



First St. John Journal



Volume 24, Issue 4

April, 2011

“There was great joy in the city.” — Acts 8:8

“Though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” — 1 Peter 1:8-9

“I have told you this so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.” — John 15:11

Oswald Chambers, the great messenger of God, wrote often about the difference between *happiness* and *joy*. Chambers once wrote, “The Bible talks plentifully about joy, but it nowhere speaks about a ‘happy’ Christian. Happiness depends on what happens, joy does not. The stronghold of the Christian faith is the joy of God, not my joy in God! Remember Jesus’ prayer, ‘that my joy may be in you . . .’”

The Joyful Noiseletter (it gets its title from Psalm 98:4) told about a “Resurrection Sunday Dance” performed by over 1,500 young Christian men and women in the city square of Budapest, Hungary. The dancing and singing, all beautifully choreographed (and joined in by many older folk), is captured in a You Tube video, sponsored by Faith Church in Budapest. Some of the lyrics are:

*A light dawned that Sunday morning
It broke through the boundaries of time
That day will be remembered as the greatest
day in history!
Joy in this lifetime, utterly free.
Let’s celebrate eternal life.*

And that’s a great idea! If you don’t have access to a computer, go to the library and go to You Tube and type in “Resurrection Sunday Dance 2010.” The joy in that video is contagious!

Then come to God’s House – and join in the celebration of eternal life!

— Pastor Blohm

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday, April 17

7:45 am — Worship
9:00 am — JAM Sunday School
10:15 am — Worship

Maundy Thursday, April 21

12:00 pm — Worship
7:00 pm — Worship

Good Friday, April 22

12:00 pm — Worship
7:00 pm — Worship

Easter Sunday, April 24

7:45 am — Early Worship
10:30 am — Late Worship
11:30 am — Communion Following

Mother Daughter Spa Day

“Mothers have as powerful an influence over the welfare of future generations as all other earthly causes combined.”

~ *John S.C. Abbott*

Calling all mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and daughters of all ages! Come share some “together time” at First St. John’s Spa Day on Saturday April 30th. Pamper yourselves with pedicures, manicures, makeup and massages, and more! Photos will be available to remember the special day. Lunch also will be provided.

Watch the bulletins for more information on this event. If you want to set up a station at this event, contact Julie Gallaher at 419-250-4143 or 419-693-5081. See you there!

APRIL ELDER SCHEDULE

3rd	<u>7:45 am</u> Darold Henninger Mike Winslow	<u>10:15 am</u> Lynn Folk Bill Nelson
6th	<u>7:00 pm</u> Lynn Folk Bill Nelson	
10th	Bernie Erdmann Linda Erdmann	Eric Johnson Linda Kusian
13th	<u>7:00 pm</u> Darold Henninger Mike Winslow	
17th	Mike Winslow Dick Haar	Jeff Smith Jim Swanson
<u>Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm</u> VOLUNTEERS NEEDED		
<u>Good Friday</u> <u>12:00 pm</u> <u>7:00 pm</u> VOLUNTEERS NEEDED		
<u>Easter</u>		
24th	<u>7:45 am</u> Darold Henninger Bill Nelson	<u>10:30 am</u> Lynn Folk Dick Haar

ADDRESS CHANGES



Tim Antoine
644 Whitlock Ave. Apt. 1
Toledo, OH 43605

Troy & Megan Boze
PO Box 148
Temperance, MI 48182
(Kennedy)

Joel & Ashley Hamilton
416 Buttonwood Ave.
Bowling Green, OH 43402
(Liam)

Matt Phillips
4924 Soaring Springs Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89131

Norm Schumaker
3730 Pinewood Circle Apt. 506
Bradenton, FL 34209

Virginia Tank
23268 Stony Ridge Rd.
Perrysburg, OH 43551

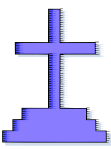
"PINT-SIZE" HEROES BLOOD DRIVE

A blood drive will be Tuesday, April 5th from 3:00 to 8:00 pm in the Community Room at the Lutheran Home at Toledo. If you would like to donate, there are pink slips in the pews to fill out and place in the offering plate, or call Lori Pfeiffer at 419-836-9580 or email her at lpfeiffer_lmp@yahoo.com

ATTENTION MIRIAM CIRCLE

Our next meeting has been changed to Wednesday, April 13th at 9:30 am. Please make a note of it.

CONFIRMATION



Confirmation practice will be on Saturday, April 2nd at 10:00 am in the church.

8th grade confirmation will be Sunday, April 3rd at the 10:15 am service. Please meet in the RENEW Youth room at 10:00 a.m. Pictures will be taken following the service.

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 CARD PARTY



The 20th annual Card Party & Luncheon is Tuesday, April 12th 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 door prizes, either something you make or that you can get a business to donate. Boxes are in the lounge and Narthex for depositing these donations. Everyone is welcome to join us for a fun day.

ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Our annual rummage sale is Thursday, May 5th and Friday, May 6th. 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 27th. 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.

CONGRATULATIONS!

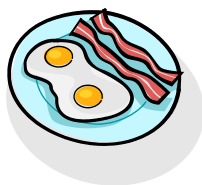


We send our congratulations to those couples who renewed their wedding vows at our special service on Sunday, March 20th.

Our couples are: Ernie & Marge Bollinger, Jim & Kim Cousino, Bernie & Linda Erdmann, Mike & Lynn Folk, Bob & Sherrie Haar, Dave & Diane Habegger, Bill & Terri Hamilton, Don & Karen Holmes, Duane & Mary Hubaker, Eric & Cindy Johnson, Keith & Kim Kwiatkowski, Larry & Darlene Lorenzen, Frank & Barb Meyers, Bill & Donna Nelson, Larry & Darlene Paul, Chuck & Erin Popovich, Terry & Jane Schuetz, Sam & Michelle Schwiefert, John & LuAnn Spoerl, and Mark & Susan Tilton.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE APRIL 21

MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP



In April, our Men's Breakfast Fellowship group will meet on Saturday, April 2nd at 8:00 a.m. at the American Table restaurant on Wheeling near Navarre Ave. If you need a ride, call Bob Haar at 419-360-7510.

MEMBER UPDATES

Births

None of which we are aware.

Baptisms

None

Marriages

3-20-11 Maria Siacor and Greg Thayer

Deaths

3-26-11 Larry Lorenzen
3-28-11 Doratha Berger

Transfers to/from First St. John

None

HELP FOR JAPAN

The ELCA Disaster Response team is collecting monetary donations to help victims of the massive earthquake and tsunami in Japan. If you'd like to help, please write your check to "ELCA Disaster Response" and write "Pacific Earthquake and Tsunami" on the memo line. Mail your check to:

ELCA Disaster Response
39330 Treasury Center
Chicago, IL 60694

We also recommend the organization called Samaritan's Purse (run by Billy Graham's son Franklin): www.samaritanspurse.org Thank you for your help.

MEMORIALS

CURRENT FUND

In memory of **Kate Webb** by Esther Jones, Dorothy Riddle, Karen Frey, Elaine Gladioux.

In memory of **Warren Danekind** by Olga Zimmerman, Bill & Beverlee Winslow.

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Olga Zimmerman, Louise & Jim Sommers.

CHOIR FUND

In memory of **Ray Zimmerman** by Louise Diersch, Vic & Eileen Schuerman, Judith Treuschel, Ernie & Marge Bollinger, Carlene Trost, Phyllis & Royal Wagner.

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Chuck & Jane Neal, Chuck & Betty Hyre.

DEBT RETIREMENT

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Russ & Chris Hunsaker.

AIR CONDITIONING FUND

In memory of **Kate Webb** by Duane & Mary K. Hubaker.

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Duane & Mary K. Hubaker, Esther Bell, Mary Kuhlman, Bev Miller, Pam Bayer.

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Gene Hagedorn, Ellie Habegger, Ada Kreger, Bill & Cathy Caldwell, Tom & Lori Avers, Jean DeWitt, M/M George Ackerman, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Martha Seal, M/M John Schult, Larry & Darlene Lorenzen, Sherri Sheffler, Merlin & Lois Lieske, Dave & Diane Habegger, M/M William Nelson, Jim & Dianne Schumaker, Ruth Ziethlow, Eileen Young, Carl & Juanita Lease, Marvin & Carol Keller, Clarence & Phyllis Ninke Family, Rebecca Circle, Terry & Mary Breymaier, Paul & Vivian Kuhlman, Tom & Janet Eppard.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Jim & Janet Fox.

ALTAR GUILD

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Gary & Penny DeWitt.

BELL CHOIR

In memory of Fred Saelzler by Raj & Linda Joshi.

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Nancy Gallaher, Ernie & Marge Bollinger.

LIBRARY

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Marilyn Cashen; Tom, Sandy & Kevin Garverick.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES

In memory of **Fred Saelzler** by Bob & Sherrie Haar, Barbara Bateson, Kenneth & Shirley Piotter, Joyce & Fred Klemm, Wayne & Rose Piotter, Larry & Barb Piotter, Carol McLaughlin, Arvella Saunder.

WHAT'S THIS ENVELOPE?

The Lenten envelope accidentally was left out of the March newsletter, so it is included this month (since Lent continues in April). If you wish to donate to our local benevolences, please use this envelope and either mail it back to the church or place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

LENTEN SERVICES

Services continue on Wednesday, April 6th and 13th. Services are at noon in the chapel and 7:00 pm in the church. Please, don't miss these opportunities to connect with the Lord during this Lenten season. This year's Wednesday theme is *Christ in the Strangest Places – Foreshadowed, Fulfilled and Forever.*

LIBRARY NEWS



Virginia Wegman has been kind to share her "Lutheran Woman" magazines with us. You do not have to check them out; we will be on the honor system, so just return them when you are done. They will be next to the Ideals section in the library.

Have a Blessed Easter,
Marilyn Cashen

The United States is 100 Years Old!

(From the Church Mouse)

While we were celebrating our new 1876 church building, the nation was celebrating the Centennial of the United States. I promised to “mouse” around Toledo and report.

WOW! What a celebration. The outlook in the morning of July 4th was discouraging. Rain threatened to spoil everything, but providence smiled at last! The four-mile-long parade displayed all the interests of the city. Eloquent speeches followed at the exhibition grounds on the river at the foot of Stickney Ave. Some 15,000 people packed the river bank as well as in boats of all descriptions. The fireworks were superb under a full moon. The Toledo Blade on the 5th of July summarized the event with: “Let us hope that every other city had as glorious a Centennial as ours. And that we may all meet at the next one.”

Previously, the mouse had stated that the cost of the 12 foot extension on the Chapel was unknown. We have found another box of old receipts and now have more information. The extension apparently was accomplished as funds were available. Timbers and framing lumber were purchased in the summer of 1867. Interior finishing materials were purchased in the spring of 1868. The project lasted a year, and expenses were \$1,011.92.

The school has been well attended, and the Pastor has asked for help. Help arrived in the person of Christian Lohmann in 1889. He married one of Pastor Beckel’s daughters and lived near the church. He worked until 1905 when the Church and Home Schools began to work together.

The Mouse does not have perfect pitch, but the Church bell is beginning to have a different sound. Upon closer inspection a crack has been found. This will require some expensive repair. We miss its sound and traditional ringing pattern. The Mouse would like to know your memories about bells and bell ringing.

The Church Mouse

VETERANS’ INFORMATION NEEDED

The 150th Anniversary Committee is putting together a special Memorial Day document listing all our deceased church members who served in the military and are buried in our cemetery.

We need your help to complete our information. If you had an ancestor who is buried in our cemetery and you have information regarding their service (i.e., war fought in, branch of service, unit name), please call either Floyd Hagedorn (734-848-3544) or Jim Fox (419-836-9617) by April 20th.

Thank you.

"I am the living one who died. Look, I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave." Revelation 1:18

Dear Friends,

Happy Easter! What a joyous time of year. Even though young children cannot fully grasp the impact of the Resurrection, they can participate in the joy we all feel knowing God loves us and sent His only Son to save us. Through books, flannel stories, and plastic eggs (containing pieces of the resurrection story), the good news of Easter will be shared! The Easter story **shouts** the Gospel; that is what we hope our children take from First St. John. Our prayer is they will hold Him close to their hearts and tell others about Him!

Spring is a hopeful time. No matter how harsh and cold the winter, new life always miraculously emerges. Throughout April, we will celebrate spring! There are many amazing signs of new life and rebirth to look forward to. The flowers, trees, birds, bugs, sunshine, rain-- 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!

For those who enjoy Club Choice products, we are again selling them to raise funds for our school. Order forms are available in the Dayschool or Church office. Thanks for your help. All funds will provide resources and equipment to help our teachers continue to provide quality education.

The Dayschool earns 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 goes to our school!

If you have ribbon, rick-rack, material, doilies, old buttons, sequins, beads, etc., you can take them to the Dayschool office and I will find a good use for them. The children are good at creating masterpieces from scraps! Special thanks to those who already think of us often.

We will entertain the congregation of First St. John with our beautiful voices on Sunday, May 1 at the 10:15 service. We will do our very best job and pray you will enjoy us!

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

In Him,
Barb Shellhammer

"MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER"

Join other First St. John members on Saturday, May 7th to Make Strides Against Breast Cancer at Levis Commons. The 3.1 mile walk begins at 9:30 am with registration at 8:30 am. If you can't walk, please consider making a donation to help continue the fight against this disease. To sign up and/or donate on-line, please go to www.cancer.org/stridesonline

1. On the right side of the screen type in 43605. Hit ENTER.
2. Click on 2011 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Toledo – Northwest Ohio.
3. Then click "Sign Up," followed by "Join a Team."
4. Type "First St. John Lutheran Church" in the Team Name spot and hit ENTER. Click on "Join" to either sign up to walk or donate.

If you don't have a computer, you can pick up a pamphlet that includes a registration form in the lounge or in the Narthex or simply place a donation marked "Making Strides" in the offering plate. We will also be collecting walker names and donations after church services beginning April 10th. Thank you.

First St. John Prayer Chain

(as of March 30, 2011)

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:

Bernie Erdmann
Family of Larry Lorenzen
Libby Reed
Bishop Sanchez
Mark Shepard
Family of Jeremy Tate
Family of Norbert & Nancy Thiel
George & Lee Wagner

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:

Jordyn Beckhusen
Hunter Bell
Dorothy Blausey
Chris Bloomfield
Richard & Marjorie Counterman
Allison Deckleman
Bill Ehsam
Sheena Fox
Susan Schumaker Gunter
Zach Harrell
Daria Heben
Kay Johnson
Paul Kuhlman
George "Skip" Mc Cullough
Bill Meyers
Julie Kutchenriter Nowicki
Charlie Ohlson
Family of Fred Saelzler
Hilda Saelzler
Larry Sanders
Lindsey Steele
Ian Vargo
Phyllis Wagner
Family of Kate Webb
Candy Webster
Terry Williams
Raetta Zeisler

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

Carol Abbey 419-351-9795 or cabbey@jcrinc.com

Lynn Folk 419-691-3410
Donna Koehn 419-693-5030
Ada Kreger 419-693-1549
Gloria Ross 419-836-7166

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!

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
(We do not have a current address for her.)

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
4924 Soaring Springs Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89131

Captain Lindsey Rowland
237 Bartlett Dr.
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685

FIRST ST. JOHN COUNCIL MINUTES - MARCH 15, 2011

The meeting was opened by the president, Bill Caldwell. Pastor Blohm did devotions. He read a passage from a book called Bread for the Journey. Attendance was taken and there were not enough to make a quorum, so no voting will occur. The minutes of the last meeting were read and no comments were made.

Treasurer's Report - Lisa gave the report. We are now \$8,000 behind, mostly due to snow removal. We had just \$3,200 in snow removal in February. We hope to make up the gap in the next couple of months.

Board of Education - On March 6th 105 people came out to bowl. JAM was open for the Dayschool open house. A slideshow of JAM was shown to the parents. The blood drive will be April 5th at the Lutheran Home in the common room. At this point 22 people have signed up to give. RENEW students have been meeting. JAM students will visit the Home on Palm Sunday to pass out palms to the residents. There will be interviews going on to find a Christian Education Director, hopefully beginning March 26. May 22 will be the Dayschool service honoring the kindergarten graduates. There will be a cookout after the service put on by the 150th anniversary committee. The Dayschool will sing in church on May 1st. The May 22nd service will be planned by the board and pastor.

Dayschool Report - Barb just had a board meeting today. Dayschool wants to minister more to the parents of the school, so some meetings will be scheduled with speakers. Students are enrolling for the upcoming school year. Open house was well attended. Lutheran Schools Week was celebrated by the Dayschool and the children had a good time.

Elders - Wedding has been added to the schedule.

Property Mgmt - No report.

Finance - Lisa gave the report. Thrivent Choice dollars are starting to come in on a monthly basis. This money comes from people who are investing with Thrivent and then they give to our church. The money will appear in the current fund.

Pastor Report - Confirmation will be April 3rd. The elders will be testing them on March 28th. The Synod Assembly is May 20 and 21 in Bowling Green.

Old Business - Bill talked a little on the planning of the 150th anniversary. There will be wedding vow renewals at 4:30 on March 20th at church with fellowship afterwards. On March 29th there is a media day. There has been a history written about the beginning of the church. There is a group called Rewind who wants to do a service for us sometime in May or June.

New Business - Brenda Fussell passed out information on a Zumba class that could happen here at the church. She would like some space for 2 nights a week. Council needs to check on insurance.

The meeting ended and we recited the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Habegger

**VETERANS' INFORMATION
NEEDED**

We are putting together a special Memorial Day document listing our deceased church members who served in the military and are buried in our cemetery.

We need your help to complete our information. If you had an ancestor who is buried in our cemetery and you have information regarding their service (i.e., war fought in, branch of service, unit name), please call either Floyd Hagedorn (734-848-3544) or Jim Fox (419-836-9617) by April 20th. Thanks.