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# First St. John Journal

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Volume 31, Issue 10

October, 2018

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Miracle Sunday is fast approaching. We are moving closer to Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> when, with the Lord's guidance and assistance, a miracle of generosity will be performed as we come together to provide the largest single offering to God in the history of First St. John Lutheran Church. This special act of stewardship on the part of the members and friends of First St. John Lutheran will propel our ministry into the future as we pay down the costs of refurbishing the Education Building with the new roof and other improvements.

This building is more than a building. It is a center for ministry. This past Sunday we were reminded of this as we welcomed many of the families from our current Day School and listened to the children joyfully sing songs they have already learned in praise to God.

As Bill Caldwell testified this past Sunday: *"When I was asked to say a few words about what the Day School means to me, the first thing that came to my mind are my eight grandchildren that attended here. It meant so much to Cathy and I that our grandchildren were being taught in a loving Christian environment. Along with learning their letters, numbers and colors, they learned about a God that loved them and how to pray and thank him daily for the many blessings they received."*

Thousands of children have received their first experience of learning about Jesus' love for them by attending Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and Catechism Class in that space. The halls and classrooms echo with the sounds of children and teachers singing and teaching the good news that "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know!" This year we rejoice that the new catechism class has 15 seventh graders enrolled. Let's support them and their families.

Barb Meyers (a.k.a Professor Wonder) remembers: *"When my girls were about three or four, one of our Sunday School teachers, Shirley Murray, yanked me out of Mr. Miller's adult class and told me that I was the new Sunday School teacher. At that point in time, all I knew about the Bible was how to spell it. But as my Mother used to say, 'All you need to teach is to*

*be one lesson ahead of the kids.' She was an elementary school teacher. I learned rather quickly. Eventually, I had an audio tape of the books of the Old Testament, and I taught the kids to memorize them. I also tempted any class, any year, that whoever could recite them without looking would get a gift certificate from McDonalds. I had two kids in one class, Kevin Garverick and Ryan Nelson, who won.*

*"On top of that quest, I conjured up some Bible facts, and we played Bible basketball with a Nerf ball set. After a short lesson, I would pit the boys against the girls and we were off and running. Sometimes it would be quite boisterous. They loved it and learned at the same time."*

Terry and Debbie Paul are serving on the Miracle Sunday planning committee. Here is their encouragement for their fellow members and friends of First St. John Lutheran: *"We are sure there are many members of First St John Lutheran Church that have great memories through their lifetimes of Day School, Sunday School, and Confirmation. Later in life you get married at First St John, bring your children to worship on Sunday mornings to learn the Gospel from Sunday School, and listen to thought-provoking sermons. Some of us have 50, 60 years, or more of fellowship at our church.*

*"Eventually it becomes time to do what was done for us by previous members. I applaud church council and Pastor Rayl for placing our church back into a position for the future with the extremely needed new roof and various other constructive repairs. The expectations for First St John Church will be to lead young Christian families in the Lutheran faith long into the future.*

*"Now, it is our time to offer a generous gift through Miracle Sunday to First St John Lutheran Church to help retire the debt. It can be cash, a check, or we can be creative-- like a piece of property, jewelry, bonds, cars, or something else of value. Be part of the Miracle! It may just FEEL right! Thank you."*

(continued on page 7)



## MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGES

Michael & Cory Arbinger  
710 N. Norden Rd.  
Oregon, OH 43616

Peggy Bittner  
1375 Eastmeadow Dr.  
Oregon, OH 43616

Marilyn Cashen  
Story Point Apt. 206  
1470 Pray Blvd.  
Waterville, OH 43566

Tom & Michele Gaskins  
3134 Seaman Rd.  
Oregon, OH 43616

Elaine Hanely  
28863 Oregon Rd. Apt. D38  
Perrysburg, OH 43551

Zachary Huss  
3312 Sharon Dr.  
Moore, OK 73160

Matthew & Michelle Phillips  
Unit 8600 Box 1200  
DPO AP 96515-1200

Alex & Holly Reif  
5143 Merlot Dr.  
Oregon, OH 43616

Chelsea Skorupa  
52908 Storbaelt Ln.  
Macomb, MI 48042

Kyle & Kristine Snow  
8656 Seaman Rd.  
Curtice, OH 43412

Doug & Maria Thayer  
227 Stillwater Dr.  
Toledo, OH 43615

## ELDERS FOR OCTOBER

	<u>7:45 am</u>	<u>10:15 am</u>
7th	Joanne Henningsen Jeff Ladd	Bob Haar Sherrie Haar
14th	Kevin Ruedy Mike Winslow	Ryan Hugueley Jeff Smith
21st	Bob Haar Sherrie Haar	Tom Gaskins Terry Ruedy
28th	Dick Haar Bob Hecklinger	Joanne Henningsen Jeff Ladd

## ALTAR GUILD NEWS

Our next meeting will be Monday, October 1st at 6:30 pm in the lounge.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES



### Births

1-11-18 *Devi Jean Liesner*, born to Michael and Anisha (Joshi) Liesner.

9-14-18 *Eleanor Rose Ladd*, born to Adam and Julie (Bauerschmidt) Ladd.

### Baptisms

None.

### Marriages

8-18-18 Rachael Hunsaker & Frank Hullinger

9-8-18 Stacy St. Julian & William Reynolds  
Cara Witt & Tanner Engle

### Deaths

9-23-18 Rodney Price

### Transfers to/from First St. John

None.

## ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

To keep our office records up-to-date, 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 email us: office@firststjohn.com

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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



## CHICKEN & HAM DINNER

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 3rd from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Chicken, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls & butter, and homemade desserts will be served in our *newly renovated gym!*

We will need lots of help, so please use the sign up sheets in the bulletins and/or call the church office or Jane Schuetz (419-691-5506) to help. And as always, we'll need lots of desserts, so please sign up for those as well.

Tickets are available from the church office or circle members, or call Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506 or Joanne Crandall at 419-693-2081. And you can buy them at the door. Ticket prices are \$11.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children ages 3-12, and free for kids age two and under (you still need a ticket). Tickets go on sale after services in the lounge and Narthex on October 21st and 28th.

## HATS, MITTENS, SOCKS AND BOOTS NEEDED



WELCA will collect hats, mittens, socks, and boots for school children during the month of October and for part of November. You can place your donations in the specially marked boxes in the Narthex and/or in the lounge. Thank you for your generosity.

## COMMUNION INFORMATION

If you would prefer grape juice instead of wine, please place your hand to your shoulder as you approach the elder handing out the juice/wine.

Also, please fill out a communion card, located in the pew caddies. Give your card to the elder when you take communion or place it in the offering plate. One of the things that determines active membership is partaking in communion. All we really need is your name. Family members can write all their names on one card. Thank you.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

We meet next on Saturday, October 6th at 8:00 am at the Woodville Diner (near Rally's on Woodville Rd.). Call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 if you need a ride.

## MEMORIALS

### ROOF FUND

In memory of **Ron Koch** by David & Carolyn Yenrick, Baberry Condo Assoc., Dr. & Mrs. William Winslow.

In memory of **Floyd Hagedorn** by Jim & Louise Sommers, Jim & Joann Hippel, Bob & Sherrie Haar, Ken Villhauer, Karen Frey, Gene Hagedorn, Frank & Barb Meyers, Daniel & Cynthia Wisbon, Larry & Darlene Paul, Nourm & Beth Freyer, Janet Morrison, Linda Hagedorn, Tom & Margie Iserman, Mark & Debra Ackerman, James Nelson & Theresa Ann, Jeff & Deborah Smith, Eric & Cynthia Johnson, Joanne Crandall, Jim & Janet Fox, Jean DeWitt, Chuck & Betty Hyre, Marge Bollinger, Hank & Joanne Schumaker, Ted & Deb Hagedorn, Eileen Young, Sue Villhauer Kimmet, M/M Richard Haar, Ruth Cummerow, Don & Barb Schrader, M/M William Nelson, Ruth Zasada, Chris & Christy Zasada, Gloria Ross, Norma Baden, Chuck & Andra Bell, Bill & Cathy Caldwell.

In memory of **Olga Zimmerman** by Dr. & Mrs. William Winslow, Nancy Gallaher.

### CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Floyd Hagedorn** by Gene Hagedorn, Esther Bell, Jim & July Swanson, Norman Schumaker, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Elaine Gladieux, Terry & Jane Schuetz.

### ALTAR GUILD

In memory of **Floyd Hagedorn** by Penny DeWitt.

### ELEVATOR FUND

In memory of **Floyd Hagedorn** by Winnie Wohlgamuth.

## MIRACLE SUNDAY MEETING

The next meeting for the Miracle Sunday committee is Tuesday, October 9th at 10:00 am. Please make a note of it. See you soon.

## DAY SCHOOL NEEDS SUBSTITUTES

Now that we have 77 children enrolled, we need several substitutes to help our staff. This would not be a teaching position, but a helper in the classrooms. Candidates will need to be fingerprinted, undergo a background check, and take a few online classes. If you or someone you know is interested, please call Carol Felderman in the Day School office at 419-691-6480.

# TRUNK OR TREAT!

**TRUNK OR TREAT!**

**Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>  
2:00-4:00PM**

Come out to the parking lot across the street from the church for fellowship, games, food, candy, and much more! Make sure to visit our food and hospitality tents. Invite your friends and neighbors, and come out to welcome our Day School families, too!

We need lots of volunteers. If you would like to help, please see the volunteer information sheet in this newsletter (or attached to this email if you receive the newsletter via email). Or you can pick up a form in the lounge, Narthex, or church office. For more information, contact Toni in the church office.

## 2019 BUDGET PLANNING

The Finance Committee will start working on the 2019 budget in October. Group leaders, please email your budget requests to [treasurer@firststjohn.com](mailto:treasurer@firststjohn.com) by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.



## “BROWN BAG” BIBLE STUDY NEWS

We will be studying the book of Revelation each Thursday at 11:00 am in the lounge. Bring your lunch and join us; coffee and water are provided.

## WELCA NEWS

The WELCA Board this past month had the carpet cleaned in the lounge, and we picked out paint shades for the gym. We decided to send 50 quilts to the hurricane victims in the Carolinas.

We have finalized the Family Christmas party which will be December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Dinner at 6 pm. We will have entertainment both for our children of God and for the adults. Catered by Louie Tackas.

For the Genacross Birthday Bingo event, the Board ordered a birthday cake for Rita, a resident who turned 100 years old. Happy Birthday, Rita!

Thank you to Dave Hodges for fixing the soap dispenser. Way to go!!!

## QUILT SUNDAY



On Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, some of the quilts our Quilting Group made this past year will be displayed on the pews and near the altar. Pastor will bless the quilts before they are sent to Lutheran World Relief and/or given to local charities. Remaining quilts are available to buy at \$30 each. Someone will be available after each service if you'd like to purchase one.

## HARVEST FESTIVAL DONATIONS NEEDED

We will celebrate Harvest Festival on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. You can drop off your donations of produce, canned goods, mums, baskets, etc. in the lounge on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> or in the church by 9:00 am on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact Altar Guild president Beth Hugueley. Please help us beautify our altar on this special occasion when we thank God for the harvest. Thank you for your help.

## EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

Toni will be on vacation the week of October 15<sup>th</sup>. Please have all announcements for the October 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> bulletins turned in to the office by Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

## CRAFT SHOW & BAKE SALE!

(Proceeds benefit the Roof Fund)

**Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 am to 3:00 pm**



Come out to a craft show here at First St. John— just in time for purchasing unique Christmas gifts! Plus, enjoy the bake sale, lunch available to purchase, and a 50/50 raffle. Table rentals are \$20 (\$25 if you need electricity). If you or someone you know is interested in having a table, contact Karyl Antoine at 419-350-7040.

If you can donate baked goods, please contact Joyce Yard at 419-698-0895. We also need lots of help, either setting up, selling raffle tickets, helping with lunch, operating the elevator, and/or helping crafters bring up their items, etc. If you can help, contact Karyl Antoine at 419-350-7040. Thanks!

## PRAYER CHAIN LIST

(As of September 26, 2018)

### Crisis Prayer List

For those who need prayers in urgent matters such as surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Will be moved to Ongoing List after the 1st month unless we're contacted about special circumstances:

**Betsy (no last name given)**  
**Megan Norwalk**  
**Family of Rodney Price**  
**Jason Rhuland**  
**Baby Charlotte Seibert & Parents**

### On-Going Prayer Concerns

For those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles, recovery and/or personal situations. Will be moved off the list after 3 months unless we're contacted about special/continuing circumstances:

**Lee & Karyl Antoine**  
**Allen Baballe**  
**Karen Bless**  
**The Burk Family**  
**Jeannette Carlo**  
**Vicky Chambers**  
**Carol Cheatham**  
**Mary Ann Clark**  
**Casey Conine**  
**Greg Contat**  
**Olivia & Delaney Dawkins**  
**Ezra (no last name given)**  
**Dorothy Felderman**  
**Sara Florian**  
**Patty Gable**  
**Kathleen Gingrich**  
**Marcia Henninger**  
**Tom Iserman**  
**Fredi Jurrus**  
**Carol Keller**  
**Phyllis Kelly**  
**Mark Kieswetter**  
**Ada Kreger**  
**Ilean Labuhn**  
**Kate Lajti**  
**The Lee Family**  
**Heidi Hecklinger LeGrand**  
**Martha Meyers**  
**Donna Miller**  
**Natalie Miller**  
**Linda Milkf**  
**Mary Bell Moore**  
**Bill Morse**  
**Chuck Neal**  
**Paige (no last name given)**  
**Pam Pirolli**  
**Hunter Potter**  
**Ruth Price**  
**Susie Purewal**  
**Mike Ray**

**Sheryl Rayl**  
**Michael Rheinbolt & family**  
**Norma Ridener**  
**Dr. Steve Rowe**  
**Gene Schacht**  
**Phyllis Schuffenecker**  
**Connie Singlar**  
**Jenny Slater**  
**Sherrie Spencer**  
**John Spoerl**  
**Joan Tilton**  
**Samuel Unnerstall**  
**Steve Uzl**  
**Arlene Wilbarger**  
**Darlene Worz**  
**John & Grace Yard**  
**Raetta Zeisler**

Please check the list and notify any prayer chain contact if a name can be removed.

### Prayer Chain Contacts

Carol Abbey 419-351-9795 or [cabbey@jcrinc.com](mailto:cabbey@jcrinc.com)

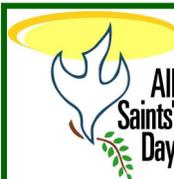
Lynn Folk 691-3410  
Donna Koehn 693-5030  
Gloria Ross 836-7166

## CEMETERY CLEAN UP REMINDER

Fall cleanup is Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, so before then please remove any items you may wish to keep.



Cemetery rules state all decorations are limited to 12 inches in front of the headstone only. Glass floral containers, metal stakes, stone, marbles, fencing or edging materials, statues, benches, or planting trees, shrubs, and bushes is prohibited. Thank you for your cooperation and support.



## REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

On All Saints Day, November 4th, we'll read the names of our church family who passed away since the beginning of November, 2017. We'll already have the names of members who died from November 1, 2017 - October 31, 2018. If the person you would like remembered was not a member or a member who passed away prior to November 2017, call the office or sign the remembrance book in the Narthex so their names will be listed. Thanks.

**NEXT A.W.E. SERVICE  
OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup>!**

Don't miss the next Adoration Worship Experience on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> in the lounge on the middle floor of the Education Building. We'll meet at 5:30 pm for a light supper provided by the women of the church, followed by our worship. Get ready for a new, more modern worship experience!

**NEW PORTALS OF PRAYER**

The new Portals of Prayer daily devotional booklet for October through December is available for pick up in the Narthex, lounge, Chapel, and the caddy outside of the door by the choir loft (caddy has small print version only).

**ZUMBA NOTICE**

Zumba classes return in October on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 pm in the gym, beginning October 9<sup>th</sup>. Join us for a great time!

**IMPORTANT GALA  
VOLUNTEER MEETING**

Please make sure you attend the Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting at 6:30 pm. At that time, please turn in both your sold and unsold tickets. We'll also be handing out our assignments for the night of the Gala, so you won't want to miss it!



**DAY SCHOOL GALA  
IS FINALLY HERE!**

This *Eat, Drink, & Be Giving* fundraiser to support our Day School ministry is on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Saint Michael's Centre in Oregon. Michael's is providing appetizers, dinner buffet, and delectable desserts. The evening will be filled with music, silent auction items, raffles, games, a DJ, dancing, and fellowship. Some of the fantastic packages to purchase include date night, girls' night out, romantic getaway, family fun weekend, sports memorabilia, jewelry, and more! Tickets are \$50 per person. You can still purchase tickets from LuAnn Spoerl after church or from the church office during the week. This is not just for church members, so invite your friends!

**BOB EVANS  
FUNDRAISER**



**Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 am to 9:00 pm**

Let's go out to breakfast, lunch, and/or dinner!! The Men's Breakfast Fellowship is sponsoring a fundraiser to help defray the cost of the Chicken and Ham Dinner. On Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Bob Evans restaurant on Navarre Ave., for any meal you purchase (breakfast, lunch and/or dinner) Bob Evans will donate 15% of your total bill back to First St. John. You must bring a flyer with you that identifies you with First St. John Lutheran. Anyone can participate, so please bring your friends!

The flyer will be available to pick up soon, and also will be printed in the bulletins. So join us for food and fellowship at Bob Evans on Navarre on October 24<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Haar. Thanks.

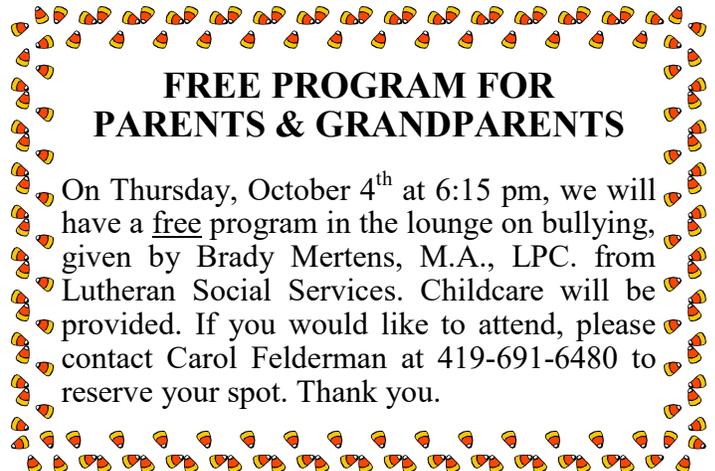


**PERSONAL NEEDS  
PANTRY  
FOCUS FOR OCTOBER**

Our item for October is adult and child toothbrushes and toothpaste. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** We cannot accept toothbrushes in multi-packs (unless the pack can be opened and each toothbrush would still be individually wrapped).

Please deposit your items in the pull-out drawer to the left of the Feed Your Neighbor bins in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) or in the bright green bin in the lounge. PLEASE NOTE: No travel sizes or sample items, as each item must last the person an entire month.

Thank you for your generosity. Your support of this ministry is much appreciated.



**FREE PROGRAM FOR  
PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS**

On Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 pm, we will have a free program in the lounge on bullying, given by Brady Mertens, M.A., LPC. from Lutheran Social Services. Childcare will be provided. If you would like to attend, please contact Carol Felderman at 419-691-6480 to reserve your spot. Thank you.

## DAYSCHOOL NEWS

*“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.”*  
Romans 12:4-6

As I look around my home, my church Immanuel Lutheran, and my work at First St John Day School, I see so many projects calling out either my name or someone else’s. There is so much to be done that it sets my head spinning. When we use our gifts or talents, things come easy. God has given us all special talents to accomplish the work He intends for us. At times, I am asked to do things that are way out of my comfort zone. These tasks are hard work, and it takes a lot of extra effort to accomplish them—and I never feel I do them justice.

I am sure this is why God gives us different gifts. He knows the Church and Day School need people who can do many different things to support it. Some jobs are as simple as watering a few plants; others are much harder, like figuring out why certain appliances don’t work. The upcoming Gala is one of these projects that requires different skills from a lot of volunteers. No small group can pull off an event this size. Many volunteers showed up at meetings and got things moving, like soliciting donations. Now another group of volunteers is pulling everything together. Next comes the easy part—attending the Gala on October 13<sup>th</sup> and having a good time eating great food and playing exciting games! I look forward to seeing you all!

The book of Romans talks about spiritual gifts, but I believe God has given us many kinds of gifts to do the work He has planned for us. I believe God intends for us to labor, but He wishes us to labor in love. When we feel passionate about things, we put forth our best effort and others can see our good works, and then it ripples out into the world.

People from the church and school came together to support the roofing project that in turn supports the Day School ministry. Casual observers may view the church and school as two separate entities. I believe the school is a mission of the church in the community. The school is touching families that may not otherwise hear about Jesus and His work on the cross. I am always looking for ways to get church members into the school and school families into the church. And we pray God’s will be done.

— Carol Felderman

## PASTOR’S ARTICLE

### MIRACLE SUNDAY (continued from page 1)



Each day moves us closer to witnessing a miracle of stewardship among us and through us. This Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, Ron Ashley from Thrivent Financial will be our guest to share at the end of the worship service about some interesting ways of giving. There also will be time for questions and answers. Next week, a new Miracle Sunday letter will go out to everyone explaining the benefits of our offering to the church’s mission. On Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Dennis King will tell us about his experience with Miracle Sunday at his own church, Providence Lutheran.

Let us be good stewards and work together to serve the Lord by providing the place for life-changing events to continue happening daily right here at First St. John Lutheran Church. Together, we are blessed to be a blessing. — Pastor Rayl



### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We are again collecting for Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan’s Purse. Help children around the world experience God’s love through the power of YOUR shoebox gift. Shoeboxes soon will be in the JAM room, the lounge, and the front of the church if you would like to participate.

Label sheets with gift suggestions for each shoebox will be in the office, church, and lounge. Once your box is filled, please return it to the JAM room or the church office. The absolute, *final* date for turning in boxes is Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> as they will be delivered right after church that day. If you have questions, please call Deb Ladd at 419-250-1460. Thank you for reaching out to children who may not otherwise have anything to open at Christmas.

### LESSON READERS NEEDED

We need a few more people who would be willing to read the lessons at either service. The lessons are printed out for you in large type so they’re easier to read, and they are emailed to you when you volunteer. Please call Marion Fouty at 419-693-0940 if you want to volunteer or if you have any questions.

