

## *ANNOUNCEMENTS – April 26<sup>th</sup>*

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are presented to the glory of God.

**MESSENGERS** are presented in honor of their son, Ryan Abbey, daughter Shannon Aschemeier, and grandson Tyler Abbey (11 years old) on their April birthdays, given by Carol and Kevin Abbey.

### **OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED**

None of which we are aware

**PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES:** *Add:* Family of Chuck Neal, Family of Margie Myers, Terry Crowell, Family of Dylan (no last name), David Poore, Andra Bell, Barb Tischinae, Pastor Beth Huener, Steven Riegler

**Ongoing Concerns:** Lee & Karyl Antoine, Lynn Balogh, Karen Bless, Mitchell Broyles, The Burk Family, Rosie Burtch, Jeannette Carlo, Pat Christy, Greg Contat, Marjorie Counterman, Nancy Coy, Dick Crouse, Hannah Culler and family, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins, Joy DeVore & family, Chiara Del-Mace, Robin Duck & family, Ann Dudics, Andy Dupris, Sharon Grames, Dorothy Felderman, Sara Florian, Toni Henline, Karen Huber, Dana Justice, Phyllis Kelly, Mark Kieswetter, Joanne Koch, Tom Kohn, Carole Kolibar, Ada Kreger, The Lee Family, Heidi LeGrand, Bonnie Lutzmann, Joyce Martin, Teresa McFarland, Donald Meyer, Donna Miller, Jason Monti and family, Mary Bell Moore, Bill Morse, Susan Murphy, Joyce Ostapowicz, Pfouts family, Pam Pirolli, Jullian Ramsey, Mike Ray, Courtney Reed, Michael Rheinbolt & family, Logan Roberts, Karen Rowley, Neil Rutledge, Erich Schiddel, Andrew Schlegel, Rick Schumaker, Connie Singlar, Skylar (no last name given), Michelle Stanberry, Diane Swartz, Becky Thielan, Joan Tilton, Samuel Unnerstall, Steve Uzl, Jane Vargo, Jim Vogelsang, Nick Wasserman, Barb West, Kellyn Wyngate, John & Grace Yard, Raetta Zeisler

**DEAR FRIENDS AT FIRST ST. JOHN:** The Coronavirus pandemic has certainly changed many things. I pray all of you are remaining healthy. It is also abundantly clear that ministry is continuing at First St. John, albeit in new and creative ways; for that I am, indeed, giving thanks. In particular, thank you for your recent gifts of \$500.00 in benevolence and a \$287.00 general gift, both to our Genacross-Toledo ministry. I thank God for you and for the faithfulness in ministry that is evident in so many ways at First St. John, even as we are called to maintain distance between ourselves and others. Please accept our appreciation; through your gifts you can make a real difference in the lives of some of God's special people. To God be the glory.  
*-- Dr. Jim Dumke, VP for Mission Integration*

**WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to the family and friends of both Chuck Neal and Margie Myers who passed away on April 19<sup>th</sup> from complications due to COVID-19. We remember both families in our prayers during this difficult time.

**MAY SERVICES:** Holding services in May will be decided on a Sunday by Sunday basis due to COVID-19 and the governor's orders to stay home. Please continue to check out our website at [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com) for updated information and to find pastor's video of the services and a link to several featured music selections from Dr. Pattin.

**REGARDING OFFERING CHECKS:** As many of you know, the Postal service closed the hub in Toledo a few years back and all mail was forwarded to Detroit for processing. When we knew we'd be closing the church office we filled out a form to forward our mail to a parishioner's home so offering checks could be deposited in a timely manner. What we did not foresee was how hard the COVID-19 virus would hit the Detroit area. Many of the postal workers in Detroit fell ill. We have heard there are a lot of mail trucks sitting at the hub in Detroit, but the facility is so understaffed that processing the mail is extremely slow. Unfortunately, this is where our church mail is now.

If you have mailed offering checks to the church, please know we will deposit them as soon as we can. If you would like to reconsider giving online, please go to our church website, [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com) and click on the "Stewardship & Giving" tab at the top of the page. From there, you can access the link to a form you can use for online giving. Thank you for your patience during these difficult times, and we apologize for any inconvenience this has caused.

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR FSJ'S NEW MINISTER OF YOUTH AND FAMILY:** First St. John and Martin Luther Lutheran churches are looking for a faithful, talented disciple of Jesus Christ to fill a new position as Minister of Youth and Family at First St. John and who also will assist in worship and outreach at Martin Luther. This person will demonstrate a life of faith in Jesus Christ and of active discipleship; be a self-starter with passion for young people, working for their wellbeing and faith development in discovering their path of discipleship. The Minister of Youth and Family is responsible for assisting in planning, coordinating and promoting the youth programs of the church, special youth projects, assignments and events. This person needs a proven ability to relate well to young people and their families from diverse backgrounds and have an understanding of the complexities of the challenges facing them, along with experience in organizing and leading effective youth activities with proven outcomes. This person needs to be able to prepare and lead worship services at Martin Luther and provide leadership for the congregation's outreach within the community.

This will be a shared staffing position between the two congregations. Previous experience as a church youth worker and/or a person who has or is working toward a degree in church work is preferred. The position will begin ASAP. Salary is competitive, based on qualifications and experience. For further information and a complete job description, please contact Pastor Jerald Rayl at 567-395- 0143, or at pastor1@firststjohn.com, or at our website, [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com)

**UPDATE ON THE CHURCH DIRECTORY:** Due to many unforeseen circumstances, the new church directory delivery is delayed. We had just sent our edited copy back for final printing when the pandemic hit. Universal Church Directories is considered a non-essential business, so as soon as the restrictions are lifted they should get back to printing our directories. Our apologies for any inconvenience.

**MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY CANCELED:** After much discussion, we have decided NOT to have an "official" service this year. Christ Dunberger Post is unclear about their activities as well, due to the uncertainty stemming from the pandemic. A few days prior to Memorial Day we intend to put the flags out for the veterans buried in our cemetery, so it will be ready for anyone planning to visit on their own.

-- Cemetery Committee

**LISTENING TO WORSHIP ON-LINE:** Pastor Rayl has been video recording the services and placing the links to them on our website [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com) Once there, look on the right side of the home page in the box labeled "Recent Posts." The link to the most current service will be there. A link to some of Dr. Patten's music can also be found on our homepage in green lettering about half way down the page.

**ORPHANAGE TOURS:** Archivist/Museum Curator Bob Haar is now scheduling tours through September 30<sup>th</sup> of the old orphanage located next door to First St. John. No group is too large or too small! If you and your group would like to arrange a guided tour, please call Bob at 419-250-9409.

**OTHER DONATIONS NEEDED FOR GENACROSS RESIDENTS:** The staff is trying to keep the residents busy and engaged even though they are sequestered in their rooms, which means they need more materials the longer this goes on. We'd like to ask everyone who can if they would volunteer to order some items online and then have them shipped directly to Genacross. This is a simple act many of us can do to help. Thank you for your generosity! Some ideas for items to donate include:

adult coloring books	decks of cards
sketch pads	books
markers, colored pencils	jigsaw puzzles
puzzle books of all kinds	stationery, notecards and pens
crafts that they can make on their own (craft kits)	

When you order, please have the items shipped to:

Genacross Lutheran Service, Assisted Living, 131 N. Wheeling St., Toledo, Ohio 43605

**MASKS NEEDED FOR STAFF & RESIDENTS OF GENACROSS:** If you know groups or individuals who are making masks and would like a place to donate them, the residents and staff could benefit from them. If you are able to help, please contact Amanda Schroeder, Vice President of Home & Community Based Services, at [ASchroeder@Genacross.org](mailto:ASchroeder@Genacross.org) or 419-309-4288. Thank you for your willingness to help. We are giving thanks to God for you. *Blessings, Rev. Dr. Jim Dumke, VP for Mission Integration*

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Even though church services are cancelled, we still have our regular church operating expenses to meet. To consider on-line giving, go to our church website [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com) and click on the “Stewardship & Giving” link to sign up. (If you need help, please contact Lisa Anderson at 419-392-3712). You may also consider mailing your church offering: 2471 Seaman St. Toledo, OH. 43605. See earlier announcement “Regarding Offering Checks” in this bulletin for news about our church mail. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

**DAY SCHOOL GALA POSTPONED:** The school’s Gala fundraiser originally scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> of this year has now been postponed until the spring of 2021. Please make a note of it.

**DAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION** continues for the summer program and the 2020-2021 school year. We hope to begin our summer program on June 1<sup>st</sup>, however at the current time it is not certain when we can reopen. Our fall program is set to begin August 19<sup>th</sup>. Preference will be given to church members and families whose children have attended the school or are attending now. We have made a few changes and additions to our services that will hopefully fit into most families’ schedules and help our students get the most out of our programs. Our “early bird” special of \$100 instead of \$150 off the registration fee has been extended to June 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, for registered church members, the registration fee is waived. See our website at [www.firststjohndayschool.org](http://www.firststjohndayschool.org) for detailed information about our classes, and feel free to contact Andrea Buckley in the Day School office (419-691-6480) if you have any further questions.