First St. John Journal



Volume 22. Issue 6 June, 2009

couple months ago, two long-time faithful members, Louise and Jim Sommers, sent me this fascinating story. It reminded me of what it means to truly "bear fruit" in the name of Christ. With Jim and Louise's okay, here's the story. Enjoy!

MISTER, ARE YOU JESUS?

A few years ago, a group of salesmen went to a regional sales convention in Chicago. They had assured their wives they would be home in plenty of time for Friday night's dinner.

In their rush, with tickets and briefcases, one of these salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table which held a display of apples. Apples flew everywhere. Without stopping or looking back, they managed to reach the plane in time for their nearly-missed boarding.

ALL BUT ONE!!! He paused, took a deep breath, got in touch with his feelings, and experienced a twinge of compassion for the girl whose apple stand had been overturned.

He told his buddies to go on without him, waved good-bye, told one of them to call his wife when they arrived at their destination and explain his taking a later flight. Then he returned to the terminal where the apples were all over the floor.

He was glad he did. The 16-year-old girl was totally blind. She was softly crying, tears running down her cheeks in frustration, while she helplessly groped for her spilled produce. The crowd swirled about her; no one stopping to care for her plight.

The salesman knelt on the floor with her, gathered up the apples, put them back on the table, and helped organize her display. As he did, he noticed many of them had become battered and bruised; these he set aside in another basket.

When he finished, he pulled out his wallet and said to the girl, "Here, please take this \$40 for the damage we did. Are you okay?"

She nodded through her tears. He continued, "I hope we didn't spoil your day too badly."

As the salesman started to walk away, the bewildered blind girl called out to him, "Mister...."

He paused and turned to look into those blind eyes.

"Are you Jesus?"

He stopped in mid-stride and wondered. Then slowly he made his way to catch the later flight with that question burning and bouncing in his soul: Are you Jesus?

Do people mistake you for Jesus? That's our destiny, is it not? To be so much like Jesus that people cannot tell the difference as we live and interact with a world that is blind to His love, life and grace.... If we claim to know Him, we should live, walk and act as He would. Knowing Him is more than simply quoting Scripture and going to church. It's living the Word as life unfolds day to day.

— Pastor Blohm

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The summer worship schedule traditional service at 7:45 am and celebration service at 10:15 am (just like our regular schedule, except no Sunday School). Beginning Monday, June 1st, the church office hours for the summer will be Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE JUNE 18th

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		
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	



ELDERS FOR JUNE

7:45 am 10:15 am
Mark Ackerman Mike Winslow
Janine Contat LuAnn Schuffenecker

14th Darold Henninger Dick Haar Joanne Henningsen Lynn Folk

21st Jeff Smith Eric Johnson Linda Kusian Bernie Erdmann

28th Mike Winslow Mark Ackerman LuAnn Schuffenecker Janine Contat



CONFIRMATION PICTURES

Confirmation pics & offering envelopes can be picked up in the RENEW Suite.

LUTHERAN OUTDOOR MINISTRIES CAMP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

If you have lost your job, but would still like to send your child to camp, Lutheran Outdoor Ministries (LOMO) can help. They've launched at "Faith Formation Stimulus for Children with Unemployed Parents." There's a form in the lounge you can take to fill out to receive financial help in sending your child to camp this summer.

In times when financial struggles are in the forefront of life at home, getting away to be immersed in Christian community is more important than ever. Youth need to experience the love and joy of Jesus Christ shared through camp counselors. Families need to come away to experience time together in Christ-centered community.

For more information, call 1-800-431-5666 or go online to www.lomocamps.org

WELCA THANK YOU

Thank you to all First St. John members who donated door prizes, table prizes, desserts and their time to make our Card Party a success.



We had a profit of \$1,044. Money will be used to get an awning over the single back door at the back of the church. We'll get matching funds of \$600 from Thrivent for the project. Also, thanks to all who helped make the Rummage Sale a huge success. We had a profit of \$2,023. Haydom Hospital in Tanzania, Africa will receive some of the funds with the remainder going to a future project (TBA). Thank you also to all the ladies who donated purses, the people who made desserts, and the men who served us and helped clean up for the All-Daughter Banquet.

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

CHOIR FUND

In memory of <u>Shirley Warnke</u> by Mary Ellen Miller, Ron & Joanne Koch, Ruth Ziethlow, Neal & Diane Norris.

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Shirley Warnke** by Ruth Cummerow and Jack Nissen.

In memory of <u>August Lofquist</u> by Kenneth & Joyce Villhauer.

In memory of **Walter Young** by Kenneth & Joyce Villhauer

In memory of **Bonnylynn Mars** by Kenneth & Joyce Villhauer.

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of **Shirley Warnke** by Gene Hagedorn.

AIR CONDITIONING FUND

In memory of <u>Walter Young</u> by Ralph & Ethel Mae Vogtsberger.

In memory of <u>August Lofquist</u> by Ralph & Ethel Mae Vogtsberger.

In memory of <u>LaVerne Klawitter</u> by Ralph & Ethel Mae Vogtsberger.

In memory of <u>Shirley Warnke</u> by Duane & Mary K. Hubaker, Esther Bell, John & Linda Maiani, Ralph & Ethel Mae Vogtsberger, M/M Ralph Nissen, Marilyn Cashen.

DEBT RETIREMENT

In memory of **Shirley Warnke** by Bob & Sherrie Haar, Gail Browning, Barb Allgire,

Mary Ann Cervantes, Carl & Janet Morrison, Jean & Jim Warns, Bob & Kate Webb, Louise & Jim Sommers.

QUILTERS

In memory of <u>Shirley Warnke</u> by Gary & Penny DeWitt; Sue, Monica & Joel Moszkowicz, Paul & Vivian Kuhlman, Glenn & Margaret Koester.

CURRENT FUND

In memory of <u>Shirley Warnke</u> by Ada Kreger, Norman & Phyllis Schuffenecker, Hank & Joanne Schumaker, Don & Doris Higley, Warren & Doris Danekind, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Marvin & Carol Keller, Marilyn Cooper, Patti, Tom & Mickey Dunn,

Mary Ann & Raymond Presar; Tom, Sandy & Kevin Garverick, Ruth & Don Mallett, Larry Durivage, Norm Schumaker, Ivan & Margie Myers and family, Jim & Kim Cousino, Richard & Jane Phillips, Floyd Koester, Donna Koester, Bill & Donna Nelson and family, Nancy Paulson, Chuck & Jane Neal, Bill, Jennifer & Brad White, Sharon & Terry Gillespie, Jean DeWitt, Dan & Julie Kunos, Don & Lavonne Underwood, Caroline Reddington, Bill & Ginny Wegman, Gertrude & Mark Knierim, OI Euchre Club.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

In memory of <u>Shirley Warnke</u> by Deb, Chris, Breena, Cory and Cole Lofquist, Carol & Kevin Abbey, William & Julie Moritz, Winnie Wohlgamuth.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

In memory of **Shirley Warnke** by Ernie & Marge Bollinger.

ORGAN FUND

In memory of **Shirley Warnke** by Mabel Simpson, Martha Meyers.

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of <u>Shirley Warnke</u> by George & Elaine Ackerman, Leona Arnold, Ruth Zasada and Chris, Dave & Di Habegger, Connie Swinney, Pastor & Mrs. Gerald Labuhn, Dave & Lore Warnke. In memory of <u>Oliver & Ruth Turner, Kenneth Turner and Carol (Turner) Metzger</u> by Elroy Metzger.

LIBRARY NEWS

Aid Association for Lutherans (now Thrivent Financial) gave the library the book A TIME TO MOURN, A TIME TO DANCE. This book is for those who want to understand grief and for those who want to help those who grieve. I think you would find it a very beneficial book.

Be sensitive, be available and be quiet.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Our next meeting will be at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 6th at Bob Evans on Navarre Ave. Dads, sons, young men, old men, <u>all</u> men are invited. If you are planning on coming, please call Bob Haar at 419-360-7510. Transportation will be provided if you need it. Come out for fellowship and a very brief devotion. It's just some guys meeting for breakfast and great conversation. Hope you can join us.

HOW SHOPPING AT KROGER HELPS OUR YOUTH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Visit the website at www.krogercommunityrewards. com, call Lisa at 419-693-1232, or e-mail lianderson@bex.net for details on the how the program has changed. First, create an account, then under your profile you can select an organization to be your designated community reward recipient. You'll need your e-mail address and 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: #83476. OR, the church office also has copies of the scan sheet to link your Kroger Plus Card to our church's account. It is even easier now to help the church raise funds through Kroger purchases. Once you link your Kroger Plus card to First St. John, purchases will automatically accumulating rewards every time you use your card (excluding some purchases). Thank you for your continued support of our youth ministries.



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, longest drive and closest to the pin. Reservation deadline is Monday, July 27th and all fees must be turned in by Wednesday, July 29th. *All proceeds go to First St. John.*

If you'd like to register or sponsor a hole, call Mike Winslow at 419-691-8430 or 419-698-6507.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be Sunday, July 19th through Thursday, July 23rd from 6:00 to 9:00 pm each night. VBS is



for ages 3 through 5th grade. Sixth graders and older are encouraged to help. This year's theme is "Crocodile Dock—Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light." To register, call Abbie Skorupa at 419-346-1752 or email her at peachee318@yahoo. com or you can use the form printed in this newsletter and return it to the church office.

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!

Here are the final standings of the 2008-2009 season. St. John #2 won the league championship with Good Shepherd coming in second, each one receiving a trophy. In the tournament, Messiah got a first place trophy and St. John #2 got a second place trophy.

Our 2009-2010 season will start in the fall. Thanks to all members for a successful season.

2008-2009 TOLEDO DARTBALL LEAGUE FINAL STANDINGS

Team	Won	Lost	GBL
First St. John #2	28	14	*
Good Shepherd	24	18	4
First St. John #1	23	19	5
Messiah	22	20	6
Trinity	21	21	7
First St. Mark	19	23	9
St. Mark	16	26	12
St. Lucas	15	27	13



Crocodile Dock Registration Form

One per child please

Name:	
Parent's Email:	
In case of emergency, contact:	
Father (name and alt. phone#):	
Other (name, relationship to child, & phone#):	
Allergies (especially food allergie	es) or other medical conditions:
Please check if you are interested in he	elping
Name:	Phone:

Please place in the offering plate, give to Abbie Skorupa or turn in to the church office.

RENEW JUNE INFORMATION

RENEW SUMMER!

Summer is the season of fulfillment, happiness, and beauty. It is easy to spot the beauty that captures our eyes by looking at the green grass, blossoming flowers, growing crops, warm sun, and the blue skies. We should be reminded that God refers many times in the scriptures to fruit and crops. This is the season where farmers literally see the "fruit" of their labor. As students, we can take time to notice the beauty all around us that God has given us and share in it together. As a Student Minister, it is my prayer we can take time to play, rest, and learn this summer, either together or with our friends and families.

Random Fun Fact: Aardvarks are allergic to radishes, but only during summer months.

Blessings, Mary John 15:5

NOTE: These events are open to any incoming and outgoing 7th—12th graders (those finishing 6th grade are welcome!)

Spirit Song — July 9-11, 2009. July 9, 2009 through July 11, 2009 at Kings Island - Timberwolf Amphitheatre in Mason, OH. Featuring: Third Day, MercyMe, Jeremy Camp, Skillet, NEWSBOYS, David Crowder Band, Switchfoot, Kutless, Hawk Nelson, Family Force 5, KJ-52, Bluetree, Remedy Drive, Fireflight, Blue Eye Soul, Jeremy Kingsley, Matt Pitt, Mike Williams

This year we will also be staying an extra night and attending Covenant Church Sunday morning. We will also do volunteering at the church and return Sunday evening (more details to come). If you are interested in attending you must be registered with Mary by June 11th. The ticket for the concerts and park will cost \$69.99 for the three days if we get a group of 15 or more. Stay tuned for hotel costs—this depends on the size of group we have going. If you are an adult who is interested in attending please contact Mary ASAP.

Sunday School. No Sunday School June 7th, 14th or 28th

Sunday School, June 21st. We will go to breakfast at Cafe Marie's before church. Please meet at Cafe Marie's at 9AM.

June 15, Trip to the Zoo. All Lucas County residents get free entrance into the zoo on Mondays during the summer. We will meet at the church at 10:30AM. If you are an adult and interested in chaperoning, please let Mary know. Please bring a school ID or drivers license to get a free entry into the zoo. Bring money for souvenirs.

COLLEGE = BREAK!

Are you a college student home for the summer? Or did you just finish your college career? If you are looking for some community at First St. John's, we will get together during the summer: June 9th, 7PM and June 23rd, 7PM at The Cofee Shop on Navarre. If you have any questions, please contact Mary, Student Ministry Director, at mdarling05@yahoo.com

CONFIRMATION PHOTO HELP

Photos of each confirmation class from 1931 to present are in the lounge under the clock, and we need your help. Photos from



1958, 1962, and 1968 to 2005 have names listed in alphabetical order instead of in order by position in the photo. If you don't know the people, you don't know which name fits which picture. We need your help to correct this.

If you were confirmed in the years listed above, stop by and check out these photos. We've numbered each person in the photo and have a piece of paper numbered for each student in each year. 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, write their names next to their numbers. (You can flip back to a year prior to 1958 to see what we mean.) When everyone is identified, we'll re-do the lists in order by photo positions. Thank you for your help.

PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES

(continued from page 9)

Chronic Prayer List (continued)

Family of Warren Nenno
Nancy Pass
Melissa Perry
Lori Reetz
Dick Ross
Fred Saelzler
Bishop Sanchez
Barbara Thomas
Jan Van Sant
Candy Webster
Jimmer Woods
Family of Walt Young
Bill Zeisler
Raetta Zeisler

Please let any of the prayer chain contacts know if any of these individuals 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

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Our next new members class will be Sunday, June 14th at 11:45 am in the lounge following the late service. We'll share lunch together then study the book "Come and Grow With Us." Please register for this

class by calling the church office at 419-691-7222 or by completing the form below and dropping it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office.

Yes! I/We will attend the New Members Class
on Sunday, June 14 th .

Name(s):	 	 	 _
Phone:			

MILITARY ADDRESSES

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. Kaneoke, HI 96744

Chief Petty Officer Cynthia Henderson 521 Pine Forest Trail Orange Park, FL 32073

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

Officer Candidate
Pavley, Michael
Class #009-08 3rd PLT. CHARLIE CO.
3-11th Infantry Regiment (OCS)
7480 Riordan St.
Ft. Benning, GA 31905

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

PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES

(As of May 26, 2009)

Would you like to be a member of the Prayer Chain? We can add you on the phone list to be called or to the email list. Phone list members need to call one other person and 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 below, 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:

Joe Clifford
Patty Gable
Doris Karow
Suzanne, Ella, & Lainey Peace
Zak Salls
LuAnn Spoerl
Family of Shirley Warnke

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 will be moved off the list after 3 months unless one of the prayer chain contacts has been contacted about special/continuing circumstances:

Jim Ackerman Glenn Baden **Janet Bain Lynne Bateman** Virginia Brandeberry **Chris Burk Douglas Burk Family of Dewey Caldwell Marjorie Counterman Linda Curran Jackie Curtis Ronald Curtis Mary Darling Ed Ellis Clarence Everett Walter Felder Jerry Gears Sally Winstead Hartzell Mary Lou Hoeflinger Family of John Johnson Connie Koch Mary Ann Kovacs Family of Augie Lofquist**

(continued on page 8)

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 8th. Please plan on having your graduate

8th. Please plan on having your graduate attend one of these services as all graduates will be recognized.

If you know of a graduate, please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office by Monday, June 8th.

NAME OF GRADUATE
GRADUATED FROM
DEGREE EARNED
NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS
FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.)

9 YES, WE PLAN TO BE AT THE SERVICE

The meeting began at the Lutheran Old Folks Home. We were led in prayer by Pastor Blohm. Minutes were read, and Gary Henningsen moved to approve the minutes and Dave Warnke seconded. Motion passed.

Special Report was given by Bob Dennie, Director of East Toledo Lutheran Home. The purpose was to find out about the Home's campaign to raise money for repairs and additions to the facility. Bill Caldwell wants a motion to have these people come to our church and campaign for the home in front of our congregation. Dr. Neal Norris then presented how people and congregations can participate in giving to this program. We then went on a tour of Unit 2. Bill asked for a motion to have Dr. Norris come to our church, going to small groups and congregation to speak about their campaign. Gary Henningsen made a motion, and Larry Paul seconded it. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report was given by Lisa Anderson. The amount of \$29,000 in contributions was given for the month of April. Lisa went on to explain the budget. Dave Warnke made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Gary seconded it. Motion passed.

Sunday School: The committee is trying to set up activities with children and families. They are looking to bring in everyone for fellowship and improve attendance. This will begin in September with a JAM fest (Jesus And Me). The JAM fest is the new term for Sunday School.

Day School Report: Enrollment for next year is good. The extended care area is lacking in attendance for the upcoming year due to families having shorter working days or loss of employment.

Elder Report: Elders are slated to help with the kindergarten graduation on May 27, 2009. Elders were educated on the speakers up in the gym.

Property Management: Still working on the particulars for the replacement of the back parking lot.

Finance Committee Report: No report

Youth Report: Mary is planning events for the summer. She will meet with youth on some selected Sundays. Some will attend the Spirit Song Festival in July. She will be inviting current college and post-college students to do a Bible study.

Pastor Report: Pastor Blohm talked about care in the nursery. Heather Thayer has been working in the nursery. Brenda Fussell also was a big help in the nursery the Sunday the Dayschool children sang. A few have taken advantage of the services during church. There may be a possibility of this person being paid a small sum for her services. Max Schwiefert is interested in helping with acolyting and helping with communion. Max wants to learn more of what it is like to be an elder. Elders agreed to take him on.

Old Business: None

New Business: It was brought to our attention that the railing has been greatly appreciated. A chair lift was asked to be added to the stairs in the back of the educational building. Logistics of how much room it would take up would need to be considered. The idea will be looked into. Janine Contat brought up an Alzheimer's walk in June, and she wants to add people to the walk for this cause.

A motion was made by Gary Henningsen and seconded by Dave Warnke to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

The meeting ended in prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Habegger

