

February



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. JOHN NEWS



As I write this, I realize that all of us are at different points in our lives. Sometimes, we may have moments of great excitement and joy, filled with wonder at the gifts our Lord bestows upon us. At other moments, we may realize that things are not what we had hoped for, and we may be filled with grief or fear, or we may be consumed with worry for someone we love. Sometimes the moments of joy or sorrow last for days, weeks, or even years. And yet, through everything, we know that we not only have the love and peace of our Lord, but that we also have the hope we find in each other.

These ups and downs of life are shown to me most clearly at the end of this month when we move from the Epiphany Season, with its focus on light, into the Season of Lent and its focus on the somber realities of life and on the immense love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The joyous Epiphany Season started off with the wonder of the Magi finding Jesus and was followed by Jesus' baptism and the declaration that he is God's son. Now, a few short weeks later, this season ends with a mountaintop experience as we find ourselves standing with Peter and James and John at the Transfiguration, experiencing all the light of Jesus' glory.

And then we move into Lent in the beginning of March. We worship on Ash Wednesday and are reminded of the knowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. We look in the mirror and see the sins that we have—the way we ignore people who need help, the forgiveness we don't want to give, the way we don't love others as we should. But we also recognize that God continues to work in, with and through us, keeping the promise given to us in our baptisms, the promise that we will always be children of God who are loved and forgiven.

In this life that is full of highs and lows, there is one true constant – and that is the love of God revealed to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we experience God's amazing love that never leaves us, the mountaintop experiences are more joyful, and the valleys are not so frightening.

To be a Christian is to live life as a journey, a spiritual journey, from baptism to death and from death to resurrection.

As we travel, we will experience both those wonderful mountaintop experiences and the sometimes challenging realities of the valley. But as we live by faith, we will also experience the eternal reality – that we do not journey alone. In the midst of both light and darkness, the living Lord is with us, showering us with love and strength –supporting and guiding us. And we are here with each other, lifting each other up and offering hope, prayer, and encouragement.

God's blessings be with you in the journey!

Walking with you in Christ,
Pastor Stacy

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Special points of interest:

- *First Quarter Ministry Team*
- *Birthdays and Anniversaries*
- *2019 Council Members/Team Leaders*
- *February Ministry Leaders*
- *Youth Ministry Leaders*
- *Souper Bowl*

Church Council and Team Leaders

We are blessed to have the following leaders in place for 2019:

President: Ann Voight
VP: Kevin Young
Secretary: Peg Kingsley
Treasurer: Colleen Shupe
Worship Team Rep: Jerrie Krawetzki
At Large Rep: Bonny Ambos
Faith Life Rep: Paula Hoffman
At Large Rep: Barry Laird
Financial Team Rep: Ron Zorn
Property Team Rep: Jeff Justi
Youth Rep: Jenna Stacy
Past President: Robert Krawetzki

Ministry Team Leaders:

Worship: Sandy Thompson
Endowment: John Miller



It's that time of year again! Even as the snow is falling, we can think of sunshine and camp! Day Camp with Zion, Huron is June 17-21. Day Camp for K-6 is 10 AM-4PM Monday-Friday. Day Camp for preschoolers is Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10-12. Registration is available online at <https://www.zionhuron.org/summer-day-camp-2015>. Camp fills up quickly, so register soon. If you are available to volunteer in the kitchen or with registration, please see Pastor Stacy soon!

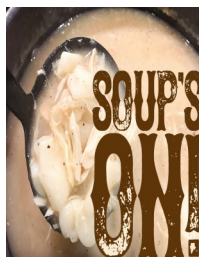
We are also going to Camp Mowana! Family Camp is June 28-30 and information is available at <https://www.lomocamps.org/mowanafamilycamp>

Camp for our elementary age kids is likely the week of July 14-19. Additional information is available at <https://www.lomocamps.org/pathfinders>. Please let Pastor Stacy know if you are interested in any of these camp opportunities. Scholarships are available, and camp is more fun when we do it together!

Lenten News



The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 6th with the "Imposition of Ashes." Wednesdays in Lent will include soup and sandwich supper, prayer, fellowship, discussion, and worship. A sign-up list is on the Welcome Table to provide food for soup suppers. Plan to join us for this special time of worship, food, and fellowship!



Your Prayers Needed

Prayer is one of the most beautiful and meaningful gifts we can offer one another. Occasionally there are folks in this congregation, or friends or relative of members, in need of prayer for various reasons. Your prayers are needed for:

Jason Shupe – Recovering from surgery at home.
Beverly Hohman – Declining health and memory loss. August Hohman prayers for strength and comfort.

Dave Mehling - in recovery from stroke

Barb Vance – continuing cancer treatments

Dick Widdoes - In need of healing prayers

Keep the family of Jack Kahl in your prayers.

Owen Reed – hospitalized – prayers for regaining of strength

Becky Johnson – continuing to deal with excessive pain.

Paisley Luman—health concerns

Libby Smith—Comfort for Libby in the death of her husband, Ralph; long time friends of Bill & Sue Lucht

Council prayer requests: For the formation of a church safety team that will care for this congregation and all people in this world.

ST. JOHN'S HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

June Gorga: Providence Care, Hayes Ave. Sandusky. (Mother of Nancy Osburn)

Rachel Kaliszewski: Gaymont Nursing Home, Norwalk (Renee Barkhimer's mother)

Ruth Knupke: At home, Huron

Jean Nottke: At home, Huron

Margaret Ommert: At home, Huron

Joan Zorn: The Meadows, Huron

Eloise Mitchell: Commons of Providence, Sandusky

Irma Moon: Admiral's Point Huron

Harriett Schlessman: The Willows, Bellevue Rm #307

Addresses and contact information may be found in the congregational directory unless they reside in a nursing home. Thanks for caring!

News from our Seminary Student

A message from seminary student Kriss Buss: Thank you to the St. John's congregation for the thoughtful Panera card and the prayers.

I was just accepted for the chaplaincy residency at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. This will support the internship component of my MDiv and continue to support my call of moving towards chaplaincy.

As I look toward the start of my spring semester I am excited for classes but also acknowledge that I continue to have a lot to balance between school and my family. Prayers for that are always appreciated.

Kriss will preach in worship on June 16th.



Eucharistic Ministers and Visitation

Poet's Corner by Jerry Bauer

Sometimes, we find ourselves at a place in life where it is difficult to get out and get to worship. We are still an important part of the church family, and we are missed. As a result, we have Eucharistic Ministers and Visitation groups who care for those who are homebound. Visitation groups go and visit, bringing cheer, prayers, and news of what is happening at church. Eucharistic Ministers do this as well, and they also bring Holy Communion (did you ever wonder what was in the little black boxes up front on the altar? It's a travelling Communion kit).

Would you be interested in visiting or serving as a Eucharistic Minister? Please let Pastor Stacy know.

On March 3rd, we will have a celebration and giving of thanks for all of our Visitation Groups and Eucharistic Ministers. They will come forward during worship for a moment of prayer, and the celebration will continue at the coffee hour after worship.

The Souper Bowl is Sunday February 3rd!

Please donate your loose change or \$1.00. Cash donations will benefit Victory Kitchen in Sandusky. Thanks for playing in the Souper Bowl.



Love Falls Softly

"For as the rain and snow come down from heaven and...water the earth, so shall my word be that goes out of my mouth." Isaiah 55:10

Rain falls softly,
Light and misty.
Snowflakes drift down,
Dancing on air.
Moisten the earth,
Life giving water.
God's word comes to all
Who will listen and hear.
Life giving words
Take them to heart.
Words come gently
God's act of love.
Soft falling love
For eternal life.

Second Tuesday Small Groups

It's time for a new Bible Study!

February 12th is the next Second Tuesday small group. The "youngish" families will meet at Pastor Stacy's to pretend that winter is over. We will have a cookout and indoor picnic. Other families will be at the Young household. YOU are invited. Please let me know if you would like more information.

Thank you to the members of St. John's for all the birthday and anniversary cards and also the congregation singing Happy Birthday. August and Beverly Hohman

We will be doing the Together in Faith series from Augsburg called "Being the Body of Christ: A Study in 1 Corinthians". The cost for a participant book is \$6, which can be placed in the offering plate with "bible study" in

the memo line. We will meet for four weeks at 10 am in the Upper Room. The dates are January 31, February 14, February 28, and March 14. Please let pastor Stacy know if you have any questions.





Firelands Lutherans Active in Mission
Working to make Christ known in the community by building
connective programs and cooperative ministries among us

Grace, Castalia - St. John's Union Corners - St. John's, Bellevue - St. Paul, Sandusky
St. Peter, Norwalk - Trinity, Sandusky - Zion, Sandusky - Zion, Huron
www.flame-elca.com

Your FLAME Board met on January 21, 2019 at St. John's. The 2019 FLAME officers include President, Steve Lippert, Zion-S; Vice-president, Lori Schlick, Trinity; Treasurer, Karen Munsterman, Zion-H; Secretary, Cathy Wobser, Trinity; and Pastoral advisor, Pr. Ann Marshall, St. Peter, Norwalk. The meeting was an organizational meeting to look at our role, goals, and the budget. New ideas presented were supporting the effort to end burn pits, a senior citizen night, and a Lenten activity.

A special note: Lifetree Café will not be meeting February 14th. Watch your Sunday leaflets for details about the February 28th meeting.

What would you like to see FLAME do in 2019? Remember the Board is not FLAME. **YOU are FLAME!** We need your ideas as we outline our projects for 2019. We need your support. We need your prayers. Please share your thoughts with your representatives or feel free to attend any FLAME Board meeting. The next Board meeting is Monday, February 18 at St. John's, 7pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FLAME CHURCH NEWS:

Thursday, February 14: St Paul, JOY Time 6-7:30, Faith-based gathering for adults with developmental disabilities.

Monday, February 18: St. John's, FLAME Board meeting 7pm

Thursday, February 28 : Zion, Huron, Lifetree Café 7-8pm. Lifetree Café is a place to gather for conversation about life and faith.

Saturday, March 3: Grace, Castalia: Grace Fellowship Hall, Project Share Spaghetti Dinner, Carry-out and delivery available

Sunday, March 3: St Peter, Norwalk, Christian Day Nursery School, Chili Cook-Off and Silent Auction, \$8
Zion, Sandusky quilters could use material donations, preferably cotton, and flannel sheets for linings.

Small Group Bible Reading

Feb. 1 Lev. 1-4	Feb. 15 Num. 8-10
Feb. 2 Lev. 5-7	Feb. 16 Num. 11-13
Feb. 3 Lev. 8-10	Feb. 17 Num. 14-15
Feb. 4 Lev. 11-13	Feb. 18 Num. 16-17
Feb. 5 Lev. 14-15	Feb. 19 Num. 18-20
Feb. 6 Lev. 16-18	Feb. 20 Num. 21-22
Feb. 7 Lev. 19-21	Feb. 21 Num. 23-25
Feb. 8 Lev. 22-23	Feb. 22 Num. 26-27
Feb. 9 Lev. 24-25	Feb. 23 Num. 28-30
Feb. 10 Lev. 26-27	Feb. 24 Num. 31-32
Feb. 11 Num. 1-2	Feb. 25 Num. 33-34
Feb. 12 Num. 3-4	Feb. 26 Num. 35-36
Feb. 13 Num. 5-6	Feb. 27 Deut. 1-2
Feb. 14 Num. 7	Feb. 28 Deut. 3-4

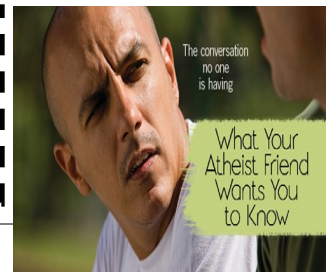
Reading through the Bible in a year. It's not too late to begin.

As we plan for Lent, we need used magazines for a project. Please bring any old magazines to the church. Thanks!

An open conversation about atheism will take place at Lifetree Café on Thursday, February 28th at 7:00 pm. The program, titled "What Your Atheist Friend Wants You to Know: The Conversation No One Is Having" includes a film featuring honest insights from atheists about their beliefs and their experience with people of faith.

The program gives participants the opportunity to have a safe, open conversation about their experiences with atheist secularism and faith. Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Café is located at The Christian Center behind Zion Lutheran Church, 930 Main St., Huron

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversation about life and faith in a casual, comfortable setting. Questions about Lifetree may be directed to 419-433-4955



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

January 8, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: President, Bob Krawetzki the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PRAYER: Pastor Stacy led us in an opening prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Krawetzki, Ann Voight, Peg Kingsley, Kevin Young, Barry Laird, Pastor Stacy, Jenna Stacy, Bonny Ambos, Colleen Shupe, Paula Hoffman, Jake Deehr

EXCUSED: Doug Tommas, Jerrie Krawetzki,

MINUTES: December Council minutes were approved as written on motion by Barry Laird and seconded by Bonny Ambos. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Colleen Shupe presented the December treasurer's report. Offerings for the month were down approximately 4% compared to 2017. YTD offerings are also down 4% from 2017. YTD expenses increased approximately 6% over last year. This is mostly due to the church improvements/repairs such as the basement painting, roof repairs, furnace repairs and sign repairs. Treasurer's report as of Dec. 31st:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>Last Year YTD Actual</u>	<u>Month Only</u>
Offerings (Ordinary Income)	\$158,152	\$160,351	\$167,514	\$44,249
<u>Expenses</u>				
Pastor	\$72,217	\$73,221	\$71,066	\$5,899
Parsonage Expenses	\$7,450	\$6,358	\$7,475	\$515
Taxes \ Insurance	\$9,180	\$10,418	\$9,819	\$1,203
Office Expenses	\$19,490	\$18,131	\$15,968	\$1,869
Church Expenses	\$35,915	\$39,604	\$28,120	\$6,465
Benevolence \ Other	\$13,900	\$15,133	\$18,292	\$1,000
Total Expenses	\$158,152	\$162,865	\$150,739	\$16,952
Net Ordinary Income	\$0	(\$2,513)	\$16,775	\$27,298

Ann Voight moved and Peg Kingsley seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted as written. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Pastor Stacy: Written report submitted. Pastor Stacy reported nine children came to the Christmas Story and Hot Chocolate gathering held during the holidays. This is a great beginning for this event and we look forward to doing this again next year.

Deacons: Nothing new to report.

Elders: Nothing new to report.

Trustees: Nothing new to report

Worship Team: Nothing new to report

Good news Amen: Will be restarting in January

FLAME: Nothing new to report

Endowment Committee: This committee will be meeting on January 10th.

Finance Team: Nothing new to report

Faith/Life Team: Paula Hoffman expressed concern that her committee needs some new younger people to help continue the work that her committee has done so well over the past years. Jolene Dillenger will be refreshing the pew bags and will be working with Allison Young on Crossroads. Jolene will also be asked to take over the college age members' birthday gifts. Jenna Stacy volunteered to help when she can. We need to make the congregation aware that this committee is vital to St. John's and we need more people to volunteer to help.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Church Safety Team has been set up with the following members: Allison Young, chairperson, Chuck Ruggles, Doug Tommas, Paula Hoffman, Ray Witt.

Team leaders are urged to tell their members what the entry code is for the back door. Everyone who has used it, reports that they like the back door entry system.

Council will be meeting on February 2nd for a retreat, to be held at The Coupling from 9-2 PM. Ann Voight will email all members to be sure we have a quorum for the Council meeting that will be held immediately after the retreat . This takes the place of the regular February 5th Council meeting.

The Property Team is looking into ideas for improving the church's front entrance space .

Reports for the Congregational meeting's booklet are be given to Sandy Thompson before January 10th.

Ann Voight reported that an endowment grant application was sent in to be considered for financially supporting Bishop Daniel's visit to St. John's on 9/8/2019. This service will be jointly coordinated by the Worship Team and Council. Many thanks to Ann for initiating discussion with the Bishop about making this visit!! We are blessed to have his presence here.

Bob Krawetzki reported that he received a letter from NASA stating that they will be working on the fence around their property.

Paula Hoffman, Peg Kingsley and Kevin Young have completed a two year term on the Pastor's Advisory Team. Anyone having suggestions for their replacements should give them to Pastor Stacy or Ann Voight.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council would like the Finance Team to look into the feasibility of members being able to use credit cards for their donations and establishing an online account so that members could make donations. They also asked the Finance Team to look into how to make the SCRIP program work more efficiently .

Council would like the Property team to check into updating/adding lighting within the church sanctuary. When it's a cloudy Sunday morning service or evening service many people find it difficult to read the bulletin and hymnal.

Bob Krawetzki thanked everyone for their service on Council during the past year. Bob especially thanked Jake Deehr for his service as trustee and member of the Property Team for many many years. Jake's help and advice with many significant projects over the years has been invaluable. We are sorry to see him leave Council. Council members thanked Bob for his five years of service as Vice-President and President of St. John's Council. His time and efforts are very much appreciated!

Bonny Ambos moved and Colleen Shupe seconded that we adjourn the meeting. We adjourned by saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Kingsley
Congregational Council Secretary

Faith Life Collecting Teacher Supplies!

From now through FEBRUARY 28, Faith LIFE team will be collecting elementary teacher supplies. Every teacher spends a lot of her own money every year to purchase supplies that are needed by the students on a daily basis . For the past three years our St John's family has collected supplies for teachers from Milan Elementary., Vermilion Elementary, and Perkins Meadowlawn. We hope that this time a group of teachers from one of the other schools will be surprised with many of their items on our board at the back of the church. PLEASE HELP!!!



A FAMILY OF
DISCIPLES,
FAITHFULLY MAKING
CHRIST KNOWN

February 2019

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

Ushers:
Jim Semon
Ray Witt



1

2
Council
Retreat at
the Cou-
pling.

3 Flowers: 4
Thompsons

5 Book
Study
9 am
Upper
Room

6
Choir
7:00 pm

7

8

9

Catechism
Parent
Meeting
after wor-
ship
Fellowship



10
Flowers:

11
Quilting
Session
9:00 am

12
Second
Tuesday
Small
Groups
5:30 pm

13
Choir
7:00 pm

14 Bible
Study-10 am
Upper Room
Crossroads
3:30-6:00.
Joy Time
6-7:30 pm
At St. Paul
Faith Life
6:30 pm

15

16

17 Flowers:
Voights

Baptism of
Raelynn
Hermes



19

20
Choir
7:00 pm

21

22

23

24 Flowers

25
Quilting
Session
9:00 am

26

27

28
Bible Study-
10 am
Upper Room



*You shall
love
your neighbor
as yourself.*

Leviticus 19:18, NRSV

St. John's Lutheran Church
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Sandusky, Ohio 44870

Phone: 419-625-2192
E-mail:
stjohncal@gmail.com

Website:
www.stjohnlcsandusky.com



St. John's Lutheran Church
106 Scheid Rd.
Sandusky, OH 44870

A Family of Disciples,
Faithfully Making
Christ Known

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED

First Quarter Team

Allison & Kevin Young
Judy & John Miller
Sandy & Chuck Thompson

February 3rd
Communion Glasses/Fellowship

February 17th—Communion

March 3rd
Communion Glasses/Fellowship

Birthdays

Feb. 3 —Kylie Ross
4 —Greg Finkenbine
6 —Judy Miller
10 —Sally Kelley
10 —Ray Witt
13 —Kalynn Welch
18 —David Voight
Emily Isabel Young
22 —Cara Stacy, Lisa Chill
23 —Sue Lucht
24 —Dawson Dillender
25 —Kevin Young, Ted Call
26 —Randy Deehr
27—Julie Deehr

Worship Leaders

LAY READERS

Feb. 3—Jim Semon, Sr.
10—Linda Miller-Moore
17—Jason Steckel
24—Kevin Young

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Feb 3—Jim Semon, Sr.
17—

USHERS

Jim Semon, Ray Witt

Altar Flowers

Feb. 3—Chuck & Sandy Thompson
10—
17—Ann & David Voight in
honor of their parents
24—

YOUTH TIME LEADERS

Feb. 3—Pastor Stacy
10—Jason Steckel
17—Pastor Stacy
24—Linda Miller-Moore

YOUTH ACOLYTES

Feb. 3—
10—Megan Thompson
17—
24—