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# ◇ First St. John Journal ◇

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Volume 23, Issue 9

September 2010

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**A**s we begin again after the months of summer, sometimes it's important to remember the "small" things we do can really turn into big things. Richard Carlson, in his book "What About The Big Stuff?" told an interesting story:

Returning home from school one evening, Matt encountered a stranger on the steps leading to his apartment. The man, who stood and brushed himself off when he saw Matt approach, looked vaguely familiar.

"I just wanted to thank you," the man said.

"Do I know you?" asked Matt.

"I was the homeless man who lived under these very steps a few months ago. You never gave me any money, but you always asked how I was doing and stuck around for some conversation. I thought that if a stranger could show me respect, then I should be able to muster a little for myself. Anyway, I only wanted you to know how much that meant to me. I'm okay now – I have a job and a place to stay."

Matt shook the man's hands and wished him luck with his new job. Then Matt smiled. It hadn't occurred to him until now that such a simple gesture on his part – showing a sincere interest in someone – could transform a person's life.

As we strive to grow together in Christ and live a Christian life, sometimes it's important to remember that the "small stuff" can really be the "big stuff" in someone else's eyes – and in the Savior's eyes, as well.

-- Pastor Blohm

## SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS!!

Save the date! September 12<sup>th</sup> is J.A.M. FEST (Sunday School) for children from ages pre-kindergarten (3 years old by Sept. 30) through sixth grade. Join us for The Amazing Race! A registration form can be found in this newsletter which you can mail or fax (419-691-7220) to the church.

Hebrews 12:1 – *"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."*

## REGULAR OFFICE HOURS RESUME



On Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, church office hours return to Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The office will be closed for Labor Day.

## TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. when our Tuesday evening Bible class begins. We will finish the final few chapters of the book that has kept us going for so long, "The Shack," and then we will discuss what lies ahead!

## NEW CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS

The church's e-mail address has changed. Our new email is: [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com) Please update your email address book accordingly.

Reminder: If your email address has changed, please call (or email!) the church office to update it. Thanks.

**Member Address Changes**

Marian Chaney  
4560 W. Alexis Rd. Apt. 132  
Toledo, OH 43623

Darlene Eggert  
Otterbein Portage Valley  
20311 Pemberville Rd.  
Pemberville, OH 43450

Virginia Hoffman  
1306 Eastmeadow Dr.  
Oregon, OH 43616

Karen McVicker  
1537 Woodville Rd. Apt. B  
Millbury, OH 43447

Rose Molnar  
6 Norman Lane, NW  
Rome, GA 30166

Marion Roth  
Lutheran Home at Toledo—Rm. 223-2  
131 N. Wheeling St.  
Toledo, OH 43605

**ELDERS FOR SEPTEMBER**

9/5	Dick Haar, Joanne Henningsen	
	<b>7:45 am</b>	<b>10:15am</b>
9/12	Volunteers Needed	Eric Johnson Linda Kusian
9/19	Mike Winslow Gene Schacht	Darold Henninger Jim Swanson
9/26	Dick Haar Joanne Henningsen	Lynn Folk Bill Nelson

**Membership Updates**

**Births**

8/10/10 *Tucker Eric Schuffenecker,*  
born to Eric and Brandy  
(Howard) Schuffenecker

**Baptisms**

8/22/10 *Nathan Thomas Horvath,*  
born November 17, 2009 to  
Anthony and Tara (Lazor)  
Horvath. Sponsors are Michael  
and Angela LaMantia.

**Marriages**

None.

**Deaths**

8/23/10 Elisabeth Hecklinger

**Transfers to/from St. John**

None

**MIRIAM CIRCLE MEETING**

The Miriam Circle will meet Wednesday, September 8th at 9:30 am. Pastor Labuhn will be leading our Bible study for the new season.

**RUTH CIRCLE MEETING**

The Ruth Circle meets Tuesday, September 7th at 11:00 a.m. in the lounge for their regular meeting.

**ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS**

To keep our office records up-to-date, if your name, address or phone number changes, please notify the office by faxing (419-691-7220), mailing this form: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605. Email: office@firststjohn.com

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

## **MEMORIALS**

### **ENDOWMENT FUND**

In memory of **Naomi Zimmerman** by Fred & Hilda Saelzler, Marilyn Cashen.

### **HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES**

In memory of **Naomi Zimmerman** by Bob & Sherrie Haar.

### **CHOIR**

In memory of **Naomi Zimmerman** by Ada Kreger, Donna Koester, Carlene Trost, Jim & Janet Roberts, Louise Diersch, Chuck & Betty Hyre, Chuck & Jane Neal, Ethel Rideout, Pastor Gerald & Ilean Labuhn, Ernest and Marge Bollinger.

### **BETTY HYRE'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

In memory of **Naomi Zimmerman** by Dick & Nedra Sheets, M/M Robert Beeles, Sr., Eileen & Vic Schuerman, M/M Karl Offerman, Ruth Phillips, Bud Kahler, Bonnie Sloan, Jean DeWitt, Ronald Ohm, George & Elaine Ackerman, Eileen Young.

### **ELEVATOR FUND**

In memory of **Naomi Lehmann** by Bonnie Varga.  
In memory of **George Fielding** by M/M Ernest Rodrigues.

### **CURRENT FUND**

In memory of **Joe Chaney** by Bill & Beverlee Winslow.

In memory of **Naomi Zimmerman** by Louise & Jim Sommers.

### **CEMETERY FUND**

In memory of **Joe Chaney** by Roy & Rita Riegle.

### **MEMORIAL FUND**

In memory of **James Mars** by Paul & Vivian Kuhlman.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

In memory of **Joe Chaney** by the First St. John Men's Breakfast Fellowship.

## **NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY— SCHEDULE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY APPOINTMENT**

Universal Church Directories will be taking family photos in October for the new church directory. If you have a computer, you may begin scheduling your appointment on-line. Picture dates are October 11, 12, 27, 28, and 29th. Follow the instructions below to schedule on-line. If you do not have a computer, please call Lynn Folk at 419-691-3410 to schedule.

### **ONLINE SCHEDULING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILY APPOINTMENT**

- Go to the Universal Church Directories website ([www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com))
- Click on the sunburst icon
- Enter your church code: OH1131
- Enter your church password: first
- Click on the Enter button
- Click on the desired photography date
- Click the Reserve Time button beside the desired appointment time
- Enter the appropriate information in all required fields (indicated by a red asterisk)
- Enter your email address if you desire a confirmation email
- Click the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the appointment time in your family's name
- Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your family's photography appointment

Contact Lynn Folk at 419-691-3410 to change or cancel your photography appointment, or to schedule.

**ALZHEIMER'S  
ASSOCIATION  
2010 MEMORY WALK at  
TOLEDO ZOO**



This year's walk will be Sunday, October 3rd at the Toledo Zoo. Registration starts at 10:30 am, and the Walk starts at noon. Last year, we had six people who helped raise over \$1,100. This year our goal is \$1,500 for this very worthy cause. There is no registration fee, and each participant who raises at least \$100 will receive a T shirt, besides having a great day at the Zoo!

To join the team or to donate online, please go to [www.toledomemorywalk2010.kintera.org](http://www.toledomemorywalk2010.kintera.org). Follow the prompts to our team, 1st St John Lutheran Church. You may also give cash/check donations to any team member if you're not comfortable with online giving. If you or someone you know is a business owner, you can also give corporate sponsorships that can be added to our church's team total. Any questions, please call Janine Contat at 419-693-5183 (after 5:00 pm) or email her at [j9swancont@hotmail.com](mailto:j9swancont@hotmail.com).

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE  
SEPTEMBER 23rd**

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**

The next men's fellowship breakfast will be Saturday, September 4th at 8:00 am at Bob Evans on Navarre Avenue. If you have any questions or if you need a ride, please call Bob Haar at 419-360-7510.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Pastor Blohm will lead adult Bible classes on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the lounge beginning September 12th. Join Pastor and our bunch as we discuss the issues of today in light of the Word of God. All are welcome!

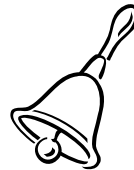


**FEEL LIKE SINGING?  
SO DO WE!**

Time for choir! If you are high school age or older and love to sing, then come and join us! Our first practice is Thursday, September 9th at 7:00 pm. *Hope to see you there!*

**BOARD OF MINISTRIES MEETING**

After a long break, our board of ministries begins again this month. Join us on Tuesday, September 14th at 6:00 pm as we discuss what's happening in our ministries.



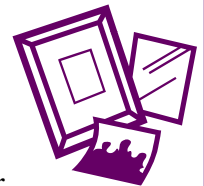
**BELL CHOIR PRACTICE**

Come on out and join the Bell choir! Our first practice is Monday, September 13th at 5:30 pm. No experience necessary! Hope to see you there.

**BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY**

Our lunch/Bible study sessions begin on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at noon. Come and let's together discuss what we want to study this year! Bring your own lunch; coffee and water will be provided. Everyone is welcome!

**ARTICLES OF FIRST ST.  
JOHN'S HISTORY  
NEEDED**



Next year is our 150 year anniversary, and we are collecting as much church history as possible. But we need your help. If you have any documents, pictures, or artifacts, please contact Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506. We will take your name, phone number, and email address and contact you to see how we may make copies of your material. We promise to be careful with any material we receive and return it promptly. Please help us if you can. We want to make our celebration very special. Thank you.

-- Bill Caldwell

**First St. John's Lutheran Church  
Prayer Chain (as of 8-26-10)**

**Crisis List** *Those who need prayers for upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Persons moved to Chronic after 1st month unless a prayer chain contact is notified of special circumstances:*

**Richard & Marjorie Counterman  
Russ Hunsaker  
Pat O'Connor  
Jacquelyn Seger  
Gwen Tober**

**Chronic List** *Those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles, recovery, and/or personal situations. Persons moved off after 3 months unless a prayer chain contact is notified of special circumstances:*

**Laura & Randy Bless  
Mary Brymer  
Family of Joe Chaney  
Tiffany Cox  
Jackie Curtis  
John Deuble  
Family of Jeff Dreier  
Norm Dreier  
Kris Ensign  
Bernie Erdmann  
Jerry Gears  
Gene Groll  
Harvey Heath  
Don Higley  
Ben Howe  
Families of Lake Twp. Tornado Victims  
Neta Lamp  
Veva Larson  
Larry Lorenzen  
George "Skip" McCullough  
Sam Mousa  
Charlie Ohlson  
Howard Peace  
Barb Phillips  
Julia Rhoads  
Janet Roberts  
Fred Saelzler  
Fran Saunders  
Terry Leighton Schwan  
Ian Vargo  
Candy Webster  
Donna Weis**

Please check the list and let any prayer chain contact listed below know if persons can be moved off the list.

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

***MILITARY ADDRESSES***



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

*TSgt Kevin Fouty*  
2412 1st Ave. N.  
Great Falls, MT 59401

*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*  
78382 Dukewood Trail  
Yula, FL 32097

*2LT Michael R. Pavley*  
104th Transportation Co.  
Shindand AB  
APO AE 09382

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

*Captain Lindsey Rowland*  
HHC-210BSB 2BCT-10th Mountain  
COS Hammer  
APO AE 09309

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



## RENEW—YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS!!

**JAM Fest September 12:** We need you! If you would like to help please let Mary know:  
[mdarling05@yahoo.com](mailto:mdarling05@yahoo.com)

**Sunday School for 7-12 graders will kick off September 26 at 9AM.** Hope to see you in the New RENEW STUDENT MINISTRY ROOM!

**No Sunday School September 19**

**Saturday, Sept. 18: Point Fest at Cedar Point**  
We will be kicking off our Renew Student Ministry by attending Point Fest! Hope you and your friends can join us! Some of the biggest names in Christian music will converge upon Cedar Point! Come see **Casting Crowns, FamilyForce5, Remedy Drive, David Nasser** and the **Skit Guys**. — Don't forget - you can also enjoy Cedar Point's 75 rides just next door, including the new Shoot the Rapids water river adventure ride! If you'd like to go please let Mary know by August 31<sup>st</sup>. We will be purchasing group tickets, so if we get a group of 15+ the price will be under \$40, depending on how many people we get to go! The ticket price includes admission to the park and concert. There are also cheaper prices if you have a season price. Departure and return times TBA.

Matthew 28:19—  
*“Therefore go and make disciples  
of all nations.”*

**Alzheimer's Walk:** We'll be walking to raise support for this cause on Sun., Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Hope you can join us! We get a free entrance to the Zoo.

## CATECHISM BEGINS SOON

Attention parents! If your child is entering either the 7th or 8th grade this year, please call the church office at 419-691-7222 to register for catechism. Catechism classes begin on Monday, September 13th at 6:30 pm.

## SCHEDULING A MEETING??

Please check with the church office on the availability of the lounge or the church BEFORE you tell the rest of your group about your meeting. Don't just go by the newsletter calendar or even the weekly calendar in the bulletin. Many meetings turn out to be last minute and do not appear on the calendars. This applies to ANY meeting, even if it's only two or three people. Thank you.

## DAVID WINSLOW MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLES UPDATE



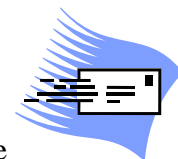
Our golf scrambles on July 31<sup>st</sup> included 100 golfers. The winning team came in at 15 under, and we raised \$3,300 for the David Winslow Memorial Scholarship fund. Thank you to all who sponsored a hole and/or donated door prizes. We appreciate your support of this event. Thanks everyone, and we'll see you next summer!

## TASTEFULLY SIMPLE® FUNDRAISER

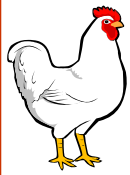
The Women of the Church, in a combined effort with the Dayschool, are sponsoring a fundraiser of Tastefully Simple® products, beginning Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> and running through Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds will help raise money to purchase a new freezer for the gym kitchen, replace the stove, and upgrade other appliances.

Tastefully Simple® products, for those who do not know, are food items and mixes you can create with two or fewer items in a short period of time—perfect for busy people on the go! Gifts also are available. The fundraiser packets/catalogs will be available in the lounge and the Narthex if you would like to help. Please turn your order in to the church or Dayschool offices (including payment). Your order will be shipped directly to your home. Thank you.

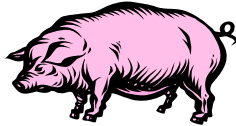
## E-MAILING THE NEWSLETTER



Help us trim the cost of sending the newsletter. E-mailing not only saves postage, but also ink and paper. If you would like your newsletter and calendar e-mailed to you, please send your e-mail address to: [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com)



## Chicken & Ham Dinner



Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 6th—the biggest church event of the year! Delicious meals of chicken, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls & butter, and homemade desserts will be served from 4:00-7:00 p.m. This is a great community event, and it's not just for members. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers—they'll be glad you did!!!

Tickets will be available in September. You may buy tickets from the church office or from circle members, or you can call Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506. Tickets will go on sale after services in the lounge and narthex on October 24th and 31st. And, yes, you can buy them at the door.

### Ticket Prices:

Adults	\$8.50
Children 3-12 yrs	\$4.00
Children 2 yrs & under	Free (still need ticket)

Watch your October bulletins and newsletter for more information and a sign up sheet with ways you can help.

## DAYCHOOL NEWS

Dear Friends,

Another school year is beginning and we are excited to have the opportunity to teach young children about our Father and to watch their faith grow. It is a happy time around here, a time of new beginnings and new friendships. We know each child is a special gift from God and we thank Him for bringing them to us. Our teachers have spent a lot of time preparing for this new school year. They are committed to providing a Christ-centered learning environment for their students. We ask for God's blessing on the coming school year and your prayers that God will give us wisdom and joy as we teach His children!

We will kick off a joint fundraiser September 1 – 15 with the women of the church. The money raised will be used to purchase a freezer for the kitchen. We hope many of you will enjoy the products offered from Tastefully Simple. Please see Jane Neal for further information.

The Dayschool also will sell coupon books that have worthwhile content. The books feature many locations and offers not found in any other program. The unique combination of local and national merchants means the coupons are worth using at places you already love. The cost is \$20, and they will be available in the church office to view before purchasing. Funds raised will be used for program improvements and supplies. Please consider helping us in this endeavor.

We begin visiting the Alzheimer's Day Center this month, a rich and rewarding experience for all involved. We are thankful we have the opportunity to participate in such a fulfilling ministry and form new connections with the clients of the Day Center.

If you would like to visit a classroom, or have a special talent you think the children would be interested in, please call me at the Dayschool office 419-691-6480, and we can schedule a time for your visit.

Thank you for inviting the Dayschool families to join your congregation for worship on August 29<sup>th</sup> and for the scholarships presented as a result of your generosity. Our main objective is to lead children to Jesus, and without your support, that could never be accomplished. May our heavenly Father bless our school and church family as we grow together in His love.

In service to His children,

Barb Shellhammer



## Needed: Craft & Bake Sale Items

We need items to sell at the Craft and Bake Sale held during the Chicken and Ham Dinner on November 6th. If you can help or if you would like to have your own craft table, please contact Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506 or Louise Sommers at 419-691-7719.

## WEBSITE INFORMATION

If you have information to be posted to First St. John's website, please contact Diane Habegger using this email address: [dihab53@gmail.com](mailto:dihab53@gmail.com)

# A Thought

from your Finance Committee

Your Finance Committee hopes that all our members and friends are having an enjoyable summer, traveling, getting together with family and friends, or just enjoying a little slower pace.

First St. John is soldiering on through the summer with fewer in attendance and Looking forward to the return of our members and friends after Labor Day.

We remind everyone that our expenses— payroll, utilities, supplies and other overhead— don't take a vacation. It would be helpful if everyone can make an effort to stay current with their giving, even though you may not be able to attend at this time. Your cooperation and support will be very much appreciated. Thank you.

## STEP by STEP

Stepping Stones of the Steward





## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES – AUGUST 17, 2010

Bill called the meeting to order. Barb Shellhammer gave the devotion. Attendance was taken and there was not a quorum in attendance.

Approval of minutes were dispensed with.

**Special Report-** Melissa Lang gave a report on Thrivent Choice Dollars. Monies collected have to go toward helping others or to a church organization. Thrivent is sending letters to churches to explain the program. There was discussion on how to use the money from Thrivent around the church. Thrivent needs advocate members to explain what Thrivent can do for congregations. Voting on a project will take place at the next meeting.

**Board of Education-**Karen Holmes reported on the Aug. 29 service. Things are in place to handle people and for the order of service. The TV is hooked up downstairs, and Darold and Eric will take care of it. Parking issues have been solved by using the grove and orphanage lots, and the bus will shuttle them. Dayschool scholarships will be given out during this service. Julie Gallaher reported about the Sunday School program for the 2010-2011 year. They are advertising Sunday School to the Dayschool parents. Parents of SS students can stay and chat during the SS hour outside the SS school room in the basement. Melissa brought up the need for a VBS manager for next year. It was suggested to a paid Christian Education position. Bill suggested a staff meeting to talk about the issue.

**Elders-**The 29<sup>th</sup> service is covered.

**Property Mgmt-** The annual fire inspection took place, and the hood over the stove in kitchen needs to be replaced. Quotes are being collected. They are inspecting the hot water situation- hot water coming out instead of cold in some faucets.

**Finance-**The accounts were explained by the committee. There was a comparison made between July 2009 and July 2010. Last year's July income was down, but it is down even more this year. Giving needs to be maintained to meet expenses and pick up the shortfall we have. A reminder will be put in the bulletin to let the congregation know what is happening with meeting the budget.

**Treasurer's Report-**No report

**Youth -**No report

**Dayschool-**They started extended care today. Parent meetings have begun. Soon there will be 180 in the building. They are going to try more fund raisers this year. Tuition has not been increased this year for any student.

**Pastor Report-**A reminder to come to the service on the 29<sup>th</sup>. We want people to see our church as a welcoming place. Please encourage people to come.

**Old Business-**Bill asked for feedback about the summer service. Bill mentioned the 150 yr. celebration. Committee meets every month. Proceeds from the Pancake Breakfast go to the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration expenses. One year ago the Board of Ed came to council to ask permission to:

- Create a modern space for our youth group to meet and worship
- Redesign the nursery so it can be used for both a pre school room and a nursery
- Create a new cafeteria space for the Dayschool in the gymnasium that is flexible enough to allow other church activities
- Create a new space in the basement for parents to wait for children in the SS. Includes a place to sit and have coffee and rolls.

Permission was given and after some hard work by a lot of volunteers, the project will be complete for the upcoming JAM sessions beginning this September.

**New Business-**Pictures will be taken for a new directory. Lynn Folk has connected with the company. The book will be made for free. Only cost is if someone wants to purchase pictures for themselves. Oct 11 and 12, 27, 28, and 29 are the dates for pictures to be taken.

Meeting was brought to an end by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Habegger