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# First St. John Journal

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Volume 28, Issue 5

May, 2015

**D**o you miss life-changing opportunities because of short sightedness? It can happen by putting limits on where God might be taking you. Consider this example.

A fellow approached a cab driver in New York and said, “Take me to London.”

The cab driver told him there was no possible way for him to drive across the Atlantic.

The customer insisted there was. “You’ll drive me down to the pier, we’ll put the taxi on a freighter to Liverpool, you’ll drive me to London, where I’ll pay you whatever is on the meter.”

The driver agreed and when they arrived in London the passenger paid the total on the meter, plus a thousand dollar tip.

The driver roamed around London, not quite knowing what to do. Then an Englishman hailed him and said, “I want you to drive me to New York.”

When the passenger began to say, “First, we take a boat . . .” the driver cut him off.

“That I know. But where do you want to go in New York?”

The passenger replied, “Riverside Drive and 104<sup>th</sup> Street.”

The driver shrugged his shoulders, shook his head, and responded, “Sorry, I don’t go to the west side.”

Jesus was well-schooled in the Scriptures, and he often followed the traditions of his heritage. He also had a daily routine of prayer and service to the needs of other people. However, he didn’t allow traditions or personal preferences to stand in the way of carrying out God’s will for the day.

Look for God-given opportunities to serve God by serving others. Don’t allow your daily routines, personal biases, or short sightedness cause you to miss what the Lord wants to do in you and through you today.

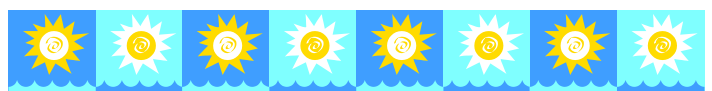
This is a concern for every follower of Jesus Christ, not only as individuals but also as a community of faith within the church. *It is a continual challenge to remain open to the call and guidance of the Holy Spirit.* But in doing so, a believer is remaining open to receive all the wonderful gifts that come from the life-giving presence of the resurrected and living Lord.

As a congregation, we also must remain open to whatever possibilities for ministry the Lord seeks to lead us into. Prayer and a willingness to work together in faith and love are important elements for a congregation to remain open and alert. It is vital that we always look for ways to build up and strengthen the body of Christ within the congregation.

The Apostle Paul, so many years ago, wrote encouraging words to the Thessalonian church that are still important for us to consider in our daily journey of faith. Paul said, “To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Thess. 1:11)

*When we make it our aim to glorify the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we will discover that in whatever way the Lord leads us, even when difficult, it will be the way to life and blessing.*

— Pastor Rayl



## MEMBER UPDATES

### Births

4-2-15 Ahmiya Marie Boos, born to Christina Boos and Al Moore

### Baptisms

4-12-15 *Elsie Elizabeth Hagedorn*, born June 7, 2013 to Matthew and Erin (Laurell) Hagedorn. Sponsors are Bryan Wilbur and Lindsey Day.

### Marriages

None.

### Deaths

None.

### Transfers to / from St. John

None

### Received by Affirmation of Faith

Catherine Hallauer, Stephen Matthews, and Dianne Burnette.

## "PASTRIES FOR PARENTS"



On Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am, we would like to recognize the parents of our JAM students who week after week bring their children to JAM to learn about our Savior. In honor of our parents, we will have a "Pastries for Parents" celebration in the gym. All JAM parents are invited to attend this breakfast with their JAM student. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Jamie at 419-691-7222 or [cedir@firststjohn.com](mailto:cedir@firststjohn.com)

## CONGRATULATIONS, 8th GRADERS!

Congratulations to our 8th graders who were confirmed on April 26th: Tori Gallaher, Ryan Juhasz, Noah Koch, Taylor Layman, and Ashley Vartorella. May God continue to guide you on your life's journey with Him.



## SUMMER WORSHIP

Our summer worship schedule begins Sunday, June 7th and runs through Sunday, September 6th. We will have only one service at 9:00 am and no Sunday School for the summer.

We will alternate between traditional and celebration formats, with communion on the first and fourth Sundays of the month. June 7th will start with the traditional format, June 14th with the celebration format, and so on. See you this summer!

## ELDERS FOR MAY



|      | <u>7:45 am</u>                   | <u>10:15 am</u>                  |
|------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3rd  | Jeff Smith<br>Jason Blazeovich   | Dick Haar<br>Jeff Ladd           |
| 10th | Darold Henninger<br>Mike Winslow | Ryan Hugueley<br>Bill Nelson     |
| 17th | Bob Haar<br>Sherrie Haar         | Linda Yenrick<br>Laurie Witt     |
| 24th | Dick Haar<br>Jeff Ladd           | Jeff Smith<br>Jason Blazeovich   |
| 31st | Ryan Hugueley<br>Bill Nelson     | Darold Henninger<br>Mike Winslow |

## ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

To keep current information for office records, if your name, address or phone number changes, please notify the office by faxing (419-691-7220), or mailing this form to: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605 or emailing us at: [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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



## MEMORIALS

### MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Virginia Meyer by Deborah Lofquist.  
In memory of Fred Weidinger by Troy & Lisa Anderson.

### CEMETERY FUND

In memory of Bill Giles by Marilyn White, Marcia White, J. Grant White, Charles & Vergie Neshkoff, Jim & Sandy Hecklinger, Pat & Bev Tonoff, Henry & Irene Neech, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Marge Bollinger, Carl & Janet Morrison.

In memory of Evelyn & Bill Giles by Olga Zimmerman.

In memory of Jim Hecklinger by Virginia Bopp, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Bob & Sherrie Haar, Gene Hagedorn, Brooks Ins. Agency, Inc., Larry & Marcia Borysiak, Kim Teow, Paul & Kathy Ackerman, Mike, Teresa & Andrea Fisher, Dave Measley, Karen Berki, Ted Foust, Swisher Family, William Fischhaber, Brenda & Rich DeLamatre, Dan & Jane Bollinger, Herb & Phyllis Frey, Jim & Kim Cousino, Holly Carver, Bill & Sharon Klingler, Martha Hecklinger, Robert Hirzel, Sharon Wood, Fred & Lori Hull, Jan & Dave Nowak, Marilyn White, Marcia White, J. Grant White, Rosalie Engelman, James Engelman & Tina; Bruce Engelman & Annie, Brenda Powell & Ron, Ken & Janice Belkofer, Michelle Newland, Ken & Marie Belkofer, Marge Bollinger, Ron & JoAnn Welka, Doug & Connie Winters, B.J. Searles and family, A.J. & Amy Reed Family, LaVonda Thiel, George & Tracy Thiel and family, Michele & Rob Hoeflich, David Slacklin, Bill & Cathy Caldwell, Heidi Kopec, Jeff & Angie Mackey, Fred Johlin, Cathy Krueger, Neil & Chris Sabo, Carrie Shakeferd, John, Helen & Jay Meier, Mark, Julie & Kellie Stahl, Dan Joyce Martin and family, Norma Schrickel, Katie Meyer, Karen Frey Gerry Hetrick, Walt & Jeanette Humberger, Ron & Janet Golightley, Tim & Linda Yenrick, Paul Kuhlman, Deb Rowland, Clark & Pat Chafin, Christ & Denise Younger, Verlone & Ed Schweizer Family, M/M Fred Hull, Mark Cousino, Will & Angie Brickner, Pat & Bev Toneff, Randy & Kim Reif, Elmore Section of Ohio Turnpike, Marvin & Carol Keller, Larry & Darlene Paul, Mark & Susan Tilton.

### HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES

In memory of Violet Orten by Dorothy Laney.  
In memory of Geraldine Mottmiller by Dorothy Laney.  
In memory of Virginia Meyer by Bob & Sherrie Haar.  
In memory of Bill Giles by Bob & Sherrie Haar.  
In memory of Julie Loucks by Bob & Sherrie Haar.

### ***STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: DUTY AND DELIGHT***

*Dr. Mark Allen Powell, professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, suggests there are two important aspects to our faithful response as followers of Jesus Christ. In an article in The Lutheran magazine, he used this story to illustrate his concept of "Duty and Delight."*

A Pentecostal pastor told me this story about giving.

"When I was 8 years old, I lived in a small town and one day my mother sent me to the florist to buy flowers for the family table. I remember being embarrassed as I walked home with the flowers, worried that my friends might see me and make fun of me for carrying flowers. But I did it, because I was an obedient son – it was my duty.

"Ten years later, I was in love with a young woman who lived in that town. I went to the same florist, bought her flowers and walked some of the same streets toward her house. But now I wasn't thinking about what anyone might think if they saw me. I was only thinking of two things: how happy she would be to get flowers, and how fortunate I was to be the one bringing them to her.

"That is the difference between doing something out of duty – and doing it out of delight."

I think about this story every time the offering plates come around in church. It's my duty to give money to support my congregation – and sometimes I do that just because it's the right thing to do. But other times, I'm eager to give my offering; how pleased God is to receive whatever we offer, and how fortunate we are to be people who know God and love God and who can give to God out of sheer delight.



## DAVID WINSLOW MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

This four-man scrambles will be Saturday, August 1st at 8:00 am at the Chippewa Golf Club. Price and menu to be determined. Prizes will be awarded for first place, longest drive and closest to the pin. Reservation and fees are due by Monday, July 27th. If you'd like to register or sponsor a hole, call Mike Winslow at 419-691-8430 or 419-698-6507.

*\*All proceeds go to First St. John.\**

## DARTBALL NEWS

Congratulations to First St. John's Dartball Team #2 who tied for first in the league. It was an unusual year as four teams tied for first. The other teams tied for first were Good Shepherd, Messiah, and First St. Mark. First St. John's Team #1 placed sixth.

## MAY ZUMBA CLASSES

We will have a limited schedule in May because of various church functions in the gym. Here are the days we will meet: 14th, 19th, 26th, and 28th. Our classes begin at 6:30 pm. Join us!



## "DINNER WITH FRIENDS"

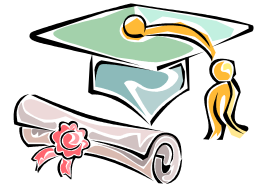
Our next dinner will be Wednesday, May 20th at 6:00 pm. It's time to start thinking about summer, so we're having a summertime favorite—hotdogs with lots of great side dishes. If you would like to attend, please fill out the slip below and return it to the church office or the offering plate so we know how many to plan for. This is our last dinner until September, so make plans to join us!

*Yes, I will attend Dinner With Friends  
on Wednesday, May 20th*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY June 21, 2015



We will publicly acknowledge all our graduates from high school and college at our worship service on Sunday, June 21st. Please plan on having your graduate attend this service as all graduates will be recognized.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF GRADUATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRADUATED FROM

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEGREE EARNED

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.)

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

YES, WE PLAN TO BE AT THE SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_



## RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday, May 7, 10 am-4:00 pm  
Friday, May 8, 10 am-1:00 pm



All circles and everyone from the congregation are asked to help. Please call Wanda Rice at 419-691-8328 to volunteer.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting is Saturday, May 2nd at 8:00 am at Bob Evans on Navarre Ave. Call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 if you need a ride. See you there.



## ALL DAUGHTER BANQUET

All God's daughters are invited to join us on Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm for the All-Daughter Banquet in the gym (elevator available). Carolyn's Catering will provide the meal. The group "Strings of Glory" will provide this year's entertainment, which fits in with our patriotic theme.

Tickets are \$10 for adults 13 and older, \$6 for children ages 4 – 12, and free for children 3 and under. To make a reservation, please fill out the order form below and turn it in to the church office or the offering plate with payment. Once we receive the form, we will assign you to a table. If you prefer to be seated next to someone who is not in your party, please write their name on the back of the form. Hope to see you there!

### *All-Daughter Banquet RSVP / Order Form*

Yes, we will attend the All-Daughter Banquet on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

\_\_\_\_ Adults (\$10 for 13 and up)

\_\_\_\_ Children (\$6 for ages 4-12)

\_\_\_\_ Free (Children 3 and under)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MESSAGE FROM THE DAUGHTER PROJECT, MAY'S MINISTRY

Thank you for your ongoing prayer and financial support. The ten girls we have helped and the three girls presently in our home desperately need to know they are truly loved, and that is exactly what you are doing-- telling and showing them they are loved.

Without giving too many specific details, please pray for peace for our daughters; Amy, Jasmine and Tracy as well as our House Moms; Audrey, Emily, Liz and Megan. Amy is struggling, especially emotionally, and has great difficulty managing her interactions with the House Moms. Tracy has difficulty with her school work but mostly due to lack of motivation. Understandably, at 14 years of age, it is hard for her to see the value of school work when she has suffered so much physical and sexual abuse. Jasmine recently turned 18 and will need to leave our home as soon as she graduates in June per state of Ohio law. We are only licensed to care for girls between the ages of 10 and 17. Please pray that as she returns home, her parents will provide a safe and loving environment for her to continue healing. We fully expect this to happen as we have met often with her mom and dad.

Also, each girl has the added difficulty of dealing with the law enforcement portion of the crimes committed against them. Some of their perpetrators have been caught and are facing charges but in order for them to be prosecuted, our girls need to re-live their abuse via legal testimony. Please pray for peace and wisdom for the girls as they work through this additional part of their recovery.

God alone can heal us completely. God alone can heal our daughters. Let us all pray and trust Him to do this for His glory and for the sake of these beautiful young ladies He created and brought to us.

Your Brother in the eternal family of God,  
Jeff

P.S. Despite the difficulties mentioned, our daughters are healing a little more every day. I am able to visit with them and the House Moms from time to time, and it is an overwhelming joy for me to see and feel the healing taking place as they interact, make jokes and laugh with each other!

**First St. John Prayer Chain**  
(as of April 28, 2015)

**Crisis Prayer List:** For those who need prayers in an urgent matter such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after the 1st month unless a prayer chain contact is contacted:

**Don Babish**  
**Darlene Lorenzen**  
**David Ruedy**  
**Family of Capt. John Wynkoop**  
**Family of Viola Zeller**

**Chronic Prayer List:** For those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, ongoing medical struggles, recovery and/or personal situations. Individuals will be moved off after 3 months unless a prayer chain contact is contacted about special circumstances:

**Betty Anderson**  
**Fritz Babcock**  
**Jordyn Beckhusen**  
**Karen Burris**  
**Gail Chaffee**  
**Barbara Chech**  
**Pat Christy**  
**Greg Contat**  
**Jackie & Tina Curtis**  
**Dennis Eischen**  
**Linda Erdmann**  
**Patty Gable**  
**Baby Goolsby**  
**James & Jason Goorman**  
**Bob & Debbie Hecklinger**  
**Delores Heilman**  
**Gary Henningsen**  
**Rose Hensley**  
**Scott Keller**  
**The Paul Kesler Family**  
**Connie Koch**  
**Laurie Koch**  
**Pastor Labuhn**  
**Stephanie Larkins**  
**George "Skip" McCullough**  
**Donna Miller**  
**Jeanette Miller**  
**Christopher Molnar & Family**  
**Sue Momenee**  
**Dutch Morrison**  
**Jessica Mueller**  
**Claudia Patchen**  
**Linda Parker**

**Gene Price**  
**Sheryl Rayl**  
**Ethel Rideout**  
**Cindy Roecker**  
**Robert Ruch**  
**Norm Schumaker**  
**John Tsaousidis**  
**Pat Vogelsang**  
**Kimberly Young**  
**Ray Walendzak**  
**Larry Witt**  
**Bill Wegman**  
**Joe Zielinski**

Please check the list, and let a prayer chain contact know if individuals can be moved off the list.

**Prayer Chain Contacts**

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

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

**5th ANNUAL  
MEMORIAL DAY  
CELEBRATION &  
CEMETERY TOUR**



The fifth annual First St. John Cemetery Memorial Day service will be observed on Monday morning, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Once again this year The Christ Dunberger Post #537 American Legion Honor Guard will conduct a ceremony near the flag pole behind the church between 8:30 and 9:30 am. Upon their departure, Bob Haar will provide a brief message, and we'll honor those veterans interred in our cemetery during the past year.

Come early or stay late and take a self-guided walking tour. Committee members will be available for questions; special markers will identify our founding fathers and pastor.

THANK YOU to all those who attend and to the "Friends of First St. John Cemetery" for making this celebration possible.

## DIRECTOR OF FAITH DEVELOPMENT—JAMIE BLAZEVIK

As we wind down our JAM sessions for this year, I have to say I've really enjoyed watching the children grow in their faith in the Lord. We have such a WONDERFUL group of teachers who really take pride in what they do. Thank you to all the awesome individuals who help out on a weekly basis. We also recognize the parents of our JAM students who week after week brought their children to JAM to learn about our Savior. In honor of our parents, we will have a "Pastries for Parents" celebration on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> during the JAM hour. This celebration will be in the gym, and we invite all our JAM parents to attend this breakfast with their JAM students. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Jamie at 419-691-7222 or [cedir@firststjohn.com](mailto:cedir@firststjohn.com)

### JAM Meets at 9:00 a.m.

**May 3: VBS Preview** – Introduction of Vacation Bible School (VBS).



**May 10: Pastries for Parents** – This celebration will be in the gym, and we invite all our JAM parents to attend this breakfast with their JAM students. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Jamie at 419-691-7222 or [cedir@firststjohn.com](mailto:cedir@firststjohn.com)

JAM Singers will sing on May 10th as well.

**THANK YOU!** Thanks to Dick and Bob Haar who transported to Lutheran Social Services all 638 canned goods that were donated as part of the Super Bowl of Caring program this year.

**Confirmation wass April 26th.** On April 19th, the 8th graders gave their faith testimonies and answered questions from the elders, followed by a celebratory brunch. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be part of this day.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save the date!!! Vacation Bible School this summer will be Monday, June 22 – Thursday June 25 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. each night. VBS is for ages 3 through fifth grade and is a great ministry tool to help children become closer to Jesus.



This year's theme is: *Everest: Embark on an icy expedition where kids overcome obstacles with God's awesome power. Anchor kids in rock-solid Bible truths that will guide them through life's challenges.*

**Please pray and ask God what HE might want YOU to help with.** We need LOTS of volunteers for this wonderful 4-day event!

**NOTE:** Check out the Donation Board that will be in the Narthex in the next few weeks for items we will need to make this VBS another success.

Registration forms will soon be available in the lounge and the Narthex, or you can register online at

<https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/firststjohn>

### PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED



Donations are always needed for our pantry. We accept hygiene items such as dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, deodorant, adult and children's shampoo, laundry soap, fabric softener sheets, body lotion, body soap, adult and children's toothbrushes, tampons, sanitary pads, bandaids & toothpaste. *Remember, no travel sizes, please.* You can deposit these items in the left pull-out drawer next to the Feed Your Neighbor bin in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) *or* in the bright green bin in the lounge. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

## COUNCIL MINUTES - APRIL 21, 2015

President Keith Mullen called the meeting to order. Pastor Rayl opened with devotions. Roll call was taken.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the March meeting by John Spoerl, seconded by Pam Beavers, motion carried.

**Director of Faith Development / Sunday School:** Jamie Blazevich thanked Dick and Bob Haar for transporting all 638 canned goods we collected during Souper Bowl of Caring to Lutheran Social Services.

This year, we had a Traveling Resurrection Story in place of our Easter Egg Hunt for JAM and the Dayschool during the Sunday School hour on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all who donated their time and effort to fill the bags and/or help with the traveling story.

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, the 8<sup>th</sup> graders gave their “faith testimonies” and answered questions from the elders and had their celebratory brunch. Thank you to all who volunteered to be a part of this day. Confirmation is April 26<sup>th</sup>.

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will have a VBS preview in JAM, and on May 10<sup>th</sup> we will have Pastries for Parents where we thank the JAM parents for their dedication for bringing their children to Sunday School. This will be our last day for JAM until fall.

Jamie announced she will be going to a women’s retreat this Friday at the Seagate Center.

VBS will be Monday, June 22 through Thursday, June 25. The VBS theme is: Everest – Embark on an icy expedition where kids overcome obstacles with God’s awesome power. Anchor kids in rock-solid Bible truths that will guide them through life’s challenges. We need LOTS of volunteers, so save the date and plan to join us.

**Elders:** Finished reviewing candidates for the Winslow Scholarship. Recipients will be notified at their school scholarship ceremony. Also noted that there is a wedding on May 15<sup>th</sup> and May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The summer schedule also is in place.

**Property Management:** A new drinking fountain was installed on the first floor of the Educational Bldg. The vestibule & church heating problem was resolved (new thermostat and three additional relays replaced). Andy Hodges rebuilt 4 of 14 mid-range sub woofers. Jim Sommers negotiated down the Campbell bill for recent work.

Yet to do: Grading and seeding east of the Educational Bldg. Electrical overload on west wall of common offices to be addressed. Epoxy coating at the church entrance to be discussed for cure. The downspouts are plugged again; they were cleaned out when trees were trimmed. Closing cylinders on two doors need attention-- right rear door of Ed. Bldg. and front secondary door of the church. L.E.D. security lights to be replaced behind the church within the next week.

New items on the list: A pew is broken, a new brace needs to be added. (Pew to be repaired on Wednesday.) Screen damaged in church building needs replaced. Additional shingle loss noted on roof. Nordmann has been directed to repair to extend the life of the existing shingles and to measure for budget number to replace. The roof is in very poor condition. The water will be turned on in the cemetery in the coming weeks. Strip lighting at the pulpit is to be repaired. Fans will be double checked before heat arrives.

**Finance Committee:** We had a good month in March, but we still have a shortfall from the harsh winter. Motion to accept the Finance Committee / Treasurer’s report made by Mike Winslow, seconded by Larry Paul, motion carried.

**Dayschool Report:** Bill Caldwell from the Dayschool Board reported they are working on next year’s registration and are looking at the summer program.

**Pastor’s Report:** Confirmation will be Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Our confirmands this year are: Tori Gallaher, Ryan Juhasz, Noah Koch, Taylor Layman, and Ashley Vartorella.

*(continued on next page)*





## DAYSCHOOL NEWS

*“Celebrate GOD. Sing together—everyone! All you honest hearts, raise the roof!” - Psalm 32:11*

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe our year of learning together is ending. This has been a good year for all. How we have grown! As teachers in ELCA schools, we have the privilege of teaching from the heart, teaching from our faith. We create an atmosphere of faith in our classrooms and throughout the building. It is our responsibility to see that our students know to celebrate God. We are so grateful for the opportunity to share the Gospel with the children and families with whom we've been entrusted. Thank you for the part you play. Your prayerful support, encouraging words, donations of materials, and the gift of your time have been so appreciated. May we keep growing in our understanding of God's plan for us as we continue to tell others of the living Christ.

Special thanks to the Dayschool Board-- Karen Holmes, Julie Gallaher, Melissa Collins, Bill Hamilton, and Bill Caldwell-- for your plan to acknowledge the teachers and staff of the school and church with a fabulous noontime meal in May. We are so blessed to have you all!

Attention all Prayer Buddies—SAVE THE DATE—Sunday, May 17 when a service recognizing our kindergarten children and their successful completion of the school year will take place. After the service, the children will be introduced to their prayer buddy during a breakfast where they can eat together and have a moment to get to know each other. A special invitation about the Prayer Buddy breakfast will be sent soon. Thank you so much for going above and beyond my expectations. You are truly remarkable!

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

In Him,  
Barb Shellhammer

## **COUNCIL MINUTES, APRIL 21st**

*(continued from previous page)*

**Pastor's Report** (continued): Pastor noted we are still looking for a music director. So far we have had three applicants.

Two funerals were held in March—Richard Bruggeman and Jim Hecklinger.

A motion was made by Bob Haar and seconded by Chris Hunsaker to have a Consecration Sunday on October 18, 2015. Motion carried.

**Old Business:** Sound system—a motion was made by LuAnn Spoerl and seconded by Mike Winslow to upgrade the sound system and wiring (which is in very poor condition), spending up to \$18,000. The money will come from the Memorial Fund and other Improvement Funds. This action will go before the congregation for approval.

In an effort to grow the church's investments, a motion was made by Chris Hunsaker and seconded by Bill Nelson to invest \$100,000 from the Special Funds with the ELCA's Mutual Fund Investment. Motion carried.

**New Business:** None reported.

A special thank you to Lynn Folk—Lynn has served as Church Council Secretary for several years and has decided that with work and family she no longer has the time to serve. Thank you, Lynn, for all your years of hard work.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Winslow, seconded by Dave Wilbarger. Motion carried.

Pastor closed the meeting by having council sing The Doxology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Mullen  
Congregational President