

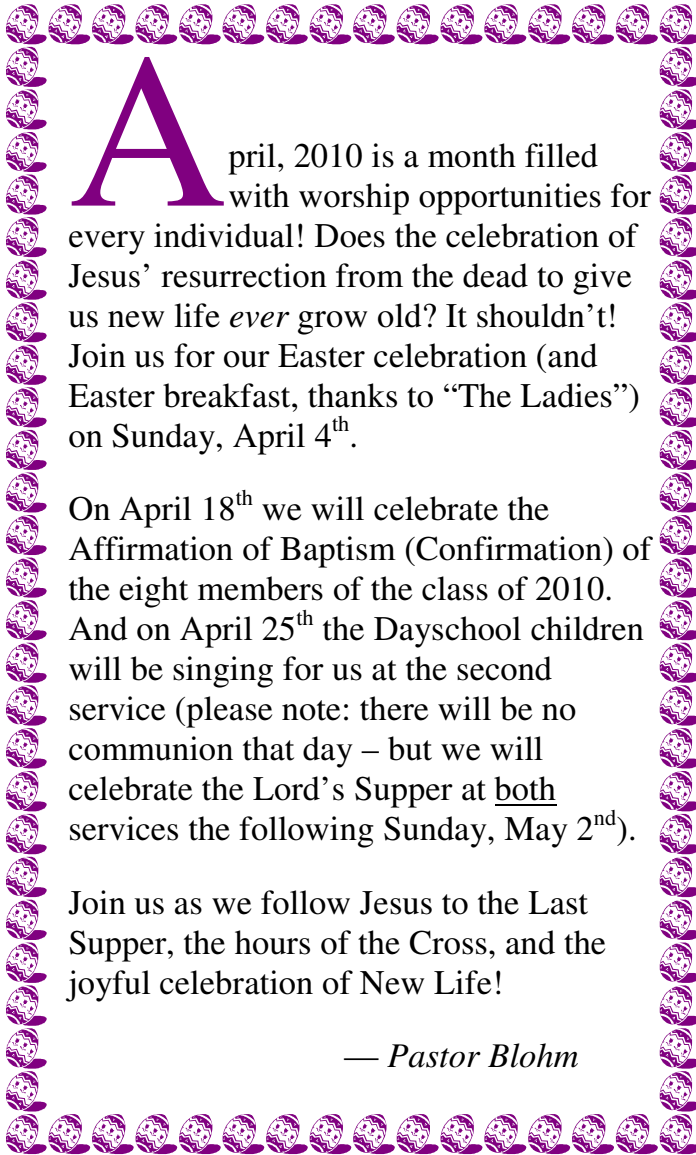


# First St. John Journal



Volume 23, Issue 4

April, 2010



**A**pril, 2010 is a month filled with worship opportunities for every individual! Does the celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead to give us new life *ever* grow old? It shouldn't! Join us for our Easter celebration (and Easter breakfast, thanks to "The Ladies") on Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

On April 18<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) of the eight members of the class of 2010. And on April 25<sup>th</sup> the Dayschool children will be singing for us at the second service (please note: there will be no communion that day – but we will celebrate the Lord's Supper at both services the following Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>).

Join us as we follow Jesus to the Last Supper, the hours of the Cross, and the joyful celebration of New Life!

— *Pastor Blohm*

## THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Lutheran Home Society and the Toledo Home, I am pleased to report the members of First St. John have contributed a total of \$23,300 towards the renovation program. Drawings have been submitted, and in the near future, remodeling will begin. Once again, I thank you for your support, and may God bless us with His love.

—*Jim Sommers*  
Toledo Home Board Member

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

### Maundy Thursday, April 1

12:00 pm – Worship  
7:00 pm – Worship

### Good Friday, April 2

12:00 pm – Worship  
7:00 pm – Worship

### Easter Sunday, April 4

7:45 am – Early Worship  
8:45 am – Easter Breakfast  
10:30 am – Late Worship  
11:30 am – Communion Following



## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

APRIL 21

## First St John Easter Breakfast

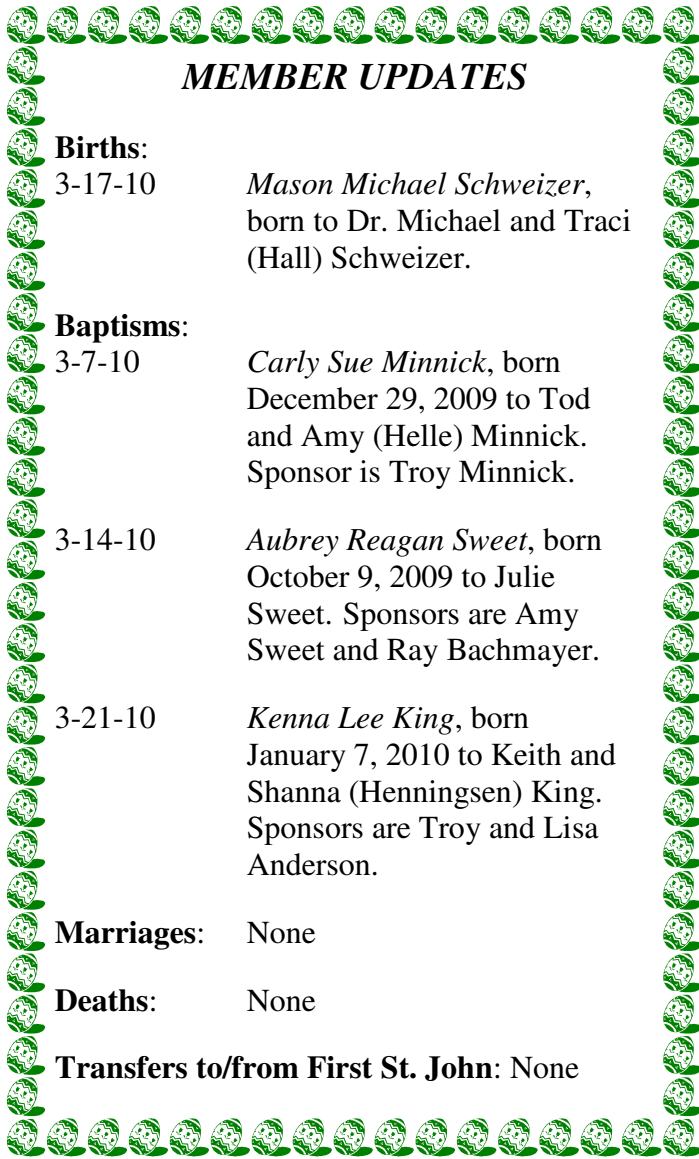
Sunday, April 4  
8:45 - 10:00 am



Easter breakfast will be at 8:45 am between the early 7:45 service and the late 10:30 service. The menu includes scrambled eggs, toast, pancakes, and sausage. Orange juice, coffee, and tea will be served with your breakfast. In order to plan, we need to know how many are attending. Please fill out the portion below and mail to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Free will offering will be taken. Thank you, and hope to see you there!

Yes, I/we plan to attend the Easter breakfast on Sunday, April 4th at 8:45 am.

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_



## MEMBER UPDATES

### Births:

3-17-10 *Mason Michael Schweizer*, born to Dr. Michael and Traci (Hall) Schweizer.

### Baptisms:

3-7-10 *Carly Sue Minnick*, born December 29, 2009 to Tod and Amy (Helle) Minnick. Sponsor is Troy Minnick.

3-14-10 *Aubrey Reagan Sweet*, born October 9, 2009 to Julie Sweet. Sponsors are Amy Sweet and Ray Bachmayer.

3-21-10 *Kenna Lee King*, born January 7, 2010 to Keith and Shanna (Henningsen) King. Sponsors are Troy and Lisa Anderson.

**Marriages:** None

**Deaths:** None

**Transfers to/from First St. John:** None



## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation practice will be on Saturday, April 17th at 11:00 a.m. in the church.

8th grade confirmation will be Sunday, April 18th at the 10:15 am service. Please meet in the 7th grade Catechism room at 10:00 a.m. Pictures will be taken following the service.

## ADDRESS CHANGES



Lori Keck  
1057 W. Morocco Rd. Apt. B  
Temperance, MI 48182  
(Austin, Alexandria)

Julie Keller  
130 S. Norden Rd.  
Oregon, OH 43616  
(Ben, Carrie)

Betty Morse  
1008 Village Trail Dr.  
Maumee, OH 43537

## APRIL ELDER SCHEDULE

**Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm**  
Darold Henninger, Joanne Henningsen

### Good Friday

**12:00 pm**  
Bill Nelson

**7:00 pm**  
Bill Nelson  
Linda Kusian

### Easter

**7:45 am**  
4th Mike Winslow  
Gene Schacht

**10:30 am**  
Darold Henninger  
Jim Swanson  
Dick Haar

**7:45 am**  
11th Dick Haar  
Joanne Henningsen

**10:15 am**  
Lynn Folk  
Bill Nelson

18th Eric Johnson  
Linda Kusian

Bernie Erdmann  
Linda Erdmann

25th Darold Henninger  
Jim Swanson

Mike Winslow  
Gene Schacht

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_



## ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Our annual rummage sale is Thursday, May 6th and Friday, May 7th. Proceeds from the sale will benefit Haydom Hospital in Tanzania, Africa and local benevolences.

You can start bringing your items to the gym in the educational building on Wed., April 28th. Since the Dayschool lunchroom has been moved to the gym, we ask that you please place items on the gym stage, not on the Dayschool lunch tables.

We need many volunteers to help set up, run the sale, clean up, and other duties. If you can help, call Jane Neal at 419-836-1751.

## HOMEPLATE FEES DUE

If you signed up to attend the Homeplate event on May 1st, remember to turn in your fees (\$26 per person) to the church office by April 11th. We will leave from church at 7:45 am on May 1st.



## COMMUNION SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR 10:15 SERVICE

Please note there will be no communion at the late service on April 25th. Instead, communion will occur for BOTH early and late services on May 2nd. This will allow us more time to welcome our Dayschool children and their parents on April 25th.

First communion for the confirmands will be on Sunday, May 2nd at the 10:15 service. We'll be back on our regular schedule when the 10:15 service will have communion on its regular day, May 30th.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP



In April, our Men's Breakfast Fellowship group will meet on Saturday, April 3rd at 8:00 a.m. at the Bob Evans restaurant on Navarre Ave.

## ANNUAL CARD PARTY



The 19<sup>th</sup> annual Card Party & Luncheon is Tuesday, April 20th at noon. Tallies are \$8. For reservations call either the church office (419-691-7222) or Jean DeWitt at 419-698-8963. The elevator will be available.

If you can donate a 9x13 dessert to serve at least 12 people, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the clipboard in the lounge. We also need lots of door prizes, either something you've made or that you can get a business to donate. There are boxes in the lounge and Narthex for depositing these donations.

## ALL DAUGHTER BANQUET

The All-Daughter Banquet will be Wednesday, May 12th at 6:00 pm. All God's daughters (not just members of First St. John) are welcome to attend. This year's theme is "Serving in His Steps."

Tickets will be on sale beginning Sunday, April 11th through Sunday, May 9th at the Welcoming Center in the narthex and in the church office. Watch your bulletins and May newsletter for more information. Please make plans to be involved in celebrating women in the church.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School this summer will be Sunday, July 18th through Thursday, July 22nd from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm each night. The theme this year is "High Seas Expedition: Exploring the Mighty Love of God." Vacation Bible School is for ages 3 through fifth grade and is a great ministry tool for helping kids become closer to Jesus. Please pray and ask God what He might want you to help with!

Look for registration information soon. If you have questions or would like to help, please contact Abbie Skorupa at 419-346-1752. Hope to see you there!

## MEMORIALS

### MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Joanne Harrell** by Carl & Janet Morrison, Bernice Martin, James R. Harrell, Ruth Cummerow, M/M Gerald Ehram.

In memory of **Frederick (Bill) Besgrove** by George & Elaine Ackerman, Mary Roberts, Bill & Debra Besgrove, Helen Brower, Daniel & Amy Brower, Julie Berenstein, Bernice Sellers, Marilyn Gentz and family, M/M Gerald Ehram, Tom & Fran Kemski, Louis & Mary Ann Schneider, Margene Spring, Dave & Diane Habegger, Amy & Steve Zajac, Michele Booth, Nelson Schaffer, Tamara & Marty Limmer, Bill & Donna Nelson, Karen Frey, Vickie Beshalske, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, James DeMaria, Ernie & Marge Bollinger, Norman & Phyllis Schuffenecker, William & Julie Moritz, Joan Bailey, Robert & Carol Keeley, Omajean Roper, Linda & Fritz Kalmbach; Don, Karen, Craig & Eric Holmes, Tom & Debbie Hyatt and family, Dave & Lore Warnke, Heidi & Lloyd Lind, Richard & Bev Besgrove, Olney & Lark Staff.

In memory of **Betty Lauman** by Jerry & Karen Counterman.

In memory of **Mark Brecklen** by Marv & Joyce Zirkle.

### ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of **Frederick (Bill) Besgrove** by Gene Hagedorn.

### ALTAR GUILD

In memory of **Frederick (Bill) Besgrove** by Terry & Jane Schuetz.

### DEBT REDUCTION

In memory of **Frederick (Bill) Besgrove** by Ada Kreger.

### CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Frederick (Bill) Besgrove** by Ken & Joyce Villhauer, Nancy Gallaher, Keith & Kim Kwiatkowski, Erin & Chuck Popovich, Ashlee Kwiatkowski & Bill Fisher, Walt & Darlene Metzger.

### GENERAL FUND

In memory of **Frederick (Bill) Besgrove** by James Harrell.

### ELEVATOR FUND

In memory of **Joanne Harrell** by M/M Robert Giaimo, Edith Schuffenecker, Gene & Elnore Groll.  
In memory of **Frederick (Bill) Besgrove** by Gene & Elnore Groll, Rose Schuck.  
In memory of **James Ackerman** by Gene & Elnore Groll.

### RECYCLING MAGAZINES



A basket is in the lounge for recycling magazines to be donated to an area hospital's Emergency waiting room. Please remember to tear off your address label before donating. Thank you.

### CEMETERY NOTICE

Please remove any Christmas decorations from the graves by April 3rd, Easter weekend. Thank you.

### LIBRARY NEWS



**EVERY DAY CHANCE** by Max Lucado has been donated by Sue Moszkowicz in honor of her daughter Monica's birthday. Lucado's goal in this book is to help you make every day a good one.

Happy Easter,  
Marilyn Cashen

### WINSLOW SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A scholarship has been instituted to help members of First St. John who will attend college the 2010/2011 year. Money will come from the David Winslow Memorial Golf outing, but anyone can donate to this fund. Scholarship applications are in the church office. Applications must be completed and returned to the church office by May 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered.

## RENEW April Schedule

### April 4 Happy Easter!

Praise HIM for He is RISEN!  
Breakfast @ **8:45AM**  
No Sunday School!  
No Youth Group

### April 11

Sunday School **9AM**

### 3:30PM Apologetix Concert with St. Mark Lutheran Rewind Band

Meet at First St. John @3PM  
Proceeds will benefit Haiti relief. \$10

### April 18: Confirmation Sunday.

Congrats, 8th Graders!  
**9AM** Breakfast only

### Youth Group 7PM

"Meet & Greet" with St. Mark Youth.  
Bring your own dish. Sign-up in the  
youth room.

### April 25

Sunday School **9AM**  
Dayschool singing @10:15 service  
No Youth Group!

Visit us at:

<http://www.firststjohn.com/youth-group-happenings/>

*"I do not understand the mystery of grace--  
only that it meets us where we are, but does  
not leave us where it found us."*

— Anne Lamott

## NOTICE FROM OUR SYNOD:

### *"Sharing Faith and Serving: Northwestern Ohio Synod Annual Appeal"*

In our Northwestern Ohio Synod we share our faith and serve our Lord, both individually in our daily lives and in our congregations as we proclaim the gospel and make a difference in the world. Through the Northwestern Ohio Synod we have a history of being a strong voice proclaiming our Lord and serving God's people.

This spring we take a new, bold step to do this even more effectively. Gathered at the Synod Assembly, representatives of our congregations voted to embark on a synod-wide financial appeal to strengthen our ministry. Pastors and other leaders have already made their commitments to this appeal. Now each member of every congregation in our synod can make a commitment to strengthen the ministry we do together.

All money given to *Sharing Faith and Serving* will be passed on to various partners to improve lives and strengthen the proclamation of the gospel. The synod has a long and positive relationship with these partners. Money will be used for preparing leaders through Trinity Lutheran Seminary, the Northwestern Ohio Synod Fund for Leaders in Mission, and Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio. Money will be used for strengthening congregations through New and Renewing Congregations in Northwestern Ohio and the ELCA Churchwide Congregations Mission Plan. Money will reach around the world through the ELCA World Hunger Appeal and the Dodoma Diocese, our Companion Synod in Tanzania.

Over the next few weeks, we will learn more about how **Sharing Faith and Serving** will make a difference here in Ohio, across our country and around the world, and how you can be a part of this. In mid-April you will receive a synod mailing that will provide you with the means to respond. On **Sunday, April 25**, all members of our congregations will be invited to make their commitment during worship. When God's people put their hands to the task of doing God's work, incredible things can happen. Pray that this may be the result of ***Sharing Faith and Serving: Our Northwestern Ohio Synod Annual Appeal.***



## ***E-MAILING THE NEWSLETTER***

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 send your e-mail address to:

[firststjohn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:firststjohn@sbcglobal.net)

## DAYSCHOOL NEWS

*[Jesus said,] "I am alive."  
— Revelations 1:18*

Dear Friends,

During the past months, we have awaited and celebrated our Savior's birth. We have heard how he grew, taught, healed, and unconditionally loved those around him. The children have come to know Jesus in a more personal way. As we began to teach about his suffering and death, we kept in mind how difficult it is for young children to understand both why and how this happened to Jesus. Cartoon heroes don't lose. Isn't Jesus stronger than they are? The focus in teaching the good news was on Jesus' love for us and the reason he let himself be hurt and die and also for His glorious resurrection. Jesus did not lose. He won! And he shares his victory with us. Through books, flannel stories, and plastic eggs (that contain pieces of the resurrection story), the good news of Easter was shared! The Easter story **shouts** the Gospel, and that is what we are hoping our children take from First St. John. Our prayer is that they will hold Him close to their hearts and tell others about Him!

Throughout the month of April, we will be celebrating spring! There are so many amazing signs of new life and rebirth to look forward to. The flowers, trees, birds, bugs, sunshine, and rain - they are all such a wonderful part of this season. We will continue to work on the central truth that God made the world and everything in it. He still takes care of it all, including us! I have said many times how much I enjoy listening to the children articulate their faith . . . it never gets old!

For those of you who enjoy the Club Choice

products, we are again selling them to raise funds for our school. Order forms are available in the Narthex, Dayschool office or Church office. Thanks in advance for help with this. All funds are going toward enhancing our classroom materials.

The Dayschool can earn a donation every time you search the Internet and shop online!!! Search the web with Yahoo-powered GoodSearch.com and they'll donate a penny to our school each time you search! Shop at more than 600 GoodShop.com merchants including Amazon, Best Buy, Toys R Us, and others, and a percentage of each purchase will go to our school!

If you have any ribbon, rick-rack, material, doilies, old buttons, sequins, beads, or the like; you could drop them off at the Dayschool office and I would find a good use for them. The children are quite good at creating masterpieces from scraps! A special thanks to those of you who already think of us often.

We will entertain the congregation of First St. John with our beautiful voices on Sunday, April 25th at the 10:15 service. We will do our very best job and pray you will enjoy us!

Continue to spread the word about our school and the registration that has begun. Some classes are already full with waiting lists. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please encourage them to come, see, and experience the quality program we have to offer. Please continue to keep this ministry in your prayers. It is truly a blessing to all involved.

In Him,  
6 Barb Shellhammer



## DARTBALL DIARY



**March 1, 2010— First St. John #1 at Good Shepherd:** Tonight was a good night for our team as we won all three games. Our record is now 18-15.

The first game was over pretty quickly as we won it 1-0 on a home run by Ted in the 2nd inning.

In the second game, we won 3-2. Frank homered in the 1st inning for a 1-0 lead. In their half of the 1st they homered to tie it 1-1. In the 4th, they went ahead 2-1 on another home run. In the 7th inning we got the final runs on a homer by Terry, a triple by Chet, and single by Mike. Final score was 3-2.

In the 1st inning of the third game we got off to a 1-0 lead on a homer by Tom G. Then we went ahead 2-0 on a homer by Frank. In their half of the 6th, they made it 2-1 on a single and a triple. In the 7th we made it 3-1 on doubles by Mike and Terry. In the 8th they went ahead 4-3 on 2 doubles and a home run. Then we won it in the 9th on a triple by Tom E. and a homer by Terry, making the final score 5-4.

**March 15, 2010 — First St. John #1 at First St. John #2:** In the 1st inning of the first game, we got off to a 1-0 lead on a homer by Darold. In their half of the 1st they homered to tie it 1-1. In the 3rd inning they went ahead 2-1 on 2 doubles. In the 7th they homered to make it 4-1, and that's the way it ended.

In the second game they got off to a 1-0 lead in the 1st on a homer run. In the 2nd, they increased their lead to 2-0 on another homer. In the 4th we made it 2-1 on a triple by Darold and a single by Ted. In the 6th they hit 2 homers to make it 4-1. In the 8th they homered again to make the final score 5-1.

In the 1st inning of the third game they struck for 6 runs on a single, a homer, a double and 2 more homers for a 6-0 lead. In the 2nd we got 2 runs on doubles by Tom E., Tom G., and Mike to make it 6-2. In the 3rd inning they homered to make it 7-2. In the 5th they homered again to make it 8-2. In our half of the 5th we made it 8-5 on a homer by Raj, a double by Darold, and another homer by Tom E. In the 8th they doubled twice to make it 9-5. In the

9th, Mike homered to make the final score 9-6 and a sweep for St. John's #2.

### League Standings as of 3-1-10

|                 | W  | L  | GBL |
|-----------------|----|----|-----|
| 1st St. John #2 | 21 | 12 | *   |
| Trinity         | 21 | 12 | *   |
| 1st St. John #1 | 18 | 15 | 3   |
| First St. Mark  | 18 | 15 | 3   |
| Messiah         | 18 | 15 | 3   |
| Good Shepherd   | 15 | 18 | 6   |
| St. Mark        | 13 | 20 | 9   |
| St. Lucas       | 8  | 25 | 12  |

### U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

The U.S. Census Bureau will be using our lounge the week of April 26th from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm each day. Please plan your group's activities accordingly. Thanks.

### THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM REPLACES MATCHING FUNDS

Thrivent Choice<sup>SM</sup> is a new giving program that lets members help choose where Thrivent Financial gives back. Through its **Choice Dollars**<sup>SM</sup> program, approximately 30% of benefit members can direct Thrivent Choice Dollars to thousands of Lutheran nonprofit organizations, including Lutheran congregations.

Eligibility for Choice Dollars is based on a benefit member's insurance premiums, account values and volunteer leadership. Most eligible benefit members will be able to direct between \$25 and \$100, and some may be able to direct as much as \$500.

Note: Directing Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup> will be subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Thrivent Choice Program.

If you have questions about Thrivent Choice<sup>SM</sup>, call 1-800-847-4836 and at the prompt, say "Fraternal Service Center" or go to: [fraternal@thrivent.com](mailto:fraternal@thrivent.com).

## First St. John Prayer Chain

(as of March 24, 2010)

### Crisis Prayer List

This is for those who need prayers in an urgent matter such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after 1 month unless one of the prayer chain contacts is notified of special circumstances:

**Kris Ensign  
Brenda Fussell  
Anne Jackson  
Family of Helen Konoff  
Paul Kuhlman  
Neta Lamp  
Sam Mousa  
Family of Bill Pasztor  
Wayne Rode  
Ian Vargo**

### Chronic Prayer List

This is for those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer, medical struggles and recovery and personal situations. Individuals will be moved off after 3 months unless one of the prayer chain contacts is notified of continuing circumstances:

**Family of Sandra Abramczyk  
Donald Curtis  
Jackie Curtis  
John Deuble  
Bernie Erdmann  
Walter Felder  
Family of Bill Fouke  
John (no last name given)  
Jerry Gears  
Don Higley  
Veva Larson  
George "Skip" McCullough  
Jodi Perlinski  
Jake Richards  
Julia Rhoades  
Janet Roberts  
Kathy Rushing  
Barb Straits  
Tina (no last name given)  
Candy Webster  
Donna Weis  
Christopher Wilson**

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

### Prayer Chain Contacts

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

### *MILITARY SERVICE NOTES*



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

*SSGT Kevin Fouty*  
(we do not have a current address)

*SGT Nick Grady*  
2711B Chow Circle  
Kailua, HI 96734

*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*  
(we do not have a current address)

*Matthew Phillips*  
1 ERHG / Red Horse  
APO AE 09355

*Captain Lindsey Rowland*  
(we do not have a current address)

*Grant Rowland*  
BP 493 Kaolack  
Senegal, W. Africa



