
✈ First St. John Journal ✈

Volume 22, Issue 5

May, 2009

In the early centuries of Christianity, church historians tell us the celebration of Christ's resurrection went on for days and even weeks. I hope that we can continue to celebrate His resurrection each and every Sunday. News this important and meaningful should cause us to celebrate every time we get together to worship!

Besides the joy of the resurrection, May brings us the gift of Mother's day and the All Daughter Banquet (don't forget to purchase your tickets). In honor of moms and women who have been like mothers to us, here's a story everyone will get a chuckle from:

On a Mother's day card, a seven year old girl wrote to her mother: "Dear Mom, I'm going to make lunch for you on Mother's Day. It's going to be a surprise. P.S. I hope you like pizza and popcorn."

And finally, Words You Would Never Hear From A Mother:

"Just leave all the lights on. It makes the house look more cheery."

"Sure, I used to skip school a lot, too."

"If Nancy's mom says it's okay, that's good enough for me."

"I don't have a tissue with me. Just use your sleeve."

"Let me smell your shirt. Yeah, it's good for another week."

(from The Joyful Noiseletter)

God Bless all Moms!

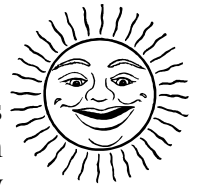
— Pastor Blohm

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL?

Since postage rates are going up again this month; e-mailing will help us trim the cost of sending out the newsletter. E-mailing not only saves postage, it also saves ink and paper. If you would like your newsletter and calendar e-mailed to you, please call the church or send your e-mail address to the church at: firststjohn@sbcglobal.net

SUMMER WORSHIP TIMES

Our summer worship schedule begins Sunday, June 7th and runs through Sunday, August 30th. To make it easy to remember, our summer schedule is



7:45 am traditional service
10:15 am celebration service

There will be no Sunday School. See you this summer!

CHURCH SERVICE RECORDINGS FOR HOMEBOUND

Each week, the services are recorded and are mailed to our homebound members and others at home recovering from illnesses. If you or someone you know would like to be put on the mailing list for receiving the services each week, please call the church office at 419-691-7222. Services are available on CD and cassette tape, and generally are mailed out on Mondays. (This is a very expensive ministry when it comes to postage; you can help by signing up for "Homebound Outreach" on the weekly flower charts.) Thanks.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
MAY 22nd

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	dar5039@aol.com
Board of Education	Karen Holmes Melissa Lang Julie Gallaher	419-691-3225 419-837-1005 419-693-5081	cheh17@aol.com thelangs@embarqmail.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



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to our youth who were confirmed on April 19th: Lisa Durrant, Collin Folk, Ethan Gerrard, Abby Groll, Hayley Howe, and Max Schwiefert. God bless you!

MEN'S MINISTRY

Our next men's breakfast fellowship meeting is Saturday, May 2nd at 8:00 am at the Frisch's Big Boy on Navarre. Please call Bob Haar at 419-360-7510 if you need a ride. We had 16 guys at the last breakfast, so let's keep up the great attendance. New members are always welcome, and we want to welcome back our snowbirds as well. Thanks.

MEMBER UPDATES

Births

4-23-2009 *Tyler Patrick Abbey*, born to Ryan and Heather (Smith) Abbey

Baptisms

None.

Marriages

None.

Deaths

None.

Transfers to St. John

None.

Transfers from St. John

Kenneth Blake to Prince of Peace Lutheran in Oregon, OH.

ELDERS FOR MAY

	<u>7:45 am</u>	<u>10:15 am</u>
3rd	Darold Henninger Joanne Henningsen	Dick Haar Lynn Folk
10th	Jeff Smith Linda Kusian	Bernie Erdmann Eric Johnson
17th	Mike Winslow LuAnn Schuffenecker	Mark Ackerman Janine Contat
24th	Dick Haar Joanne Henningsen	Darold Henninger Lynn Folk
31st	Bernie Erdmann Eric Johnson	Jeff Smith Linda Kusian

ALL-DAUGHTER BANQUET



All God's daughters are invited to the banquet on Wednesday, May 13th at 6:00 pm. You can purchase tickets after the church services or in the church office.

Tickets Prices

Adults 13 & over — \$8.75
Children 6-12 — \$4.00
Children 5 and under — Free

In keeping with our theme "You've Got Purse-
onality," we would appreciate anyone loaning us their unusual purses for the evening. If you have one you consider unusual, please drop it off in the church office or contact Linda Kusian at 419-836-7480. 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.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ Phone _____

MEMORIALS

QUILTERS

In memory of August Lofquist by Gary & Penny DeWitt.

AIR CONDITIONING

In memory of Burton Tank by Marian & Joe Chaney.

In memory of August Lofquist by Viola Harris.

In memory of John Johnson by Larry & Darlene Lorenzen.

CURRENT FUND

In memory of August Lofquist by George & Elaine Ackerman.

In memory of John Johnson by Marlene Fouty.

In memory of Walter Young by Robert & Lois Joehlin.

In honor of Ethan Gerrard by grandparents Robert & Edith Eueher.

DEBT FUND

In memory of August Lofquist by Bob & Sherrie Haar, John & Linda Maiani.

In memory of John Johnson by Louise & Jim Sommers.

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Burton Tank by Hank & Joanne Schumaker, Janis Wolf, Frank & Pat Novotny, Kevin & Kristie Ruedy.

In memory of John Johnson by the Rebecca Circle, Ada Kreger.

In memory of Walter Young by Gary & Linda Kusian and family.

In memory of August Lofquist by Gary & Linda Kusian and family.

In memory of Sue Garey by Rosann Murray.

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of August Lofquist by Carl & Janet Morrison.

In memory of Walt Young by Carl & Janet Morrison.

In memory of John Johnson by Nancy Gallaher.

YOUTH

In memory of August Lofquist by the Men's Fellowship Breakfast Group.

In memory of Walter Young by the Men's Fellowship Breakfast Group.

MILITARY SERVICE NOTES

Here are the 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!

Specialist Steven Doherty

(we do not currently have an address for him; please keep him in your prayers)

SSGT Kevin Fouty

2021 A Mustang Ct.
Langley AFB, VA 23665

CPL Nick Grady

44-139 Bayview Haven Pl.
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Cynthia Lynn Henderson

521 Pine Forest Trail
Orange Park, FL 32073

Chief Petty Officer Marc Le Duc

3105 Tullibee Circle P-1
Silverdale, WA 98315

Matthew Phillips

1 ERHG / Red Horse
APO AE 09355

Captain 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)

QUILTING NEWS

Quilting season has wrapped up. Our talented bee of quilters was blessed with good winter Mondays – no snow days. We enjoyed talking, laughing, and sharing while pinning, sewing, tying, and stacking many colorful quilts to distribute to those in need.

We completed 260 quilts this year. So far, we've donated the following: 12 to the "Warm Up Toledo" program, 10 to the "Food for Thought" program that helps the homeless in Toledo, 12 to the Monroe Presbyterian Bed Ministry, 8 to the Toledo Day Nursery, and 48 to Dialysis Partners of NW Ohio at Maumee Bay for a total of 90 donated so far. Many of the 60 x 80 quilts will be on display in the church on Mother's Day, May 10th, and they will be available for a \$30 donation.

Those not sold will be shipped to Lutheran World Relief in the fall. Thank you to Paul and Vivian Kuhlman who every Monday brought stacks of quilt tops and bottoms for us to assemble. Paul also shared a fresh batch of his great cookies for our lunch each week. Thank you to everyone who came to help this year.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The last day of Sunday School for the spring is May 17th. Please join us for a "sneak preview" of Vacation Bible School. The theme is: Crocodile Dock: Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light!



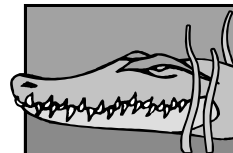
MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGES

Keith and Lisa Mullen
4430 Brown Rd.
Oregon, OH 43618

Matthew Phillips
1 ERHG / Red Horse
APO AE 09355

Matthew and Michelle Phillips
1402 Northgate Sq. Apt. 1
Reston, VA 20190-3718

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



This year's Vacation Bible School will be held Sunday, July 19 through Thursday, July 23 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm each night. This year's theme is "Crocodile Dock-Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light!" Look for registration information soon. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help, contact Abbie Skorupa at 419-346-1752 or email her at



RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday, May 7, 10 am-4:00 pm
Friday, May 8, 10 am-1:00 pm

All circles and everyone from the congregation are asked to help. Please call Jane Neal (419-836-1751) to volunteer. Proceeds will benefit Haydom Lutheran Hospital in Tanzania, Africa and local benevolences.

Donated items may be placed on the gym stage. If you come on April 29th, 30th, or May 1st and need help bringing your items to the gym stage, please come between 10 am and 4 pm on those days and call Toni in the church office beforehand to let her know you're coming.

Rummage Sale Set-up will be Monday, May 4th and Tuesday, May 5th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and 6 pm to 8 pm each day. Set-up and last time to bring items is Wednesday, May 6th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. If you need help bringing in your items on these days, ring the bell at the outside elevator door and someone will come down in the elevator to help you.

DAVID WINSLOW MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

This four-man scrambles will be held on Saturday, August 1st at 8:00 am at the Chippewa Golf Club. The price is \$60 per person, which includes green fees, cart, and food (burgers and brats and sides). Prizes will be awarded for first place, the longest drive and closest to the pin. Reservation deadline is Monday, July 27 and all fees must be turned in by Wednesday, July 29. *All proceeds go to First St. John.* To register, call Mike Winslow at 419-691-8430 or 419-698-6507.

**First St. John's Lutheran Church
Prayer Chain** (as of April 28, 2009)

Would you like to be a member of the Prayer Chain? We can add you on the phone list or the email list. Phone list members need to call one other person, as well as pray for those on the list. Email members only need to pray! We can all use the extra prayers! Contact a prayer chain member, listed on page 7, for details.

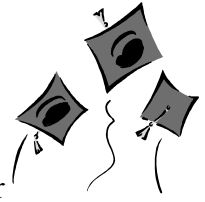
Crisis Prayer List: This list is for those who need our prayers in an urgent matter such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after the first month unless one of the prayer chain contacts is contacted about special circumstances:

- Glenn Baden**
- Lynne Bateman**
- Chris Burk**
- Douglas Burk**
- Family of Dewey Caldwell**
- Clarence Everett**
- Jerry Gears**
- Sandy Gill**
- Family of John Johnson**
- Doris Karow**
- Connie Koch**
- Mary Kovacs**
- Fred Saelzler**
- Barbara Thomas**
- Jan Van Sant**
- Family of Shirley Warnke**

Chronic Prayer List: This 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 will be moved off the list after 3 months unless one of the prayer chain contacts is contacted about special/continuing circumstances:

- Jim Ackerman**
 - Janet Bain**
 - Virginia Brandeberry**
 - Marjorie Counterman**
 - Linda Curran**
 - Jackie Curtis**
 - Ronald Curtis**
 - Mary Darling**
 - George Davenport & Family**
- (continued on page 7)

**GRADUATE RECOGNITION
SUNDAY
June 14, 2009**



We will publicly acknowledge all our graduates from high school and college at our worship services on Sunday, June 14th. 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 it to the church office, or fax this page to 419-691-7220 by Monday, June 8th.

NAME OF GRADUATE

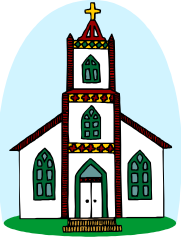
GRADUATED FROM

DEGREE EARNED

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.)

YES, WE PLAN TO BE AT THE SERVICE _____



DO YOU REMEMBER YOUR CONFIRMATION?

Photos of each confirmation class from 1931 to the present are displayed in the lounge under the clock, and we need your help. Photos from 1958, 1962, and from 1968 to 2005 have the names listed in alphabetical order instead of in order by position in the photo. If you don't know the names, you don't know which name fits with which picture. To correct this, we need your help.

If you were confirmed in the years listed above, please stop by and check out these photos. We've now numbered each person in the photo and have a piece of paper for each year that is numbered for each student. Start with yourself: write your name on the sheet of paper next to your number in the picture. Then, if you can help with some of the other names in your class (especially if they no longer attend here or have passed away), write their names next to their numbers. (If you're confused, just flip back to a year prior to 1958 to see what we mean.) When we get everyone identified, we'll re-do the name lists in order by photo positions. Thank you for your help.

DON'T FORGET THE FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR PROGRAM!

In this economy, requests for food continue to rise. You can help! Please consider donating canned goods and non-perishable food items to the Feed Your Neighbor program. Place your donations in the bins in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) and the lounge (near the double doors). PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANYTHING IN A GLASS CONTAINER. Thank you.

MAGAZINE RECYCLING

A basket is in the lounge for recycling used magazines, which are donated to an area hospital's emergency waiting room. Remember to tear off your address labels before donating magazines in order to protect your family's privacy. Questions? E-mail Penny DeWitt at garpem@buckeye-express.com

FIRST ST. JOHN PRAYER CHAIN

(continued from page 6)

Chronic Prayer List (continued):

**Ed Ellis
Walter Felder
Sally Winstead Hartzell
Mary Lou Hoeflinger
Family of Augie Lofquist
Family of Warren Nenzo
Nancy Pass
Melissa Perry
Lori Reetz
Dick Ross
Bishop Sanchez
Wyatt Schlegel
Dennis Scott
Leroy Smith
Candy Webster
Jimmer Woods
Family of Walt Young
Bill Zeisler
Raetta Zeisler**

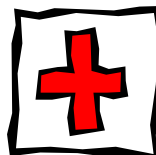
Please check the list and let any of the prayer chain contacts know if there are individuals who could be moved off the list.

Prayer Chain Contacts

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

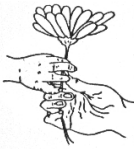
NEEDED FOR VBS

We need Hot Knife Tool and Hot Knife accessories. If anyone would be willing to lend these items to Vacation Bible School to use in creating their background, please call Abbie Skorupa as soon as possible at 419-346-1752 or email her at peachee318@yahoo.com Thank you!



HOSPITAL REMINDER

If you or a family member goes to the hospital, please have someone call the church to notify us. Even if you tell them at admitting that you want the church notified, about 75% of the time they do NOT call. So please have someone let us know. Thank you.



DAYSCHOOL NEWS

Dear Friends,

Are we at the end of the school year already? The time has gone by much too fast this year! The children have amazed us and have made our days enjoyable, unpredictable, and full of happiness. We will use these last few weeks doing what we have done all year--enjoying their company!

Throughout May, we will celebrate spring! There are so many amazing aspects this time of year. The flowers, trees, birds, bugs, sunshine, rain -- they are all such a wonderful part of this season. It is important that we are thankful for this change in our world, and that we know exactly who to thank! And believe me, we know...we know who He is, who His Father is, what He did for us, and that we carry Him in our hearts. When I have conversations with the children I am amazed at how well they are able to articulate their faith. That's what it's all about!

Registration looks wonderful for the 2009/2010 school year! Our Kindergarten and our three morning classes are close to being filled! We still have room in our summer program, afternoon classes, and our extended care preschool class - so continue to spread the word about our school and all we have to offer.

This is our last letter for the 2008/2009 school year, and I wanted to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the part you play in this ministry. So many of you share kind words with me or let me know that you value the importance of this ministry. One hundred eighty children learning about Jesus five days a week! This is a ministry that would not exist without the support of this congregation. Please continue to believe in its importance.

In Him, Barb Shellhammer

ATTENTION KROGER CUSTOMERS!

Kroger is making it even easier to earn money for our Youth and Sunday School programs. **Beginning May 1st**, you no longer need to use and preload your Kroger gift card. (Note: Any money already loaded on these pre-paid cards are still good and can be used toward your purchases. First St. John received credit when you loaded your card.) How does the new program work? Each member needs to complete one step to link your regular Kroger Plus Card to First St. John's designated Kroger Community Rewards number. There are two options to make this happen:

Option 1: You can visit the secure website at www.krogercommunityrewards.com. First you need to create an account, and then under your profile you will be able to select an organization to be your designated community reward recipient. You will need your e-mail address as well as your Kroger Plus Card number (located on the back of the card). Once your account is set up, select First St. John Lutheran Church by using our designated number, which is #83476.

OR

Option 2: If you are uncomfortable with websites or do not have easy access to a computer, you can still participate with your Kroger purchases. See Lisa Anderson after early service or before late service in the Narthex by the All Daughter Banquet ticket sales during the next few Sundays. You can pick up a paper that has a scan bar on it. This paper needs to be "swiped" with your Kroger Plus Card at checkout to automatically link your Kroger Plus Card with First St. John.

Thank you for your past support of this fundraising program. We have earned approximately \$1,000 since last fall. New members are always welcome, especially since Kroger has made it even easier for us to build up rewards. Although our members will need to re-enroll each year, this is a simple way to help raise money for our church on purchases you would be making anyway.

If you have questions, please call Lisa Anderson at 419-693-1232 or email at ljanderson@bex.net.

**FIRST ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES - APRIL 21, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Caldwell. The Lord's Prayer was recited by all and roll call was taken. Minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Gary Henningsen and seconded by LuAnn Schuffenecker. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Lisa Anderson gave the treasurer's report. The month of March was a 5-week month and gave us a positive balance. April had Easter and should be positive as well. No unusual expenses for the month. There were some boiler expenses and the funds were taken from the boiler fund. Bernie Erdmann made a motion to accept and Gary Henningsen seconded it. Motion passed.

Board of Ed. - "Sway the Palms" Sunday was very good. It was a very hands-on Sunday. The Sunday School department is looking at new registration forms for the upcoming school year.

Dayschool Report - The children are singing this Sunday. About 85 children are signed up to come and sing. Extra elders and extra greeters will be needed. Bee problem needs to be addressed on the playground. Enrollment is very good for next year.

Elder Report - Elders are asking for instructions on the sound system in the gym.

Property Mgmt Report - Bids are coming together for work on the parking area. Bids should be in by next meeting. Another boiler will be installed by next fall.

Finance Committee - At the website Krogercommunityrewards.com, tie your Kroger Plus card to them and any monies you spend will be designated to the church. Instructions will be in the bulletin on Sunday and in the newsletter.

Youth Report - Mary's surgery was a success. She is now recuperating. She is doing therapy and will be back to her duties within the next couple of weeks.

Pastor's Report - Transfer from First St. John: Kenny Blake to Prince of Peace Lutheran in Oregon. Gary Henningsen made a motion to accept the transfer and Mike Winslow seconded. Motion passed.

Council accepted the 8th grade catechism class into the congregation of the church. They are: Lisa Durrant, Collin Folk, Ethan Gerrard, Abigail Groll, Haley Howe, and Maxwell Schwiefert. A motion was made by Gary Henningsen and seconded by Dick Haar to accept the class. Motion passed.

"Refermata" is a program being put on by the ELCA that has to do with the "emerging church." Mary will be going to this workshop.

Summer service times were discussed. Motion was made by Darold Henninger to keep them at 7:45 and 10:15 and Mike Winslow seconded it. Discussion took place about the positive and negative results of the service. A vote was taken and passed.

Old Business - None

New Business - Next meeting will be at the Lutheran Home in the community room to learn about the capital campaign. Pastor Labuhn and others will be there to explain what the Lutheran Home is all about. This will be a pre-meeting that will eventually be presented to the congregation.

Joanne Henningsen made a motion to adjourn, LuAnn Schuffenecker seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Habegger