

May

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. JOHN'S NEWS

I often hear, "what's a common class like in catechism?" Perhaps this is because many of you remember your own catechism classes. Or maybe it's because you never received the gift of three years of intense study into our catechism, into the basis of our faith. Either way, this year's catechism class wanted to share with you some of what they've been learning over the month of April.

Last month, we talked about Holy Communion. We read from Scripture and looked up communion in the catechism. We even studied the ELCA's document, *The Use of the Means of Grace*, and found that "at the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel."

After reading this, everyone agreed that the sacrament of Holy Communion is something that we need to receive often. After all, we all mess up. We all struggle with daily activities and actions, being tempted to go in directions that aren't the best. Teenagers aren't alone in needing forgiveness and faith, in needing to be called to share the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

The catechism class then asked if we could take communion every week. This would be a huge change for the congregation, so we decided to look at the season of Easter. From Easter Sunday until Pentecost (June 9th), we will have communion at all Sunday worship services.

When looking for reasoning behind communion each week, the class found backup in the ELCA's document, *The Use of the Means of Grace*. It states,

The Church celebrates the Holy Communion frequently because the Church needs the sacrament, the means by which the Church's fellowship is established and its mission as the baptized people of God is nourished and sustained.¹ This practice was reaffirmed in 1989 by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. They found that their idea isn't quite so new at all -- and has been encouraged since 1989.

Even so, it's a bit dangerous what can happen when we start learning about our faith and about God's love. The Spirit moves and we are all challenged to grow. It's a good thing, but it can be difficult because change isn't easy.

Thankfully, the Spirit is moving in our youth, just as it is in each one of us. They have recognized that we all need to be nourished and encouraged in our faith journeys, no matter our age. As a result, they want us to receive the gift of Christ's body and blood—life and nourishment and encouragement and forgiveness and hope—each week. We will try this, until June 9th.

*See Pastor, pg. 2

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Special points of interest:

- Altar Flowers
- Summer Worship Hours
- Birthdays
- Newsletter Deadline
- Ministry Leaders
- Poet's Corner
- Council Minutes
- Daily Readings Through the Bible

Please be patient with us as we all grow, as we all ask questions, as we all learn together. You are welcome and encouraged to share your own hopes and dreams, your concerns and wants. They are important.

Thank you for creating a safe space to question and to grow as disciples. I hope that we all ask questions, that we are all challenged, that we all experience the Spirit moving and stretching us.

Walking with you in Christ,
Pastor Stacy

Holy Communion



May: Daily Bible Reading Program

May 1: 1 Chronicles 3-5

May 2: 1 Chronicles 6

May 3: 1 Chronicles 7-8

May 4: 1 Chronicles 9-11

May 5: 1 Chronicles 12-14

May 6: 1 Chronicles 15-17

May 7: 1 Chronicles 18-21

May 8: 1 Chronicles 22-24

May 9: 1 Chronicles 25-27

May 10: 1 Chronicles 28-30

May 11: 2 Chronicles 1-5

May 12: 2 Chronicles 6-8

May 13: 2 Chronicles 9-12

May 14: 2 Chronicles 13-17

May 15: 2 Chronicles 18-20

May 16: 2 Chronicles 21-24

May 17: 2 Chronicles 25-27

May 18: 2 Chronicles 28-31

May 19: 2 Chronicles 32-34

May 20: 2 Chronicles 35-36

May 21: Ezra 1-3

May 22: Ezra 4-7

May 23: Ezra 8-10

May 24: Nehemiah 1-3

May 25: Nehemiah 4-6

May 26: Nehemiah 7

May 27: Nehemiah 8-9

May 28: Nehemiah 10-11

May 29: Nehemiah 12-13

May 30: Esther 1-5

May 31: Esther 6-10



St. John's Community Giving Garden

May 18th—Planting
the ground with
seeds and plants.
Planting begins at
9:00 am. Bring
trowels, hoes etc.

**Rain date:
May 25th**

May Birthdays

May 3—Corwin Semon
6—Bob Stacy
10—Lisa Johnson
Yvonne Semon
14—Catherine Wilson
Jason Steckel
22—Jim Semon
23—Ronald Zorn
26—Richard Schlessman
26—Jon Baaske
28—Alex Schlessman

May Anniversaries

May 9—Nathan & Courtney
(Riley) Benich
21—Jeff and Kristi Justi
24—Pastor Stacy and Ryan
Scovanner



**BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY
AND
Anniversary**

Altar Flowers

May 5—Chuck and Heather Ruggles
in memory of Sharen's pass-
ing.
12—In honor of Yvonne Semon's
birthday
19—Kathy Strayer in loving
memory of Bob
26—Bonny Ambos in loving
memory of Stone.

We will begin raising funds for the St. John Scholarship Fund beginning in May. The fund benefits college and seminary students from this congregation, but we need your help to ensure that scholarships will continue to be available. To contribute, you may place a check made out to St. John Lutheran Church (with scholarship fund on the memo line) in the offering plate or scholarship envelopes will be available on the welcome table in the back of the church. Please give prayerful thought to help with this special ministry at St. John. **Scholarship Team**



Thank you Sunday School Teachers

A special thank you to all of our Sunday school teachers! You have made a difference in so many lives, and the outpouring of learning has spread through the congregation. Thank you!

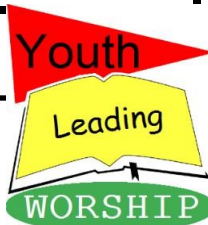


Would you please be willing to teach Sunday School once a month September-May next year? Please let Pastor Stacy know! Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Worship and Last Day of Sunday School:

Our youth will lead worship on Sunday, May 19th. This will also be our last day of Sunday School. If your child (ren) would like to help lead this service, we encourage them to be in Sunday School to practice. We hope all of our youth will be able to participate!



Poet's Corner

My Purpose

by Jerry Bauer

"The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me."
Psalm 138:8a

God gave me gifts,
calls me to become
fully myself,
God's own person,
God's unique creation.

My purpose,
whatever shape
it takes; intends
to accomplish the
mission in life
God entrusts to me.

God's purpose
becomes
My purpose.

Thank you

Dear Reverend Stacy,
I am a first grade teacher at Shawnee Elementary School in Huron. We often have children without supplies for school. It was a true blessing to receive your generous boxes overflowing with an abundance of needed school supplies for our little ones. Thank you for your kindness and generosity—we are truly grateful.

Love, Heather Hardy



Dear members of St. John's,
Thank you very much for the lotion and chapstick. Our residents use these items a lot and often need more than they can get! Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated! Have a blessed Easter!

Eden Springs Healthcare Center, Green Springs

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: Providence Care Hayes Ave. Sandusky

Irma Moon: Admiral's Pointe Huron

Harriett Schlessman: The Willows, Bellevue Rm #307

Beverly Hohman: Memory Care at Admiral's Pointe Huron

Barbara Vance: Providence Care Hayes Ave. Short visits.

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

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:

Dave Mehling - in recovery from stroke

Barb Vance - now at Providence Care Hayes Ave. regaining strength. **Short** visits appreciated.

Dick Widdoes - In need of healing prayers

Owen Reed - has returned home.

Paisley Luman - health concerns

Donna Morrissey—In need of healing prayers

Council prayer requests: We pray that we all remember God is with us every day and that we take the time to worship as a family.



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 April 15, 2019 at St. John's.

The Board spent much of the meeting discussing upcoming projects and budget issues. The Board voted to eliminate the per member cost and simply ask each congregation for a \$100 donation to meet our budgeted costs for 2019. Congregations will be receiving the letter soon. We thank you for your continued support.

Helpers are needed. The **Giving Garden** will be planted on May 18th at 9am. Please contact Jeff Justi to get on the mailing list. jjusti.jj@gmail.com This is a great project for our youth groups, scouts, garden clubs, or anyone who likes to work and play in the dirt. The entrance to the garden is just passed the parsonage. You can set your own hours or go when the group meets. Help is needed for planting, weeding, and watering. As the harvest comes in, we will need folks to pick and deliver the produce. Remember, you can deliver to the place of your choice. It could be a senior housing center, a food bank, a depressed neighborhood, or needy families you may know. Our goal is to have representatives from each congregation. Could that be you? Help FLAME feed the hungry.

May 19th will be FLAME's first **"Senior" Prom**. This will be a fun afternoon for all those 55 and older. Invite your friends! This event is open to the public. Simply sign up at your church or call Carol at Trinity's office 419-626-0204 by May 12th. We will have an MC, a DJ, refreshments, music, games, a photo station, and unbelievable fun as we remember the good ol' days. Trinity is accessible through the elevator at the back of the building.

FLAME has information to share with our youth. If you have completed your sophomore, junior, or senior year of high school, Capital University has a great opportunity for you from July 7-13th. **Sustain the Flame** is a 1-week program with time dedicated to service, mentoring, theological discussion, and vocational discernment. Sustain the Flame, a summer seminary sampler program, will help high school students (like you) think about Christian vocation and how you choose to live your faith in a church or secular occupation. This peer-to-peer experience will help you discover, discern and develop your God-given gifts, and equip you to decide where God is calling you next. Each participant will be paired with a current Capital University or Trinity Lutheran Seminary student mentor. Together, you will explore three basic components of theological education: learning, serving the people of God in various contexts, and further developing spirituality. During the week on campus, you will have a variety of experiences, including: worship, service activities, classes, faith coaching and community immersion. The cost of this week is only \$100. Check it out at www.capital.edu/summersampler/

A second opportunity is being held this fall October 4-6th at Lakeside. This youth weekend is for middle and high school students. Watch for upcoming details on "Fall into Lakeside."

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FLAME CHURCH NEWS:

Saturday, May 4th: Grace, **Perennial Plant Sale**, 8:30-noon. Donate or purchase. All proceeds go to Grace's Table.

May 9th: St. Paul, **JOY Time**, St. Paul's, 6-7:30pm, a night of Christian Fellowship for adults with developmental disabilities.

Thursday, May 9th: **Lifetree Café**, Zion, Huron 7-8pm "An Immigrant in the Sanctuary"

Sunday, May 19th: **"Seniors" Prom** for our senior citizens. 2-4 at Trinity. Handicap accessible.

Sunday, May 19th: **Chicken BBQ**, St. Peter 11:30-1pm

Sunday, May 19th: **Organ Recital** by Chase Castle, St. Peter's, 4pm

Sunday, May 19th: **Giving Garden** planting date. 9am, just south of St. John's parsonage. Rain date: May 25th 9am.

Monday, May 20th: St. John's **FLAME Board** meeting 7pm

Thursday, May 23: **Lifetree Café**, Zion, Huron 7-8pm "An Encounter with God."

Thursday, June 13th: St. Paul, **JOY Time**, St. Paul's, 6-7:30pm, a night of Christian Fellowship for adults with developmental disabilities.

Monday, June 17th: **FLAME Board** meeting, St. John's 7pm

June 17-21: Zion, Huron, **Summer Day Camp** with LOMO. See the website for registration forms.

July 7th-13th: Capital University **Summer Discernment Program** "Sustain the Flame" designed for high School students. Cost: \$100

Monday, July 15th: **FLAME Board** meeting, St. John's 7pm

September 8th: St. John's Rally Day. **Bishop Beaudoin** will preach the sermon.

October 4th-6th: Fall into Lakeside **Youth weekend**.

November 6th: **National Day of Pray**

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 2, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: President, Ann Voight, called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

PRAYER: Pastor Stacy led us in an opening prayer by asking each member to share where they had experienced God's presence in their life today.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ann Voight, Kevin Young, Peg Kingsley, Colleen Shupe, Pastor Stacy, Jenna Stacy, Paula Hoffman, Ron Zorn, Jeff Justi, Bob Krawetzki, Bonny Ambos, Barry Laird

EXCUSED: Jerrie Krawetzki

MINUTES: March Council minutes were approved as amended on motion by Ron Zorn and seconded by Barry Laird. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Colleen Shupe presented the February treasurer's report as of Feb. 28th:

Pastor Stacy: Written report submitted. Pastor Stacy reported that she wanted us to know she had many "holy moments" during the past month and feels privileged to serve our congregation. Ann asked Pastor Stacy to share with Council what she did on her two-day candidacy retreat. As part of her work that she does for the Synod, Bishop Daniel invited Pastor to be on a committee that works with young seminarians. The Committee interviews them initially and then follows their progress as they go through their time in the seminary, helping and advising. She finds this to be very rewarding work and mentioned the Synod expects ministers to "tithes of their time" as part of their commitment to Synod.

Faith Life Team : Written report submitted. Paula reported that the school boxes will be going to Shawnee School on April 3rd. Fellowship will be on April 14th this month because of the baptism occurring that day.

Property Team: Jeff Justi asked if anyone objected to his removing the key to the kitchen door now that most people are aware of the code needed to get in. No one objected so the key will be removed. We're encouraged to make sure those who need to know the code are given it. Our custodian for many years, Shirley Layne, is retiring and her husband, Earl, will be taking her place. Council thanks Shirley for her many years of dedicated work. Jeff has given Earl all the necessary paperwork and moved that we hire Earl as our new custodian beginning April 1st. Ron Zorn seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Worship Team: Written report submitted. We will be having communion every Sunday through the Easter season, which is Easter Sunday thru Pentecost Sunday, June 9th.

Finance Team: Written report submitted.

- **Oversite Report** – The oversight Committee, consisting of Candice Rudy, Linda Miller-Moore and Ron Zorn, met on March 23rd to review the last three months of 2018. The Committee found the records to be in excellent condition. Many thanks to Candice, Linda and Ron and Ron commended Colleen for an excellent job.

- **SCRIP program** –the Finance Team has looked into the benefit of keeping this account open and due to lack of use and accountability is recommending that we close the account. Peg Kingsley made a motion to close account , Kevin Young seconded; motion was passed by unanimous vote. Peg will coordinate the closing of the SCRIP program.
- There has been no forward movement on the online giving due to the ongoing review of our banking situation combined with consultants time restraints.
- **Payroll processing** - Colleen reported she has talked to Payne Nickels accounting firm about doing the payroll and all year end reports. The cost will be around \$75 /month The Finance Team is recommending that we begin using the accounting firm as of May 1st for all things dealing with payroll. Barry moved and Paula seconded the recommendation. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- **Banking options** - The Finance Team is recommending that we change our checking account from Civista Bank to Vacationland Credit Union due to better options and costs for services. Ron has gathered the paperwork necessary to make this change, including a copy of the 501(C)(3). Kevin moved and Paula seconded that we make this change having Ron Zorn, Peg Kingsley and Colleen Shupe as our signatories. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- Ron shared that the Endowment Committee will be submitting an amendment to the Endowment Resolutions due to changes the committee has seen necessary since they've now gone through one season of issuing grants. Once the changes have been finalized a date for a congregational meeting will be established so that a vote can be taken to establish the changes.
- The Finance Team is recommending that we lease a new copier from Blue Technologies (the current company we are leasing from) for a five year period. Our current lease is up at the end of April. They are also recommending that we have assigned individual access codes for using the copier in order to have more accurate figures of usage of the copier. Bob Krawetzki moved and Barry Laird seconded that we agree to this lease agreement and assignment of access codes. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

OTHER REPORTS: Ron Zorn reported that the Finance Team recommended that a written request submitted by the Scholarship Team for a fundraiser in May, 2019, be approved. Ann Voight shared that The Team is hoping to raise \$1000-\$1200 for funds to be used toward scholarships. Ron moved and Bonny seconded the motion which was passed by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bob Krawetzki has turned in all timelines he's received.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Prayer Request for seminarian Kris Buss will continue through April. For May Council prayer request : "We pray that we all remember God is with us every day and that we take the time to worship as a family."

Worship Team has recommended that our summer hours of worship be at 9:30 AM beginning on June 2nd and run through September 1, 2019. On Rally Day, September 8th, worship will return to 10:30 AM. Bob moved we accept the recommendation and Colleen seconded it. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Announcements:

Lenten Season: Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Worship at St. John's at 7 PM. Good Friday community service at Zion Sandusky at noon.

St. John's Easter Worship: 8 AM and 10:30 AM with breakfast and Easter egg hunt between services.

Summer Beach Worship Wednesdays—June 12, July 10 and August 14 at 6 PM followed by potluck picnic.

Save the Date: Bishop Daniel to worship with St. John's on Sunday September 8th at 10:30 AM.

ELCA Churchwide Assembly: August 5th thru August 10th, 2019 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Adjournment: Colleen Shupe moved and Barry Laird seconded that we adjourn the meeting. We adjourned by singing the Doxology.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Kingsley
Congregational Council Secretary

A FAMILY OF
DISCIPLES,
FAITHFULLY MAKING
CHRIST KNOWN

May 2019

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

Pastor Stacy on vacation May 2nd
thru May 17th

1 Choir
Practice
7:00 pm

2



4 Movie
Night at St.
John's
4 pm

5 Flowers:
Chuck &
Heather
Ruggles

6

7 Church
Council
7:00 pm

8 Choir
Practice
7:00 pm

9

Crossroads
3:30-6 pm

10



Rev. Rich-
ard Weaver
leads wor-
ship

Joy Time at
St. Paul's
6-7:30 pm

Faith Life
6:30 pm

12 Flowers:
Yvonne
Semon's
birthday

13 Quilting
Session
9:00 am
Small
Group read-
ing through
the Bible
5:45 pm at
Olive Gar-
den

14 Second
Tuesday
Small Group
5:30 pm

Young
family small
group will
not meet

15 Worship
Team-6:00
Choir
Practice
7:00 pm

16 8:30 am
Endowment
Committee
Upper
Room

17

18 Garden
Planting
9:00 am



19 Flowers:
Kathy
Strayer



Youth lead
worship
Final Day
for Sunday
School

21

22 Choir
Practice
7:30 pm

23 Finance
Team-4:30
Phone Con-
ference

24

25 Rain
date for
planting of
garden
9:00 am

Property
Team
Meeting
7:00 pm

26 Flowers:
Bonny
Ambos



29

30

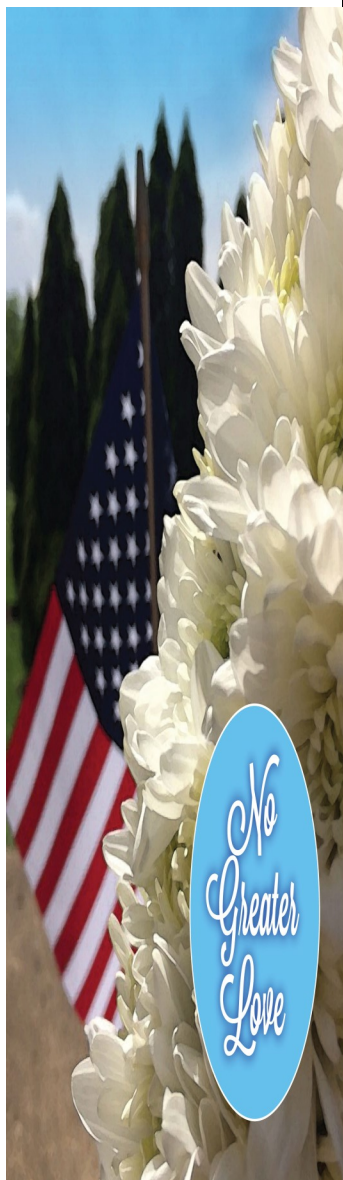
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E-MAIL:
STJOHNCAL@GMAIL.COM

WEBSITE:
WWW.STJOHNLC SANDUSKY.
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
May 5, 12 & 19th

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED

Second Quarter Team MINISTRY LEADERS

Kathy Strayer, Phyllis Stengel
Bonny Ambos

May 5
Communion Glasses and
Fellowship

June 2
Communion Glasses

Teams will be in charge of communion glasses, fellowship, and altar cloths.
Contact Allison Young if you have any questions.

DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles
May 19, 2019

Lay Readers:

May 5—Paula Hoffman
12—Jim Semon, Sr.
19—Youth of St. John's
26—Jason Steckel

Communion Assistants:

May 5—Ann Voight
12—Jim Semon, Sr.
19—Wade Ruggles/Josh Thompson
26—

Acolytes: May 5—Cassidy Lane



Pastor Stacy on vacation

Pastor Stacy will be on vacation May 2nd thru May 17th. If a pastoral emergency arises, please contact Sandy Thompson (419-625-2192 or 419-433-4530), Ann Voight (419-357-8483).

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

Please note **we will change** our summer worship time this year. Worship will be at **9:30 a.m.** beginning **June 2nd** thru September 1st.

