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# ♥ First St. John Journal ♥

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Volume 27, Issue 2

February 2014

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**A**n unsettling anxiety, a sense of guilt, a feeling of loss – George was experiencing all of these. Raised in a Christian home, George had remained active as an adult in his parents’ church. He thoroughly enjoyed sharing in the life of the congregation. But George had doubts.

George told no one about his doubts except his wife, Janette. He could confide in no one else. What would the people at church think? What would the pastor think? He had never heard anybody else talk about doubt.

George is not alone. To every Christian comes moments of doubt. Some live with doubt constantly. We need to approach doubt in a truthful way, realizing that God honors honesty.

Doubt has a double edge. On the one side it presents danger; on the other, opportunity. We should be thankful that we are suspicious sometimes. Otherwise we would fall prey to every dishonest salesperson, every bad investment, every religious cult. Without some skepticism we would be naïve. But we should also be wary of doubt; for if it is nourished too long it can immobilize or defeat us.

It’s all right to have doubts. In times of doubt we respond as our lives have trained us. The brave soldier trembles but falls into line at the battle cry. So the seeking Christian may prove most faithful when wrestling with questions.

Jesus knew that believing would sometimes be difficult for his followers. Hear his understanding words to Thomas: “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet believe.” (*John 20:29*)

The Bible uses another important word in this context besides doubt – unbelief. These two words are sometimes used interchangeably in the Bible, but

often there is an important difference in what they mean. Doubt is something beyond the individual’s ability to control completely. Persistent unbelief involves a person’s will. The doubter may long to believe, though his faith is weak. The unbeliever who rejects Christ chooses not to accept, trust, or love God. The doubter is divided within himself. The unbeliever is resolutely disobedient. The danger in not dealing with doubting, however, is that it can lead to unbelief.

But God can also bring blessings to the believer through the very doubt that threatens faith. For doubt often clarifies what faith is. The Danish theologian Soren Kierkegaard realized that faith is not the same as logical certainty. He described faith as a leap. “When we believe, we jump out into the darkness trusting that God is there to catch us. Paul wrote, ‘We walk by faith and not by sight.’” (*2 Corinthians 5:7*)

Doubt may serve to remind us of the goodness of God. When the father of a sick boy cried, “I believe; help my unbelief!” he was crying out for stronger faith that his son might be healed (*Mark 9:24*). And Jesus healed the son even though the father’s faith was weak. God does not cease to be God even though we doubt him.

Nevertheless, doubt is always cause for concern. It is always troublesome. But sometimes we take ourselves too seriously. Once the disciples came to Jesus asking him to increase their faith. He answered that all they needed was faith “as a mustard seed.” (*Luke 17:5-6*). A mustard seed is not much larger than the period at the end of this sentence.

The issue here is not how much faith we have, rather that we have faith at all. As Jesus responded to the little faith of the sick boy’s father, so God hears and answers even our feeblest prayers. Even through small faith God works miracles.

(continued on page 4)

## MEMORIALS

### CHOIR FUND

In memory of **Grace Heninger** by M/M Bill Hamilton, Art & Joyce Shiley, David & Christina Schriever, Robert & Janice Valentine.

### CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Elnore Groll** by Jim & Joan Sigurdson.

In memory of **Grace Heninger** by Ken & Joyce Villhauer.



## BOARD OF MINISTRIES

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 11th at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there.



### THANK YOU

We received the following letter from Toledo Public Schools:

Thank you so much for your recent donation to Toledo Public Schools. Your contribution of hand-made hats, scarves and mittens, valued at \$200, to be used for students of Raymer Elementary School, is greatly appreciated.

We are so grateful for this type of generosity from the community. The kindness you have shown our students emphasizes your support of Toledo Public Schools and allows the district to continue providing students with a quality education.

On behalf of the Board of Education, our students and staff, I would like to thank you again for the kindness you have shown to Toledo Public Schools.

*Dr. Romules Durant, Interim Superintendent*

## MEMBER UPDATES

### Births:

12-30-13 *Ryder Allen Schuffenecker*, born to Eric and Brandy (Howard) Schuffenecker.

1-6-14

*Shanti Lee Liesner*, born to Mike and Anisha (Joshi) Liesner.

### Baptisms:

1-12-14

*Kolton Jon Boze*, born November 20, 2013 to Troy and Megan (Vaillant) Boze. Sponsors are Matthew Vaillant and Natalie Szych.

**Marriages:** None.

**Deaths:** None.

### Transfers to First St. John:

Jason Box from Zion Lutheran in Waterville, OH.

**Transfers from First St. John:** None.

## REBECCA CIRCLE NEWS

We will not meet in February. Our next meeting is Saturday, March 8th at 11:30 am in the lounge. (Date changed due to the annual Mom2Mom sale.)

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FEBRUARY 17th

## JEANS FOR JESUS

“Jeans for Jesus” is on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> in recognition of Super Bowl Sunday.

For an extra \$1 in the offering plate, you can wear jeans and your favorite team’s jersey.



## ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

To keep current information for office records, if your name, address or phone number changes, please notify the office by mailing this form to: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605 or e-mail us: [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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



## 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

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

*Lindsey Rowland*  
1 Surf Way #113  
Monterey, CA 93940

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Do you enjoy children? Do you have 2.5 hours to spare only ONCE a month? Then we have a volunteer opportunity for YOU! We need three or four more volunteers to help take care of the children while the moms of By Design enjoy some spiritual “me” time. We meet from 9:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. the first and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. If you could spare some time for this special ministry, please contact Jamie in the church office.

### ELDERS FOR FEBRUARY

|             | <u>7:45 am</u>               | <u>10:15 am</u>                  |
|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>2nd</i>  | Tom Eppard<br>Al Collins     | Eric Johnson<br>Laurie Witt      |
| <i>9th</i>  | Dick Haar<br>Jeff Ladd       | Jeff Smith<br>Jason Blazeovich   |
| <i>16th</i> | Linda Yenrick<br>Bill Nelson | Darold Henninger<br>Mike Winslow |
| <i>23rd</i> | Eric Johnson<br>Laurie Witt  | Tom Eppard<br>Al Collins         |

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 2nd ANNUAL MOM 2 MOM SALE!!!!



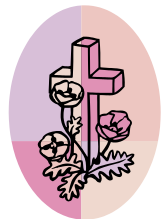
On Saturday, March 1st from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm in our gym, moms will sell their new and gently used children’s items, with proceeds from table rentals benefiting First St. John’s By Design mom’s group and our Dayschool.

Here’s where you come in: WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS to make this a successful event! We need volunteers to be runners, to help moms set up, bake sale donations, to sell tickets for the raffle baskets, door attendances, and set up and tear down for the sale. If you can help a few hours or all day, we’ll take it! If can help or need more information, contact Jamie Blazeovich at 419-691-7222 or [cedir@firststjohn.com](mailto:cedir@firststjohn.com)

You also can help by donating items such as these to complete raffle baskets: snack foods, lotions from Bath & Body Works, candles, sunscreen, grilling utensils, coloring books, kitchen gadgets, marinade mixes, restaurant gift certificates, etc.

See you there!

## 2014 ROSTERS FOR ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH



The new 2014 rosters are in the lounge on the literature tables by the double doors. These booklets include officers of WELCA and Altar Guild, a calendar of events for all women, ongoing mission project needs, and a list of all the women’s Bible study groups, their members and their meeting times.

## 2014 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2014 have been stored away. If you haven’t gotten yours yet, please call Toni in the church office to arrange pick up. If you don’t have offering envelopes but would like some, please call Toni in the church office to arrange it. Thanks.

# First St. John Lutheran Church Prayer Chain

## Crisis Prayer Chain List

*This list is for those who need our prayers in an urgent matter such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after the 1st month unless one of the prayer chain contacts is contacted:*

**As of 1/28, no one is on the Crisis List!**

## Chronic Prayer List

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

**George Ackerman  
Jordyn Beckhusen  
Karen Burris  
Baby Camille  
Gail Chaffee  
Annette Frybarger  
Lily Georgeson  
Mark Gingrich  
Marvin Gladieux  
Larry Grant  
Bob & Debbie Hecklinger  
Margie Heninger  
Connie Koch  
Sophie Le Duc  
Jeff Mc Cawley  
George "Skip" Mc Cullough  
Jeanette Miller  
Christopher Molnar  
Jessica Mueller  
Charlie Ohlson  
Demetra Pender  
Nancy Pfefferle  
Cindy Roecker  
LuAnn Spoerl  
Tom Walls  
Candy Webster  
Terry Williams**

Please check the list and let any of the prayer chain contacts-listed in the next column-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



## ***PASTOR'S MESSAGE***

*(continued from page 1)*

When doubts come, and they may, remember that God's concern for us outlasts any doubt. God still loves us in the midst of our most severe questioning. If we keep the faith, by God's grace, though it may seem feeble or even microscopic at times, we will be preserving the most precious gift of all. This shaky faith will be used by God to work miracles, especially our salvation. Through our doubts, when honestly dealt with as a searching for truth, the Spirit may lead us by remembrance of Jesus to a surer, clearer faith. — *Pastor Rayl*

## **DAYSCHOOL NEWS**

*(continued from page 9)*

Another fundraiser is our Club Choice product sale, beginning mid-February. This fundraiser has been well received in the past, and we hope for an even better response this year as we continue to raise funds for new flooring in the basement of the educational building and playground renovations.

We also will have a Market Day program beginning in February. I hope this program will ease some of the stressors in our busy lives by providing opportunity to pick up healthy food options right at church or school. Look for more information in your bulletin on start dates and how to place orders.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Dayschool ministry. My personal prayer is that our eyes be opened to see the scriptures in action so we always know who we are and *Whose* we are.

In Him,  
Barb Shellhammer

## FROM JAMIE'S DESK

### As we think of February – we are reminded of Valentine's Day. So - When did it all start?

There are various theories on the origin of Valentine's Day, but the most popular dates back to the time of the Roman Empire during the reign of Claudius II, 270 A.D. Claudius didn't want men to marry during wartime because he believed single men made better soldiers. Bishop Valentine went against his wishes and performed secret wedding ceremonies. For this, Valentine was jailed and then executed by order of the Emperor on Feb. 14. While in jail, he wrote a love note to the jailor's daughter, signing it, "From your Valentine." Sound familiar?

#### More Valentine's Day-Related History

- The ancient Romans celebrated the Feast of Lupercalia on Feb. 14 in honor of Juno, the queen of the Roman gods and goddesses. Juno was also the goddess of women and marriage.
- Many believe the X symbol became synonymous with the kiss in medieval times. People who couldn't write their names signed in front of a witness with an X. The X was then kissed to show their sincerity.
- Girls of medieval times ate bizarre foods on St. Valentine's Day to make them dream of their future spouse.
- In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who would be their Valentine. They would wear this name pinned onto their sleeves for one week for everyone to see. This was the origin of the expression "to wear your heart on your sleeve." In 1537, England's King Henry VII officially declared February 14 the holiday of St. Valentine's Day.

#### Chocolate

- Physicians of the 1800's commonly advised their patients to eat chocolate to calm their pining for lost love.
- Richard Cadbury produced the first box of chocolates for Valentine's Day in the late 1800's.
- More than 35 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold for Valentine's Day. Over \$1 billion worth of chocolate is purchased for Valentine's Day in the U.S.

Full article can be found at: <http://www.sheknows.com/holidays-and-seasons/articles/807655/fun-facts-about-valentine-s-day>

#### JESUS AND ME 1st – 6<sup>th</sup> SCHEDULE

|          |    |         |  |
|----------|----|---------|--|
| February | 2  | Special | Making Valentines                              |
|          | 9  | Special | Deliver Valentines to LHS                      |
|          | 16 |         | Discover Jesus—We Can Love and Adore Jesus     |
|          | 23 |         | Big Things With God—Daniel—Great Man of Prayer |

#### JESUS AND ME PRE-K and KINDERGARTEN SCHEDULE

|          |    |         |  |
|----------|----|---------|--|
| February | 2  | Special | Making Valentines                      |
|          | 9  | Special | Deliver Valentines to LHS              |
|          | 16 |         | Growing for Jesus—God's Little Helpers |
|          | 23 |         | Growing for Jesus—God Helps Us Grow    |

#### 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE CATECHISM SCHEDULE

|     |    |                 |                             |
|-----|----|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Feb | 2  | 10 Commandments | Sixth Commandment           |
|     | 9  | 10 Commandments | Seventh Commandment         |
|     | 16 |                 | Faith Testimony             |
|     | 23 |                 | Women's/Men's Church Groups |

#### 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE CATECHISM SCHEDULE

|      |    |               |                               |
|------|----|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Feb. | 2  | Lord's Prayer | Sixth Petition                |
|      | 9  | Lord's Prayer | Seventh Petition/Conclusion   |
|      | 16 |               | Faith Testimony               |
|      | 23 |               | Faith Testimony—Working Class |



## MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The Men's Breakfast Fellowship has been meeting for over 7 years. About 14—18 men attend each month. Our main focus is fellowship, but sometimes we do service work such as mailing thank you and Christmas cards to our members in the military. We also read from the Bible and *Portals of Prayer*, and we pray for our church family. We are looking for ways to serve our church and the community.

Sound interesting? Join us on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am at Bob Evans on Navarre Ave. If you need a ride, call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409.

### JAMIE'S NEWS

(continued from page 5)

#### SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

The Souper Bowl of Caring runs through March 2nd. We will collect money and canned goods through February to help Lutheran Social Services' local food pantry. In 2012, LSS served over 15,000 people with this program. This food pantry is supported entirely by donations of food and money from Lutheran congregations and individuals. A large soup pot is in the Narthex for your donations. When you see the soup pot, consider tossing in a dollar or some change—whatever you can donate to this cause. A grocery cart is near the soup pot for depositing any canned good donations you bring. If everyone pitches in, we can go a long way toward helping the hungry right here in the Toledo area. Thank you for your generosity.

In our friendly competition, two grocery carts (thanks, Kroger) are available to collect canned goods—one downstairs in the JAM area and one in the Narthex. The one in the JAM room is for JAM students, choir members, adult Sunday school classes, and the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The one in the Narthex is for the rest of the congregation. We encourage everyone to participate!

**Last year** we collected 345 food items for LSS! The JAM/Choir/Catechism group had 165, and the congregation had 180. We also collected \$240.76. This year, let's shoot for 400 food items and \$300, all to be donated to LSS!

**SAVE the DATE—BOWLING!** On Sunday, March 23 from 2—4 pm we'll have a joint event for church and Dayschool families at Penny Jo's Eastern Lanes on Woodville Rd. Get pizza, pop and bowling for just \$5!

## SPECIAL NOTE FROM PASTOR MONTHLY MINISTRY EMPHASIS

Each year First St. John WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) does a number of mission projects supporting local and world-wide church agencies and community organizations that provide vital life-enhancing services that share God's love and grace with many people in need.

In an effort to expand the reach of the Women's group, this year the outreach projects will be *shared* with the entire congregation. Each project will have one month of emphasis in 2014 where information about the scope and work of the individual ministry will be shared during Sunday worship. When possible, individuals representing the monthly ministry will be present to share something interesting and inspiring about their work. Special envelopes will be available in the pews to give everyone the opportunity to respond with a special donation of support. Each month's ministry emphasis will be announced in this newsletter.

Our first ministry emphasis is the Community Food Pantry operated by Lutheran Social Services of NW Ohio. We began with the Souper Bowl of Caring food collection competition announced on January 19. The final collection is on Sunday, February 16 when someone from LSSNWO will join us for worship. Additional information about this collection is in the newsletter and weekly bulletins. (See the left column.)

We are excited about these monthly opportunities to bring us together in learning and responding to the wonderful ministries of our WELCA. Remember what Jesus declared, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least who are members of my family, you did it to me!" (*Matthew 25:40*)

## DARTBALL TOURNAMENT



The Lutheran Men's Dartball tournament will be here at First St. John on Monday, February 3rd at 7:00 pm in the gym. Set-up for the tournament is Sunday, February 2nd at 1:30 pm.

# Mom 2 Mom Sale

## FIRST ST. JOHN

Lutheran Church and Dayschool



Called through faith | Gathered in worship | Serving the community

2471 Seaman St. Toledo, OH 43605 | 419-691-7222

**Saturday,  
March 1, 2014**

**9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
(See admission prices)**



Preschool and Kindergarten  
First St. John Lutheran  
Dayschool



Fundraising proceeds from table rentals, refreshment sales, and raffles will go to support our women's & children's ministries—by design and our Dayschool.

Children grow so quickly! Ever wonder what to do with all their "stuff"?

Join us on Saturday, March 1st from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm in our gym where moms can sell their new and gently used children's items. Take the opportunity to move along what you no longer need, and make money too!

This event is like a garage sale, but instead of visiting yards or driveways, individuals will come together for one day only, under one roof to sell their children's items to other moms at amazing prices.

**If interested in selling items:**

**TABLE RENTAL PRICES** — \$20 a table  
Hanging rack (you provide) with table purchase — \$5  
Large item area also available — \$2/item

**If interested in just attending:**

**ADMISSION PRICES**  
Early Bird Admission—8:30 a.m. — \$3  
Regular Admission— 9:30 a.m. — \$2

For more information and/or to register for a table visit: [firststjohn.com](http://firststjohn.com) or contact

Jamie Blazeovich at 419-691-7222  
or Barb Shellhammer at 419-691-6480

### **MISC INFORMATION**

Raffle tickets will be sold For \$1/ticket or 6 for \$5.

Food, drink and other vendor items will be available for purchase.

Strollers Allowed/Elevator Available

## Mom-To-Mom Resale TABLE RENTAL AGREEMENT

Date of the sale is Saturday, March 1. Time of sale is 8:30 a.m. (early bird) 9:30 - 1:00

- Friday night set up will be 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Set up will begin at 7:00 a.m. on the morning of the sale. If you are doing Saturday morning set up, there will be **NO setup start after 7:40 a.m.** From approximately 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m. table renters will be allowed to presale at each others' tables. After that, table renters are to be at their table to sell their items to the outside shoppers.
- Due to space available table rental is limited. Registrations will be time stamped in the order they are received. Vendor products must be sold at a separate table.
- Table renters are expected to provide their own change and their own bags. First St. John Lutheran Church and Dayschool will not provide these items. Renters are also expected to act as their own security for items they bring to sell. We cannot be responsible if items or money are stolen from a renter.
- You will be provided a table/space to sell your items from. You must keep your items in the area assigned to you and not have items protruding out into the walkways where they may cause someone to fall or trip. We realize that many sales allow items to go into the aisle. Please respect us as we are respecting the FIRE MARSHALL'S Rules. You may also \*rent space for a rack, which you must provide yourself. Your rack must fit into the space provided. 3 Ft between your table and the next table and not extend into the aisle. All items must be behind the front line of your table edge. No clothes hung on the front edge of table.
- Bottled water, gourmet coffee, and snacks will be available for you to purchase.
- You are responsible for pricing and tagging your own items and arranging them in an attractive and orderly manner. This will help you sell your items. For more information, visit the [firststjohndayschool.org](http://firststjohndayschool.org) page for tips on how to sell your items. Items must be clean.
- There is a large item area if you have large items. Please send a picture of your large item with your registration.
- Renters are expected to stay until 1:00 p.m. Renters should not begin to pack up their items to leave before 12:55 p.m. (This is for the sake of those buyers who may be traveling between Resale events).
- **IF YOU WANT TO BE NEXT TO ANOTHER PERSON YOUR CONTRACTS MUST BE SENT IN TOGETHER OR UNDER BOTH NAMES AT THE SAME TIME. WE WILL NOT REARRANGE TABLES OF CONTRACTS SENT SEPARATELY.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Table(s) to rent @ \$20.00: \_\_\_\_\_ 8 ft table

\*Rack space (with table rental only) @ \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_ (one rack space per table rental - rack provided by table-renter)

Big Item Room Fees: \$2 per item payable day of sale

TOTAL DUE: \_\_\_\_\_ by February 21, 2014 (If payment is after this date, money order only.)

I agree with all the above rules and regulations listed above:

SIGN HERE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your payment to: Mom2Mom Sale, 2471 Seaman St., Toledo, OH 43605  
Make checks payable to: First St. John Dayschool

**SALE LOCATION**  
**First St. John Lutheran Church and Dayschool**  
**2471 Seaman St. Toledo, OH 43605**





No one's ever seen or heard anything like this, Never so much as imagined anything quite like it— What God has arranged for those who love him. But you've seen and heard it because God by his Spirit has brought it all out into the open before you. 1 Corinthians 2:9 (The Message)

The Dayschool is a ministry of First St. John. Its purpose is to plant seeds, to spread the good news of the gospel, to make sure each child knows they were created by our awesome God. I cannot tell you enough what a blessing it is to witness this purpose being carried out daily. We are blessed because we know our heavenly Father and can share the good news with those who have never heard anything like it or imagined anything as wonderful as the promise of being eternally His. That's what He expects from us, and it is what First St. John's congregation does so well in its many ministries. Thank you for your continued prayers as we tell children and families about the God who loves them so.

As we begin registration for the upcoming school year, please think about our shared ministry—the reason the school is here. Your help is needed in spreading the word about the quality, Christ-centered education we provide at First St. John Dayschool. Enrollment for 2014/2015 begins Monday, February 3 for members of First St. John and students currently enrolled. Registration opens to the public Monday, March 3. Our open house is from 6:00 – 8:00 pm on Tuesday, March 4 for those considering the school for the 2014/2015 year. Word of mouth has always been our best advertisement. Registration forms are in both the church and Dayschool offices. Please share them with friends and neighbors!

I also want to share with you a few good reasons to choose First St. John Kindergarten and Preschool:

- Christ-Centered Education (He is a part of everything we do!)
- Highly qualified teachers (We have two/three teachers per classroom and I cannot begin to express how exceptional they are. Please feel free to visit the class in operation and see for yourself.)
- Small class size (We are committed to keeping our kindergarten to a maximum of 20 children and maintaining a 1 teacher/8 children in our preschool and prekindergarten classes.)
- No overwhelming lunchrooms or playgrounds (The children know the teachers in all of these settings and the teachers *know* the children.)
- Affordable, all-day, every-day kindergarten with the option of before and after care.
- Well rounded, self-contained program with physical education, outdoor exploration and play. We address the national Common Core Standards and meet the needs for cognitive, physical, emotional, social, creative, and spiritual development.
- Safe, loving family environment. All who come in contact with the children root for their success.
- Nutritious snacks and lunches provided daily in a stress-free environment.
- Many opportunities for family involvement, sending a clear message to children that who they are and what they are learning is important.
- Various teaching strategies and tailored methods and materials to accommodate different learning styles – Differentiated Instruction

Another way to help is through our still upcoming fundraising opportunities this year. Would you consider helping us? On Saturday, March 1 the Dayschool and By Design ministries are having a MOM2MOM sale. Proceeds from table rentals, refreshment sales, and raffles will support both ministries. We already are getting a great deal of positive feedback about the sale, and your help is needed to spread the word and, if possible, contribute items for our raffle baskets from the following list:

- Home Spa Basket - Lotions from Bath & Body Works, candles, loofah, slippers, body scrubs, etc.
- Good Morning Sunshine Basket – Breakfast items such as pancake mix, syrup, dried fruits, etc.
- Cook's Basket – Kitchen gadgets, spice/seasoning packets, recipe book, measuring spoons, etc.
- Out to Dinner Basket – Gift certificates to restaurants, Clorox wipes, coloring books, crayons, etc.
- Fun in the Sun Basket – Beach towel, sunscreen, frisbee, sand toys, paperback books, etc.
- Movie Night Basket – Movies, popcorn, candy, popcorn bowl, etc.
- Grill Basket – Meat thermometer, marinade mixes, grill cookbook, grilling utensils, etc.
- Family Fun Pizza Basket – Pizza sauce, pizza pan, pizza cutter, crust mix, pepper flakes, etc.

In lieu of sending an item, a monetary donation would be most appreciated, or you could choose to volunteer at this event. Thank you!

(continued on page 4)

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## **FIRST ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—JANUARY 15, 2014**

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President Keith Mullen opened the Wednesday, January 15, 2014 meeting with Pastor Rayl giving the devotion.

**Secretary's Minutes** - Minutes from the December meeting were read. A motion was made by Dick Haar to accept the minutes. Tom Eppard seconded, motion carried.

**Sunday School** - Jamie Blazeovich reported that "Jeans for Jesus" will be held during the service on Super Bowl Sunday where, for an additional donation, you can wear jeans on 2-2-14. Souper Bowl of Caring will also be held from January 26 thru February 23. These donations of canned goods will go to the Lutheran Social Services food pantry.

The 2nd Annual Mom to Mom sale will be held on March 1. Volunteers are needed to help carry items in and run the elevator.

**Elder's Report** - Bill Nelson reported that services over the holidays went very well and that weddings for 2014 are accumulating.

**Property Mgmt.** - Mike Folk and Larry Paul reported that the new sign with Pastor Rayl's name was installed, a toilet was fixed and a new sprayer was put in the kitchen. They will also be meeting with the groups who need to use the new business office and finding out what their needs are as far as storage, tables and shelving.

**Treasurer/Finance Report** - Chris Hunsaker and Jim Sommers presented the budget. The Personal Needs Pantry is on hold due to canceled meetings from the weather. A motion was requested to provide a checking account for the Personal Needs Pantry. Dave Warnke motioned we provide a checking account, Mike seconded, motion carried. A second request was made for a credit card for the Personal Needs Pantry. Dave motioned we allow this group to have a credit card, Mike seconded. Motion carried. Jim stated Lisa was not available due to a death in the family, so he went over the budget for 2014. Larry motioned we accept the report, Eric Johnson seconded Motion carried.

**Dayschool** - No report—representatives absent.

**Pastor's Report** - Many positive comments were heard about the services over the holidays and Jamie commented on how the acolytes love the new robes the Altar Guild purchased for them. She also stated the new baptism service is wonderful in that it includes the acolytes.

Transfer in: Jason Box from Zion Lutheran in Waterville. Dan Hugueley motioned we accept this transfer, Chris Hunsaker seconded, motion carried. There are currently six people in the new members class.

March 25 is the annual meeting for Lutheran Social Services at the Hilton Garden Inn. The cost is \$25 per person and Pastor would like to have a whole table purchased.

Delegates are also needed for the Synod Assembly on May 16, 17, and 18. Keith mentioned that delegates have never been used before. Three are needed.

**Old Business** - None at this time.

**New Business** -The German service generated \$300 which will be donated to the Personal Needs Pantry.

Meeting motioned to be adjourned by Dave, seconded by Tom. The motion carried. The meeting was closed by Keith.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Folk  
Council Secretary

### **DAVID WINSLOW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**



This scholarship helps members of First St. John who will attend college for the 2014/2015 school year. Money is supplied from proceeds of the David Winslow Memorial Golf outing held each summer, along with donations from church members. Applications are in the church office. Applications must be completed and returned to the church office by March 30<sup>th</sup> to be considered.