



# First St. John Journal



Volume 24, Issue 10

October, 2011

**L**eadership expert and former pastor John Maxwell once said this: “The truth is that you can spend your life any way you want, but you can only spend it once.”

Wow! That just stopped me in my tracks. How have we chosen to spend our lives? The past is over and done, we can either wallow in regret for the days (or years) wasted or we can take our burdens to the cross of Christ, confess our sins, and truly have a new start, a new beginning as forgiven people of God!

In Christ, we can look ahead to the future. Do we want to make each day full of meaning, love, and joy and sharing for ourselves and the people around us? Or is it going to be “the same old, same old”?

We can spend our life only once. Set aside each Sunday as a time for worship, fellowship, learning how to make your life count, and rejoicing together as heaven-bound people of God!

— Pastor Blohm

## MEN’S BREAKFAST GROUP

Our next meeting of the men's breakfast group will be Saturday, October 1st at 8:00 a.m. at the Bob Evans on Navarre Ave. We had 18 men gather on September 17, but there is always room for one or two more. Join us. Call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 for more information or if you need a ride.

## BOARD OF MINISTRIES MEETING

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the lounge.



## TRUNK OR TREAT!



Join us on Sunday, October 23 from 2—4:00 pm for Trunk or Treat in the parking lot across from church. There will be fellowship, games and cider and doughnuts!

### What is Trunk or Treat?

A safe, fun-filled family day out for children through 6th grade. Children and families will walk around to cars and be greeted by First St. John volunteers with their trunks open handing out candy. Cars will be decorated, and volunteers may wear costumes. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and for us to embrace our Sunday School and Dayschool students and their families.

To pull off this event we need lots of volunteers. To volunteer, please see the form on a separate sheet in this newsletter or contact Jamie @ 419-691-7222 or [cedir@firststjohn.com](mailto:cedir@firststjohn.com)

## NOTICE TO THURSDAY’S BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANTS

We are changing our meeting time to 11:00 am instead of noon. This time change is effective beginning September 29th.

**WELCOME OUR GUEST  
PREACHER FOR OCTOBER**

Join us on Sunday, October 16th when First St. John’s own Rev. Kathy Meyers will give the message. Pastor Kathy preaches in Bridgewater, MI. She’s the daughter of Frank and Barb Meyers. Welcome, Pastor Kathy!

## MILITARY ADDRESSES

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

*TSgt Kevin Fouty*  
407 AEG/ESPTS CF  
APO AE 09331

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

*Chief Petty Officer Cynthia Henderson*  
44425 Scobee  
California, MD 20619

*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.  
Madison Barracks  
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685

## ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Our October meeting will be Monday, October 3rd at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there.

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## 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), or mailing this form to: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605. Or email us: [office@firststjohn](mailto:office@firststjohn)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

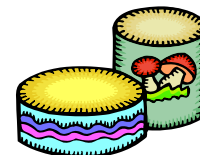
Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

## ELDERS FOR OCTOBER

	<u>7:45 am</u>	<u>10:15 am</u>
2nd	Linda Erdmann Linda Kusian	Eric Johnson Linda Kusian
9th	Mike Winslow Dick Haar	Jeff Smith Jim Swanson
16th	Kevin Ruedy Bill Nelson	Darold Henninger Eric Johnson
23rd	Eric Johnson Linda Kusian	Linda Erdmann Mike Winslow
30th	Jeff Smith Jim Swanson	Mike Winslow Dick Haar

## REMEMBER TO FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR!



Through the month of October, we are highlighting the need for canned soup, peanutbutter, and hot chocolate packets. Please bring your canned goods and non-perishable food items and place your donations in the bins in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) and the lounge (near the double doors). No glass containers because these can break when handling. With the ever-growing number of unemployed, requests for food are increasing. Thank you for your help.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

### OCTOBER 20th



## COUNCIL MINUTES

(continued from page 12)

**Youth Report / Day School Report** (continued)  
Christmas program is in planning stages for the 10:15 service. Updated JAM room. Thanks to everyone who helped. Stop in and take a look.

Brent Schimman is presenting Financial Peace University every Wednesday evening with 20 individuals attending.

Thanksgiving Feasts for the Dayschool will be November 15 through 18. Their Christmas programs will be smaller this year, and they will be on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm each night.

**Pastors Report** - One transfer out – Marlene Fouty to Calvary Lutheran. No transfers in. Frank's catechism class is a good size with 11 attending.

Joanne Crandall (Carolyn Hecklinger's daughter) has been active helping out with the history of the church.

**Old Business**—Bill Caldwell has put together a call committee for new council members.

Parking lot loan was paid off and refinanced internally using the Church Special Funds.

Windows in the Education building are 50 years old and need to be replaced for an estimated \$72,430. It was suggested the money be borrowed from the Endowment Fund at 5% interest for 15 years with a monthly payment of \$572.77. Jim Sommers commented that the Finance Committee will meet to study and discuss this proposal.

Walt Metzger joined Special Funds Committee.

Actively soliciting for Toledo Symphony donations. Goal is to help defray the cost of general admission so tickets can be sold for less than \$15.

Looking at by-laws of the church to see if revisions need to be made.

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
President Bill Caldwell

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

### Births

8-12-11 Nathan Richard Copelin, born to Jessica Church and Ray Copelin.

### Baptisms

9-25-11 *Nathan Richard Copelin*, born August 12, 2011 to Jessica Church and Ray Copelin. Sponsors are Tim Baechle and Susanne Karsiotis.

### Marriages

9-9-11 Candyce Kovesdi and Adam Mallett

### Deaths

9-10-11 Floyd Koester

9-12-11 Katherine Counterman

### Transfers to First St. John

None

### Transfers from First St. John

Marlene Fouty to Calvary Lutheran Church in Northwood.

## NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED

Church Council is seeking volunteers for a number of committees for 2012, including elders, finance committee, property management, Sunday School Board and council president. If you are interested in volunteering for these positions, please call the church office.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



We are again participating in the Operation Christmas Child program which helps give Christmas gifts to needy children throughout the world. Empty, but decoratively wrapped, shoeboxes will soon be in the lounge and the Narthex. Pick one or more boxes and a list of suggested items you can fill the boxes with. Once filled, return the shoeboxes to the church office. The final date for turning in the boxes will be sometime in early November. Thank you.



## MEMORIALS



### AIR CONDITIONING FUND

In memory of **Gary DeWitt** by Ralph & Ethel Mae Vogtsberger.

In memory of **Floyd Koester** by Ralph & Ethel Mae Vogtsberger, George & Elaine Ackerman, Esther Bell.

### ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of **Gary DeWitt** by Phyllis & Charlie Bickford, Mike & Betty Csehi, Lonewood & Dana Lipscomb, Sally Hrickousky, Donna Nowicki, Judy & Bill Clay, Chuck & Betty Hyre, Bonnie Phillips. In memory of **Floyd Koester** by Hilda Saelzler, Marilyn Cashen, Martha Meyers, Gene Hagedorn, Penny DeWitt.

In memory of **Naomi Foss** by Rebecca Circle.

### ELEVATOR FUND

In honor of **George Ackerman's** 80<sup>th</sup> birthday by Bill & Ginny Wegman, Paul & Vivian Kuhlman.

### CURRENT FUND

In honor of **George Ackerman's** 80<sup>th</sup> birthday by Eileen Young, Cliff & Madonna Bury.

In memory of **Floyd Koester** by Eileen Young.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

In memory of **Gary DeWitt** by Ron & Brenda Fussell.

In memory of **Floyd Koester** by Frank & Barb Meyers.

### CHOIR

In memory of **Floyd Koester** by Mary Ellen Miller, Ron & Joanne Koch.

### CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Floyd Koester** by Carl & Janet Morrison, Robert & Debra Hecklinger, James & Norma Coy, Scott & Shelly Juhasz, Ruth Ziethlow; Tom, Sandy & Kevin Garverick, Jean DeWitt, Helen Howland, Bill & Donna Nelson and family, Lois

Brecklen, Deb Lofquist & family, Earl Warnke, Marvin & Carl Keller, Ernie & Marge Bollinger, Venita Oberhaus, Glenn & Margaret Koester, Willie & Julie Moritz, Joanne Crandall, Elaine Gladieux, Norman & Phyllis Schuffenecker, Ken & Joyce Villhauer.

In memory of **Louis Schrader and John Baden** on their birthdays on Oct. 14 by Irene Abbott.

In memory of **John White** by William Fischhaber.

### ALTAR GUILD

In memory of **Naomi Foss** by Terry & Jane Schuetz.

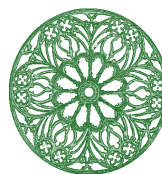
In memory of **Floyd Koester** by Walter & Darlene Metzger.

### VIEW THIS NEWSLETTER ON-LINE!

Our newsletters are on our website at:

[www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com)

Look to the right of the web page under "Recent Posts" to find current and past newsletters. Logging on here helps you if you don't want to wait for the "snail mail" version or if you have email problems. If this works better for you or if you'd like to be on our email distribution list, please contact the office at [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com)



### *ALL SAINTS DAY — REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES...*

On Sunday, November 6th we'll observe All Saints Day. We will read the names of our church family who have passed away during the last year (since the first Sunday in November of 2010).

We'll already have the names of church members who died from November 1, 2010 to November 1, 2011. If the person you want to be remembered either was not a member or was a member who passed away prior to November 2010, please call the church office or sign the book in the Narthex so their names will be read. Thank you.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S NEWS

### Psalm 27:4

*“One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.”*

As I read that verse, I am reminded of all the beauty October brings us. There is so much to see this time of year, so let us take time to gaze at all the good the Lord has made. May we enjoy gazing at the trees as their leaves change colors and enjoy the smell of fall in the air. Let us all take time this October and enjoy the change of season. May our eyes be open to gaze on the beauty of the Lord.

### Youth Group:

We will continue to meet every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Remember to bring in your Bible verses each week.

### Upcoming Activities

**October 23**  
**2PM-4PM: Trunk or Treat**

In the parking lot across from the church. Come out for some fellowship, games, food and, of course, CANDY!

### *What is Trunk or Treat?*

A safe, fun-filled family night out for children through 6th grade.

Children and families will walk around to cars and be greeted by First St. John volunteers with their trunks open handing out candy. Cars will be decorated, and volunteers will wear costumes. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and for us to embrace our Sunday School and Dayschool students and their families.

To pull off this event we need lots of volunteers. To volunteer, please see the form on a separate sheet in this newsletter or contact Jamie @ 419-69-7222 or [cedir@firststjohn.com](mailto:cedir@firststjohn.com)

— Jamie Blazeovich

## Chicken & Ham Dinner Tickets



If you're new to First St. John or have never attended the Chicken & Ham Dinner, put us on your calendar for Saturday, November 5th. Delicious meals are served from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. This is a great community event; it's not just for members. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. They'll be glad you did!!!

Tickets are available from the church office or from circle members during the entire month of October, or you can call Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506. You can buy tickets after the services both in the lounge and in the Narthex on October 23rd and 30th.

### Ticket Prices

Adults	\$9.00
Children (3-12 yrs)	\$4.00
Children (under 3)	Free (ticket still needed)

## ***Needed: Craft and Bake Sale Items***

We need items to be sold in the Craft and Bake Sale held during the Chicken and Ham Dinner on November 5th. If you can help or are interested in having your own craft table, please contact Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506 or Louise Sommers at 419-691-7719.



## **MEN'S DARTBALL**

Dartball begins soon, we need more players. If you want to play or need more info, call either Ted Mitchell at 419-345-6260 or Bill Nelson at 419-836-4165. Our first game is Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm.

## ***HATS, MITTENS, SOCKS, AND BOOTS NEEDED***



WELCA will collect hats, mittens, socks, and boots for local children during October. Local children need these items as early as November. Hat and mitten sizes 0-5 will go to the Toledo Day Nursery, and sizes 6-Adult will go to Riverside School and Raymer School. We also will collect toddler and preschool size socks and boots for the Toledo Day Nursery. You can place your donations in the specially marked boxes in the Narthex and/or in the lounge. Thank you so much for your help.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2011**  
**4:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

## **Chicken & Ham Dinner**

**PLEASE MARK WHERE YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP**

Return to the church office, offering plate, or Jane Schuetz.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PIES \_\_\_\_\_

SHEET DESSERT \_\_\_\_\_

LAYERED CAKE \_\_\_\_\_

KITCHEN \_\_\_\_\_

DINING ROOM \_\_\_\_\_

CLEAN UP AFTERWARD \_\_\_\_\_

**Can you believe it? The Annual Chicken and Ham Dinner date is fast approaching and we need ALL TEENS AND ADULTS TO HELP MAKE THIS A SUCCESS!!! This is a congregational effort of men, women and young people (PLEASE, NO HELPERS UNDER AGE 12). If you're fairly new to First St. John, this is a great way to meet people.**

**So-----won't you please say yes and volunteer and make the Dinner a success again this year???**



# Trunk or Treat

*We need your help!*

## *What is Trunk or Treat?*

A safe, fun-filled family night out for children and families. Families will walk around to cars and be greeted by FSJ volunteers with their car trunks open handing out candy. Cars will be decorated, and volunteers will wear costumes.

This is a great opportunity to invite friends and for us to embrace our new students plus their families in both the Sunday School and the Dayschool. To pull off this event we will need lots of volunteers.

**Sunday, October 23, 2011 from 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.**

## *Potential Volunteer Options*

- Car volunteers- hand out candy- decorate car and wear costumes, you could also have a game set up at your car
- Registration and welcome guest volunteers
- Donations of candy, pumpkins, hay, cornstalks and other decorations
- Security and traffic directors

*This event is sponsored by Student Ministries  
and the Board of Education!*

If you are interested in volunteering please fill out the information on the back of this flyer!

# Trunk or Treat

## Volunteer Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the area where you would be interested in helping.

- Car volunteers- hand out candy- decorate car and wear costumes, you could also have a game set up at your car
- Registration and welcome guest volunteers
- Donations of candy, pumpkins, hay, cornstalks and other decorations
- Security and traffic directors

Thank you in advance for sharing the love of Jesus through helping with this event. If you are interested in being a car volunteer, please provide the additional information.

Car Make & Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

License Plate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Provide own candy for 200 kids Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Will you have a game set up? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, explain your game: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You can turn in this form to the offering plate and / or Jamie's office.

All volunteers and cars that participate must be registered by **October 20<sup>th</sup>**.

I/we, the undersigned, do hereby waive and release all claims against First St. John Lutheran Church from any and all damages, loss or cost to person or property resulting either directly or indirectly from the use of said premises and/or from the exercise of the privileges granted by this permit and shall hold harmless the sponsors from any and all claims resulting therefore.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Blessings, Jamie Blazevich



## JAM FEST (SUNDAY SCHOOL) NEWS

Jam Fest on Sunday, September 11th was a huge success! We had 56 children attend and were excited to welcome some of the Dayschool students. You could tell by the smiles on the children's faces that they really enjoyed Eli the Magician. Everyone also enjoyed having refreshments and meeting their new JAM teachers in our JAM room. Thanks to everyone for the hard work they did in planning the JAM-fest.

### TOLEDO SYMPHONY COMING TO FIRST ST. JOHN

As a grand finale for our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, the entire Toledo Symphony will perform a Christmas concert at First St John on Saturday, December 17th. The Toledo Symphony performs a limited number of neighborhood concerts each year to raise money to support their organization. We were lucky enough to reserve one of these dates.

To make this concert possible, the 150th Year Celebration Committee and volunteers will solicit businesses and members to help pay for the concert. Our goal is to raise as much money as possible to minimize the cost of a ticket so all our members can attend.

We have created the following donation levels:

Platinum	\$500 or more
Gold	\$250 to \$499
Silver	\$100 to \$249
Patron	\$25- \$50

Donors will be listed in the program handed out at the concert.

This should be an exciting event and a fitting way to celebrate 150 years of First St John members' faithful service to the community and world. If you can help, please contact the church office or Bill Caldwell.

## PRAYER CHAIN LIST

(As of September 26, 2011)

### Crisis Prayer List

*For those who need prayers in urgent matters such as surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after the 1st month unless we're contacted about special circumstances:*

**John Deuble  
Chad Everhardt  
Herman Jeskey  
Kailea (no last name given)  
Ronnie Lamantia  
Family of Kruse Navarre  
Zee Robinson and Family  
Steve Singlar  
Bradley Young**

### Chronic Prayer List

*For those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles, recovery and/or personal situations. Will be moved off the list after 3 months unless we're contacted about special/ continuing circumstances:*

**Alice Albrecht  
Family of Joan Bailey  
Jordyn Beckhusen  
Emma Carpenter  
Jonathon Cypher  
Family of Gary DeWitt  
Bernie Erdmann  
Jerry Gears  
Lily Georgeson  
Family of Rosemary Hornyak  
Family of Larry Kelly  
Family of Floyd Koester  
Paul Kuhlman  
George "Skip" McCullough  
Family of Jennifer Molnar  
Charlie Ohlson  
Gene Price  
Virginia Rowe  
Hilda Saelzler  
Bishop Sanchez  
Connie Singlar  
Bob Webb  
Candy Webster  
Terry Williams  
Raetta Zeisler**

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

### Prayer Chain Contacts

Carol Abbey 419-351-9795 or cabbey@jcrinc.com  
Lynn Folk 691-3410 Donna Koehn 693-5030  
Ada Kreger 693-1549 Gloria Ross 836-7166



## ***NEWS FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE: 150 YEARS—MEMORIAL OR CELEBRATION?***



Anniversaries are not always joyous celebrations! The anniversaries of 9/11 or the passing of a parent or close friend are examples of solemn occasions. Birthdays and graduations are happier occasions worthy of celebration. In either case, the memorial or celebration is a “looking back” at the past. Celebrating our 150th anniversary here at First St. John has been mostly looking back. We have a firm foundation to celebrate and be thankful for. Hopefully, the younger among us will celebrate this foundation by having the wisdom to see what does and does not work and build upon it so future anniversaries will be celebrations rather than memorials.

The younger among us tend to tire of the stories of the hardships in olden times. One of my favorite often-repeated situations revolves around school days. The winters always were extremely cold with a lot of snow blown into tall drifts that were never cleared. There was no school bus and the winds were always strong. Now the grandchildren reply, “YEAH, and it was uphill going and coming from school!”

There is one place we go to learn that is not uphill in both directions. The First St. John sanctuary is not level! You can test this for yourself. If you stand on either the east or west side of the sanctuary and look across at the windowsills, which are level, you will see that the tops of the pews are lower on the Altar end than on the balcony end. The difference is nearly eight inches.

There are no drawings to check this design, but it has been field-tested a few times in the past. Today most of the offering are checks or paper money. There was a time when coins were about all most could afford. The offering plate became heavier as it neared the rear of the sanctuary. Older, feeble hands and small, youthful ones sometimes lost control, allowing the offering money to drop on the floor. The ultimate embarrassment was to have a coin or two land on its edges and roll from the back to the front of the sanctuary where it ended in an increasingly loud clatter as it finally came to rest flat on the floor.

The slight downhill approach to the communion rail may add to our relief as the burden of our sin is removed by confession and forgiveness. However, there is a practical reason for this arrangement. Think stadium seating to a smaller degree—the eye contact between pastor and parishioner is enhanced. The hearing of the Word also is enhanced. Jesus had these problems in his day. You may remember the crowds pressing in to hear him on the shores of Galilee where he asked his disciples to take him out a little in the fishing boat away from the shore so the crowds could hear him better.

The cathedrals in Europe and many churches here had raised pulpits with shaped roofs to project the pastor’s voice. Some pulpits were on a second floor looking down on the congregation. Our own 1876 church had a pulpit with a clam shell cover that was over five feet above the floor. Our present pulpit originally was over two feet higher. Pastor Willer had difficulties climbing stairs and requested the pulpit be lowered. (You can compare photos of the pulpit in our 150th anniversary displays.)

A new trend is emerging today. Many clergy shun the pulpit since they can deliver a message to multiple locations with many amazing tools. I prefer some good eye contact and “feel the flesh” with a firm handshake!

In other building updates, we reported the move from a single outdoor restroom to separate facilities for men and women several years ago. An updated report tells us we now have over 50 plumbing fixtures on the grounds!

Have you seen the Mouse lately? We received the above reports from an unknown source. The Mouse is missing, and we have not received a ransom note!

— *First Secretary to The Mouse*

## DAYSCHOOL NEWS

Dear Friends,

*He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me." Mark 9:36-37*

What a blessing to welcome children at this church, at this school. As we move through our first full month it is evident again that First St. John is a warm and friendly environment where children learn of God's love for them. I, along with the other teachers, give thanks for the privilege of teaching His children and pray we are able to find ways to put His stories and lessons into their hearts so they may carry these same stories to their children's children.

The week of September 5 we began attending chapel and learning about the special God who created us in His image. Learning about God is integrated throughout our curriculum, and through Bible verses, Bible stories, songs, and the actions of caring teachers the children get to know Him well.

The Prayer Buddy Program is our latest venture. Some members of the congregation will pray for a kindergarten child enrolled in the Dayschool. Praying for others is an important part of who we are as Christians. When praying for these children we are able to communicate with God that we desire their good, their growth, and their everlasting relationship with Him. If at any time this prayerful program would be something you would like to be a part of, let Jamie or I know and we will make sure you are equipped with all the needed information.

*I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 1:17-20*

If you like candles and purchase them on occasion, you could lend a hand by purchasing candles from the school. We will sell Celebrity Home Candles

(sold by Julie Loucks) beginning this month. If you are interested in making a purchase call the Dayschool (419-691-6480) or church office (419-691-7222). Our efforts will go toward teacher resources and classroom improvements, and your help is greatly appreciated.

Would you like to volunteer? Whether it's stuffing envelopes, preparing Campbells soup labels, or helping with a fundraiser event, the work of the Dayschool is made lighter with volunteers. If you are interested please let me know. The needs vary, but if you have the time give me a call!

Finally, we're looking forward to another month of learning and growing together! We will visit the apple orchard and pumpkin farm, spend time with the clients of the Adult Day Center and the residents of the Lutheran Home, and we'll have our halloween parties the final week of October. Children will arrive in costumes, trick-or-treat for candy, and have chapel in the church where they will learn about faith and that they can let the light of Jesus shine in them! Lots to enjoy!

In Him,  
Barb Shellhammer

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

The driveway behind the church is one-way. Please enter via the west driveway (the one closest to the Orphans Home [now Lutheran Homes offices]) and exit the east driveway coming from the Assisted Living building.

To avoid high traffic lines during school hours, please arrange your arrival time to after 9:05 am (a.m. class arrival), 11:35 am (a.m. class dismissal), 12:35 pm (p.m. class arrival), or 3:05 pm (p.m. class dismissal). This traffic flow pattern was established to protect our teachers and children as they arrive and depart our school. Please also refrain from cutting across the line of children arriving or departing school. Our children's safety is our top priority. Thanks.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

Pastor opened the meeting with prayer. Bill Caldwell took roll call. 10 council members (49%) were present out of a total of 21 on council. Minutes from the last meeting on 8/9/11 were not approved as the meeting lacked a quorum.

Jim Sommers presented the financials for the month of August.

**Board of Education Report** – Karen Holmes. Rally Day was a success with 56 children attending. Fifty-one children, including some new children, attended JAM Fest. Looking for youth teachers for Sunday School. Jamie Blazeovich, is filling in until we find someone with the focus on older youth this year. October 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date for Trunk & Treat in the church parking lot. We have two new kindergarten teachers downstairs, Sabrene Clair and Kimberly Grames. The classrooms in the church basement have been rearranged so all classes can be together. The Board of Ed is brainstorming ways to document and recognize the history of the Dayschool and its founders as part of our 150 year anniversary celebration.

**Elders Report** – 3 members in attendance. There are four weddings in October. Elders have adjusted their schedules to cover all activities while Bernie Erdman recovers from surgery. Pastor gave an update on Bernie's condition and he is now home.

**Property Management Report.** Repair projects completed or in progress:

- A roof leak repaired over the lounge.
- The flat roof over the Altar Guild room was replaced at a cost of \$1,700. The Trustees are working with the insurance company to repair damages resulting from the leak including damage to the organ speakers.
- Parking lot across from church is in bad need of repair for cracks. Alternatives to fix this are being worked on. Goal is to repair before winter when more damage would be done.
- Additional security lighting was installed in the back parking lot behind the church
- Leaking toilets were fixed
- Sprinklers for flowers in front of church to be winterized.

**Treasurers Report** – Lisa Anderson. There is a \$14,000/15,000 shortfall for the month. Hopefully, we can make this up in the next 4 months.

**Finance Committee Report** – Jim Sommers. Jim presented council with a proposed purchase by Betty Hyre of new “risers” with wheels for the Sunday School singers. The cost is \$2,447. There is \$2,000 in the children's choir fund. A recommendation was made to use \$1,500 from the children's choir fund and the balance from the Bosse fund. Larry Paul made a motion to purchase and Dick Haar seconded it. Bill Caldwell will call the absent Council members to ask for their vote as a majority vote is required to spend these monies.

These long term expenditures were discussed:

Replace windows in the educational building - \$72,400 The windows are 50 years old and in bad need of replacement.

Repair/replace parking lot across the street from the church. The Trustees are obtaining quotes. Once the finance committee knows all the costs and determines how this affects the overall church budget, a congregational meeting will be held to determine next steps.

Jim Sommers, Finance Chairman, announced that we need more contributions coming in to offset the costs of these large projects.

**Youth Report / Day School Report** – Jamie Blazeovich, Christian Education Director discussed the following activities:

Prayer Buddy – pairing someone from church with a Dayschool kindergartner to support the child in mind and prayer. Goal is to invite them at the end of the school year to meet. If interested, let Jamie know. There are 30 kindergartners.

Putting together a “Mom's group” for women with children in varying ages to support them during transition. No date set, but a “gathering” as such to get to know one another at quarterly meeting. Long term goal is to meet once a month.

Trunk or Treat Sunday, Oct. 23 from 2—4:00 pm.

*(continued on page 3)*