



First St. John Journal



Volume 27, Issue 6 & 7

June / July 2014

Here are a couple of Bible verses I have run across in the past month that I want to share. Each reminds us how important our attitudes are as we go about our lives day to day within our families, communities, and the church. I hope the Holy Spirit will give you the insight and inspiration you need and desire.

“Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.”

—Proverbs 16:24

It takes just as much energy to say a positive word as it does a negative one. In fact, it may take even less. Research has shown that when we speak positive words— even in difficult circumstances or troubling situations— our bodies relax. As we relax, blood flow increases, including the flow of blood to the brain. A well-oxygenated brain is much more likely to think creatively, make wise decisions, find reasonable solutions, and generate answers to questions.

Positive words ease relationships and create an atmosphere of peace conducive to rest, relaxation, rejuvenation, and sleep— all of which are necessary for good health.

On the other hand, contrary to popular thought, negative words do NOT release tension . . . they keep the body in a state of tension, constricting muscles and blood vessels. Irrational, uncreative, unreasonable behavior is a secondary effect.

A continual flow of negative words causes relationships to suffer, which creates an atmosphere of disharmony and makes for fitful sleep and frayed nerves— none of which are healthy!

One of the best things we can do for our overall health and the health of our relationships is to transform our speech habits! Such a transformation is indeed a gift of the Holy Spirit and might well be the best gift of “speaking in tongues” that a Christian should pray for and that we celebrate on Pentecost.

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

—Philippians 4:8

One rainy day a woman overheard someone say, “What miserable weather!” She looked out her office window to see a big fat robin using a nearby puddle of water for a bathtub. He was splashing and fluttering, thoroughly enjoying himself. She couldn’t help but think, “Miserable for whom? It’s all a matter of perspective.”

That’s a lesson Lincoln Steffens learned as a young boy. He was watching an artist paint a picture of a muddy river. He told the artist he didn’t like the picture because there was so much “mud” in it. The artist admitted there was mud in the picture, but what he saw were the beautiful colors and contrasts of the light against the dark.

Steffens later preached in a sermon, “Mud or beauty – which do we look for as we journey through life? If we look for mud and ugliness, we find them— they are there. Just as the artist found beauty in the muddy river, because that is what he was looking for, we will find in the stream of life those things which we desire to see. To look for the best and see the beautiful is the way to get the best out of life each day.”

Even the Bible says that what you see is what you get! That is why each day we should pray for the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to see with the eyes of faith, and to behold the world through the gaze of the resurrected and risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

— Pastor Rayl



SUMMER WORSHIP

Our summer worship schedule begins Sunday, June 1st and runs through Sunday, August 31st. We will have only one service at 9:00 am and no Sunday School for the summer.

We will alternate between traditional and celebration formats, with communion on June 1st, June 22nd, July 6th, August 3rd, and August 24th. June 1st will start with the traditional format, June 8th with the celebration format, and so on. See you this summer!

NOTE: Because of Pastor Rayl's vacation, Chapel Communion in June will be June 8th at 2:00 pm.

ELDERS SCHEDULE

Please note we will have only one service at 9:00 am each Sunday in the summer.

JUNE

- 1st Darold Henninger, Mike Winslow
- 8th Linda Yenrick, Bill Nelson
- 15th Tom Eppard, Al Collins
- 22nd Eric Johnson, Laurie Witt
- 29th Dick Haar, Jeff Ladd

JULY

- 6th Jeff Smith, Jason Blazeovich
- 13th Linda Yenrick, Bill Nelson
- 20th Darold Henninger, Mike Winslow
- 27th Eric Johnson, Laurie Witt

MEMBER UPDATES

Births

None.

Baptisms

None.

Marriages

5-3-14 Laura Seibert and
Cody Palmer

Deaths

5-2-14 Barb Uhler

Transfers to / from St. John

None.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY MEETING

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, June 11th at 4:00 pm in the lounge. Please mark your calendar.

SCRAP PAPER NEEDED

The Dayschool needs scrap paper of any size or color. If you can donate some, please drop it off in the either the Dayschool or church offices. Thanks.



MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGES

Frank & Pam Beavers
1151 S. Stadium Rd.
Oregon, OH 43616

Tom & Kimberly Vaculik
5436 Pickle Rd.
Oregon, OH 43616
(Kieran, Samantha)

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

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of Margaret Koester by Ken & Joyce Villhauer, George & Rosemary LaPointe, Robert & Sharon Koester.

In memory of Margie Heninger by Ken & Joyce Villhauer.

CHOIR

In memory of Margaret Koester by Mary Ellen Miller.

QUILTERS

In memory of Margaret Koester by Louise & Jim Sommers.

DAYSCHOOL

In memory of Barb Uhler by Jean DeWitt, Louise & Jim Sommers, Marilyn Skotynsky, Bob & Sherri Haar.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES

In memory of Barb Uhler by Bob & Sherri Haar.

ALTAR GUILD

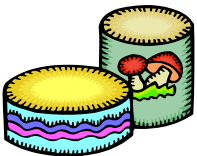
In memory of Barb Uhler by Penny DeWitt.

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Barb Uhler by Gene Hagedorn.

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Barb Uhler by Elaine Gladieux, Lee Wagner.



FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

Don't forget our ongoing ministry to the Feed Your Neighbor program. Your donations of non-perishable food items are always appreciated. Please place your donations in the two right-hand bins under the main bulletin board in the Narthex or in the marked blue plastic bin in the lounge. Remember, no glass jars, please. Thanks for your help.

NEW MEMBER CLASS



Our next new member class begins Sunday, June 8th at 10:15 a.m. (after the 9:00 a.m. summer service) in our air-conditioned lounge. If you or someone you know would like to be part of this class, contact the church office by calling 419-691-7222 or emailing us at office@firststjohn.com There will be four sessions, meeting on consecutive Sundays (June 8 – 29th).

Even if you're already a member you are invited to participate in reviewing some of the basics of our Christian faith and Lutheran teachings. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Rayl.

BORROWING TABLES & CHAIRS

When you want to borrow tables and chairs for your summer events, please make sure you call the church office to reserve them ahead of time. There are lots of parties this time of year, and demand for tables and chairs is high. We only have six tables available.

Also, please remember the tables and chairs in the gym are not to be removed from the building; instead, the tables and chairs in the parsonage garage are available for borrowing. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION PICTURES ARE IN

Confirmation pictures are in and are available for pick-up in the church office.



DAVID WINSLOW MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

This four-man scrambles will be Saturday, August 2nd at 8:00 am at the Chippewa Golf Club. Cost is \$65 per person, which includes green fees, cart, and food (menu yet to be determined). Prizes will be awarded for first place, longest drive and closest to the pin. Reservation and fees are due by Monday, July 28th. If you'd like to register or sponsor a hole, call Mike Winslow at 419-691-8430 or 419-698-6507.

All proceeds go to First St. John.


WELCA CIRCLE NEWS

Ruth Circle: We will be having lunch at BJ's Steakhouse on Lallendorf Rd. on Tuesday, June 3rd at 11:30 am. In July, we are planning to go to the Oregon Inn on July 1st at 11:30 am. The July meeting information may change, but we will contact everyone if that happens. See you this summer!

Miriam Circle: We will meet on Wednesday, June 4th at noon at Cousino's Restaurant on Woodville Rd. Mark your calendars!

Rebecca Circle: Our next meeting will be Saturday, June 7th at 11:30 am in the Coffee Shop at the Lutheran Home. Please join us.

Hannah Circle: We will go out for dinner at a yet-to-be determined day, time, and place! (How's that for planning?) We will email everyone when we've established the particulars.



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!

Chief Petty Officer Cynthia Henderson
** We have received word that after 22 years of service, Chief Petty Officer Henderson was able to retire. Thank you for your prayers. **

Chief Petty Officer Marc Le Duc
78382 Dukewood Trail
Yula, FL 32097

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

Lindsey Rowland
No Current Address

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY



Your support of our newest ministry is much appreciated. Through this ministry, we provide a month's worth of hygiene supplies to families or individuals in our neighborhood to help them stay clean and healthy. We receive some funding to help keep our shelves stocked, but donations are always needed.

The items needed include dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, deodorant, adult and children size toothbrushes, toothpaste, adult and children's shampoo, body soap, laundry soap, sanitary pads, tampons, band aids, and body lotion. If you'd like to help, please deposit your donated items in the pull-out drawer to the left of the Feed Your Neighbor bin in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) or in the bright green bin in the lounge.

PLEASE NOTE: No travel size or sample items—the families who come to this pantry need items to last them the month.

Remember, monetary donations are also appreciated. If you'd like to send a donation, write a check to First St. John Lutheran Church and write "Personal Needs Pantry" on the memo line. Thank you so much for your help.

— East Toledo Lutheran Ministry

PLASTIC CAP COLLECTION

Thank you to all who donated to this cause to help St. Vincent's Hospital's Dialysis Center cover the cost of dialysis for low income patients. This collection has now been completed. Remember, you can always recycle plastic at your local recycle collection areas.



REMINDER FROM THE ALTAR GUILD

Don't forget to honor your loved ones with flowers for the altar. Find the red flower book in back of the church under the main bulletin board and sign up for the Sunday you want. Flower vases are \$15 each; you can take an envelope out of the book to use for payment.



AND NOW, A LITTLE HOUSEKEEPING . . .

MOVING? Please notify the office when your address has changed. Newsletters sent to your old address are re-routed, but the church pays a fee each time this happens. OR, consider having the newsletter emailed to you to save postage. If you would like this newsletter and calendar e-mailed, please send your e-mail address to: office@firststjohn.com

ELECTRONIC GIVING: First St. John relies on the financial support of the congregation, and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis and also while you may be out of town for work or vacation. Please contact the church office for details. Thank you!

DAVID WINSLOW SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Congratulations to Brooke Gallaher and Rachel Nelson, recipients of this year's David Winslow Memorial Scholarship. Congratulations, and best of luck in your future studies.

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE NEWS

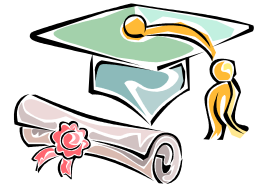
Our next meeting will be Monday, June 2nd at 7:00 pm. We normally meet in the room next to the lounge in the educational building, however, we will move to the air-conditioned lounge if needed. We meet on the first and third Mondays of each month. We are still looking for people to serve on this committee, so if you are interested in helping to review and revise First St. John's constitution, please call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409.



MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Our men's breakfast group next meets on Saturday, June 7th at 8 am at the Bob Evans restaurant on Navarre Ave. In July, we'll meet on Saturday, July 12th at 8 am also at Bob Evans on Navarre. Please call Bob Haar 419-250-9409 if you need a ride.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY June 22, 2014



We will publicly acknowledge all our graduates from high school and college at our worship service on Sunday, June 22nd. Please plan on having your graduate attend this service as all graduates will be recognized.

If you know of a graduate, please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate, mail to the church office, or fax this page to 419-691-7220 by Monday, June 15th. Thank you.

NAME OF GRADUATE

GRADUATED FROM

DEGREE EARNED

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.)

NOTES FROM JAMIE'S DESK

Our mom's group, By Design, is going strong. We have been meeting on the first and the third Tuesdays of the month and have had so much laughter and fun, we often go over our meeting time by a half hour (or more)! It's been such a pleasure to watch the connections between us unfold.

By Design also held its second annual Mom 2 Mom sale, in conjunction with the Dayschool. What a huge success! The Lord definitely has His hand in this ministry.

We look forward to continuing our "meetings," but we will turn them into play dates. We still get together over the summer, but in places where we can enjoy adult interaction and involve our children as well. We look forward to seeing what is in store for this ministry as we continue to do His work!



This ministry has been a blessing to all who have been involved. We'd especially like to thank Jessie Henneman, Darlene

Paul, Jane Schuetz, Joanie Probasco and Cindy Johnson! Amazing ladies who volunteer their time to watch the children as the moms enjoy some Spiritual "ME" time!!! Blessings all around!!

Our third year of Prayer Buddy ministry was such a pleasure to watch unfold! We held a reception in which the Prayer Buddies were introduced to each other on May 18th, and love and joy were all around!

We walked in the Oregon Fest Parade on Sunday, May 18th. Thank you to all who donated candy and walked. We especially would like to thank Monica Novakowski and her daughter Leah, who is in Miss Bonnie's class, for walking with us!! Our goal next year is to have more than 30 people walk with us. This year we had 10.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS - Monday, June 23 -
Thursday, June 26 from
6:00 to 8:30 pm each night



*Weird Animals - Where Jesus' Love
is One-of-a-Kind*

VBS THEME: God filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures . . . including you! When kids feel weird, different, or even lost in a crowd—nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus.

Please pray and ask God what HE might want YOU to help with. We need many volunteers for this wonderful event!

If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Jamie Blazeovich at 419-691-7222. Hope to see you there!

Registration forms are available in the back of the church, in the church office or online on our website: www.firststjohn.com

VBS SUPPLIES NEEDED

On a bulletin board in the Narthex are sheets of paper with various items needed for this year's Vacation Bible School. If you would like to help, please take a moment to volunteer to help purchase these supplies. Just find a sheet of paper with the item you'd like to donate and take the top sheet off. Sign your name to the sheet underneath and leave it on the board so we know who is bringing which item. Then after you purchase the item(s), please turn it (them) in to the church office by Monday, June 15th. Thanks!!



PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES

(As of 5/28/14)



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" after the first month unless one of the prayer chain contacts is contacted about special circumstances:

**Cooper Goa
Todd Judd
Lisa Mominee
Pat Vogelsang**

Chronic Prayer List

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

**George Ackerman
Fritz Babcock
Jordyn Beckhusen
Russell Bodette
Karen Burris
CD
Baby Camille
Gail Chaffee
Sally Christianson
Jackie Curtis
David and Cindy (no last name given)
Jane Doe
Lily Georgeson
Larry Grant
Jason Grimes
Bob & Debbie Hecklinger
Pastor Labuhn
George "Skip" McCullough
Jeanette Miller
Christopher Molnar
Dutch Morrison
Jessica Mueller
Calvin Nelson
Charlie Ohlson
Demetra Pender
Roy Riegle
Kim Roach**

**Cindy Roecker
Dianne Schumaker
Richard Trybula
Maggie Van Horn
John Wagner
Terry Williams
Bill Zeisler**

Please let any of the prayer chain contacts know if any of these individuals could be moved off the list.

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

**AUGUST NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE — JULY 22nd**

COUNCIL MINIUTES *(continued from page 8)*

A question was asked about whether the Cradle Roll had started. It has not yet started. The Personal Needs Pantry is up and running with money donated from several other churches. We are working on how to promote this on the East side. This is a referral-based charity, no walk-ins.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Linda Kusian needs two more men to help with the All-Daughter dinner tomorrow.

Keith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karen Holmes motioned to adjourn, LuAnn Spoerl seconded. Motion carried. Pastor closed meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn Folk, Council Secretary

FIRST ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—MAY 13, 2014

President Keith Mullen opened the Tuesday, May 13, 2014 meeting at 7:40 PM, Pastor Rayl led with devotions.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the April meeting were read. Thank you to Chris Hunsaker for taking the minutes at the April meeting. A correction was made for the Applebee's Dine to Donate event as it is not on May 14 but on May 20. Luann Spoerl motioned to approve the minutes, Chris Hunsaker seconded. Motion passed.

Sunday School Report: Jamie Blazeovich reported. May 3 we had VBS Preview in JAM, and on May 11 we held Pastries for Parents in which we thanked the JAM parents for their dedication to bringing their children to Sunday School. May 11 was our last day for JAM. Jamie will be going to the Synod Assembly on May 16 – May 18 at Kalahri. Oregon Fest – May 18, 2014. We will once again walk in the parade.

VBS is Monday, June 23 – Thursday, June 26. The theme is: Weird Animals VBS - Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind. God filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures...including you!

Elders Report: There are two upcoming weddings, June 7 and 21. Easter and Holy Week were well covered. The Dartball banquet was held here with 130 people in attendance. Team #2 from FSJ was the 1st place winner. On June 1, the summer schedule begins with one service at 9 AM.

Property Management: Dave Wilbarger discussed the mold issue from the leaky roof. They also discussed having a PM member be here for inspection, and Dave W. volunteered. The sink upstairs will be retrofitted as the part is no longer available. A bush will be removed in front of the building. Some latches on the new windows are not working well so the company will be coming back to take a look at them. We are out of spare shingles at this point as they were used for repairs.

A question on the parking lot was raised in connection with summer improvements. Could we patch instead of replace? Due to our budget, Mike Folk suggested resealing rather than putting in new. Gloria Ross stated we really need to know what costs are involved before further discussion is done.

The original quote was \$55,400 for a new parking lot in June 2012. PM will look into quotes for both a new lot and resealing. It was also suggested to get a quote on the education building roof replacement as well. The drainage system also needs to be looked at on the side of the church.

Treasurers Report: See attached. John Spoerl motioned to approve the minutes, Dave Wilbarger seconded. Motion carried.

Dayschool Report: Barb Shellhammer reported enrollment is growing. School board will meet next week to discuss how to honor Barb Uhler who recently passed away. Kindergarten recognition is this Sunday. The prayer buddy reception will follow. June 4 is kindergarten graduation at 7 PM; a screen operator is needed. June 5 is the last day of school, and June 10 is the beginning of the summer session. The Scrip program flyer was passed out with information of the stores involved. FSJ Dayschool gets a percentage back each time a card is purchased. October 8 is the LEAF Festival and planning is still ongoing. Lots of help is needed. Bill Caldwell states he is looking for corporate sponsors to help with the LEAF benefit.

Trikeathon is in September and will be held in Northwood on the same field as last year. There will be raffles and giveaways.

We are having a problem with the bees again. Can someone look into this?

It was requested to have the financial report from the Dayschool presented each month.

Pastor's Report: No transfers in or out. No baptisms in May, one in June. June 8 is the start of a new membership class. The constitutional review committee met last Monday with Bob Haar as the chair. More members are needed. Meetings are 1.5 hours and held the first and third Mondays of each month.

Synod meeting is this weekend at Kalahari, and we have our delegates set. Pam Beavers and Jamie have heard from the 8th graders that they would like to have a high school class in the fall.

A suggestion was made by several members to have the service piped in to the lounge so those who have health issues could be in the air conditioning.

(continued on page 7)