
First St. John Journal

Volume 25, Issue 3

March, 2012

Walt Kallestad, pastor of Community Church of Joy, tells a personal story about the value of affirmation. He writes:

“My cousin was born with a deformed lip. Her speech was garbled and her teeth were gnarled. As a little girl, she was ashamed of how she looked and ashamed of who she was. During recess at school she would often stand far away from her classmates, hoping she wouldn’t be noticed. When she walked around, she kept her head down in embarrassment. One day, her well-loved grade school teacher knelt down beside her desk, lovingly looked into her eyes, and said, “You are very special. I wish you were my little girl.” In that moment of affirmation, a little girl who didn’t love herself at all was totally transformed. If her teacher thought she was special and wanted her, she decided that she must be of value.”

That’s exactly what God has done with each of us! In Jesus, He came down to earth, looked into our eyes and said: “You are very special. My Heavenly Father made you. I want you to be my Child.”

God has affirmed us, and the whole Lenten journey is proof of that. So come and worship during these days of Lent. Remember the words of Jesus: “So don’t be afraid, you are worth more than many sparrows.” (Matthew 10:31) — *Pastor Blohm*

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MARCH 23rd

WHAT’S THIS ENVELOPE?

If you wish to donate to our local benevolences, you may use the envelope in this newsletter and either mail it back to the church or place it in the offering plate. Thank you.



CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS!

We will move our clocks forward one hour (spring ahead!) on Sunday, March 11th at 2:00 a.m. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, March 10th.

LENTEN SERVICES CONTINUE

Join us for our mid-week Lenten services each Wednesday at noon in our Chapel and 7:00 pm in the Church. Our theme this year is The Body of Christ. We’ll concentrate on the feet, eyes, hands, mouth, listening ears, and heart of Christ. We’ll meet every Wednesday in March.

ARE YOU ON FACEBOOK?

Join other believers for Bible discussions, sharing church-related events, and keeping in touch on our Facebook page. Become a fan of First St. John Lutheran Church today!

DAYSCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

First St. John Dayschool Open House for parents interested in enrolling their children is Tuesday, March 6th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. If you know anyone who is looking for a quality school, please encourage them to see and experience the awesome program we offer. Many already have sent families our way — word of mouth is always our best advertisement. We hope to see you on March 6th!

DAYSCHOOL ENROLLMENT



Beginning March 1st, the general public is invited to enroll their children for the 2012/2013 school year. All children who will be age 3 by Sept. 30, 2012 are eligible to attend. First St. John members are encouraged to “check out” our school. If you’re interested or would like more information, call Barb Shellhammer at 419-691-6480.

ELDER SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

	<u>7:45 am</u>	<u>(Wed.)</u>	<u>10:15 am</u>
4th	Jeff Smith Jason Blazeovich		Mike Winslow Al Collins
7th		Mike Winslow Al Collins	
11th	Kevin Ruedy Darold Henninger		Bill Nelson Linda Yenrick
14th		Jeff Smith Jason Blazeovich	
18th	Tom Eppard Linda Erdmann		Eric Johnson Jim Swanson
21st		Linda Yenrick Bill Nelson	
25th	Mike Winslow Al Collins		Jeff Smith Jason Blazeovich
28th		Darold Henninger Kevin Ruedy	

ANNUAL CARD PARTY



The 21st annual Card Party & Luncheon is Tuesday, April 17th at noon. Tallies are \$8. For reservations call either the church office (419-691-7222) or Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506. 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.

MEMBER UPDATES

Births

None of which we are aware.

Baptisms

None

Marriages

None

Deaths

None

Transfers to/from First St. John

None

HELP SUPPORT THE CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK

First St. John member Chelsea Folk is participating in BGSU's Bike for Tikes in which she will ride her bike for 180 miles to raise money and awareness for the Children's Miracle Network. If you'd like to help Chelsea meet her goal of raising \$600, you can contribute in many ways. If you write a check, you can make it out to "BGSU Dance Marathon." Make sure to include "Chelsea Folk-B4T" on the memo line or on a note included with cash donations and send it either directly to BGSU at Office of Campus Activities, Attn: Mike Freyaldenhoven, 401 Bowen-Thompson Student Union, BGSU, Bowling Green, OH 43032 OR directly to Chelsea at 2083 Park Run Dr., Apt. E, Columbus, OH 43220.

You can also donate on-line by going to <http://www.helpmakemiracles.org/participant/cefolk> and clicking "Support Me." If you have questions, please contact Chelsea at cfolk@falcon.bgsu.edu or 419.309.8409. All donations are tax-deductable and support a WONDERFUL cause! Thank you!

ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

To keep our records current, please notify us if your address or phone number changes by faxing (419-691-7220), mailing this form to 2471 Seaman St., Toledo, OH 43605, or emailing office@firststjohn.com

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ Phone _____

MEMORIALS

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Stephen Singlar** by Darla Koepke, Edbert Karcher.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

In memory of **Eleanor Habegger** by James & Norma Coy, Todd & Michelle Kozlowski.

CURRENT FUND

In memory of **Eleanor Habegger** by Eleanor Symington.

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Eleanor Habegger** by Walt & Darlene Metzger.

MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Our next gathering is Saturday, March 3rd at 8:00 am at Bob Evans Restaurant on Navarre Ave. Come for breakfast, a short devotion and fellowship. Call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 to RSVP so he can arrange for seating. Also let him know if you need transportation.



FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT!

Join us Sunday, March 4th from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at Eastern Lanes on Woodville Rd. EVERYONE is invited for fun, food, and fellowship! Even if you can't bowl, come out to say hello, hang out, and have some fun. Cost is \$5 per person. Please fill out the slip below by March 2nd and either mail it or drop it in the offering plate so we know how many lanes to reserve and how much food to have. You can also call the church at 419-691-7222 or email: office@firststjohn.com

Yes! I/we will attend Bowling Night on March 4th.

Names: _____

FIRST ST. JOHN ALTAR GUILD EASTER FLOWER SALE



It's time to buy flowers that will decorate the church at Easter. The price is \$8.00 per plant. You can choose a lily, daffodil, hyacinth or tulip plant. An order form will be in the bulletin for the entire month of March, and someone will take orders in the Narthex on March 25th.

Please complete the order blank below and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office: 2471 Seaman St., Toledo, OH 43605. Please make checks payable to: *First St. John Altar Guild*. Payment must accompany orders.

The deadline for ordering is Sun., March 25th.

No. of plants @ \$8.00 each: _____

Enclosed: \$ _____

Type of plant(s): _____
(lily, daffodil, hyacinth, tulip)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

In Loving Memory of (Deceased):

In Honor of (Living): _____

First St. John Prayer Chain

Crisis Prayer List

For those individuals who need our prayers in urgent matters such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals will be moved to the chronic list after one month unless a prayer chain contact is notified:

**Cassandra Carr
Rick "Slim" Henning
Herman Jeskey
Camille Osborn
Earl Warnke**

Chronic Prayer List

For those individuals who need our prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles and recovery and/or personal situations. Individuals will be moved off after three months unless a prayer chain contact has been notified:

**Matthew Ahrens
Family of Jack Allred
Jordyn Beckhusen
Kennyla Benson
Raylene Draeger
Bernie Erdmann
Jerry Gears
Bob Glass
Family of Phil Grivanos
Judy Gyde
Family of Eleanor Habegger
Lania Harris
Sandy Kearney
Family of Dr. Richard Koop
Vivian Kuhlman
Sylvia Loston
Laurie Madrazo
George "Skip" McCullough
Joe Metzger
Family of Renee Allred Miller
Ava Morin
Monica Moszkowicz
Ivan Myers
Charlie Ohlson
Bishop Sanchez
Nicki Schlegel
Family of Jeff Schneider
Family of Steve Singlar
Tim Smith
Gary Taylor
Bonnie Walker**

**Bob Webb
Candy Webster
Pat Whiteside
Terry Williams
Raetta Zeisler**

Please check the list and let any of the prayer chain contacts-listed below-know if individuals can be moved off the list.

Prayer Chain Contacts

Coordinator, 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

E-MAILING THE NEWSLETTER

If you would like your newsletter and calendar e-mailed to you, please send your e-mail address to: office@firststjohn.com Thank you.

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!

Chief Petty Officer Cynthia Henderson
44425 Scobee
California, MD 20619

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

1st LT Michael R. Pavley
11 W. 11th St. Apt. 32
Columbus, GA 31901

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

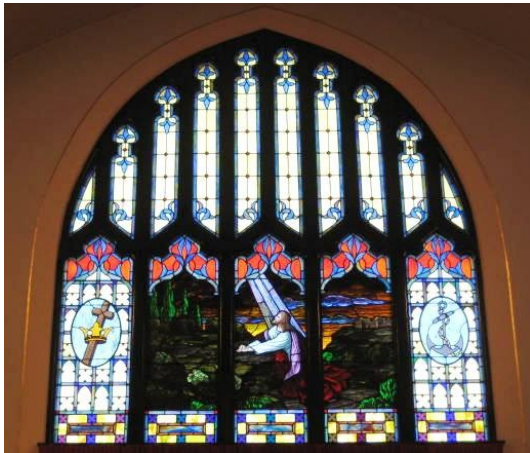
Captain Lindsey Rowland
Madison Barracks
237 Bartlett Dr.
Sackets Harbor, NY 13685

ANOTHER MOUSE TAIL TALE



The Mouse has checked the registration of participants for the tour of the church last December and found most were non-members. I am rather proud of my residence and would like to review a prominent feature to which we pay little attention, but that visitors entering the church feel compelled to comment upon. Our huge, arched, stained glass windows complement the House of God.

Our first little Chapel had no art glass. There is no record of the ten tall narrow, arched windows from the 1876 building. The Swinton Art Glass Company from Detroit supplied our present art glass.



The largest window over the Altar is a rendition of a painting by Hofman. It can be found under several different names such as “In the Garden,” “Praying Alone” and “Gethsemane.” The medallion on the left is the Cross and Crown, which symbolizes the death and victory of Christ as He reconciles the world. On the right is the Anchor, which symbolizes stability in troubled seas. This was a secret symbol for the cross from the days of St. Peter. This window bears no dedication plaque and apparently was purchased from “free will” offerings. It cost \$650.

The East Transept window bears a plaque “In Memory of Henry Cook.” On the left is a medallion called “Cup and Wafer,” which symbolizes the body and blood of Christ in communion.

“The Grapes” represents wine, a classic symbol of the Last Supper. The center “Alpha and Omega” are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet that symbolize the completeness of the Bible and that God is the beginning and end of all things. The banner and lamb rendition is unlike others I have seen. The lamb is usually the Sacrificial Lamb of God, and a red cross upon the banner represents Christ’s victory over death. Maybe someone can give us a better interpretation? The right medallion is the bundle of wheat which represents bread, a symbol of Communion and the Last Supper.

The West Transept bears a plaque “In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. J. Hecklinger.” The descending Dove of Peace or Spirit is a standard. Adding a Baptismal Font makes it relative to our Baptism. Is there a better explanation? The next right medallion is a replica of The Luther Seal.” The center medallion represents the Bible or “Word of God.” The Dove and Triangle symbolize the Holy Spirit and Trinity. The Tablets or Commandments are symbolized in the right medallion.

The rear window was sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Villhauer, Jr. This window and the two Transept windows are similar in size and appear to have cost \$200 each.

The two east side windows have plaques from the “Sunday School” and “Ladies Aid.” The two west windows are from “The Gleaners” and “H. H. Birkenkamp.” These four windows are similar and probably cost \$100 each.

Unfortunately, many of our old records lack detail. But then, how important was it then---or even now! We received many compliments on the beauty of our worship facility while decorated in its Christmas décor.

— *The Mouse*

P.S. I must be extra careful as I understand that traps have been set for “real” mice! Do the traps discriminate?!

DAYSCHOOL NEWS

(continued from page 7)

The walls are on the office and basement floors of the educational building. Feel free to add handprints, messages, pictures or anything that shows how you feel about being a friend of Jesus.

May God continue to guide and bless us all. In Him,

Barb Shellhammer



FROM THE C.E. DIRECTOR'S DESK

With Lent in full swing, it is important to remember why we have chosen to either give something up or do something we normal don't do. This Lenten season, I challenge all of us to consider the motivation behind our Lenten disciplines. Is it something to be endured? Or is it something that will sustain and nourish us through the season, something that may become part of our regular spiritual practices, or something that will sustain us as we continue on our life-long spiritual journeys? The reward granted by our Father who sees in secret will be a deepened and enriched relationship with him. After all, that's what really matters.

Thank you to all who donated to our Souper Bowl of Caring.

Save the date: Family Bowling Night 2011 was such a success that we will have our 2nd Annual Family Bowling Night on Sunday, March 4 from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. at Eastern Lanes on Woodville Rd. This event kicks off Lutheran Schools Week and is a great way to join in fellowship with both the church and our Dayschool families. See the article in this newsletter for more details and to RSVP.

JAM Meets at 9:00 a.m.

- Mar. 4 *Miracles of Jesus: Jesus' First Miracle*
- Mar. 11 *Miracles of Jesus: Jesus Heals the Blind*
- Mar. 18 *Miracles of Jesus: Jesus Calms the Storm*
- Mar. 25 *Miracles of Jesus: Jesus Walks on Water*

**** Parents of JAM Students meet just outside the JAM Room for coffee, laughter and conversation. Please join us as your children learn about God's Word. ****

BENEFIT SPAGHETTI DINNER

First St. John member Sara Oberhaus is putting together a spaghetti dinner benefit for her seven year-old godson, Gabe Lacey, and his family to be held on Sunday, March 18th from noon to 6:00 pm at the Toledo Speedway.

Gabe was diagnosed with Lemierre's Syndrome, a very rare illness that is extremely difficult to diagnose, and it is usually too late to save the patient after diagnosis. The disease is characterized by a bacteria that gets into the bloodstream, causing an infection throughout the body and blood clots that can travel to the lungs. Gabe is seven years old and has been through many surgeries to remove blood clots, remove swelling from his knees, tubes in his ears, etc., all due to this disease. He still needs further surgery to remove his tonsils. His family's income is just over the requirement for state and government aid. They pay over \$500 a month in medical bills, and have taken out a second mortgage. Creditors call weekly for more money.

If you can help with supplies for the dinner, they need spaghetti noodles and sauce, bags of salad, salad dressing, meatballs, disposable salt & pepper shakers, garlic bread, dessert, bottled water, plastic dinnerware, and raffle tickets. If you can donate raffle items, that would be a great help as well. If you have additional questions, please call Sara at 419-966-3220.

If you can't attend the dinner, monetary donations are also appreciated. You can go to any 5/3 Bank and make a donation to the Gabe Lacey Fund. Thank you for any help you can provide.

— Sara Oberhaus

LIBRARY NEWS



Someone has taken the book **HEAVEN IS FOR REAL** by Todd Burpo from the library. Would you please return it? As a reminder, please sign your books out and put the card in the box so we can keep track of borrowed books. Thanks,

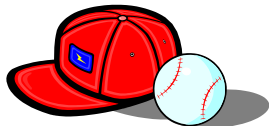
— Marilyn Cashen



WINSLOW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE

This scholarship helps members of First St. John attending college for the 2012/2013 school year. Scholarship applications are in the church office. Applications must be completed and returned to the church office by Fri., March 30th to be considered.

2012 HOMEPLATE—



Join us Saturday, April 21st at Comerica Park as the Tigers take on the Texas Rangers. The program begins at 9:30 am. Members and coaches of the Detroit Tigers speak about their faith in Jesus Christ. Afterward, a baseball clinic runs from 11:00 am to 12:15 pm. Everyone gets a meal coupon for the concession areas, too. Then stay for the game that begins at 1:05. Tickets are \$27 per person. Call or email the church office soon to reserve your tickets.

“DINNER WITH FRIENDS”

Our next dinner will be Tuesday, March 13th at 6:00 pm. Meet here for a light dinner in the company of your friends from First St. John. Our FREE dinners will be in March, May, September, and November. The menu this month will be a pasta dinner. Transportation will be provided if needed. If you would like to attend, please fill out the slip below and return it in the offering plate so we know how many to plan for. Please include your phone number in case we have to cancel due to inclement weather. Remember, if you do not like to drive at night, we can arrange transportation for you. Join us!

-- The Hannah Circle

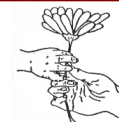
Yes, I will attend Dinner With Friends on Tuesday, March 13th

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Check here if you need transportation:

DAYSCHOOL NEWS



Dear Friends,

How fortunate we are to work in an environment that brings us so much pleasure! As this month begins we start to realize that soon we will need to say goodbye to the many children who have found a place in our hearts. We have truly enjoyed the children and hope to fill the remaining time with exciting and enriching experiences. The teachers have wonderful plans for the coming month, including an emphasis on Lent, our Savior, and His message of forgiveness, which will be integrated throughout the curriculum. We will talk about what it means to prepare our hearts for Jesus. We will discuss how much God loves us, that we are His children, and that Jesus is our Savior. Through songs and fingerplays we will learn the story of His sacrifice and the Good News of His resurrection.

Attention all Prayer Buddies: SAVE THE DATE Sunday, May 20th. A service recognizing our kindergarten children and their completion of the school year will take place that day. After the service, the children will be introduced to their prayer buddy. An exciting day for all involved! I have heard children and their parents speak of how eager they are to finally meet you! Thank you so much for going above and beyond my expectations. You are truly remarkable!

We had an amazing turnout at By Design in February. It was an awesome gathering of women all looking for Christian fellowship. If you are available to assist with this program in any way (i.e. childcare, errand running, set up or clean up...) please call Jamie or me. I am certain this is going to be a program that makes God smile!

An Open House for the community to see our school and all we offer will be Tuesday, March 6 from 6:00 pm-8:00pm. Registrations for children already enrolled and the children of the congregation have been coming in steadily. Help us spread the word about our school. My personal prayer is we have a strong enrollment by June. If anyone can hang a flier at their workplace like the one at the back and front entrances of the educational building, please let me know. Also, if you know anyone looking for a quality Christian school, encourage them to come, see, and experience the awesome program we offer. Many of you have already sent families our way, and we appreciate it. Word of mouth is always our best advertisement.

Lutheran Schools Week is March 4-10. We will celebrate with spirit week where the children get to do and wear things that aren't normally done or worn at school. We will also create a "graffiti" wall called *We Are Friends with Jesus*. This is a family and congregation graffiti wall — a way of letting everyone involved with our school express how they are friends of Jesus.

(continued on page 6)



**EVERYONE IS INVITED
TO A SHOWER FOR
THE DAUGHTER PROJECT**

The Daughter Project, a faith-based, non-profit agency that helps girls recover from the abuses of human trafficking, will finally become operational this June. Its founder, Jeff Wilbarger, also is the brother-in-law of our secretary, Toni Wilbarger.

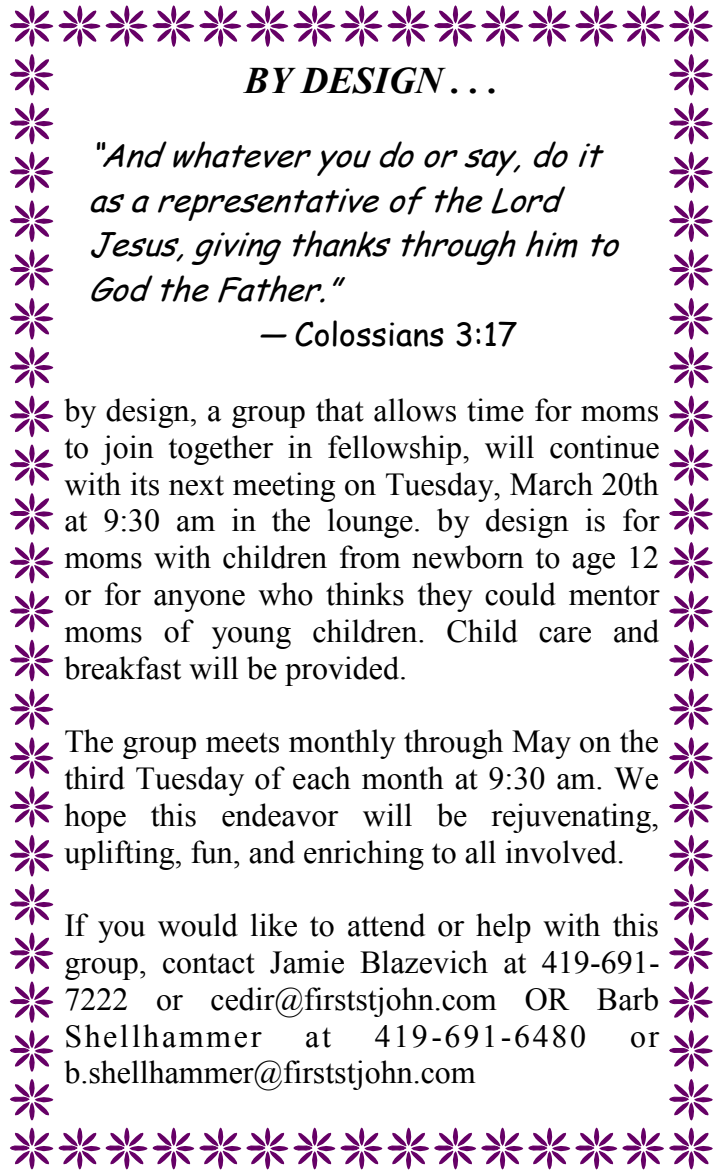
We at First St. John would like to help The Daughter Project (TDP) in its first months of operation by collecting items still needed for the program's initial start-up. To that end, we are having a shower on Saturday, March 10th from 10:00 am to noon in our lounge. Someone from TDP will be here to update us on the program and answer our questions. Refreshments will be provided.

Here is a detailed list of the items needed. Please bring new items, not used. TDP wants to give the girls a feeling of being special enough to deserve new things. For clothing, small and medium sizes are best. To donate, please bring items to the church office, or bring them with you if you plan to attend the shower. Thank you in advance.

- ◆ Art supplies & craft items (paint sets, easel, etc.)
- ◆ Books ("classics" - no vampire themes, please)
- ◆ Snow shovels
- ◆ Gardening supplies (gloves, hoses, spades, etc.)
- ◆ Gym bags
- ◆ Flip-flops
- ◆ Beach towels
- ◆ Underwear, Socks
- ◆ Pajamas
- ◆ Bathrobes & Slippers
- ◆ Sweatpants, sweatshirts
- ◆ Gift cards (anywhere you like to shop is where they like to shop)
- ◆ Gas cards (house mothers will use to drive the girls to appointments)
- ◆ African-American hair care products
- ◆ Non-perishable food items

They also need bigger ticket items that you could get together with a group to donate: a swing set (some of the girls are as young as 10) and a picnic table.

They are also registered at Bed Bath & Beyond and Kohl's. For more information on TDP, please visit their website at www.thedaughterproject.org



BY DESIGN...

"And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father."

— Colossians 3:17

by design, a group that allows time for moms to join together in fellowship, will continue with its next meeting on Tuesday, March 20th at 9:30 am in the lounge. by design is for moms with children from newborn to age 12 or for anyone who thinks they could mentor moms of young children. Child care and breakfast will be provided.

The group meets monthly through May on the third Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am. We hope this endeavor will be rejuvenating, uplifting, fun, and enriching to all involved.

If you would like to attend or help with this group, contact Jamie Blazeovich at 419-691-7222 or cedir@firststjohn.com OR Barb Shellhammer at 419-691-6480 or b.shellhammer@firststjohn.com

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR



For March, we are focusing on tuna fish, pudding, soup, crackers, and mac n' cheese. Please place your donations (no glass jars, please) in the Feed Your Neighbor bins in the Narthex under the main bulletin board or in the bin in the lounge underneath the side tables. Thank you.



**REMINDER FOR
REBECCA CIRCLE**

The regular meeting date for the Rebecca Circle is the first Saturday of the month at 11:30 am. The date and time in the WELCA roster is incorrect. Please mark your calendars. Thanks!

FIRST ST. JOHN LUTHERN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—February 21, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Keith Mullen. Devotions were done by Pastor Blohm. Roll call was taken. The minutes were read and Keith asked for approval of them. Dave Warnke made a motion to accept, Karen Holmes seconded and the motion passed.

Board of Ed. /Christian Ed. Report: Julie Gallaher gave the report for the Sunday School. There will be some chairs purchased for the JAM room for singing. Red Cross speaker came last week, and the blood drive will be Tues. April 3. Jamie Blazeovich talked about the By Design group for moms. There were 15 women who attended this week. There were also 15 little ones to baby-sit. They have scheduled VBS for June 24-28. The theme is SKY. Christ United Methodist church will be working with the VBS group. Jamie has been meeting with other directors to talk about problems and ideas for their particular job. Dayschool is working on a “Founders Hall.” Thanks to Larry Paul for painting cabinets in the JAM room. The group has been working on a new design of bookmarks to go in the pews. Jamie mentioned Lutheran Schools Week beginning March 4. There will be a bowling event scheduled for families from the Dayschool and the church on March 4 from 2:30-4:30 at a cost of \$5.00 per person.

Elders Report: Bill Nelson is the chairman of the elders. Ash Wednesday is tomorrow and the elders have been assigned duties for the Lenten season. Bill will check out the early service recordings since they have not been coming out clearly.

Property Mgt. Report: Mike Folk spoke for the group. The roof over Altar Guild room has been repaired. Total cost was \$5,500. Shingles on the outside of the church were also checked and replaced if necessary. Attic ladder door in the Ed. Building has been replaced. A thermal audit using infrared technology to check heat loss will be done at the church. The blue spruce in front of the church needs to be removed because of its size. The hornbeam will need to go as well. Trees will be replaced. Heating system audit will be done by Dunbar because the thermostats do not work properly to adjust heat. Exhaust fans in the kitchen have been oiled and inspected and may need further checking out. Insulation for copper pipe system will be coming at no cost. Window replacement for educational building is needed. A total of 85 windows will be needed in order to replace them all. We are working with the window company for pricing. Ron Witt and Bill Caldwell spent time working around the church; our thanks to them.

Finance Committee Report: Chris Hunsaker gave the report. Chris audited the general fund, altar guild and special funds. All came out okay. Keith asked for a motion to accept the report so Gary Henningsen made the motion, seconded by Tom Eppard and the motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report: Lisa Anderson gave the report. We are in the red about \$4,600. The shortfall is closer to a break even. We had quarterly expenses such as insurance, taxes, and water that had to be paid in January. Taking that into consideration, we are at a break even status. One new item is a capital improvement campaign from the 150 anniversary funds, which will be used later. Now we are backing up all of our data off site, which will make our reports more secure.

Dayschool Report: The Dayschool will be celebrating Lutheran Schools Week. Barb Shellhammer is making a graffiti wall with the question “Why Jesus is my Friend,” and the students will be writing on it along with any adults who wish to comment. There will be an open house on Tuesday, March 6 from 6-8 pm.

Pastor Report: Two services for Lent are at 12 pm in the chapel and 7 pm in the church. A sermon series will begin called “The Questions Children Want to Ask God.” Synod Assembly is May 18-19 in Bowling Green at the student union. We need delegates to the assembly.

Old Business: Bill Nelson handed out a list of events that were done for our 150th anniversary. Bill feels we can still perform some of these activities in order to encourage congregational participation and fellowship. Discussion took place about the events of the past year: which ones were popular and could be managed again, and the amount of people it would take to make some of the activities happen. The committee may need congregational input as far as the favorite activities. Keith asked if the committee would stay together and help plan some events for the coming year.

New Business: Need a replacement for Matt DeWitt on the Finance Committee.

Keith called for a motion to adjourn the meeting Gary Henningsen made the motion and Karen Holmes seconded it. All were in favor. The meeting ended by reciting the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Habegger