaghetti noodles, canned spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, canned veggies, ramen noodles and boxes of cereal.

We have partnered with the LIGHT Neighborhood Pantry at Elliston Zion to provide this assistance through ordering from the Toledo NWO Food bank and delivering the food from the pantry at Elliston to St. John.

Your financial assistance is also appreciated. We have started a "Helping Neighbors" Fund and thank everyone who has donated so far!

We are keeping workgroups small (gatherings of less than 10) so if you want to participate, contact Pastor O'Brien before you show up. To date, we have given out over 400 bags! We will continue this outreach through the month of August.





ACTION CALENDAR: ALTRUISTIC AUGUST 2020



SATURDAY

1 Choose to be kind to others (and yourself) all this month

8 Give unused items, clothes, food or money to help a local charity

15 Cook your favourite food for someone who will appreciate it

22 Today do something to make life easier for someone else

29 Plan a future project or gathering for your local community

SUNDAY

2 Send a positive message to someone you can't be with

9 Water some flowers or plants in a public park or outdoor space

16 No plans day! Be kind to yourself so you can be kinder to others

23 Turn your phone off and give people your full attention

30 Today do something to be kind to nature and our planet

MONDAY

3 Treat everyone you interact with as though they are a friend

10 Contact a friend to let them know you're thinking of them

17 Make a thoughtful gift as a surprise for someone

24 Take time to forgive someone who hurt you in the past

31 Share Action for Happiness with other people today

TUESDAY

4 Ask someone how they feel and really listen to their reply

11 Be thankful for your food and the people who made it possible

18 Give your time to help a project or charity you care about

25 Give your time and energy to help someone in difficulty

WEDNESDAY

5 Spend time wishing for other people to be free from suffering

12 Share an encouraging news story to inspire others

19 Check in with someone who may be lonely or feeling anxious

26 Find a way to 'pay it forward' or support a good cause

THURSDAY

6 Smile and be friendly, even when 'physical distancing'

13 If someone annoys you, be kind. Imagine how they are feeling

20 Look for the good side in everyone you meet today

27 Notice when someone is down and try to brighten their day

FRIDAY

7 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why

14 Try to bring a smile to as many people as possible today

21 Tell someone about a book or article you found helpful

28 Start friendly conversations with people you don't know



In a world where you can be anything, be kind.
Every act of kindness makes a difference.



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS



www.actionforhappiness.org

Learn more about this month's theme at www.actionforhappiness.org/altruistic-august

Keep Calm · Stay Wise · Be Kind

Worship Helpers...

We did not forget about you! We SO appreciate the help we receive every week from our wonderful worship helpers! Whether you read scripture, serve communion, run the computer and sound, usher or collect the offering...your actions are vital to our worship ministry!

Please watch your email and the September Forerunner for an updated list of worship assignments.

If there are any changes in the way assignments are handled, we will let you know as soon as possible.

We are in need of new worship assistants! If you would like to be added to the rotation, please call LisaAnne in the office. She will gladly fill you in!



Church Council Highlights

Council Meeting HIGHLIGHTS

Via Zoom- June 18, 2020

Meeting Opened at 7:03pm by President Rick Buhrow

Devotions were from The Daily Bread, based on Psalm 69, led by Pastor O'Brien
Secretary Minutes for May were approved with one change

Pastor's Report:

Supplemental Food Bags: We continue our food distribution at least through the end of June. We will re-assess need at the end of month and make a decision for July. To date we have distributed 432 bags of food

Mini Food Pantry: Our Mini-Food Pantry has been completed. Thank you to Richard Phillips who did an amazing job. It looks great. Diane G, Alice, Carol, Marilyn and Carolyn from the team that will keep it cleaned and stocked. Right now, we are using some of the food we have ordered for food bags. When that project is discontinued, they will be requesting items for our mini pantry.

Vacation: I will be out of town July 1-5 for a family reunion. Matt Milbrodt will be leading worship.
I will be out of town July 16-26 for a family vacation. Matt Milbrodt will again lead worship one of those weekends, the other may have to be a "watch party" that is recorded before I leave. Pastor Rita Bair or Pastor Bob Noble will be available for pastoral emergencies.

Newsletter: I am not sure who makes this determination, but LisaAnne has asked if we should continue to distribute the newsletters the way we have been or if we should return to pre-COVID mailings.

Before the pandemic we printed and mailed about 300 of newsletters. The bulk mailing cost is about \$50, plus our \$240 annual fee (which we probably have to keep for giving statements). NOW, she prints far fewer. She mails about 40 (\$22) to homebound/out of area people, but most read them online or pick up a copy at the church. We have a much lower postage cost and use much less paper. Do we resume mailing newsletters to everybody? Council agreed to print and mail newsletters to those who request mailings. Please contact the church if you would like a newsletter mailed to you.

Christian Community Life reported The Genoa Food Pantry helped 63 people in May and 30 Families. It is currently our turn to help at The Food Pantry. We have enough help and it will be a drive through pick up.

The Bauman Car Raffle will continue until September 6. The church office will be selling tickets in person. Cost of ticket is \$5.00. Tickets can also be obtained through Cindy Hartman and Becky Tank. You can mail your money to Cindy Hartman, PO Box 33, Williston, OH 43468 or Becky Tank, 17381 W/ Hausencomb, Graytown, OH 43432 and they will mail you the ticket to you.

Parish Education First extended an enthusiastic THANK YOU to our Sunday School teachers for the past year, which was interrupted by Covid 19. Also, a big thank you to Stefanie and Deanna Neuman for putting together a take home VBS packet based on prayer, something everyone needs more at this time. We are beginning to think about Sunday School this fall, and what it may look like.

Worship Life: Timeline for re-introducing live music will be at the beginning of August. Possibilities for how to partake in communion while staying within safety guidelines are currently under consideration. We will continue our live stream of the service indefinitely. We want to continue this after the pandemic is no longer a concern. Because of this, we are recommending that Andy Kessler be hired on as our videographer. We recommend that any train interested people so that the y will be able to sub for him when he cannot be there. Attendance at the services for the two weeks we have been back in the sanctuary has been sparse, but appears to be slowly growing.

Property: reported that Radiant Windows has completed the work on the outside of the church building. Also, a urinal has been repaired.

NEW BUSINESS: No meetings in July Will meet in person in August

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Next Committee Meeting will be August 13 at 7:00pm
Next Council Meeting is scheduled for August 20 at 7:00 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Marcia Morgan, Council Secretary

ELECTRONIC GIVING AUTHORIZATION FORM

St. John Lutheran Church PO Box 235 Williston, OH 43468

www.stjohnwilliston.org

419-836-5514

email: 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					
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Email Address				Phone #	
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____/____/____		FREQUENCY OF DONATION: <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly – DAY ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Monthly – 1 st and 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th		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>	
AMOUNTS: \$ ____ \$ ____ \$ ____					
If you would like to designate your giving to another fund not listed: please state your desire here. Thank You.					
CHECKING / SAVINGS	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: ____ Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3 Account Number: ____ <div style="font-size: small; text-align: center;"> 1234567890 123 1234567 0001 Routing Number Account Number Check Number </div>	
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CREDIT / DEBIT CARD	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.*

August 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Traditional Worship	27	28 10:00 AM Blankets 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Supplemental Food Bag Giveaway	29	30 International Day of Friendship!	31 National MUTT Day!	1 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship
2 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Traditional Worship	3	4 10:00 AM NO Blankets today 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Supplemental Food Bag Giveaway	5	6	7	8 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship
9 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Traditional Worship	10	11 10:00 AM Blankets 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Supplemental Food Bag Giveaway	12	13  7:00 PM Committee Night	14	15 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Genoa Food Pantry Open 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship
16 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Traditional Worship	17	18 10:00 AM Blankets 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Supplemental Food Bag Giveaway	19	20  1:00 PM - 6:00 PM Blood Drive 7:00 PM Council Meeting	21	22 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship
23 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Traditional Worship	24 <i>Don't Miss the</i>  Forerunner deadline!	25 10:00 AM Blankets 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Supplemental Food Bag Giveaway	26	27	28	29 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship
30 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Traditional Worship	31	1 10:00 AM Blankets	2	3	4	5 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
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LisaAnne Gregg,
Office Administrator
Monday –Friday
9:00am-3:00pm
Church: 419-836-5514

E-mail address:
office@stjohnwilliston.org

*Visit us on Facebook

In person and online!

Summer Worship Hours at St. John
Saturday Contemporary Worship 5:00 PM
Sunday Traditional Worship 9:00 AM