



First St. John Journal



Volume 22, Issue 1

January, 2009

From 2008 to the year 2009! What lies ahead for us? Well, thanks to The Joyful Noiseletter (Cal Samra, Editor) here are some tips for a happier life in 2009 from their January, 2009 newsletter:

- Do not give in to anger over the past or fear of the future. Don't look backward or forward. Enjoy the present.
- Don't waste time on grudges, gossip and negative thoughts. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
- Forgive everyone for everything.
- Enjoy the simple things.
- Envy is also a waste of time. God will provide what you need.
- Surround yourself with what you love – God, family, pets, keepsakes, music, books, plants, hobbies, sports.
- Cherish your health. If it is good, improve it, if it is unstable, work to improve it.
- Take a 30 minute walk everyday, if you can, and listen to music while you walk. And smile.
- Sit in prayer silence at least 15 minutes a day.
- Play more games and read more funny books.
- Don't take yourself too seriously. Cultivate a sense of humor. Laugh a lot.
- Get rid of the clutter in your life and anything that isn't useful, peaceful, beautiful or joyful.
- Focus less on yourself and more on how you can be of service to others.

- Count your blessings every single day.

You are loved by God. In Christ, you are forgiven by God. Remember: God is in charge, not us! (This one is mine.)

Compiled from the wisdom of various authors, known and unknown, including the writers of the Bible.

May our God bless the First St. John family in 2009 – and always!

— Pastor Blohm

***FOR ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS
(EVEN THOSE FINISHING THEIR TERMS)***



There will be dinner and a brief meeting at Bill and Cathy Caldwell's home on Sunday, January 25 at 6:00 pm for all current, incoming, and outgoing council members and their spouses. Bill and Cathy are at 659 Peregrine Dr., Northwood, OH. Please RSVP to Bill and Cathy by Monday, January 19 at 419-698-3285, or you can email them at billcathyc@buckeye-express.com

2008 AND 2009 CHURCH COUNCIL, WELCA, & ALTAR GUILD OFFICERS

If you've finished your term, please turn in your church keys and access cards (for the educational building) to the church office as soon as possible. **Please Note:** All access cards should be returned—these cannot be handed to new officers because the numbers on the back are tied to a specific person. All newly elected officers should soon be able to get keys and/or access cards from their chairmen, OR contact Toni in the church office.

WHO'S WHO AT FIRST ST. JOHN

Position	Name	Phone Number	Email Address
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	Mary Darling	740-358-6060	mdarling05@yahoo.com
Council President	Bill Caldwell	419-698-3285	billcathyc@buckeye-express.com
Treasurer	Lisa Anderson	419-693-1232	ljanderson@bex.net
Recording Secretary	Diane Habegger	419-693-6852	dihab53@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Duane Hubaker	419-691-7886	
Finance Committee	TBA		
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	Darlene Lorenzen	419-666-5804	
Board of Education	Karen Holmes Melissa Lang	419-691-3225 419-837-1005	
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

MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGES

Jim & Janet Fox
830 S. Yondota Rd.
Curtice, OH 43412

Grant Rowland
BP 493 Kaolack
Senegal, W. Africa

1 LT. Lindsey Rowland
CMR 418 Box 1155
APO, AE 09058

2008 ELECTION RESULTS



Dear Congregational Members,

The church council appreciates your time and effort in attending and voting at the congregational meeting in December. The outcome of the meeting gave approval for the budget: 172 For, 5 Against. If anyone has additional questions or would like to further discuss the budget, please call Lisa Anderson at 419-693-1232.

Thank you to everyone who ran for council. Please welcome our new and incumbent council members:

Property Management: Keith Mullen,
Dave Warnke

Elders: Bernie Erdmann, Dick Haar, Eric Johnson,
Linda Kusian

Finance Committee: Chris Hunsaker, Laurie Witt

Board of Education: Karen Holmes

MEMBER UPDATES

Births

None of which we are aware.

Baptisms

None.

Marriages

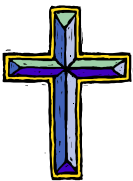
12-6-08 Ashley Bryan and Joseph Hagedorn

Deaths

12-6-08 LaVerne Klawitter

Transfers to/from First St. John

None.



BOARD OF MINISTRIES MEETING

Our next meeting (after our extended holiday break!) will be Tuesday, January 13th at 6:00 pm in the lounge. If you haven't already, you should be receiving an email or phone notice shortly. Hope to see you there.

THANK YOU

Thank you again to everyone who has helped Max both financially and emotionally in preparation for his trip to Washington DC. Please continue to pray for Max as he prepares to leave for his journey on January 17th.

— The Schwieferts

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
January 19th

ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

To keep information for office records current, please notify the office of any changes to your name, address, or phone: **Fax:** (419-691-7220) **Mail** this form to: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605 or **Email:** firststjohn@sbcglobal.net

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ Phone _____



ALTAR GUILD NEWS

Our new officers and members for 2009 are listed below:

Officers:

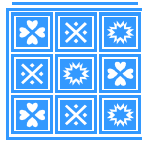
Laurie Witt	President
Beth Hugueley	Vice President
Lynn Folk	Secretary
Jane Schuetz	Treasurer
LuAnn Spoerl	Supply Chairman
Karyl Antoine	Flower Chairman

Members:

Brenda Fussell, Emily Kruse, Linda Kusian, and Barb Uhler

Thank you to all our outgoing members: Marilyn Miller, Claudia Patchen, Lori Pfeiffer, Susie Skorupa, and Joyce Yard. All of you did a great job.

QUILTING TIME!



The Quilting Group meets each Monday at 9:30 a.m. in the lounge. Most of the help needed involves tying layers of a quilt together (all you need to know is how to tie a knot). Bring a sack lunch. They meet each Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. beginning January 5th and ending March 30th. If there is bad weather, they follow Oregon Schools for cancellations.

Most of the quilts made will be donated to Lutheran World Relief and local charities. If you would like to sew quilting blocks at home, please call Ginny Nissen at 419-698-2822. Thank you.

ELDERS FOR JANUARY

	<u>7:45 am</u>	<u>10:15 am</u>
4th	Jeff Smith Linda Kusian	Bernie Erdmann Eric Johnson
11th	Mike Winslow LuAnn Schuffenecker	Mark Ackerman Janine Contat
18th	Dick Haar Joanne Henningsen	Darold Henninger Lynn Folk
25th	Bernie Erdmann Eric Johnson	Jeff Smith Linda Kusian

MILITARY SERVICE NOTES



In each newsletter we publish 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! Make sure you have your family member's or friend's name and address turned in to Toni in the church office to be included in future newsletters.

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

CPL Nick Grady
4429 Mission Ave. #C204
Oceanside, CA 92057

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
2611 10th Ave. S.
Suite 2, Box 263
Great Falls, MT 59405

1 LT. Lindsey Rowland
CMR 418 Box 1155
APO, AE 09058

Grant Rowland
BP 493 Kaolack
Senegal, W. Africa

GMSA SWANSON CHRISTOPHER
1474 GILBERT ST.
CEP 162
PCD TRUXTON DDG103
NORFOLK, VA 23511 (*capitalize all letters*)

DARTBALL DIARY

November 3, 2008—St. Lucas at First St. John #1: Tonight St. Lucas got off to a 1-0 lead on a homer in the 1st inning. They then upped their lead to 4-0 in the second on a single and 2 homers. In our half of the 3rd Terry homered to make it 4-1. In the 4th we made it 4-2 on doubles by Tom G. and Mike. In the 6th they made it 6-2 on 3 doubles. In the 7th they homered to make it 7-2. In our half of the 7th we made it 7-3 on doubles by Tom G. and Frank. In the 9th they got the final 2 runs of the game to make it a 9-3 final score.

In the 2nd game we got off to a 2-0 lead in the 1st on a double by Raj and a homer by Tom E. In the 3rd they tied it 2-2 on a double and a homer. In our half of the 5th, we went ahead 3-2 as Terry doubled, Frank singled, and Tom E. doubled. In the 6th they went ahead 5-3. In the 7th they went ahead 7-3 on a homer, single, and another homer. In the 8th we cut the lead to 7-6 on a double by Tom E., single by Ted, triple by Darold, and a double by Tom G. In the 9th we tied it 7-7 on a single by Frank and a triple by Raj. In the 10th we won it on a single by Darold, double by Tom G., and a single by Mike to make the final score 8-7.

In the 3rd game, we went ahead 1-0 on a homer by Ted. In the 5th, Darold homered to make it 2-0. In the 6th, Raj homered to make it 3-0. In the 8th, they homered to make it 3-1. In the 9th, they tied it 3-3 on a single and a homer. In the 10th, they homered to win it 4-3. Our record is now 6-6.

Team #2 won all 3 games against St. Mark, and their record is now 8-4.

November 17, 2008—St. John #1 at St. John #2: Tonight we won 2 of 3 games. In the 1st inning of the 1st game, we got off to a 1-0 lead on doubles by Raj and Tom E. In the 2nd we made it 3-0 on doubles by Bernie, Mike, and Frank. They then made it 3-2 on doubles by Butch, Gene, and Ryan. In our half of the 3rd we made it 5-2 as Eric was safe on an error, Darold tripled, and Bernie doubled. In their half of the 3rd they went ahead 7-5 on doubles by Dick and Butch, a 2-run homer by Jimmy, a double by Keith, and a 2-run homer by Ryan. In the 5th Ted homered to make it 7-6. In their half of the 5th they made it 9-6 on doubles by Butch, Gene, and Ryan.

In their half of the 7th they made it 10-6 on a homer by Ryan. We got the final run in the 8th on a homer by Darold, making the final score 10-7.

In the 2nd game, we got off to a 6-0 lead in the 2nd inning on a double by Bernie, a 2-run homer by Frank, doubles by Raj, Tom E., Ted, Darold, and Bernie. In the 4th, we made it 9-0 on doubles by Terry and Mike and a 2-run homer by Mike. In the 5th, they made it 9-1 on a homer by Gene. In the 8th, we made it 10-1 on a homer by Bernie. Team #2 got their final runs on a homer by Keith, a single by Dutch, and doubles by Bill and Dick to make the final score 10-4 in our favor.

In the 3rd game we got off to a 3-0 lead on a single by Frank, a double by Raj, and a 3-run homer by Tom E. In the 3rd, they made it 3-2 on a double by Ryan, a single by Dutch, Lloyd was safe on an error, and a double by Dick. In the 5th, we made it 5-2 on a single by Frank and a 2-run homer by Tom E. In their half of the 5th they made it 5-4 on doubles by Lloyd, Dick, and Gene. In the 8th, we made it 6-4 on a homer by Ted. In the 9th, we made it 7-4 as Frank was safe on an error and Raj tripled him home. They then closed out the scoring in their half of the 9th on a single by Dutch, and doubles by Dick and Dutch to make it 7-6 our favor. Our record is now 8-7, and St. John's #2 is 9-6.

December 1, 2008 — St. John #1 at Good Shepherd: Tonight we won 2 of 3 games. Our record is now 10-8. In the 3rd inning of the 1st game they singled and homered for a 2-0 lead. In our half of the 4th, Ted homered, Tom G. doubled, and Mike homered to make it 3-2. In their half of the 4th they doubled three times and homered to make it 6-3. In their half of the 5th they hit 3 more doubles and a homer to make it 10-3. In the 9th, we got the final 2 runs as Ted and Tom G. homered to make the final score 10-5.

In the 1st inning of the 2nd game they hit 2 homers to make it 2-0. In our half of the 2nd we made it 2-1 on a homer by Tom G. In the 3rd we went ahead 3-2 as Frank homered, Raj doubled, and Darold tripled. Tom G. homered in the 4th to make it 4-2. In the 6th Ted homered to make it 5-2.

MEMORIALS

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Etta & Roy Rideout** by Georgia Huebner.

In memory of **Richard Hosley** by Wilson & Genevieve Roecker, Ronald & Elaine Spahn, Barbara Bachar, Richard & Sandra Zellner, James & Lynette James, Kathy Porath, George & Elaine Ackerman, M/M Gene Fairbanks.

In memory of **Peggy Hugueley** by Dennis & Lisa Pavley.

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of **Emma Harmon** by Bob & Sue Brown, Jim & Joanne Harrell.

In memory of **Laverne Klawitter** by Gene Hagedorn.

CHOIR FUND

In memory of **Richard Cook** by Bill & Terri Hamilton.

In memory of **LaVerne Klawitter** by Ernest & Marge Bollinger, Eric and Cindy Johnson.

BEREAVEMENT FUND

In memory of **Ken Yard** by M/M Thomas Siefke.

ELEVATOR FUND

In memory of **LaVerne Klawitter** by Terry & DeDe Ruedy, Bonnie Varga.

AIR CONDITIONING FUND

In memory of **LaVerne Klawitter** by Jean & Sue Garey, Linda & John Maiani.

QUILTERS

In memory of **LaVerne Klawitter** by Jean DeWitt, Gary & Penny DeWitt.

BETTY HYRE'S CHILDRENS CHOIR

In memory of **LaVerne Klawitter** by Olga Zimmerman, Elenore Taylor.

(continued on page 8)

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP NOTICE

There will be no Caregiver Support Group in January while we decide whether to continue this group at First St. John. While we know there are many people actively involved in the care of a loved one, we are trying to determine the best outreach to meet the needs of these caregivers. If you or someone you know has an interest in this group or has unmet needs as a caregiver, please contact Donna Koehn, at LINCS (Lutheran Homes Community Services Program) at 419-724-1525, ext 16.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Their meeting for January will have passed when this newsletter is delivered, but they're always ready to welcome new members. Usually on the first Saturday of the month, men of all ages get together for breakfast and a devotional. If you would be interested in learning more or would like to join, call Bob Haar at 419-360-7510. Bob will also arrange for transportation if you need it. Stay tuned to future bulletins and newsletters for upcoming meetings.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Mark your calendars! The youth (now called RENEW) will be hosting a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Saturday, January 31st beginning at 5:30 pm. Watch upcoming January bulletins for more information on ticket prices and other details. Or, you may call the church office as we get farther into the month of January.



WELCA NEWS

Thank you to everyone who helped deliver poinsettias to our homebound members last month. These members always appreciate being remembered, especially at Christmas.

The 2009 Rosters will be available soon in the lounge. Our next board meeting is Monday, January 19th at 6:30 pm in the lounge.

First St. John's Lutheran Church Prayer Chain (As of January 5, 2009)

Crisis Prayer List

This list is for those who need our prayers in an urgent matter such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals on this list will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after the first month unless one of the prayer chain contacts is contacted about special circumstances:

Janet Bain
Kyle Cannon
Jackie Curtis
Family of Suzanne Garey
Family of LaVerne Klawitter
Sharon Monday
Jodi Perales

Chronic Prayer List

This list is for those who need our prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, ongoing medical struggles and recovery and/or personal situations. Individuals on this list will be moved off the list after three months unless one of the prayer chain contacts has been contacted about special/continuing circumstances:

Larry Amsler
Family of Lois Ackerman
Kara Albrecht
Family of Jack Billings
Virginia Brandeberry
Family of Don & Melinda Ciesielczyk
Marjorie Counterman
Linda Curran
Ronald Curtis
Tina Curtis
George Davenport & Family
Ed Ellis
Walter Felder
Marlene Fouty
Rick Fouty
Eleanor Habegger
Sally Winstead Hartzell
Justin Heath
Anne Okonski Jackson
Laurie Madrazo
Bishop Sanchez
Dennis Scott
Family of Sharon Shinaver
Diane Smith
Leroy Smith
John Spoerl
Family of Austin Takacs
Betty Timbrook

(see next column)

RENEW January Schedule

Jan. 7, 7:00 to 8:30 pm: Worship Service
"A Fresh Perspective"

Jan. 14, 7:00 to 8:30 pm: Worship
Service "A Fresh Perspective 2"

Jan. 21, 7:00 to 8:30 pm: Game Night

Jan. 28, 4:00 to 7:00 pm: Volunteering at
Kids Club at the Summit YMCA. Meet at
church at 4:00 pm. We'll be going out to eat
afterward, so bring some money for food.

Jan. 31: Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. Be
prepared to help out and arrive at 3:00 pm.
Event starts at 5:30 pm.

Stay tuned; more details will be given out
during the month of January regarding any
special events. Any questions? Please ask
Mary.

For additional info, check out [www.
firststjohn.com/youth-group-happenings/](http://www.firststjohn.com/youth-group-happenings/)

**Start your new year off right; come to
RENEW events!**

Prayer Chain

(continued from previous column)

Chronic Prayer List (continued)

Shirley Warnke
Candy Webster
Family of Ken Yard
Bill Zeisler

Please check the above list and let any of the prayer
chain contacts -listed below-know if there are
individuals who could be moved off the list.

Prayer Chain Contacts

Lynn Folk (hpyhmker@sbcglobal.net)
Donna Koehn 693-5030
Ada Kreger 693-1549
Gloria Ross 836-7166



MEMORIALS

(continued from page 6)

CURRENT FUND

In memory of **LaVerne Klawitter** by Viola Nelson, Mary Ellen Miller, George & Elaine Ackerman, Carol Abbey, Pastor Gerald & Ilean Labuhn, Milton & Nancy Aysh, Richard & Darrilyn Goulet, Tom & LuAnn Schuffenecker, Gerry & Ginny Nissen, Norma Ridener, Janet Boos, Lois Carter, Linda & David Creeger, Raymond & Polly Kowalka, Karen Frey, Kevin & Kristie Ruedy, Ada Kreger, Ronald & Margot Klawitter, Helen Diefenthaler.

2008 THRIVENT FINANCIAL REPORT

On April 29, WELCA had its annual Card Party. Thrivent matched \$500, which was used for repairs and upgrades in the gym restrooms. On May 8, WELCA had its annual Rummage Sale. Thrivent matched \$500 to help with WELCA's annual contribution to Haydom Hospital in Tanzania. On August 9 they matched \$300 for the Winslow Memorial Golf Outing; proceeds went for a new lighted flag pole to be installed when weather permits. In September, Thrivent sent \$50 toward Rally Day Picnic expenses. They also donated enough coffee cups and napkins to the dartball team for the year. On November 1 WELCA had its annual Chicken & Ham Dinner, and Thrivent matched \$300 to go for updating security cameras.

The funds received each year are determined by the number of members our church has in Thrivent. For \$10 a year, you can become an Associate Member or a Benefit Member if you have financial programs with them. If you are not a member, please think about joining, since this helps us finance many projects in the church we would not be able to do otherwise. There are pamphlets in the lounge, or you can contact one of our Thrivent coordinators: Jean Dewitt, 419-698-8963, Toni Wilbarger, 419-691-7222 or Louise Sommers, 419-691-7719.



JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY

Come join Pastor Blohm and a group of conscientious classmates when our Bible study resumes after the holidays on Tuesday, January 6th at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome!

LIBRARY NEWS



The following books have been donated to the library this month. Reviews will follow in the following months.

A BEAUTIFUL SOUND by Ellen Harris, a mystery from Guideposts.

OPEN ARMS by Traci Depree, a mystery from Guideposts.

DOG DAYS by Carol Cox, a mystery from Guideposts.

EAST SIDE STORY and **TREASURES OF EAST TOLEDO** by Larry Michaels.

THE SHACK by Wm. Paul Young, a story that reads like a prayer; it has been on the best seller list for weeks.

Happy New Year!

—Marilyn Cashen

2009 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The new offering envelopes for 2009 are available in the lounge through the month of January. They are listed in alphabetical order. Envelopes are prepared for confirmed members of First St. John and friends who worship with us (upon request).

If a husband and wife share offering envelopes, only the husband's name will appear on the envelope box. The computer will allow only one name per number assigned; however, the financial statements will have M/M (for Mr. and Mrs.).

If you cannot find your offering envelope box or if there is a correction or change in your address or name status, please call the church office at 419-691-7222 as soon as possible.

NOTE: We no longer accept checks pre-dated more than one month in advance. We do not have enough room to store all these offering envelopes for the entire year. Thank you for your cooperation.

FIRST ST. JOHN COUNCIL MINUTES—DECEMBER 16, 2008

Vice-President Mike Folk brought the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Mark Ackerman led the devotions. Roll call was taken.

Jim Sommers made a motion to approve the Nov. minutes. Gary Henningsen seconded the motion—motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Lisa Anderson reported contributions were ahead of expenses in Nov. Our loan balance is at \$51,804. Joanne Henningsen made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Bernie Erdmann seconded the motion—motion carried.

BOARD OF EDUCATION – Pam Beavers reported the Christmas program was going well. They are looking at new material for fall. Melissa Lang suggested we staff the nursery on Sunday mornings with a paid staff person who is trained in first aid and CPR, and who has a background check. Thrivent could possibly pay part of the salary. Vice-President Mike Folk said we will table this discussion until the Jan. meeting. Meanwhile Barb Shellhammer will ask some of her staff if they would be interested in the position.

ELDERS – Bernie Erdmann reported they have five weddings to schedule. They also discussed the nursery. Bernie will stay the head of elders next year.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – Mike Folk reported Campbell spent time working on the boilers. Jim Schumaker and Jim Sommers will be doing more work on them also. Plans are to replace 2-3 boilers in the spring with one larger unit. A cave-in occurred in the back parking lot. Gary Henningsen will fill that in this week. The gym drinking fountains were worked on – the ladies is fixed, but the men's side needs more attention. The flag pole was postponed due to weather. The air conditioner was removed from Mary's office. The railing for the back door is complete and installation should take place during Christmas break.

A television will be installed in the nursery during Christmas break.

The hand rail repair in front of Dayschool is on hold.

The eternal candle has a new brass mounting, thanks to Mike Folk.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Jim Sommers said it had been a pleasure being on the finance committee for 6 years, and he will continue working with Lisa.

YOUTH – Mary Darling was very pleased with the collection of Christmas items for the two families. They will wrap the gifts on Wed. night and deliver them Sunday. The group went to the Zoo's Christmas lights. Mary plans to take pictures for the web site and overhead screen.

PASTOR – Pastor Blohm said it seems a lot of people are stressed, and we should pray for them and for our economy.

OLD BUSINESS – We have plenty of salt for the winter. A question was asked about the budgetary standpoint for an assistant pastor. As of now, there isn't an assistant available, and we are not looking for an assistant at this time.

DAY SCHOOL Barb Shellhammer reported they are having their Christmas programs that focus on Jesus' birthday.

NEW BUSINESS – Pam Beavers received a nice comment on our wonderfully decorated church from a person who attended a wedding at First St. John. They also enjoyed the service. Mary Darling's parents and friends enjoyed the service Dec. 14. Esther Bell announced she was retiring after 18 years of being recording secretary. Diane Habegger will be taking her place.

Mike Folk thanked all those going off council.

Gary Henningsen made a motion to adjourn. Bernie Erdmann seconded the motion – motion carried.

Pastor Blohm led council in the Lord's Prayer. At 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

9 Esther Bell, Recording Secretary

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES—DECEMBER 14, 2008

7:45 SERVICE

President Bill Caldwell brought the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. He said we would dispense with the minutes of the last meeting and that Esther Bell had them if anyone wanted to see them.

Treasurer Lisa Anderson then gave her report explaining we were \$4000 ahead for the year even though there were some increases. She wanted to share the information that the Youth and Sunday School have received \$1600 from the Kroger project in the last 6 months.

Jim Sommers then highlighted the 2009 budget, explaining the increases in utilities, maintenance and office supplies. There was a 2 ½ % increase in salaries. We will need to make parking lot repairs in the spring.

Jan Eppard asked what would happen if we got an assistant pastor. Jim explained that would be budgeted at that time and brought to council and then to the congregation for a vote.

Jim explained we will have new statements and that the 2009 envelopes were in the lounge. Jim then thanked the finance committee and Lisa Anderson for their help and the congregation for their contributions.

Bill Caldwell then thanked those going off council. He asked for nominations from the floor, there were none and announced the ballot stands as is. He asked members to mark their ballots. He then adjourned the meeting until the 10:15 service.

10:15 SERVICE

At 11:25 a.m. President Bill Caldwell again opened the meeting. He congratulated Mary Darling who was installed as Youth Director. Lisa again gave her report. Jim Sommers again explained the budget.

Mike Winslow asked about an assistant pastor and Jim again explained we would vote on that at that time. Ruth Price asked why the increase in Continuing Education.

Jim explained that was to cover more meetings for Pastor and Mary Darling to attend. Jim again announced that we have new statements and that the 2009 envelopes were in the lounge. He again thanked the finance committee and the members for their support.

President Bill Caldwell then thanked those going off council: John Spoerl, Penny DeWitt, Terry Ruedy and Jim Sommers. He also thanked Vice-President Mike Folk for his help in getting the candidates.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Bell, Recording Secretary

DARTBALL DIARY

(continued from page 5)

In the 8th, Ted homered to make it 6-2. In their half of the 8th they got the final 2 runs of the game on 3 doubles to make the final score 6-4 in our favor.

In the first inning of the 3rd game Frank homered to give us a 1-0 lead. Darold and Tom G. doubled to increase our lead to 2-0. In their half of the 6th they tied it 2-2 on a homer and 2 doubles. In the 8th they homered to make it 3-2. In the 9th Tom G. homered to tie it 3-3. In the 10th we won it 4-3 on a homer by Raj. Our next game is at Messiah on December 15th.

Standings as of December 1, 2008

	W	L	GBL
Good Shepherd	12	6	*
1st St. John #2	11	7	1
1st St. John #1	10	8	2
St. Lucas	9	9	3
Trinity	9	9	3
1st St. Mark	8	10	4
Messiah	7	11	5
St. Mark	6	12	6