



# First St. John Journal



Volume 21, Issue 10

October, 2008

**T**

he leaves are beginning to turn, the days are shorter and the nights have a bit of a chill to them. Fall has officially arrived. Enjoy!

After much conversation amongst our church council members, it has been decided to add a 7:45 am traditional worship service on Sunday mornings. So our Sunday schedule will be 7:45, Traditional Worship, 9:00, Sunday School for all, and 10:15, Celebration Worship. The new schedule will begin on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

As articulated by our Worship Committee, the purpose of having the one service was to: 1) To unify us and develop a sense of family and community amongst our diverse Church family; and 2) To fill our Sanctuary—rather than seeing three sparsely-attended worship services, have one service that fills the sanctuary with singing and worship. It was felt, however, that the 7:45 traditional service would meet the needs of many people in our church. So rather than having three services on Sunday morning, there will be two, with Sunday School in between.

We are working on hiring a new youth director and are in the process of interviewing right now. We are also in the process of looking for an associate pastor, but that will probably be a long, long process.

So we need your help, your prayers, and your support. I am so proud of our Council, Worship Committee, and Sunday School Board. We are beginning to realize the potential of what our Church can be. Together, we can change Potential into Reality!

—*Pastor Blohm*

## **THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to Mr. John Rowley, Music Director of First St. John Lutheran Church, for his participation and direction of the Rally Day Church Service on Sunday, September 7, 2008. We were truly inspired and uplifted as we sang and worshipped as a united church family! All participants did magnificently. Keep up the good work! — *WELCA Board Members*

## **MORE THANK YOU'S!**

We would like to thank everyone who helped with the Rally Day Picnic and those who donated food items. Thank you to Bill & Cathy Caldwell, Jim & Louise Sommers, Barb Meyers, Rachel & Amy Ackerman, Chelsea, Cory, & Collin Folk, Wal-Mart, Thrivent Financial, and all who helped clean up afterward. The food was great, the help outstanding, and we look forward to many more events like this that bring our congregation together in fun and fellowship.

— *Mike & Lynn Folk*

## **FLU SHOTS**

The Parish Nurses are happy to bring you the flu vaccine in the comfort of the lounge on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm. Mary Sheehy of the Toledo Health Department will set up a clinic. Billing can be processed for Medicare, Medicaid, and Paramount insurance. All others can be vaccinated for \$20. The pneumonia vaccine can be given to those over age 65 and re-administered every 5 years. So, maintain your health and get vaccinated.

## **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**OCTOBER 20th**

## ***WHO'S WHO AT FIRST ST. JOHN***

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Senior Pastor	Robert W. Blohm, Jr.	419-691-9524	pastorblohm@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Toni Wilbarger	419-691-7222	firststjohn@sbcglobal.net
Sunday School Superintendent	Deb Ladd	419-691-5594	jladd45166@aol.com
Custodian	Gene Hagedorn	419-693-5687	
Dayschool	Barb Shellhammer	419-691-6480	bshellhammer@sbcglobal.net
Director of Music	John Rowley	419-698-3492	jrowley@toledosua.org
Organist	Norma Ridener	419-537-0145	rideners@att.net
Handbell Choir	Cheri Johnson		cj_48@sbcglobal.net
Children's Choir	Betty Hyre	419-836-9320	chyre@woh.rr.com
Youth Director	TBA		
Council President	Bill Caldwell	419-698-3285	billcathyc@buckeye-express.com
Treasurer	Lisa Anderson	419-693-1232	ljanderson@bex.net
Recording Secretary	Esther Bell	419-693-8118	estherhbell@sbcglobal.net
Financial Secretary	Duane Hubaker	419-691-7886	
Finance Committee	Jim Sommers	419-691-7719	somaga@aol.com
Memorials	Esther Bell	419-693-8118	estherhbell@sbcglobal.net
Property Management	Gary Henningsen	419-836-9650	
Elder Chairman	Bernie Erdmann	419-698-8063	erdmann12149@buckeye-express.com
Special Funds	Bill Caldwell	419-698-3285	billcathyc@buckeye-express.com
Altar Guild President	Laurie Witt	419-836-9702	ljwitt@hotmail.com
Altar Guild Flowers	Karyl Antoine	419-697-1693	KARYL1961@yahoo.com
WELCA President	Jean DeWitt	419-698-8963	jeandewitt@juno.com
Board of Education	Karen Holmes Melissa Lang Pam Beavers	419-691-3225 419-837-1005 419-691-3929	PJB1155@aol.com
Prayer Chain	Lynn Folk	419-691-3410	hpyhmker@sbcglobal.net
Librarian	Marilyn Cashen	419-698-2363	CMarilyn37@netscape.com
Reader Coordinator	Marion Fouty	419-693-0940	info@foutywaterjet.com



## 2009 BUDGET MEETING

The Finance Committee will hold its annual budget meeting in early October (watch the bulletins for specific time). Staff and department heads are encouraged to attend. Please call Jim Sommers at 419-691-7719 to set up an appointment to meet and discuss your concerns. Let the committee know your needs for the 2009 budget year and also any cost-saving ideas you have. Thanks.

## MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Our next gathering is Saturday, October 4th at Bob Evans on Navarre Ave. Call Bob Haar at 419-360-7510 to let him know if you are planning to attend so he can arrange for enough seating. Also let him know if you need transportation. Thanks!



## ALL SAINTS DAY — REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES...

On Sunday, November 2nd, we'll observe All Saints Day. During our worship services that day, we'll read the names of our church family who have passed away during the last year (since the first Sunday in November of 2007).

We'll already have the names of church members and former members who died from November 1, 2007 to November 1, 2008. If the person you want to be remembered either was not a member or was a member who passed away prior to November 2007, please call the church office or sign the book in the Narthex so their names will be read. Thank you.

**DAYSCHOOL NEEDS UPC SYMBOLS FROM CAMPBELL'S PRODUCTS**

Our Dayschool needs UPC symbols only (not the entire label) from Campbell's products: soups, bean products, bottom box panel from dry soups, Franco-American gravy, Pepperidge Farms products, Prego Spaghetti Sauce, Swanson soup broth, and the symbol from General Mills cereal "Box Tops for Education." The school has new collection bins you can find in the education building basement and the hallway outside the lounge. With your donations, the school can turn them in for computer equipment and learning programs. Thank you for your support.

## DAYSCHOOL FUNDRAISER HELP NEEDED

The Dayschool will again hold its Home Interiors Candle Fundraiser beginning October 1. First St. John's Julie Loucks organizes this event for the school. If you'd like to purchase candles, please call either the school at 419-691-6480 or the church at 419-691-7222.

Also, Julie will need help the week of November 3 when the orders come in. She'll need help sorting orders here at church. If you can help, please call the church office. Thank you.

## TURN BACK YOUR CLOCKS!



Daylight savings time ends November 2nd. Turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 1st.

## 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: firststjohn@sbcglobal.net

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

## ELDERS FOR OCTOBER

	<u>10:15 am</u>	
5th	Jeff Smith Linda Kusian	
	<u>7:45 am</u>	<u>10:15 am</u>
12th	Bernie Erdmann Darold Henninger	Bernie Erdmann Penny DeWitt
19th	Mike Winslow LuAnn Schuffenecker	Mark Ackerman Janine Contat
26th	Dick Haar Lynn Folk	Darold Henninger Joanne Henningsen

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED

We're starting our new Augsburg material in October, and we need someone willing to teach the kindergarten class. We have help available and substitutes if you cannot be there every Sunday. If you can help, please call either Pam Beavers 419-691-3929 or the church office.



### MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS CHANGES

Jeff & Lisa Barton  
304 Meadow Lane  
Walbridge, OH 43465  
(Vincent, Brody)

Marilyn Koester  
1936 Ashcroft Dr.  
Oregon, OH 43618

Joe and Sara (St. Clair) Peters  
5230 Williston Rd.  
Northwood, OH 43619

Brian and Christina (Boos) Tokar  
605 Forsythe St.  
Toledo, OH 43605  
(Nicholas)

Ray & Naomi Zimmerman  
Lutheran Home Assisted Living  
2519 Seaman St.—Apt. 24  
Toledo, OH 43605

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

### Births

None of which we are aware.

### Baptisms

9-14-08 *Sean Donald Beavers, Jr.*, born 4/14/2008 to Sean and Sarah (Braunbern) Beavers. Sponsors are Kimberly Grames and Bryan Swiderski.

9-21-08 *Brody Lee Barton*, born December 18, 2007 to Jeff and Lisa (Jackson) Barton. Sponsors are Erin Wauford and Steve Barton.

### Marriages

9-13-08 Lisa Zielinski and Keith Mullen

9-20-08 Erin Matejka and Kurt Eversman

### Deaths

8-31-08 Ken Yard

9-13-08 Jack Billings

### Transfers to First St. John

Delores Heilman from Augsburg Lutheran Church in Sylvania.

Mark & Kathy Kinsel and their son, Steven, from First St. Mark Lutheran Church in Oregon.

### Transfers from First St. John

None.

## THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH . . .

A HUGE thank you to our church family for the overwhelming generosity and love shown to my son and me after our house fire. Our loss was great, but the help we received made it seem less. God's blessings to you all.

— Julie Loucks



## MILITARY ADDRESSES

Here are the names and addresses of members, family, and friends of First St. John who serve in the military. You can send cards or packages to these service people, and remember to pray for them, too!

*SSGT Kevin Fouty*  
2021 A Mustang Ct.  
Langley AFB, VA 23665

*CPL Nick Grady*  
CLB-1 CCO OPS PLT  
Unit 42390  
FPD-AP96426

*Cynthia Lynn Henderson*  
6088 B Flying Gator Run  
Jacksonville, FL 32212

*Chief Petty Officer Marc Le Duc*  
3105 Tullibee Circle P-1  
Silverdale, WA 98315

*SSGT Matthew Phillips (temporary address)*  
23021 W. Curtice Rd  
Curtice, OH 43412

*1 LT. Lindsey Rowland (Lindsey is in Iraq)*  
109 TRANS Co / 57 JTLF  
APO AE 09366

GMSA SWANSON CHRISTOPHER  
1474 GILBERT ST.  
CEP 162  
PCD TRUXTON DDG103  
NORFOLK, VA 23511

*(capitalize all letters)*

## BELL CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

The Bell Choir is looking for people to help bring beautiful music to our church services. No experience necessary— it's fun and easy to learn! Come on out and watch rehearsal one night and see if this might be an activity you'd enjoy. We meet on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the church. Come, join us!

## Tickets Available for Chicken & Ham Dinner



If you are new to First St. John or have never attended the Chicken & Ham Dinner, put us on your calendar for Saturday, November 1st. Delicious meals are served from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. This is a great community event; it's not just for members. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. They'll be glad you did!!!

Tickets are available from the church office or from circle members during the entire month of October, or you can call Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506. You can buy tickets after the services both in the lounge and in the Narthex on October 19th and 26th.

### Ticket Prices

Adults	\$8.50
Children (3-12 yrs)	\$4.00
Children (under 3)	Free (ticket still needed)

### ***Needed: Craft and Bake Sale Items***

We need items to be sold in the Craft and Bake Sale that will be held during the Chicken and Ham Dinner on November 1st. If you can help or if you are interested in having your own craft table, please contact Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506 or Louise Sommers at 419-691-7719.



### **HATS, MITTENS, SOCKS, AND BOOTS NEEDED**

WELCA will collect hats, mittens, socks, and boots for local children during October. Due to inclement weather, children need these items as early as November. Hat and mitten sizes 0-5 will go to the Toledo Day Nursery, and sizes 6-Adult will go to Riverside School. We also will collect toddler and preschool size socks and boots for the Toledo Day Nursery. You can place your donations in the specially marked boxes in the Narthex and/or in the lounge. Thank you so much for your help.



## KROGER CARES & GORDON FOODS FUN FUNDS CARDS

Kroger Gift Cards are available to help raise money for our youth group and Sunday School. You can buy a card for \$5 (it will be worth \$5 to start) and use it to buy groceries and gas at Kroger. When the cash amount is depleted, you can recharge the card (at any cashier) for any amount up to \$500. The store tracks the amount spent by members of First St. John, and when we reach \$5,000, Kroger sends us a 5% rebate for every dollar spent.

The Gordon Foods Fun Funds cards work similarly, with the money rebated to First St. John used to add to the Member Assistance Fund. Pick up a flyer in the lounge or the Narthex, fill out the membership card, and just wait to receive your card in the mail. There is a \$10 coupon you can use, as well. Use your membership card at any Gordon Foods.

### **NEW—PRAYER CARDS**

During Pastor's prayer after the offering, he will lift up anyone you request using new prayer cards. Prayer cards are on a stand by the Welcome Center, along with some pens. Before the service, write your prayer concern on a card and place it in the box. During the service, the elders will collect the cards and get them to Pastor so he can pray for your friends and loved ones during the service. Any cards put in after the service will be added to next week's prayer.



### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM COORDINATOR NEEDED**

The Sunday School Board of Education needs a Christmas Program Coordinator by October 1st, someone willing to take charge of the Christmas Program. You will not be alone! Many people are willing to help with planning, props and set up. We just need someone to take the lead. If you are interested, call the church office or Pam Beavers at

### **PRAYER CHAIN LIST**

(As of September 26, 2008)

#### **Crisis Prayer List**

*For those who need prayers in urgent matters such as surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Persons will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after the first month unless the prayer chain is contacted about special circumstances:*

**Leona Arnold**  
**Dick Bailey**  
**Family of Jack Billings**  
**Family of Don & Melinda Ciesielczyk**  
**Ronald Curtis**  
**George Davenport & Family**  
**Marlene Fouty**  
**Eleanor Habegger**  
**Eric Holmes**  
**Julie & Jared Loucks**  
**Betty Timbrook**  
**Family of Ken Yard**

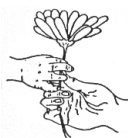
#### **Chronic Prayer List**

*For those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles, recovery and/or personal situations. Persons will be moved off the list after 3 months unless the prayer chain is contacted about special/continuing circumstances:*

**Lola Abbey**  
**Kara Albrecht**  
**Sharon Arnold**  
**Pastor Blohm**  
**Virginia Brandeberry**  
**Marjorie Counterman**  
**Jordan Cummerow**  
**Tina Curtis**  
**Ed Ellis**  
**Melissa Emerson**  
**Walter Felder**  
**Mike Folk**  
**Rick Fouty**  
**Justin Heath**  
**LaVerne Klawitter**  
**Julie Klosterman**  
**Laurie Madrazo**  
**Jean Ross**  
**Sharon Shinaver**  
**Diane Smith**  
**Shirley Warnke**  
**Candy Webster**  
**Sally Winstead**  
**Virginia Wright**  
**Dorothy Zeadker**  
**Bill Zeisler**

Please check the list and let any of the prayer chain contacts-listed below-know if individuals can be moved off the list.

Lynn Folk 419-691-3410 hpyhmker@sbcglobal.net  
 Donna Koehn 419-693-5030  
 Ada Kreger 419-693-1549  
 Gloria Ross 419-836-7166



## DAYSCHOOL NEWS

Dear Friends,

I feel very fortunate to be a part of this wonderful school. As we move through our first full month it is evident that First St. John is a warm and friendly environment where children's needs come first. The children are doing wonderfully— they are interesting, unique, and special! We have already seen so much growth in their development. Keep us in your prayers as we continue to guide their learning and equip them for further education.

Beginning Sept. 8 we started attending chapel and learning about the special God who created us in His image. Learning about God is integrated throughout our curriculum, and through Bible verses and stories, songs, and the actions of caring teachers, the children get to know Him well.

Our Home Interiors Candle fundraiser begins Oct. 1st. If you are interested in purchasing candles, call the Dayschool at 419-691-6480 or the church at 419-691-7222. All orders should be turned in by October 24th. This year's fundraiser monies will be used to support our overall ministry, including developmental activities, program needs, and playground and classroom enhancements. Any help you can give us would be greatly appreciated!

We're looking forward to another productive, busy, fun month! We will be visiting the farm, spending time with the patients of the Adult Day Center at the Lutheran Home, and we'll have our Halloween parties the last week of October. Children will arrive in costumes, trick-or-treat for candy, bob for apples, and paint with slime! Lots to enjoy!

In Him,  
Barb Shellhammer

## CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

The Caregiver Support Group will meet Wednesday, October 1st at 7 pm in the lounge. These monthly meetings are for anyone who provides care for a loved one and needs the support of others with similar issues. The facilitator is Donna Koehn, LSW, LINCS Program Coordinator, and member of First St. John. Co-sponsored by First St. John and Lutheran Homes Community Services.

## MEMORIALS

### CEMETERY FUND

In memory of Donna Mae Schaffer by Floyd Hagedorn, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Gene Hagedorn, Dwight & Rose Hawkins, Kevin & Becky Hawkins, Mike & Julie Pressnell, Ada Kreger, Ivan & Margie Myers, Ruth Zasada, Chris Zasada and Christy, Melissa Benedict, Sherry Layman, Tom & Margie Iserman, Esther Bell, The Ted Hagedorn Family, Cindy Cluckey, Glenn & Margaret Koester, Mary Pirolli, Marge Gibbons, M/M Donald Lammie, Harry Martzke, Robert Martzke, James Martzke, Linda Hagedorn, Mike & Sherrie Phillips, Janine Contat, Jim Swanson, June Might, Jay Swanson, Irene Abbott.

### ALTAR GUILD

In memory of Terry Zimmerman by Gary & Penny DeWitt.

### BETTY HYRE'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR

In memory of Terry Zimmerman by Louise Diersch, Carolyn Patton, Phyllis Rutkowski, Donna Koester, Paul & Vivian Kuhlman, Richard & Lucy Eggerth, Maxine Eggerth.

### CHOIR FUND

In memory of Terry Zimmerman by Stickney School Luncheon Friends, Carlen Trost, Nancy Gallaher, George Jones.

## FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

Canned goods and non-perishable food donations are way down. Please remember those less fortunate by donating food items to Feed Your Neighbor. Place your donations in the bins in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) and the lounge (near the double doors). Thanks.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Empty, but decoratively wrapped, shoeboxes are in the lounge and the Narthex. Pick one or more boxes and a list of suggested items you can fill the boxes with. Once filled, return the shoeboxes to the church office. Thank you.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

President Bill Caldwell brought the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Linda Kusian led the devotions. Roll call was taken. Bernie Erdmann made a motion to approve the June & July minutes as corrected. Linda Kusian seconded the motion – motion carried. President Bill Caldwell reported we had a great Rally Day. Attendance at the first two blended services was 284 and 264. Seventy-six kids attended Sunday School on Rally Day.

The Worship Committee has been working hard to make this blended service acceptable. Bill received calls and letters mostly positive about the blended service. A few complained it was too loud. Torrence Sound is coming out to work on the speakers.

Discussion was made as to whether we should stay with one service or offer a traditional service. In July it was voted to have a blended service for 5 weeks at 10:15 am. Darold Henninger made a motion to have a 7:45 a.m. traditional service starting Oct. 12. Gary Henningsen seconded the motion – motion carried. Starting Oct. 12 we will have a 7:45 a.m. traditional service, 9 a.m. Sunday School and 10:15 a.m. blended service.

Bill Caldwell and Pastor Blohm went to see the Bishop and discussed our services, our attendance, the loss of our youth director and pastor's assistant. Pastor Labuhn and Pastor English will be able to help us until we get another pastor. A lot of churches are looking for a pastor; not that many are available.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Gary Henningsen made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as printed. Linda Kusian seconded the motion – motion carried.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION** – Pam Beavers reported they sent 170 letters inviting children to Sunday School. 76 attended Rally Day. The teachers will make phone calls. They will keep better track of attendance and will possibly give out awards. They will order new material from Augsburg. They're planning a fall festival. They need a leader for the Christmas Program.

**DAYSCHOOL** – Barb Shellhammer reported they have 200 students and everything is going well.

**ELDERS** – Bernie Erdmann asked for a schedule of the new blended service so they know when to ring the bell etc. Bill Caldwell suggested different parts of the service could be explained at the services.

**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT** – Mike Folk reported toilets were fixed, pews were rebolted, Pastor Blohm's air conditioner was replaced in his office and the Day School painting is finished. New items to do are: front doors are sticking, some pews are sagging, pull down ladder in the Altar Guild Room needs fixing, vines to be removed from the parsonage, and the new flag pole and light need to be installed.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** – Jim Sommers reported he will need more time next month and will have the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report.

**YOUTH** – Pastor Blohm and Bill Caldwell will interview 2 people for the youth director's position.

**PASTOR** – Pastor Blohm thanked Bill Caldwell, Pam Beavers, Karen Holmes and Melissa Lang for making Sunday School a success. Diane Habegger will teach the 7<sup>th</sup> grade catechism class. Pastor would like to get Jamie Blazeovich to speak to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades about drugs and alcohol use. Janine Contat and her sister June Might will participate in an Alzheimer's walk on Sunday, Sept. 21.

Transfers to First St. John: Delores Heilman from Augsburg Lutheran in Sylvania. Mark and Kathy Kinsel and son, Steven, from 1<sup>st</sup> St. Mark in Oregon.

**OLD BUSINESS** – none

**NEW BUSINESS** – Mike and Lynn Folk volunteered to help the youth with the King's Island trip and fundraising. Jim Sommers reported Pam Beavers will promote the Kroger program. The Youth received over \$300 last month. Members will be able to sign up.

Gary Henningsen made a motion to adjourn. Bernie Erdmann seconded the motion – motion carried. Pastor Blohm closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

8 Esther Bell, Recording Secretary



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2008**  
**4:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Chicken & Ham Dinner**

**PLEASE MARK WHERE YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP**

Return to the church office, offering plate, or Jane Schuetz.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PIES \_\_\_\_\_

SHEET DESSERT \_\_\_\_\_

LAYERED CAKE \_\_\_\_\_

KITCHEN \_\_\_\_\_

DINING ROOM \_\_\_\_\_

CLEAN UP AFTERWARD \_\_\_\_\_

**Can you believe it? The Annual Chicken and Ham Dinner date is fast approaching and we need ALL TEENS AND ADULTS TO HELP MAKE THIS A SUCCESS!!! This is a congregational effort of men, women and young people (PLEASE, NO HELPERS UNDER AGE 12). If you're fairly new to First St. John, this is a great way to meet people.**

**So-----won't you please say yes and volunteer and make the Dinner a success again this year???**