

---

---

# First St. John Journal

---

Volume 31, Issue 5

May, 2018

---

**W**hen your child is playing a musical instrument that is “rented” from the school instead of “owned” by you, there is a big decision to make at the end of the school year. Do you pay rental fees for the summer break? Or do you turn in the instrument? Paying rental fees for the summer means the instrument will be used for practice on hot summer days and during cool pleasant evenings. Turning the instrument in means summer is for swimming, sleep-away camps, family vacations, flexible schedules, and peace and quiet.

Your decision is based both on your budding musician’s passion for their instrument and your own personal preferences. For parents, there is the knowledge that structure, practice, and commitment are all good things for a young musician. On the other hand, there is the prospect of a few weeks without squeaks and squawks or hearing the same fractured tune repeated over and over again in your head, an earworm that can be as ragging and nagging as “It’s a Small World After All.”

Okay, okay. The hope of that mystic connection to music is why you DO pay for that instrument over summer vacation. When it sounds good, it looks easy. But it took a lot of practice to get to the point of sounding good. Why is it we will put up with the imperfections and disruptions of “practice” when it comes to learning to play a musical instrument . . . but we find it so much harder to put up with the discord and dissonance that comes when we are all engaged in “practicing” the greatest instrument each of us has been given?

That instrument is the living Spirit of Christ within each of us.

The Church is best defined as a “community of practice.” It’s a place where those who have chosen to live the life of Christ can hit flats and sharps, miss entrances, go off-beat, and even get completely lost for a while—yet still be part of the church community’s “practice session” that is Christ’s church. Isn’t growing a soul, like learning any musical instrument, a life-long project?

Yes, it brings great joy. Yes, it brings focus and direction. Yes, it brings a love of artistic perfection. But it takes continual, gradual, life-long practice.

The month of May moves us into the summer season. School will come to an end, graduations will occur, plans will be made for vacations, and a change of pace will come with the warming weather and lengthening daylight. There are decisions to make at the beginning of summer—things to keep or give up, such as a rented musical instrument. Among these choices, hopefully church, worship, and faith growth will not be ones to give up.

Even though this summer may present some special challenges when getting in and around First St. John with the construction on the Educational Building’s roof, we all will be here, and we hope you and your family will be, too.

— *Pastor Rayl*

## ROOF PROJECT UPDATE

The Lord continues to bless First St. John and its church family. The finance department announced our loan application has been approved at a rate of 4.0%. In addition, since we signed our contract the cost of materials has increased by 4% to 6% (due to aluminum and steel tariffs). If we would have waited until November, there would have been another 4% to 6% increase. This amounts to a \$40K to \$50K savings by moving forward with this project when we did.

-- *Bill Nelson*

### **SUMMER WORSHIP**

Our summer worship time of one service at 9:00 am begins on May 27th and runs through September 2nd. There will be no Sunday School this summer. Note we’re starting the schedule on Memorial Day weekend, one week earlier than we usually do.

We’ll have communion each Sunday unless it’s the fifth Sunday of the month when we’ll have a special worship format. See you then!



**ELDERS FOR MAY**

	<b><u>7:45 am</u></b>	<b><u>10:15 am</u></b>
6th	Dick Haar Bob Hecklinger	Joanne Henningsen Jeff Ladd
13th	Ryan Hugueley Jeff Smith	Kevin Ruedy Mike Winslow
20th	Tom Gaskins Terry Ruedy	Sherrie Haar Bob Haar
	<b><u>9:00 am</u></b>	
27th	Jeff Smith Bob Hecklinger	

**DAVID WINSLOW  
MEMORIAL  
GOLF TOURNAMENT**



This four-man scrambles will be Saturday, August 4th at 8:00 am at the Chippewa Golf Club. Price is \$65 per person. Menu to be determined. Prizes will be awarded for 1st place, longest drive and closest to the pin. Reservation and fees due by Monday, July 23rd. If you'd like to register or sponsor a hole, call Mike Winslow at 419-691-8430 or 419-698-6507.

*\*All proceeds go to First St. John.\**

**WELCA NEWS**

At our last meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup>, Louise Sommers motioned and Chris Hunsaker seconded to give the proceeds from the Card Party (\$2,206.02) to the Roof Fund. Sixteen votes were cast. Thanks to all who voted.

Don't forget to bring in your items for the Rummage Sale. Set up is the first week in May, and sale days are May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Our next meeting is May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm in the lounge. This will be the last meeting until September since the lounge is closed for the summer. All women from First St. John are invited and encouraged to attend. Have a great summer, and we'll see you in the fall.

**SUMMER MUSIC  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**



Our summer schedule begins May 27<sup>th</sup> with one service at 9:00 am. Since our choir will be taking a much-needed break, we will have special music at each service. If you have a musical talent to share (singing or playing an instrument), call Toni in the church office, or you can go to the choir room and sign the schedule for the Sunday you'd like.

**RENTAL NOTICE**

Because of the Educational Building roof project, we will have to suspend all rentals of the lounge and gym and also the tables and chairs from the garage during the project from May 29<sup>th</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup>. Also, keep in mind that bad weather may push back the end date. Thank you for your patience.



**CHAPEL COMMUNION  
IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Chapel Communion will be Sunday, May 6th at 2:00 pm. However, we will not have Chapel communion during the summer because of the ongoing roof project. Please make a note of it.

**RUTH CIRCLE  
MEEETING CHANGE**

The Ruth Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 8th at 11:30 am at the Oregon Inn. NOTE: We will meet off site during the summer months, so please watch the bulletins and newsletters for dates and times. Thank you.

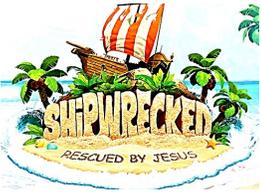
**ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS**

To keep current information for office records, if your name, address or phone number changes, please notify the office by faxing (419-691-7220), or mailing this form to: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605 or emailing us at: office@firststjohn.com

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be Monday, July 30th—Thursday, August 2nd from 5:30 to 8:30

pm each night at Christ United Methodist Church at the corner of Starr Ave. Extension and Stadium Rd. in Oregon. VBS is for ages 3 through fifth grade.

**NOTE:** Each night, dinner will be provided for all kids at 5:30. And, Christ United Methodist is air conditioned. To register your child, go online to: <https://form.jotform.com/Morgwillms/VBS2018>

This year’s theme is “Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus!” Morgan Williams is our Vacation Bible School coordinator. Donations of nautical-themed items are greatly appreciated. We’ll need lots of help, so please pray and ask God what HE might want you to do to help with VBS. To volunteer, either notify the church office or go online to: <https://form.jotform.com/Morgwillms/volunteerVBS2018>

## MEN’S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP CHANGE OF VENUE

The next men's breakfast will be Saturday, May 5th at 8:00 am at our NEW location, Frisch's Big Boy Restaurant on Navarre Ave. If you need a ride, please call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409.

## EDUCATIONAL BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT—THE BASICS

The project is set to begin Tuesday, May 29th, ending Tuesday, August 14th. (Bad weather may extend the end date.) The building will be closed to everyone during this time, with the exception of bathroom and elevator use on Sunday mornings.

Parking in the back lot will be prohibited, except for handicap parking on Sundays. There will be a one-lane through-way.

In case of a funeral and/or burial, the construction company will temporarily suspend its work.

The church office will relocate to the church basement. Email and phone communication with the office should not be interrupted.

All other church activities are encouraged to be held offsite or postponed until the end of the project. If you have any other questions, please contact our project manager Dan Hugueley at 419-467-5855.

## WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY

Have you remembered First St. John Lutheran Church in your will? Doing so is a great statement of faith and an enduring example of stewardship. Unfortunately, most people neglect to do this. Everyone has a will, either one you create to reflect your own wishes, values, faith, and legacy, or one dictated by the laws of the state in which you live.

A will enables you to specify the distribution of your property upon your death. It allows you to provide for your family and preferred charities. A will serves as a statement of your faith, values, and legacy—a way to ensure your ultimate wishes will be put into action. It also gives parents the opportunity to name the guardians of their children.

An unrestricted bequest to First St. John Lutheran Church provides a lasting impact on the current and future mission and ministry of your church. You may leave a specific asset, an exact sum of money, a certain percentage of your estate, or the remainder of your estate after all other obligations and family gifts have been fulfilled.

Remember, you may change any bequest provision during your life. If you already have a will, you may include a bequest to the church by having your attorney add a simple codicil (an amendment to your will). So, where there is a will, there is a way to express your faith even beyond your life. A bequest to First St. John Lutheran Church is a wonderful way to make this happen.

*(Nothing in this article is to be considered as legal or financial advice. It is provided for informational purposes only. Contact your lawyer or financial advisor for specific and current advice.)*

## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

During February and March we collected 1,114 cans/boxes/jars of food and \$783.56 to be donated to Lutheran Social Services. Fantastic job, everyone!

## DARTBALL WRAP-UP

We have just concluded our 60th year of participating in the Toledo Lutheran Dartball League. First St. John Lutheran #2 team finished in fourth place, and First St. John Lutheran #1 team finished 8th. Congratulations to St. Lucas who finished in first.



## MEMORIALS

### CURRENT FUND

In memory of Ethel Mae Vogtsberger by Jean Garey, Louise & Jim Sommers.

In memory of William Fischhaber by Jean Garey.

### ROOF FUND

In memory of Ethel Mae Vogtsberger by Norman & Phyllis Schuffenecker, Betty TenEyck, Carlene Trost, Terry & Jane Schuetz, Donna Koester, Susie Moszkowicz, Gene Hagedorn, Esther Bell, Richard & Carol Haar, Jean DeWitt, Janet Morrison, Darryl & Diane Traver, Theodore Ehrsmann, Marge Bollinger, Paul Kuhlman, Roger & Cynthia Cedoz, George & Janice Stoycheff, Timothy & Phyllis Wasserman, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, the Ruth Circle, Hank & Joanne Schumaker, Larry & Darlene Paul, Gary & Mary Muntz, Jim & Peggy Barton, Penny DeWitt, Dale & Velma Stacy, Marvin & Carol Keller, Steven & Julie Swartz, Anthony & Holley Sondergeld, Richard & Sue Bruns, Richard Crouse, Bob & Sherrie Haar, Frank & Barb Meyers, Carol Poiry, Kent Delvinthal, Ken Villhauer, Nancy & Larry Strohsner, Bill & Donna Nelson, Mary Ellen Miller, Bob & Diane Kapp, Carolyn Sleek, Richard & Jane Phillips and family, Bob & Carolyn Kapp, Dale & Denise Niese, Ada Kreger, Joyce Hosley, Deb Lofquist, Chuck & Jane Neal.

In memory of Jackie Curtis by Carlene Trost, Florence & Jim West, Bob & Sherrie Haar, Marge Bollinger, Penny DeWitt, Betty TenEyck, Jackie's Family, Ada Kreger, Chuck & Jane Neal.

In memory of William Fischhaber by Jim Harrell, Chuck & Jane Neal.

In memory of Daniel Johlin by Kevin & Kris Ruedy.

In memory of Russell Nino II by Esther Bell, Jim & Louise Sommers.

### WELCA

In memory Daniel Johlin by Penny DeWitt.

### QUILTERS

In memory of Ethel Mae Vogtsberger by Eileen Young.

### CEMETERY FUND

In memory of Daniel Johlin by AgCredit, ACA, Joyce Yard, Lee Frazier, Gary & Deborah Bach, Joanne Crandall, Mary Panther, Marge Bollinger, Gaillard Bach, Madonna & Cliff Bury.

In memory of William Fischhaber by Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Ken Villhauer, Joanne Crandall, Marilyn White.

In memory of Jackie Curtis by Mary Batchman, Terry & Claudia Patchen.

### DAY SCHOOL

In memory of Ethel Mae Vogtsberger by Don & Karen Holmes.

### MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Ethel Mae Vogtsberger by Ruth Cummerow.



### MARCO'S FUNDRAISER

Our next fundraiser is Wednesday, May 23 at the Starr Ave. location. Stores on Woodville Rd. (Northwood & East Toledo) and Main St. in East Toledo also honor this fundraiser. If you mention First St. John Day School when you order, we receive 15% of all sales. **NOTE:** If you order on-line ([www.marcos.com](http://www.marcos.com)), the school receives an additional 5%. Coupon flyers will be available soon. Thanks for your support!

### *HYMN OF THE MONTH*

Starting in May we'll have the "Hymn of the Month" during worship. Each month a new hymn will be selected and repeated each week. We'll learn the hymn, its origin and meaning. This is an exciting way to expand our repertoire. Remember, even "Amazing Grace" was a new hymn once.

### DAY SCHOOL GALA DONATIONS

Thank you if you've already donated wine for the wine pull. We've received some great bottles! We will collect wine until September. You can turn in your bottle to the Day School or church office with the donor and value information attached to receive credit for your donation. Remember to pick up your unique wine, valued at \$20 or more, while traveling this summer!

For May and June we are accepting gift cards, which can be of any denomination. They will be used in some raffles and to enhance some of the baskets. Think outside the box (restaurants, coffee shops, ice cream, video rentals, movie theaters, gas cards, and more)! **NOTE:** *Our next volunteer meeting is Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Lutheran Social Services building next door (old orphanage).*

## CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation and first communion will be Sunday, May 20th at the 10:15 service. Pictures will be taken following the service. Our eighth grade confirmands this year are: Molly Anderson, Tristan Layman, and Derek and Nick Pfeiffer.

Please pray for these young people during the last classes and their preparation for confirmation.



## JAM NEWS: "PASTRIES FOR PARENTS"

On Sunday, May 20th at 9:00 am we would like to recognize the parents of our JAM students who week after week bring their children to JAM to learn about our Savior. We will have a "Pastries for Parents" celebration. All JAM parents are invited to attend this breakfast with their JAM student.

During this event, we'll hold a drawing for those children in attendance for a Mud Hens family package. We'll also preview our Vacation Bible School for this year, entitled "Shipwrecked, Rescued by Jesus." Don't miss it!

## CARD PARTY THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped at the Card Party. Whether you cooked, set up, cleaned up, sold tickets, made centerpieces, made desserts, hung up a flyer, or scoured the city for prize donations, your help was greatly appreciated. We made a profit of \$2206 that will be donated to the Roof Fund.

## DINNER WITH FRIENDS

Our next dinner will be Wednesday, May 16th at 6:00 pm. The menu will include various salads and a yummy brownie dessert. If you would like to attend, please fill out the slip below and return it to the church office or the offering plate so we know how many to plan for. See you soon!

*Yes, I will attend Dinner With Friends  
on Wednesday, May 16th*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY June 10, 2018



We will publicly acknowledge all our graduates from high school and college at our worship service on Sunday, June 10th. Please plan on having your graduate attend this service as all graduates will be recognized.

If you know of a graduate, please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate, mail to the church office, or fax this page to 419-691-7220 by Monday, June 4th. Thank you.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF GRADUATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRADUATED FROM

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEGREE EARNED

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

YES, WE PLAN TO BE AT THE SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_



## MAY'S MINISTRY OUTREACH

May's ministry outreach is the Personal Needs Pantry. Summer is coming, and typically donations decline during that period. Your monetary donations can help our coordinator purchase any items that may not have been donated. Special green envelopes will be in the pews for you to respond with a donation of support. Please continue to bring in pantry products, though, as the need is always great. See the article at the bottom of the page for more information.

### ZUMBA NOTICE

Zumba classes are dismissed for the summer. Watch your September newsletter and bulletins for when classes will begin again. Enjoy your summer!



### QUILTING WRAP-UP

Each week, we had an average of 17 ladies who pinned, tied and sewed. We were blessed to have home sewers to make our Monday gatherings much easier. Thanks to Michelle and Heather, Wanda, Jane, and Jean who sew at home, and to Penny, Sue, and Eleanor who tied at home.

We had a couple of snow days, so we completed 162 quilts in nine Mondays. We are donating 120 quilts to various charities in the Toledo area. Thank you to everyone who came out this year to help.



### PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY FOCUS FOR MAY

In May we are asking for donations of deodorant for men and women.

We always accept other items such as dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, adult and children's shampoo, laundry soap, fabric softener sheets, body lotion, body soap, adult and children's toothbrushes, tampons, sanitary pads, bandaids & toothpaste. Remember, no travel sizes.

You can deposit these items in the left pull-out drawer next to the Feed Your Neighbor bins in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) or in the bright green bin in the lounge. Monetary donations also are appreciated. (The pantry is May's Ministry Outreach—see the article at the top of this page.) Thank you for supporting the pantry.

## RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday, May 3, 10 am-4:00 pm  
Friday, May 4, 10 am-1:00 pm

Item drop-off times are Monday, April 30th through Wednesday, May 2nd from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm each day and also on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. (You may start bringing your items April 25, but the elevator will not be available until April 30.)

**NOTE:** In order for us to be ready to open the sale on Thursday morning, we regret that we cannot accept any more donated items after 4:00 pm on Wednesday, May 2nd.

If you are available the week of April 30th, we could use your help. Stay as long as you can, but bring a sack lunch if you plan to stay over the lunch hour on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. (On days of the sale, lunch will be provided.) Please call the church office at 419-691-7222 to volunteer.

### DAY SCHOOL GALA: MEAL & TICKET INFORMATION



Eat, Drink, and Be Giving: A Silent Auction Gala Fundraiser for the Day School will be Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at Saint Michael's Centre in Oregon. Michael's Cafe and Bakery will provide tremendous food and decadent desserts-- sure to tantalize your taste buds! There also will be a cash bar offering a variety of spirits.

Some of the fantastic packages available to purchase include date night, girls' night out, romantic getaway, family fun weekend, sports memorabilia, jewelry, and more! Tickets for this fabulous event are \$50 each and will be available in time for Mother's Day and Father's Day. To purchase tickets, contact LuAnn Spoerl (419-320-0267), Kelly Allred (419-351-6178), or stop by the Day School office.

If you would like to donate to this amazing cause or to help on the night of the event, please contact LuAnn Spoerl at 419-320-0267.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2018 Gala: Eat, Drink, and Be Giving to help our school provide solid educational beginnings to future generations.

## First St. John Prayer Chain

**Crisis Prayer List:** For those who need prayers in an urgent matter such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after the 1st month unless a prayer chain contact is contacted:

**Family of Karen Cummings**  
**Family of William Fischhaber**  
**Kate Gladieux**  
**Family of Russell Nino II**  
**Megan (Spoerl) Norwalk**  
**Norm & Phyllis Schuffenecker**  
**Sherrie Spencer**  
**Family of Lesta Williams**

**Chronic Prayer List:** For those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, ongoing medical struggles, recovery and/or personal situations. Individuals will be moved off after 3 months unless a prayer chain contact is contacted about special circumstances:

**Maureen Albright**  
**Karyl & Lee Antoine**  
**Allen Baballe**  
**Wayne Bauman**  
**Karen Bless**  
**Sandy Bohland**  
**The Burk Family**  
**Jeannette Carlo**  
**Carol Cheatham**  
**Greg Contat**  
**Janet Davis**  
**Olivia & Delaney Dawkins**  
**Dorothy Felderman**  
**Chelsea & Lynn Folk**  
**Patty Gable**  
**Olivia Gradel**  
**Donna Haar**  
**Julius Haller**  
**Ginger Hart**  
**Marcia Henninger**  
**Rose Hensley**  
**Tom Iserman**  
**Mark Kieswetter**  
**Ilean Labuhn**  
**Kate Lajti**  
**Scott Langlois**  
**The Lee Family**  
**Martha Meyers**  
**Donna Miller**  
**James Moore**  
**Mary Bell Moore**  
**Bill Morse**  
**Chuck Neal**  
**Pam Pirolli**

**Hunter Potter**  
**Gene & Ruth Price**  
**Mike Ray**  
**Sheryl Rayl**  
**Cathy Redmond**  
**Michael Rheinbolt & Family**  
**Jason Rhuland**  
**Dr. Steve Rowe**  
**Norm Schumaker**  
**Baby Charlotte Seibert & Parents**  
**Connie Singlar**  
**Tom Smith**  
**Joan Tilton**  
**Steve Uzi**  
**Shirley Vick**  
**Ralph Vogtsberger**  
**Jim Wagner**  
**Connie Wiener**  
**Arlene Wilbarger**  
**Kent Wolf**  
**Darlene Worz**  
**John & Grace Yard**  
**Olga Zimmerman**

Check the list and let a prayer chain contact know if someone can be moved off the list.

### **Prayer Chain Contacts**

Carol Abbey 419-351-9795  
or cabbey@jcrinc.com

Lynn Folk	419-691-3410
Donna Koehn	419-693-5030
Gloria Ross	419-836-7166

## 8th ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION



On Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day), there will be a Memorial Day worship service in the church sanctuary at 9:00 am sharp! **NOTE:** We will be in church for the first half of the service. Bob Haar will give a short talk on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War I. After the brief worship service, we will reconvene outside in the cemetery for the Veteran's portion of the service.

Note that equipment will be on site as the roof replacement is set to begin the next day. PLEASE park in the front parking lot across the street so we can leave enough room for the veterans to park on the side of the church. If you have any questions about this service, please call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409. Thank you.

*“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”*

— Proverbs 22:6

For a teacher May can be a bittersweet time. Christian teachers have spent the last eight months sharing God’s Word in their classroom. They have shared the story of Jesus birth, life, death and resurrection. Through those conversations, the children have come to know Jesus as their personal Savior. Also, the teachers have come to know their students personally. A relationship has developed, and now it is nearly time to say goodbye.

As Christian teachers, we ask God to be with us as we plan our lessons. Some students have been baptized and raised in a Christian household; they hear God’s Word on a regular basis. Other students have no Christian influence, so for them we are creating a foundation for future building. Isaiah says (55:11), *“so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”* We pray God nurtures that little seed in their hearts by continuing to send Christians to influence the children.

When parents come to enroll their children in our program I ask them how they heard about our preschool. I am amazed at how many say they came here as a child. Just yesterday a mother told me she remembered the classroom, and a loft that was in it; she said she loved her teacher, Miss Lucille. The children remember their experiences here, so we want to be sure they hear about their Savior!

### **Registration for the 2018/2019 Year**

Registration continues for the fall. Note that the registration fee is waived for active and contributing members of First St. John, but you must still complete a registration form to reserve a spot for your child. The Fall program begins on August 15th. Classes for next school year will meet from 9:00 am to noon (the school day is extended a half hour from the current year). Classes and day care are for children who will be three, four, or five years old by August 1, 2018. We can have a limited number of potty-trained 2 ½ year olds.

Also, “check out” our new program called “Begindergarten” later in this article. If you would like to enroll, schedule a tour, or if you have any questions, then be sure to call the Day School administrator, Carol Felderman, at 419-691-6480.

### **Fundraising**

Just because activities at the school will be closed this summer, there are still opportunities for members of First St. John to partner with the Day School to help raise up God’s children. We need to work together so future generations do not forget their Lutheran heritage. Money helps, but there are ways to donate without spending additional dollars. Clip those Big G Box Tops and send them in. Direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars and Kroger Community Rewards to First St. John Day School. When shopping at Office Depot/Office Max, say you would like to participate in the “Give Back” program and direct the money to the Day School. But most importantly, we need your prayers. Keep God’s children and families in your prayers.

### **New Class – Begindergarten**

The Day School is starting a new class in 2018-2019 called “Begindergarten” for children who will be 5 years old by November 1. The program will run full days, Monday through Friday. An added benefit will be the option of having onsite before-and-after-school child care.

This transitional program meets the special needs of students who are younger and may have just missed the age requirements of their local public school, but who have already been through two years of preschool programs. Because of increasing academic demands placed on kindergarten students, the public schools have less time to nurture social and emotional skills. This is where we want to offer more academics than our regular pre-kindergarten program but still include play, which we know is so important for little ones.

Our goal is to educate our students starting where they are and moving them toward success in all areas of learning. This program will give our students the extra year of emotional and social growth needed to be successful when they enter the kindergarten classroom.

### **Oregon Fest**

We will participate in Oregon Fest on May 20<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for a volunteer to plan the parade activities (we have helpers, but no leader). The theme is “Life’s a Picnic...” The parade planner may plan costumes for the children or props for them to carry. Alumni will be walking with our current students, with older alumni passing candy to the spectators. Please call 419-691-6480 if you are interested in helping or walking.