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#### **Ask the Pastor**

#### "IN earth or ON earth?"

During our devotion time at our Church Council meeting, we are reflecting on the Lord's Prayer. This past month we talked about the phrase, "your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven". Someone observed in Matthew 6:10, the King James Version reads, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." And the New Revised Standard Version reads, "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, **on** earth as it is in heaven." A question was asked about the difference between IN earth and ON earth.

I dug out my Greek-English Bible and discovered there are two different prepositions used here... "IN" heaven the word is  $\dot{\epsilon}v$  and seems to have a single meaning of "in". "ON" earth uses the word  $\dot{\epsilon}\pi\dot{\iota}$  has the basic meaning on, but also includes a wide range of meanings according to the context; over, on, at the time, on the basis of, etc. But as far as I can tell, it does not have the meaning of "in". So, the short answer to the question is, I have no idea why the KJV translated the phrase "in earth". Perhaps it is an early modern-age linguistic thing that I do not understand.

It's interesting that the 'traditional' version of the Lord's Prayer, which is based on the KJV, uses the phrase "on earth". Somebody somewhere must have decided that "on" was better phrasing.

#### "On Palm Sunday, did Jesus ride a donkey, a colt, or somehow both?"

When describing Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the Gospel writers are quoting the prophet Zechariah (9:9), "Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." It seems Zechariah is using a form of Hebrew poetry called "synonymous parallelism". That's when a thought or idea is repeated in successive lines. We see that quite frequently in scripture. For example, Psalm 120:2, "Save me, O Lord, from lying lips and from deceitful tongues." "Lying lips" and "deceitful tongues" is a repetition of the same idea, just like "on a donkey" and "on a colt".

Mark (11:7), Luke (19:35), and John (12:14) each only mention one animal. Matthew, however, mentions both (Matthew 21:5). We can only guess why he did this. Matthew may not know what "synonymous parallelism" is, but that seems very unlikely to me. Some suggest "Jesus sat on them" (12:7), refers to the cloaks, not the two animals, but the Greek is not clear. My favorite suggestion is that Matthew is writing theologically more than literally. I.e. Matthew wants to be REALLY clear Jesus was fulfilling the prophet, Zechariah. Without a doubt, Jesus is the promised king riding into Jerusalem.

If you would like to submit a question for "Ask the Pastor", Biblical, theological, church-related, or 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.



#### Thank You!

I want to thank Pastor O'Brien for his phone calls, prayers and concerns on my recent illness. For the prayer chain said on my behalf and the beautiful bouquet of flowers.

While in the care of my excellent physician and God's continuing love, the healing can now begin.

#### God's Blessings to all! Shirley Berger

# Church Friends & Family & Pastor Shawn

I would like to thank you for all the prayers and cards sent my way for my hip surgery. It meant a lot to me.

> Sincerely, Carol Vargo

Thank you to everyone who attended the Easter Breakfast. We served over 70 people and collected \$543.00 for the community of East Palestine, Ohio.

I would also like to thank the following people for helping cook, serve and clean up:

> John Mazur Brian Lowe Johnny Lowe Anna Sommers Ben Sommers Caleb Hays Logan Hays Olivia Wallace Lauren Hoeft Mila McQueary Jacob Higginbotham Tammy Mazur

Parish Ed

#### Thank you,

Thanks to everyone for prayers, cards, phone calls and texts regarding Allen's recent surgery. We really appreciate it. Judy Yockey **Thank you** to everyone who worked the food pantry on April 11th packaging the food and on April 15th distributing the food.

**Tim Titgemeyer Roland Sandrock** Susie Mathews **Donna Mathews Cheryl Berger** Aiden Johnson **Rick Buhrow** Zack Buhrow AJ Rubeis Jennifer Nelson Anna Sommers **Ben Sommers** Melissa Hays **Caleb Hays** We will be in charge of the food pantry again on September 16, 2023.

Donna Mathews Christian Community Life

#### St. John Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your recent contribution of the Genoa Area Community Food Pantry. We are so grateful for your generous donation of \$821.98. Thank you for your support of the Pantry.

Robin Miller, Treasurer Genoa Area Community Food Pantry

#### Thank you,

Thank you to everyone who helped out for the Maundy Thursday, "Living Last Supper". Especially.... Beckie Goldstein & Choir **Roland Sandrock** David Neuman Gene Bihn **Tim Titgemeyer** Ron Gerkensmever Jack Mathews Dan Kessler Jacob Titgemeyer Frank Ulrich **Rick Buhrow** Lucas Titgemeyer Aidan O'Brien Pastor Shawn O'Brien

#### The Forerunner

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

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#### Pastor Shawn O'Brien Cell Telephone: 419-378-1112

pastorobrien @stjohnwilliston.org

Fall/Winter Worship Saturday at 5:00 PM Sunday School 8:30 AM Sunday Worship 9:45 AM

Deadline for the May 2023 newsletter is <u>Monday, May 22nd</u> 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 (M & F) Lori Buhrow (T, W & Th) Office Administrators (419) 836-5514 office@stjohnwilliston.org



Monday—Friday 9am—2pm



In Memory of Richard Harmeyer Lenore Harmeyer

**In Memory of Michael Komives** Joann Frier

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

#### Water Collection for East Palestine

We collected **\$2,620** in donations for water. Thank you to everyone who donated to these poor people dealing with these living conditions. God's blessings!



Summer Worship hours begin Sunday, June 4th. Sunday worship will being at 9AM.

Sunday School ends May 21st.

### **Love Garden Banquet**

Thank you to all who attend the Love Garden Banquet on April 16, 2023. A wonderful time was had by all with good food and conversations.

I would like to thank the following people: Anna Mazur for helping me decorate, Carol Vargo, Alice Witt, Marilyn Sandrock, Carolyn Lasseter and John Mazur for making the food and John Mazur, Ben Sommers Sr., Ben Sommers Jr., Pastor O'Brien, Shane O'Brien, Aiden O'Brien, Caleb Goldstein, Levi Steinmetz, Ron Gerkensmeyer, Tim Titgemeyer for keeping the buffet full, serving drinks and cleaning up. WELCA Easter Cookie Bake Sale (April 1 and 2) a Hugh Success Many Thanks to All Bakers, Donors and to the Eager St. John Buyers

Our WELCA Easter Bake Sale was a HUGH SUCCESS.

On Friday, March 31, six ladies gathered in the church kitchen to bake. These ladies were using four ovens. From 8:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. we baked, frosted and packaged 27-1/2 dozen cookies. We had lots of buzzing timers and conversations going on.

In addition to baked cookies, others brought in molded chocolates and various bar cookies.

The true success of the bake sale was having so many St. John purchasers. St. John has very supportive and generous members. St. John is truly a wonderful and very giving congregational family. Many thanks to each and every one of you!!!!

By the close of the bake sale we SOLD OUT of EVERYTHING.

Our profits will be shared with various organizations throughout the year.

Many thanks to all for your support and generosity!



Tammy Mazur



### **Circle Meetings**

**ESTHER CIRCLE:** Tuesday, May 2, 2:00 p.m. Bible Study: Jan Sheahan Hostess: Jan & Diane Gerkensmeyer

**REBEKAH CIRCLE:** Tuesday, May 2, 7:00 p.m. Bible Study: Group study

**The Blanket Ladies....Still Hard at Work!!** Everyone is invited to join in and help tie! No experience needed.

Every Tuesday at 9am. Everyone is welcome! \*\*Any size sheets can be donated for the quilts.





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 (cell phone 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! Sincerest Condolences from St. John



Danny Jeffers

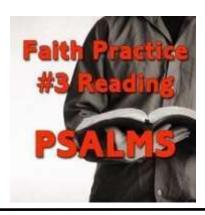
1947-2023

Danny Dale Jeffers age 76 of Martin, Ohio passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. Danny was born February 25, 1947, to Lenora (Grass) and Lawrence Jeffers in Branchland, West Virginia. Danny was a hard worker, starting at age 11 working for farmers, teachers, and neighbors back home. He served our country in the U.S. Army. Danny came to Ohio at age 21 working at CSX Railroad, Chrysler, Union Carbide, and Teledyne before working at Ford Maumee Stamping in 1974 where he retired as a carpenter in 2005 after 35 years. Danny gardened, farmed, and loved woodworking, making crafts, and being involved in his grandkid's activities.

Danny is survived by his wife Karen (Younker) Jeffers; children Staci (Travis) James, Brian Jeffers, and Kimberly (Ryan) Merrow; five grandchildren Autumn and Braden Jeffers, Ashleigh James, Trent and Austin Merrow; sisters Birdie Faye (Robert) Brinkman and Kathy (Dale) Adkins; brothers Odell (Oretha) Jeffers and Gary (Linda) Jeffers; brother-in -law Robert (Bob) Younker and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a son Michael Shawn Jeffers, parents Lawrence and Lenora Jeffers, and brother Bobby Jeffers.

A memorial service will be held at St. John Lutheran Church 21140 W Toledo St. Williston, Ohio on **Saturday, June 10, 2023**, at 11 a.m. where a luncheon will be hosted after the service.

Memorial contributions are appreciated to DaZy Aphasia Center c/o Jackie Zychowicz 3004 Letchworth Pkwy Toledo 43606, Ohio Living Home and Hospice, or St. John Lutheran Church-Williston.



### BOOK #5

Week of May 1- Psalm 108 Week of May 8- Psalm 109 Week of May 15 Psalm 110 Week of May 22- Psalm 111 Week of May 29- Psalm 112 Week of June 5- Psalm 113

### THE STORY OF JESUS

The Synod Office has published a Daily Bible Reading Guide for 2023 entitled, "The Story of Jesus". It is designed to lead us through the life and ministry of Jesus. Most of the readings are of reasonable length (multiple verses instead of multiple chapters) so it should be easy to stay on track even if you miss a day. I will have copies of the reading guide available at the church, and I will share the document electronically when it becomes available.

NWOS Daily Bible Reading Guide: The Story of Jesus - May Jesus' Ministry in Galilee (According to Matthew: Part Three) May 1 Jesus Is Anointed by a Woman Matt. 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; Luke 7:36-50; John 12:1-8 May 2 Some Women Accompany Jesus Luke 8:1-3 May 3 Is Jesus Out of His Mind? Mark 3:20-21 May 4 Jesus and Beelzebul Matt. 12:22-30; Mark 3:22-27; Luke 11:14-23 May 5 Sin Against the Holy Spirit Matt. 12:31-32; Mark 3:28-30; Luke 12:10 May 6 A Tree and Its Fruit Matt. 12:33-37 May 7 The Sign of Jonah Matt. 12:38-42; Luke 11:29-32 May 8 The Return of an Unclean Spirit Matt. 12:43-45; Luke 11:24-26 May 9 The True Kindred of Jesus Matt. 12:46-50; Mark 3:31-35; Luke 8:19-21 May 10 The Parable of the Sower Matt. 13:1-9; Mark 4:1-9; Luke 8:4-8 May 11 The Purpose of the Parables Matt. 13:10-17; Mark 4:10-12; Luke 8:9-10 May 12 The Parable of the Sower Explained Matt. 13:18-23; Mark 4:13-20; Luke 8:11-15 May 13 A Lamp Under a Bushel Basket Mark 4:21-25; Luke 8:16-18 May 14 The Parable of the Growing Seed Mark 4:26-29 May 15 The Parable of the Weeds among the Wheat Matt. 13:24-30 May 16 The Parable of the Mustard Seed Matt. 13:31-32; Mark 4:30-32; Luke 13:18-19 May 17 The Parable of the Yeast Matt. 13:33; Luke 13:20-21 May 18 The Use of Parables Matt. 13:34-35; Mark 4:33-34 May 19 The Parable of the Weeds among the Wheat Explained Matt. 13:36-43 May 20 The Parable of the Hidden Treasure Matt. 13:44 May 21 The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value Matt. 13:45-46 May 22 The Parable of the Net Matt. 13:47-50 May 23 Treasures New and Old Matt. 13:51-52 May 24 Jesus Is Rejected at Nazareth Matt. 13:53-58; Mark 6:1-6; Luke 4:16-30 May 25 Jesus Heals on the Sabbath John 5:1-18 May 26 The Authority of the Son John 5:19-29 May 27 Witnesses to Jesus John 5:30-47 May 28 Reports about Jesus Matt. 14:1-2; Mark 6:14-16; Luke 9:7-9 May 29 The Death of John the Baptist Matt. 14:3-12; Mark 6:17-29 May 30 Feeding the Five Thousand Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15

May 31 Walking on the Water Matt. 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:16-21



At their affirmation of baptism, confirmands are asked to make this promise for themselves: "...to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth." The process of preparing people to affirm these promises can take many forms, including classes and increased involvement in congregational life. The process of confirmation takes many forms and varies from congregation to congregation, but the end goal is the same: to prepare people to boldly and confidently make those promises, affirm their baptisms and continue to live out their faith in the church.

At St. John, we confirm the following young people have completed their classroom work, obtained service points, completed sermon notes and a successful exit interview and are recommended for Confirmation.

As a congregation, we hold these young persons in prayer and trust that God will continue to lead and guide them in all the aspects of their lives now and in the future.

Congratulations to our 2023 Confirmands:

Caleb Thomas Hays Lindsey Mae Krumnow Emma Lynn Morgan Lily Hope Sondergeld

A cake reception to follow the service. Everyone is invited to join.



# NOISY OFFERING

We will be having a **Noisy Offering** on **April 29/30** and **May 20/21** to help offset VBS costs.



# Food Truck Party! Vacation Bible School! June 12-16, 2023 9 AM to Noon

PreK-5th Grade welcome! The theme will be "Food Truck Party"

Volunteers are needed for VBS this year, 6th Grade and up to help. A variety of positions are available. If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Stefanie Hill at 419-705-9926 or email at shill@stjohnwilliston.org

CAN A ROLL WITH GOD!	St. John- Williston Food Truck Party! Vacation Bible School June 12-16, 2023 9am-Noon Registration Form
Child's Name:	
Parent/Guardian Name:	
Home telephone:	Cell phone:
Home e-mail address:	
Child's age:	Last school grade completed:
Home congregation (if any	/):
In case of emergency (when	the parent/guardian cannot be reached) please cont
Name:	
Telephone:	
Relationship to child:	
Please list any allergies the	VBS staff should be aware of:
Person responsible for pickin	g up this child at the end of each VBS day:
Name:	
Telephone number:	
Signature of parent/guard	ian:



Aidan O'Brien





Join us for an open house celebrating Aidan's graduation.

St. John Lutheran Church in Williston Monday, May 29th from 2-6p

### YOU ARE INVITED

We would like to invite all of our friends, family, and our church family to join us for a party in honor of Aidan's graduation from Genoa High School. Stop by the church between 2-6p on Monday, May 29th for food, and cake, and to tell Aidan "CONGRATULATIONS "!

**2024 Holy Land Tour Opportunities** – Have you ever wanted to see the places where Jesus walked and taught in the New Testament? Well, 2024 is offering you not one, but two opportunities to join with other Northwestern Ohio Lutherans in traveling to the Holy Land. The first trip is in late January 2024 (January 30-Feb 9th) with Bishop Beaudoin and the other trip will be in June of 2024 (June 17-27) led by Pastor O'Brien. We are going to have a video call for prospective travelers on May 16, at 6:00pm. The information will apply to both tours. For more information (and trip brochures), or to join in the video call, reach out to Bruce Nieman at <a href="mail@gmail.com">binimail@gmail.com</a> so he can send you a link to the next informational session.

The January tour is \$4,190, the June tour is \$4,090. Both include all meals, accommodations, sight-seeing in a modern air conditioned bus, English speaking tour guide, and air fare from Detroit.



Remember Summer Worship hours begin on Sunday, June 4th.

Saturday Worship at 5:00 PM Sunday Worship at 9:00 AM

### ANNUAL CARD PARTY

First St. John Lutheran, 2471 Seaman Street, Toledo, OH, is holding their annual Card Party and Luncheon on Tuesday, May 9th at Noon in our gym (elevator available). Cost is \$13, which includes a wonderful lunch with homemade desserts. Door prizes and raffle prizes are available. Even if you don't play cards, you con come and play board games or just hang out. For reservations, call either the church office (419-691-7222) or Jane Schuetz (419-691-5506). EVERYONE is welcome to join us for a fun day.

# **CANCER FAMILIES NEED YOUR HELP**

NTRY & RESOURCE CENTE CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMEN

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## FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023 SHOTGUN START 8-00 A AM FOOD INCLUDED **S100 PER PERSON** S400 PER TEAM

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PLEASE MEMO: GOL**FER or hol**e SPONSOR

# Thank you for sharing your Easter flowers with the congregation during our Easter Worship.

#### Name

Lee & Debbie Wehner Lee & Debbie Wehner Lee & Debbie Wehner Larry & Nancy Strohscher JoElaine Schimming & Family John & Helen Meyer Jack & Jill Mathews Margaret Berger Margaret Berger Chuck & Jeri Permar Rich & Becky Brossia Jane & Richard Phillips Carolyn Lasseter & Marilyn Sandrock LisaAnne Gregg LisaAnne Gregg **Doris Titgemeyer Doris Titgemeyer** Paul Beamer Paul Beamer Carole Beamer Dave & Vicki Huber Allen & Judy Yockey Mary Harmeyer & Beth Johnson Bernard Blausey Bernard Blausey Diana Pfaff Rick & Lori Buhrow **Beckie Goldstein Beckie Goldstein** Denny & Rosemarie Dickinson Linda Schlievert Bob & Diane Kapp Bob & Diane Kapp Donna Mathews

#### In Memory Of

Our parents, Ray & Lois Wehner Our parents, Ollie & MaryAnn Gruben Brother. Tom Wehner Loved Ones Kenneth Schimming Jay Meyer Mary Mathews Don Berger **Tim Berger** John, Norma & Joe Rensch, Robert Permar Loved Ones Loved Ones **Emory Lasseter** Ralph & Edna Sandrock Rob & Clara Lasseter Frederick & Karen Sandrock Jennifer Johnson Rosella Fleitz Son, Robert Begell My Parents Carl Titgemeyer Helen Schlievert Daniel Beamer Daniel Beamer **Our Parents** Gregg Yockey Loved Ones Loved Ones Marjorie Blausey Delbert & Lois Base **Our Grandparents** Megan Elizabeth Goldstein Arica Grace Goldstein Loved Ones Clarence & Helen Schlievert Earl, Arnold & Grace Johnson Wade & Audrey Wolf Charles & Mary Mathews

Thank you for sharing your Easter flowers with the congregation during our Easter Worship.

Lenore Harmeyer Lenore Harmeyer Lenore Harmeyer Lenore Harmeyer Lenore Harmeyer Jon & Brenda Keeley The Schloegl Family Owen & Karolyn Jansen & Family Owen & Karolyn Jansen & Family Ben & Robin Perkins Holly Delventhal, James Gillespie & Lily Holly Delventhal, James Gillespie & Lily **Cheryl Berger** Al & Traci Brown Jim Schimming Tom & Joan Truman

#### Name

Chuck & Jeri Permar

Denise Hoeft LisaAnne Gregg Marcia Morgan Rick & Lori Buhrow Bob & Diane Kapp Leonard & Elizabeth Schlievert **Richard Harmeyer** Otto & Juanita Harmeyer Megan Elizabeth Goldstein Arica Grace Goldstein All Our Loved Ones John Schloegl & Grandparents Emerson & Marilyn Fondessy Owen & Beverly Jansen Mildred & Cindy Perkins, Nancy Wasserman Patricia Delventhal **Thomas Gillespie** Tim Berger & Don Berger Dilly Schimming & Grandparents Dilly Schimming Henry & Harriet Tegtmeier

#### In Honor of

Carol Permar, Grandchildren/Great Grandchildren and Jim and Nora McGibbeny Megan and Lauren Hoeft The St John Family Beckie Goldstein & the Choir Our Savior, Jesus Christ Our Grandchildren



# Congratulations to the following students for being chosen to receive scholarships from St. John Lutheran Church to further their education.

#### Younker Scholarship

#### Aidan O'Brien\* Son of Pastor Shawn and Megan O'Brien

#### Genoa Area High School

Aidan will attend Bowling Green State University with a degree in secondary education. His goal is to become a high school science teacher.

Younker Scholarship Sophia Cashen\* Daughter of Tom and Heather Cashen Genoa Area High School

Sophia will attend Bowling Green State University to obtain a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She would like to become an elementary school teacher.

Younker Scholarship

#### Payton Donnelly\* Daughter of Mike and Tracy Donnelly

St. Ursula Academy

Payton will attend Northern Michigan University seeking a degree in graphic design and entrepreneurship. She hopes to one day having her own graphic design business.

Younker Scholarship

#### Riley Chesson-Brossia\* Son of Joe and Mary Brossia St. Joseph Central Catholic, Fremont

Riley will attend Terra State Community College majoring in power technology. He will have the ability to install, repair and maintain diesel engines, wind turbines, generators, etc.

#### Younker Scholarship Andy Kessler\* Son of Daniel and Lisa Kessler University of Toledo

Andy is attending the University of Toledo to obtain a bachelor's degree in information technology. His aspirations are to become a system administrator with a corporation's Information Technology (IT) Department.

> Tank, Johnson, and Parks Memorial Scholarships Aubrey Lee\* daughter of Dave and Kristin Lee

**Owens Community College** 

Aubrey is earning an Associates Degree in the Radiology Field specializing in MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging).

Tank, Johnson, Parks Memorial Scholarships Lauren LaRue\* Daughter of Brad and Pam LaRue

University of Akron

Lauren is majoring in Civil Engineering with a minor in Mathematics and a certificate in Surveying and Mapping.



\*\*2023 College and High School Graduates\*\*

If you are graduating this year, please email the church office, office @stjohnwilliston.org, to be recognized in next month's Forerunner. Thank you!!



Mark your calendar and save your spare change for **Noisy Offering Weekends!** April 29/30 & May 20/21 Proceeds will benefit the 2023 Vacation Bible School "FOOD TRUCK PARTY!"



Lord, I thank you for my mother. Thank you for placing her in my life, and for the blessings she is to me and my family. Thank you for the godly wisdom that she has instilled in me. Words cannot express the gratefulness I have in my heart for her beauty and spiritual influence in my life. Please continue to bless her and surround her with your grace and favor. Amen.



A Mother's Love ís never Forgotten



### RECOGNIZING GOD'S GIFTS & GIVING BACK IN GRATITUDE

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

Simply visit our web site at 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 account or fill out an "Authorization Form" and return it to the office.



Join us for our first annual

OTTAWA COUNTY AREA WOMEN OF FAITH // FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, May 6, 2023 10:00 AM

unck

ELLISTON ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 18045 W WILLIAM ST. (OFF ELLISTON TROWBRIDGE RD) GRAYTOWN, OHIO 43432



Featuring speaker, humorist, Pastor's wife, mother of 8, writer and sister in Christ-Angela Garrabrant, sharing her story from "The Other Side of the Pulpit."

Tickets- \$10 Table of 6- \$50 RSVP to Pastor LisaAnne by mail, email: ellistonzionoffice@aol.com or by calling 419-862-3166 by May 1st.

connections to the top Connection St. John Kid's Page
Join the flock at church and invite a friend!
<image/>

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guide	awa	aka so	n fors	ake tea	ching
around	heart	neck	mothers	fasten	watch
46.A.	-	_			
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	them [	ШΠ	our 💷	Ο.	
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when y	ou	, they w	ill 🖂 🗋	over y	ou;
when y	ou 💷	, they	will	to yo	JU."
				Proverbs 6:	20-22, NIV

Proverbs 6:20-22, NIV

Answers: "My son, keep your fathers command and do not forsake your mothers teaching. Bind them always on your heart, fasten them around your neck. When you walk, they will guide you, when you sleep, they will watch over you, when you awake, they will speak to you."

# Coming Soon!

Vacation Bible School "Food Truck Party"

> June 12-16 9 AM to Noon Sign Up today!

Sunday School ends Sunday, May 21st.



# Northwestern Ohio Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence. He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Luke 24:13-49



#### He Qi "Jesus Appears to the Disciples"

The peace of the Resurrected Lord be with you today and always.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread, open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. From the desk of.. Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin





#### **Children in Worship**

People all over the world pray by moving, dancing, chanting, shouting, crying, and singing aloud. This does not surprise us, because that is how human beings respond to the presence of God from infancy. We love children at St. John as Jesus loved them, and that includes loving their active ways of praying. "Let the little children come to worship, and do not disapprove of them. They show us what the realm of God is like."

Parents, please talk to your children and tell them how much we appreciate them: we love seeing their energy and enthusiasm as they climb and run and talk and shout "Amen!" We'd like to thank you for sharing your presence with us. **Please keep coming!** 



#### Council Meeting Highlights- April 20, 2023

**Members Present:** Pastor O'Brien, Tim Titgemeyer, Tracy Orians, Jennifer Nelson, Donna Mathews, Dan Kessler, Deanna Neuman, Dave Neuman, Ron Gerkensmeyer, and Margaret Berger

**Devotions led by Pastor**: Matthew 6:11 and Luke 11:3 Prayer shared by Kellie Ulrich - Father we thank you for this day and all that mercy sends, the food we eat, the clothes we wear, our health, our home, our friends. We thank you for your loving care that draws us close to thee and leads us to the heaven above where we shall dwell with thee. Amen

**Pastor's Report: Worship Attendance**: In person average for March 2023 - 117.8 compared to March 2022 - 10. Online average for March 2023 - 88.8 compared to March 2022 - 100 **Numbers**: 10 hospital/homebound visits/individual or family meetings. 3 committee/group meetings. 5 community/youth/ fellowship events. 7 professional/clergy activities. 6 classes/ Bible studies. 5 special worship services.

**Confirmation**: Motion made by Pastor O'Brien - Having completed all the assigned tasks and a successful exit interview, I recommend the following Confirmands be approved for Affirmation of Baptism - Caleb Hayes, Lindsey Krumnow, Emma Morgan, and Lily Sondergeld. Motion seconded by: Deanna Neuman & Motion passed.

**Confirmation Exit Interviews**: I am seeking three volunteers to conduct confirmation Exit Interviews on May 8 th from 7 to 8:30p.

**Holy Week Worship:** Thank you to Beckie, Tami, the choir/ singers, the "stage crew", and all the disciples who helped with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter worship. Also, to all the folks who worked behind the scenes decorating, placing flowers, making bulletins, preparing communion, etc. It was a series of wonderful times of worship.

Financial Secretary, Treasurer & Finance Committee Report:

Dan Kessler and Jennifer Nelson Expenses: We are 98% of the monthly budget and 97% of the year to date budget. Income: We are 98% of our monthly budget and 94% of our year to date budget. Income over expenses: On a year to date basis, we are currently negative \$12,298 compared to our budget of negative \$10,747. Dan - Operating expenses are under budget because utility bills were under budget estimates. Jennifer -Lenten donations were \$3,448. Good Friday donations \$618. Easter donations \$2492. All donations up from 2022 numbers.

Easter breakfast donations went to the East Palestine water fund. Jennifer Nelson motioned that our Wednesday luncheon donations of \$97 would be donated to the women of church for kitchen supplies and Dan Kessler seconded, motion passed.

**Christian Community Life:** Donna Mathews Food pantry March served 27 families and 62 patrons = total expenses \$2167.47 and donations \$4621.98. The Evangelism and Christian Community Life Committees served a Lenten lunch on March 29th. We decided what we will be giving out on Mother's Day on May 14th.

**Evangelism**: Margaret Berger Made 2 Easter baskets for the Easter Egg Hunt. Would like to see a new membership class held soon. Set date, put in bulletin, on screen and Forerunner. Will look into placing a notice in Suburban Press late August before going back to fall hours.

Parish Education: Deanna Neuman Easter Egg hunt - 24 kids attended (down 5 from last year) and 10 volunteers. Easter Breakfast - Over 70 diners, 8 Catechism and HS kids helped, 12 total volunteers. \$540 was raised for East Palestine and Gary Johnson offered next year to do sausage gravy and biscuits. VBS - Looking for volunteers of all kinds (can contact Stef at shill@stjohnwilliston.org). Held the Week of June 12-16 and the theme tentatively is Food Truck party. A noisy offering will be held April 29/30 and May 20/21. Confirmation May 21st - flowers and bibles are ordered.

**Stewardship**: Ron Gerkensmeyer Golf Outing will be held Sept 23rd.

**Worship Life:** Kellie Ulrich (absent) Holy week services all went well and were well attended. Becky Goldstein says thank you to Diana Pfaff, Pastor Shawn and worship life committee for the help and support with the Maundy Thursday Last Living Supper. Also, Becky mentioned that she had a lot of good feedback about the Lenten (midweek and Sunday) and Good Friday services. The first Sunday in June will begin the church time changing to 9:00 am.

Property: Gary Johnson (absent) - No Report

**Old Business**: Talk about getting a digital thermostat for heat on the phone that we can adjust for savings. We are looking for feedback and ideas for continuing with Williston Encounter or changing up the way it has been done in the past.

**New Business**: Thanks to those who helped when we hosted the food pantry.

Next Committee Mtg: Thurs., May 11, 2023 at 7pm Next Council Mtg: Thurs., May 18, 2023 at 7pm Minutes submitted by: Tracy Orians, Council Secretary

#### ELECTRONIC GIVING AUTHORIZATION FORM

#### St. John Lutheran Church PO Box 235 Williston, OH 43468 www.stjohnwilliston.org

(419)836-5144 email: office@stjohnwilliston.org

FO	R OFFICE USE ONLY	ENVELOPE/DONOR #		DATE			
Effective date of authorization: / / / /   Type of authorization: Image: New authorization information   Image: Change banking information Image: Change donation amount information   Image: Change banking information Image: Discontinue electronic donation							
Las	t Name		First Name				
Add	tress						
City	1			State	Zip		
Em	ail Address			Phone #			
Image: Semi-Monthly – 1** and 15th Image: Other (please specify below \$   Image: Monthly on the 1** Image: Add'I donation to offset fees \$   Image: Monthly on the 15th			AMOUNTS: \$ \$ \$ \$				
	Please debit my donation from	your financial institution for Routing #)	Routing Number: Valid Routing # m Account Number: C123455789C 123 1	ust start with 0, 1			
CHECKING / SAVINGS	reasonable notification to term	tion to process debit entries to my accoun inate the authorization.		er authority will rema	ain in effect until I provide Date:		
	Card Brand (check one):	Visa MasterCard	American Express	Discove	er Card		
RD	Card Number:	ber:			Expiration Date:		
BIT CA	Name on Card:						
/ DEE	Billing Address (if different from above):						
CREDIT / DEBIT CARD	I authorize the above organization to process transactions in accordance with the information above.						
	Signature (as it appears on the	e card):			Date:		

St. John

Lutheran Church

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

Sundays 9:45am Ushers 7- Diana Pfaff/Riley B 14 - Titgemeyer Family 21- Diana Pfaff/Riley B 28- Jill Kao

#### Saturdays 5:00pm Sundays 9:45am Ushers Ushers 3- Jack Mathews 4- Titgemeyer Family 10- Ron Gerkensmeyer 11- Diana Pfaff/Riley B 17- The Buhrow Family 18- Jill Kao 24-The Donnelly Family 25-Titgemeyer Family

<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Lectors</u>
6- Tracy Orians	7- Cebie Titgemeyer	3- Aidan O'Brien	4- Jill Kao
13- Nancy Strohscher	14- Deanna Neuman	10- Nancy Strohscher	11- Kellie Ulrich
20- Beverly Harder	21- Diana Pfaff	17- Beverly Harder	18- Melissa Lammers
27- Amy Schloegl	28- Tim Tigtemeyer	24- Amy Schloegl	25- Roland Sandrock

<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>
6- Jacob Higginbotham	7- Lily Sondergeld
13- Mila McQueary	14- Caleb Hays
20- Lindsey Krumnow	21- Logan Hays
27- Emma Morgan	28- Lauren Hoeft

Communion 6- Al/Traci Brown 13- Amy Schloegl 20- Nancy Strohscher 27- Ron Gerkensmeyer 28- Pam LaRue

### Communion 7- Roland Sandrock 14-Diana Pfaff 21- Cebie Titgemeyer

#### **Acolytes**

# **Acolytes** 10- Mila McQueary 17 - Lindsey Krumnow

24- Emma Morgan

- 3- Jacob Higginbotham 4- Lily Sondergeld 11- Logan Hays 18-Caleb Hays 25- Lauren Hoeft
- Communion **Communion** 3- Alice Witt 4- Margaret Berger 10- JoElaine Schimming 11- Rosemarie Dickinson 17- Al/Traci Brown 18- Dave/Deanna N 24- Nancy Strohscher 25- Kellie Ulrich



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 as possible.

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes- day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	9 AM Blankets 2 PM Esther Circle 7 PM Rebekah Circle	<b>3</b> 7 AM Breakfast Gathering	A National Day of PRAYER	5 Curce de Mayer	<b>5 PM</b> Contemporary Worship
8:30 AM	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sunday School 9:45 AM Traditional Worship 10:45 AM Choir Practice		<b>9 AM</b> Blankets	<b>7 AM</b> Breakfast Gathering	<b>7 PM</b> Committee Meeting		<b>5 PM</b> Contemporary Worship
14 8:30 AM Sunday School	15	<b>16</b> 9 AM	<b>17</b> 7 AM	<b>18</b> 7 PM	19	20 5 PM Contemporary
9:45 AM Traditional Worship		Blankets	Breakfast Gathering	Council Meeting		Worship
10:45AM Choir						Noisy Offering
Mother's Day						FORCES DAY
21 8:30 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Traditional Worship	<b>9 AM</b> Forerunner deadline!	<b>23</b> 9 AM Blankets	<b>24</b> 7 AM Breakfast Gathering	25	26	<b>27</b> 5 PM Contemporary Worship
Noisy Offering						
Confirmation Cake Reception						
28	29	30	31			
<b>9:45 AM</b> Traditional Worship	MEMORIAL DAY! Office closed!	<b>9 AM</b> Blankets	<b>7 AM</b> Breakfast Gathering			
10:45 AM Choir Practice						
						21

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church 21140 W. Toledo Street P. O. Box 235 Williston, Ohio 43468-0235 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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May 2023



# In person and online!

Worship Hours at St. John Saturday Contemporary Worship 5:00 PM Sunday School for all ages 8:30 AM Sunday Traditional Worship 9:45 AM Pastor Shawn O'Brien

419-378-1112 cell

E-mail address: pastorobrien@stjohnwilliston.org

> Church Office LisaAnne Gregg Lori Buhrow, Office Administrators Monday –Friday 9:00am-2:00pm Church: 419-836-5514

E-mail address: office@stjohnwilliston.org

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