
◊ First St. John Journal ◊

Volume 28, Issue 9

September, 2015

The importance, value and benefit of receiving the living Lord Jesus Christ in the wonderful and powerful gift of his presence in the sacrament of Holy Communion has been an emphasis of our ELCA since its beginning in 1987, by encouraging congregations to offer the sacrament to its members on a more regular basis. In fact, in the study document “The Use of the Means of Grace,” published in 1997, it is the expressed intent to invite all ELCA congregations to recapture the importance of Holy Communion as one of the central activities of worship.

As quoted from the Lutheran Confessions: “Sunday, the day of Christ’s resurrection and of the appearances to the disciples by the crucified and risen Christ, is the primary day on which Christians gather to worship. Within this assembly, the Word is read and preached and the sacraments are celebrated.”

And as was the earliest common practice of Lutheran congregations: “According to the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, ‘Lutheran congregations celebrate the Holy Communion every Sunday and festivals. This confession remains the norm for our practice.’”

For many reasons we have gotten away from the more frequent celebration of Jesus’ presence in the bread and wine and word of Holy Communion, but during the past 35 years most of the Lutheran congregations, even in our area, have moved toward a more frequent offering of the sacrament, some even on a weekly basis at every worship service.

In light of all this, we at First St. John Lutheran Church are going to move toward offering Holy Communion every week by celebrating the sacrament at one of our Sunday worship opportunities.

(continued on the next page)

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our regular schedule resumes Sunday, September 13th with traditional service at 7:45 am and celebration service at 10:15 am.

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

On Tuesday, September 8th, church office hours return to Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The office will be closed on September 4th and on Labor Day.



BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER

We will begin serving communion at both services on alternating Sundays. We will have communion on September 6th (our last 9:00 am service), then communion at the late service on September 13th, the early service on September 20th, and the late service on September 27th. On October 5th communion will be served at the early service, and so on.

The easiest way to remember is that early service will have communion on the first and third Sundays, and late service will have communion on the second and fourth Sundays. On months where there are five Sundays, the services will be “pastor’s choice.”

RALLY DAY

September 13th begins our J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) Sunday School for children ages preschool through 6th grade. This is the annual kick-off to our weekly Sunday School. Snacks will be provided, and you can tour our J.A.M. area.

Also on that day, we will have a special presentation that children of ALL ages will surely enjoy. Don’t miss it!

ELDERS FOR SEPTEMBER

September 6th is last day of
9:00 am worship for summer

| | | |
|------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 9/6 | Bob & Sherrie Haar | |
| | 7:45 am | 10:15 am |
| 9/13 | Jeff Smith | Dick Haar |
| | Jason Blazeovich | Jeff Ladd |
| 9/20 | Darold Henninger | Ryan Hogueley |
| | Mike Winslow | Bill Nelson |
| 9/27 | Bob Haar | Linda Yenrick |
| | Sherrie Haar | Laurie Witt |



MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGE

Mark & Debbie Ackerman
1445 S. Stadium Rd.
Oregon, OH 43616

WELCA BOARD MEETING

The board for the Women of the ELCA will meet on
Monday, September 21st at 6:30 pm in the lounge.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 21st



SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THOSE WHO STOP IN DURING THE WEEK

Our Dayschool classes have now begun, and there have been a few changes. Most notably for those of you who stop in during the week is a change to the school's "nap room." It has been moved from the basement of the Educational Building to the main floor across from the lounge.

Nap time is from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm each day, and during this time the lights in the hallway are turned off to make the environment more conducive to rest and sleep for the children. If you happen to be here during these times, please do not turn on the lights in the hallway and also please try to keep as quiet as you can. Thank you for your consideration.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (continued from page 1)

We already offer it twice a month on the first Sunday at the first service and the last Sunday at the second service.

Starting in September we will expand this to include communion at the first service on the first and third Sundays, and at the second service on the second and fourth Sundays. In those months with five Sundays, we will have something special and perhaps different.

I know this is different and may take some time to get accustomed to, but I believe that in the long run the more frequent availability of the Lord's presence in, with, and under the bread and wine will provide benefits to our lives individually and as a community as the Body of Christ. If anyone has any questions, please direct them to me.

Blessings in the Lord,

Pastor Rayl

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), mailing this form: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605, or sending an email to: office@firststjohn.com

Name _____

Address _____

CONSECRATION SUNDAY – OCTOBER 18, 2015
BOTH WORSHIP SERVICES - with Luncheon to Follow

Many people have told me there is a need to do something to increase the stewardship response of the members of First St. John Lutheran Church. When I ask about the last time a stewardship emphasis was done, no one can remember when that would have been. So, the decision has been made to do something about this by having a Consecration Sunday on October 18, 2015. This will be a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving with a stewardship education emphasis this year.

Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical teaching of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we are going to treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" In this way we see financial contributions as a way to help us grow spiritually in our relationship with God by supporting our congregation's mission and ministry.

What is Consecration?

Consecration is a personal and passionate expression of financial faithfulness to the mission of Jesus Christ . . . but even more:

1. It is a time I look within myself, taking an inventory of my financial blessings
2. It is a moment I rejoice and give thanks for God's blessings to me
3. It is a prayer-filled retreat when I ask, "What portion of my financial blessings can I offer for Christ's mission at First St. John?"
4. It is a time in worship when I am personally called by God to offer, even grow, in the blessings I will give back to God's mission, especially from my financial resources, and
5. It is a time, yes a CELEBRATION, when I have intentionally decided to return a proportion of my financial blessings back to God – a time I rejoice with others who have done the same.

Pastor Peter Martyn will be preaching.
EVERYONE will be INVITED to Worship
with a Luncheon to follow;
AND EVERYONE
WILL THANK GOD FOR
FIRST ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our adult class begins on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the lounge on September 20th. Join our bunch as we discuss the issues of today in light of the Word of God. All are welcome!



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Births

None of which we are aware.

Baptisms

8-9-15

Lucie Grace Cosgrove, born March 11, 2014 to John Cosgrove and MacKenzie Seckel. Parents are the sponsors.

Elliot Patrick Williams, born July 20, 2002; *Alexia Jolene Williams*, born May 1, 2004; *Oliver Patrick Williams*, born October 11, 2005; and *Andersen Patrick Williams*, born December 1, 2008 to Patrick and Leslyn (Rowley) Williams. Sponsors for all children are Ryan Rowley and Jameson Rowley.

Marriages

8-7-15

Nathan Cousino and Brittany Larkins

Deaths

None of which we are aware.

Transfers To First St. John

None.

Transfers From First St. John

Baptized Williams children Elliot, Alexia, Oliver, and Andersen to St. Luke Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA.

CATECHISM BEGINS SOON

Catechism this year for seventh and eighth grade students will be on *Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm*. Our first night will be September 16th.

REMINDER FROM THE ALTAR GUILD



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

CIRCLE NEWS

Ruth Circle will meet Tuesday, September 1st at 11:00 am in the lounge.

Miriam Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 2nd at 9:30 am in the lounge.

Rebecca Circle will meet Saturday, September 12th at 11:30 am in the lounge.

Hannah Circle will meet for a cookout on Tuesday, September 1st at 6:00 pm at Debbie Smith's home. Please bring a dish to share. Call her if you need directions.



DINNER WITH FRIENDS SEPTEMBER 23rd

Join us on Wednesday, September 23 at 6 p.m. in the lounge for Dinner With Friends. Menu is to be determined—as soon as we know, we'll let you know in the Sunday bulletins. Come on out for a nice evening with your friends from First St. John. If you plan to attend, please fill out the RSVP slip below and either put it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

I/we will attend Dinner With Friends on Sept. 23

Names

NEW BIBLE STUDY FOR FALL



A new Bible study will begin on Wednesday, September 16th at 6:00 pm in the lounge. This study, led by Bob and Sherrie Haar, is open to all members of the congregation. Our Wednesday schedule also will feature times of food and fellowship as we join the Hannah Circle's Dinner With Friends gathering on Wed., September 23rd at 6:00 pm. Then we will have regular Bible study on Wed., September 30th, again at 6:00 pm.

We would like to know how many members will be attending, so please RSVP by calling Bob at 419-250-9409 or emailing bobhaar@yahoo.com Thanks, and we hope to see you on September 16th!

MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting will be Saturday, September 12th at 8:00 a.m. at Bob Evans on Navarre Avenue. We'll be celebrating our tenth year of meeting together. If you need a ride, please call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409. Join us!



HARVEST FESTIVAL DONATIONS NEEDED

We will celebrate Harvest Festival on Sunday, September 20th. Donations of produce, canned goods, etc. can be placed in the lounge on Friday, September 18th or the church by 10 am on Saturday, September 19th. Please help us beautify our altar on this special occasion. The Altar Guild greatly appreciates your help. Thank you.

DO YOU LOVE TO SING??

Then we need you! If you are interested in joining the Praise Team and/or the choir (you can do both!), we will begin our regular practices on Thursday, August 27th. The Praise Team will rehearse in the church at 6:00 pm, and the choir will rehearse in the choir room in the basement of the church beginning at 7:15 pm. We will meet every Thursday evening. Join us!

Nathan comes home from his first day at school. Mother asks, “What did you learn today?” He replies, “Not enough. I have to go back tomorrow.”

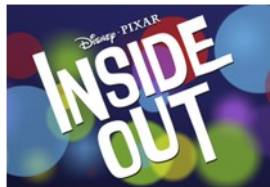
Think about this. While this is a joke about the beginning of school, it also applies to our lives and our gracious God. Again and again we have the opportunity to wake up every day and attend the Classroom of the world. Every day is another opportunity to see the wondrous world HE made. Every day we are blessed to learn about HIM, listen to HIM and see HIM in the people in our lives. May we WANT to learn more about Him as we read, study, and meditate on His word. As we start this new school year, may we, just like Nathan, realize we have not yet learned all we need to about GOD and that we, too, must immerse ourselves in our Spiritual education.

Below you will find a list of opportunities to increase YOUR Spiritual Knowledge.

UPCOMING EVENTS
RALLY DAY

Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

This is the annual kickoff to our Jesus And Me (J.A.M.) weekly sessions – (which will start on September 20th at 9:00 am). On Rally Day snacks and breakfast will be provided.



The children will learn how we should live our lives from the “Inside Out.” They will visit three stations and will be entered into a drawing for a four-pack of movie tickets that can be used to see the movie “Inside Out!” Join us in the JAM room for this awesome event!

J.A.M. TEACHER INSTALLATION

Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 10:15 a.m.

Join us for a special worship service where we will install and bless our Jesus And Me (J.A.M.) Sunday School teachers as they begin this wonderful adventure with your child(ren).

**Starting Sunday, September 20th
at 9:00 a.m.**

JESUS AND ME (JAM): Join us each Sunday at 9:00 am for age appropriate, Bible-based teaching and activities. Our mornings start out with 15 minutes of singing, and then we break into groups for fun activities and lessons about our wonderful GOD! Feel free to join us at any time. We would love to have you!

PB&J – PLANTING BELIEF AND JOY: This group discusses the world today in a relaxed atmosphere. While our children are in **JAM** learning about our GOD, we will learn relevant lessons that can be applied to today’s world. Listen and participate in a presentation about GOD’S word the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. The 1st and 3rd Sunday will be a time to sit and enjoy a nice conversation with our brothers and sisters in Christ. It’s a nice way to start your Sunday morning. Our group begins on Sunday, September 20th at 9:15 am. Join us!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Adult Bible classes are on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the lounge beginning September 20th. Join us and our bunch as we discuss the issues of today in light of the Word of God. Everyone is welcome!

7TH – 12TH GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our 7th-12th grade Sunday class begins Sunday, September 20st at 9:00 am. This class will meet in the Paul library in the basement! The class will cover topics such as: *Can I Be A Christian Without Going To Church, Can It Be Proven That God Exists, Can You Accept The Theory of Evolution and Still Be A Christian, What If My Friends Aren’t Christian, Why Does God Let Bad Things Happen, How Do I Stop Doing Things I Know I Shouldn’t Do, or What Does God Think About War?* These are just a few samples of the discussion materials that will be explored. If you or someone you know is interested, join us on September 20st at 9:00 am.

(MORE NEWS CONTINUED ON PAGE 10!)

FIRST ST. JOHN PRAYER CHAIN (as of 8-24-15)

Crisis List *Those who need prayers for upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Persons moved to Chronic after 1st month unless a prayer chain contact is notified of special circumstances:*

**Karyl Antoine
Tina Curtis
Family of Stephanie Larkins
John Marshall
Family of Bill Mermer
Charlie Sheehy
Carter Tackman
Ruth Zasada**

Chronic List *Those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles, recovery, and/or personal situations. Persons moved off after 3 months unless a prayer chain contact is notified of special circumstances:*

**Betty Anderson
Fritz Babcock
Jordyn Beckhusen
Charlene Creswell
Jackie Curtis
Donna Dulbs
Patty Gable
Bob & Debbie Hecklinger
Delores Heilman
Nikki Houch
Scott Keller
Connie Koch
Jennifer Koch
Pastor Labuhn
Darlene Lorenzen
Milena Mendoza
Joyce Martin
George "Skip" McCullough
Donna Miller
Jeanette Miller
Christopher Molnar & his family
Sue Momenee
Jessica Mueller
Pam Pirolli
Gene Price
Sheryl Rayl
Michael Rheinbolt & family**

**Cindy Roecker
Dick Ross
Steve Rowe
Lynn Mars Slaughter
John Tsaousidis
Pat Vogelsang
Bill Wegman
Pastor Jim & Karen Wicker
Raetta Zeisler**

Please check the list and let any prayer chain contact listed below know if persons 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

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S 2015

Join First St. John's team for this year's walk to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. This annual walk will be Sunday, October 18 at the University of Toledo. This year, besides walking, they will also have a 5K run. Registration begins at 9:30 am, run begins at 10:30 am, ceremony at 11:30 am, and the walk starts at noon. (Please note these are earlier times and a different location from last year.) Anyone can join our church team—families, teens, singles, couples. Bring your friends, relatives, and co-workers!

If you have any questions, please call Janine Contat at 419-837-0013 or email her at: j9swancont@hotmail.com. To register online or make a donation, please go to <http://act.alz.org/Toledo2015> and key in our team name: First St John Lutheran Church.

If you'd like to volunteer to help organize fundraising activities before the walk, please let Janine know. Thank you so much for helping with this effort.



MEMORIALS



MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Don Higley** by Roger & Judith Creeger.

In memory of **Dorothea Heidmann** by Tom & Margie Iserman, Martha Meyers, Lois Staber, Eileen Young, Norman & Phyllis Schuffenecker, John Jenkins, Karen Frey.

In memory of **William Mermer** by Bob & Sherrie Haar.

CHOIR FUND

In memory of **Dorothea Heidmann** by Jeanette Dotson, Ron & Joanne Koch.

QUILTERS

In memory of **Dorothea Heidmann** by Verlene & Edward Schweizer Family.

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Dorothea Heidmann** by Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Carl & Janet Morrison, Esther Bell.

ENDOWMENT FUND

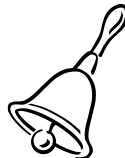
In memory of **Dorothea Heidmann** by Ada Kreger.

CURRENT FUND

In memory of **William Mermer** by Louise & Jim Sommers.

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

Have you ever wanted to come up and ring those beautiful bells? Here's your chance! The first bell choir practice is Monday, September 14th at 5:30 pm in the church. No experience necessary! See you soon.



THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Our lunch/Bible study sessions begin on Thursday, September 17th at 11:00 am in the lounge. Bring your own lunch; coffee and water will be provided. Everyone is welcome!

DAYSCHOOL NEWS

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." — 2 Corinthians 5:17



Carol Felderman,
Administrator

Dear Friends,

Another school year is beginning, and we are excited to have this opportunity to teach young children about our Savior, Jesus! It is a happy time, a time of new beginnings and friendships. We know each child is a special gift from God and we thank Him for bringing each one to us. Our teachers have spent a great deal of time preparing for this school year. They are committed to providing a Christ-centered learning environment for the children. We ask for your prayers that God will give us wisdom and joy as we teach His children.

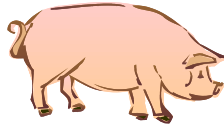
We would love for you to visit our classrooms! This is a great opportunity to get to know the children and families who benefit from this ministry. Do you have a special talent you think the children would find interesting? Or perhaps you just enjoy children and would be willing to spend time volunteering in a classroom. Your talents can be put to use in various ways around the school. If you have a desire to share your talents, please call me at 419-691-6480 or email at fsjdayschool@firststjohn.com.

Thank you for inviting the Dayschool teachers and families to join the congregation for worship on September 20th at 10:15 am as we celebrate the installation of our Dayschool teachers. After worship there will be a reception for the school families, and a \$200 scholarship drawing for five lucky school families in attendance. We look forward to meeting and talking with all of you!

First St. John Dayschool has hired me as the new administrator. I was born and raised here in East Toledo. I attended the Oregon Public Schools. From there I went on to The Ohio State University and graduated from Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska. I have spent 25 years teaching in Lutheran Schools, during which time I also served as an Administrator at Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Holly Hill, Florida and St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School in Roseburg, Oregon.



Chicken & Ham Dinner



Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 7th—the biggest church event of the year! Delicious meals of chicken, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls & butter, and homemade desserts will be served from 4:00-7:00 p.m. This is a great community event, and it's not just for members. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers—they'll be glad you did!!!

Tickets will be available soon. You may buy tickets from the church office or from circle members, or call Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506 or Karen Holmes at 419-691-3225. Tickets will go on sale after services in the lounge and narthex on October 25th and November 1st. And, yes, you can buy them at the door.

Ticket Prices:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Adults | \$10.00 |
| Children 3-12 yrs | \$4.00 |
| Children 2 yrs & under | Free (still need ticket) |

Watch your October bulletins and newsletter for more information and ways you can help us make this dinner a success.



Needed: Craft & Bake Sale Items

We need items to sell at the Craft and Bake Sale held during the Chicken and Ham Dinner on November 7th. If you can help or if you would like to have 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! If you want to play or have questions (like "What is dartball?"), call either Ted Mitchell at 419-345-6260 or Bill Nelson at 419-836-4165. Our first game is Monday, September 28th at 7:30 pm. Both teams will be at home.



DAYSCHOOL NEWS (continued from previous page)



I have taught for the Department of Defense Schools in Germany. I enjoy traveling for fun (just about anywhere), going on volksmarches (USA, Germany, and France) for exercise, and reading to relax. To prepare my retirement skills, I have taken up quilting and crocheting. I am married to Jeff Felderman, from Bellevue, Iowa whom I met while teaching in Hawaii. He is finishing his job in Virginia Beach and will join me later this fall.

I look forward to working and worshipping with all of you here at First St. John's!

In Christ,
Carol Felderman

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY MEETING

The Homebound Ministry team will meet on Wednesday, September 16th at 4:30 pm in the lounge. Homebound Ministry team members visit our shut-ins and give them communion. If you might be interested in this ministry, feel free to attend this meeting or talk to Pastor Rayl.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

We will meet on Monday, September 14th at 6:30 pm. Mark your calendar!



PB&J – PLANTING BELIEF AND JOY

This new group discusses the world today in a relaxed atmosphere. While our children are in **JAM** learning about our GOD, we will learn relevant lessons that can be applied to today's world.

Listen and participate in a presentation about GOD'S word the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. The 1st and 3rd Sunday will be a time to sit and enjoy a nice conversation with our brothers and sisters in Christ. It's a nice way to start your Sunday morning. Our group begins on Sunday, September 20th at 9:15 am. Join us!

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—AUGUST 18, 2015

The August 18, 2015 meeting was called to order by President Keith Mullen. Pastor Rayl opened the meeting with prayer. Roll call was taken. John Spoerl made a motion to accept the minutes from the July meeting. Dave Wilbarger seconded. Motion carried.

Eric Johnson from the NW Ohio Synod Council was present and gave a special presentation on stewardship. He also thanked us for our contribution to the synod.

Dayschool Report—Karen Holmes introduced our new Dayschool administrator, Carol Felderman. Carol then spoke to council about her education and her past experience of running other Lutheran dayschools. We are very excited to have Carol on board, and she looks forward to working with everyone to make this a premier school.

Director of Faith Development / Sunday School—Jamie Blazeovich reported Sunday, September 13th at 9:00 am is Rally Day. This is the annual kickoff to our Jesus And Me (J.A.M.) weekly sessions (that will start on September 20th at 9:00 am). On Rally Day, snacks and breakfast will be provided. The children will learn how we should live our lives from the “Inside Out.” They will visit three stations and will be entered into a drawing for a 4-pack of movie tickets that can be used to see the movie “Inside Out!”

Starting Sunday, September 20th at 9:00 am, we will start “PB&J – Planting Belief and Joy.” This group discusses the world today in a relaxed atmosphere. While our children are in JAM learning about our GOD, we will learn relevant lessons that can be applied to today’s world. Listen and participate in a presentation about GOD’S word the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. The 1st and 3rd Sundays will be a time to sit and enjoy a nice conversation with our brothers and sisters in Christ. It’s a nice way to start your Sunday morning. Please feel free to join us.

Also on Sunday, September 20th at 10:15 am join us for a special worship service where we will install and bless our Dayschool teachers as they begin this wonderful adventure with your child(ren).

We are excited to announce that at this service we will award scholarships to a few of our Dayschool families. These scholarships are to be used toward tuition at the Dayschool for the 2015-2016 school year. In order to win, you must be present during the worship service.

Beginning Wednesday, September 16th at 6:00 pm is an Adult Bible Study in the lounge. The Bible study leaders are Bob and Sherrie Haar. This Autumn Bible Study will run every Wednesday night until December 16th. We will not meet on Wednesday, November 25th. On Wednesday nights when Dinner with Friends is scheduled, we will attend the dinner as a group. Any questions, call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 or email bobhaar@yahoo.com.

Also, Catechism now will be on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. Pastor will teach the 8th grade and Pam Beavers will teach the 7th grade.

SAVE THE DATE and START PLANNING! Trunk or Treat will be Sunday, October 18th from 2:00 – 3:30 pm.

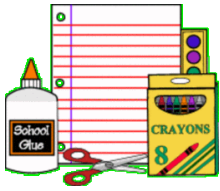
Elders Report—Bill Nelson said they are prepared to go back to two services on Rally Day (Sept. 13th). Also, they discussed having communion every Sunday at alternating services.

Property Management Report—Dan Hugueley reported the electrical upgrade to the church offices is finished, and he was pleased to say the job came in cheaper than was quoted. They are still waiting on estimates to replace the roof. Things that have been recently repaired are the refrigerator, vent hood, and speakers in the church. They still have a number of items to fix.

Finance / Treasurer’s Report—Jim Sommers reported that we are still behind on contributions through July. Mike Winslow made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report, seconded by Bob Haar. Motion carried.

Pastor’s Report—Pastor reported that we had six baptisms since our last meeting.

(continued on the next page)



THANK YOU!

The Men's Breakfast Fellowship would like to thank our church family for their generous support during the school supply drive for Birmingham Elementary. We collected 356 items. The teachers were very happy to see all the supplies waiting for them when school recently opened. Again, thanks to everyone!

COUNCIL MINUTES

(continued from previous page)

Old Business—None.

New Business — Keith reported on the results of voting at the congregational meeting on August 16th:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Church Constitution: | 101 For, 2 Against |
| Sound System Upgrade: | 102 For, 1 Against |
| Removal of Parsonage: | 92 For, 8 Against, 3 abstaining |

Regarding the parsonage, we will be moving forward with shutting off the utilities, obtaining permits, and removing the structure as soon as time allows.

A motion to adjourn was made by John Spoerl and seconded by Larry Paul. Motion carried.

Pastor led us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Mullen
Council President

REMINDER FROM THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE



Fall clean up of the cemetery will be done on Thursday, October 15th. *Please* remove any decorative items from the gravestones that you wish to keep BEFORE the October 15th deadline because they may be taken down during the fall clean up day.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

(continued from page 5)

DAYSCHOOL TEACHER INSTALLATION

Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 10:15 am

Join us for a special worship service. We will install and bless our Dayschool teachers as they begin this wonderful adventure with your child(ren). We are also excited to announce that at this service we will award scholarships to a few families of our Dayschool. These scholarships are to be used toward tuition at the Dayschool for the 2015-2016 school year. In order to win, you must be present during the worship service.

EVENING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

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SAVE THE DATE & START PLANNING!

Trunk or Treat—October 18: 2:00—3:30 pm

Supporting Each Other

We also like to support each other in our other outside activities. If there is a fundraiser, special event, etc. you would like us to help market and/or get a group to attend, please feel free to contact Jamie Blazeovich at the information below. We also have plenty of volunteer opportunities. Some only take 10 – 15 minutes. If interested, contact Jamie Blazeovich.

For more information, please contact Jamie at:

419-691-7222 or cedir@firststjohn.com