

*ANNOUNCEMENTS – October 25<sup>th</sup>*

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of our mother and grandmother Lucille Schuetz on her birthday, and also in loving memory of our Aunt Mildred Vogelsang, given by the Schuetz and Cromly families (2 vases).

**FLOWERS FROM OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup>**: Additional vase last week was given in loving memory of Bill Stahl on his birthday on October 17<sup>th</sup>, given by Sandy Stahl.

**ROSES ON THE LECTURN** today are in honor of Luca and Vincent Donofrio who will be baptized this morning.

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

10-11-20: In-Person: 78    On-Line: 36    Total: 114  
10-18-20: In-Person: 65    On-Line: 58    Total: 123

**OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED**

Norm Schumaker – St. Charles  
Ada Kreger – Wolf Creek (Holland)

**PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES:** *Add:* Keith Kwiatkowski, Norm Schumaker, Family of Lee Antoine, Donna Wierdo, Family of Michelle Stanberry, Ada Kreger, Karen Frey, Bea Kline, Family of Butch Ulrich, Emmalyn (no last name given), Carol Lorenzen, Darlene Lorenzen, Gail McWatters

**Ongoing Concerns:** Lynn Balogh, Bennett (no last name given), Karen Bless, Mitchell Broyls, Scotty Broyles, Lori Capitola, Jeannette Carlo, Pat Christy, Marjorie Counterman, Nancy Coy, Hannah Culler & family, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins, Chiara Del-Mace, Ann Dudics, Cory Folk, Jean Fry, Paulette Giaimo, Kathleen Gingrich, Grace Harris Greenbank, Joan & Marty Hanshew, Toni Henline, Karen Huber, Pastor Beth Huener, Dana Justice, Phyllis Kelly, Mark Kieswetter, Joanne Koch, Tom Kohn, Ada Kreger, Heidi LeGrand, Teresa McFarland, Joyce Martin, Donald Meyer, Dave Miller, Sue Moszkowicz, Angie Noe, Joyce Ostapowicz, Liz Perozek, Pam Pirolli, Steven Riegle, Logan Roberts, Nick Sass, Skylar (no last name given), Julie Swanson, Becky Thielan, Joan Tilton, Jane Vargo, Jim Vogelsang, Nick Wasserman, Katelyn Weirich, Barb West, Bill Wiener, John & Grace Yard, Raetta Zeisler

**CALENDAR FOR OCT. 25 – OCT. 31**

<b><u>Today</u></b>	9:00 am	- Worship / Communion / Baptism
	11:30 am	- 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Catechism in Chapel
	4:00 pm	- Candy Crawl in parking lot across from church

**WELCOME!** It's so good to see you. Things are very different now, but remember that Jesus is the same—yesterday, today, and tomorrow!

**WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to the family and friends of Lee Antoine. Lee passed away on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

**BAPTISMS TODAY** are for Luca Paul Donofrio and Vincent Anthony Donofrio, born October 24, 2019 to David Donofrio and Jessica (Feher) Donofrio. Sponsors for Luca are Justin Feher and Jessica Donofrio. Sponsors for Vincent are Phil and Amanda Konczal.

**THANK YOU** to Cheri Sergent who will play a handbell solo during the special music portion of the service today.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped with or supported the Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner held last Sunday. We served 360 dinners and made \$733, which will help support the WELCA budget. Some of WELCA's budget goes toward supporting local charities. Left Over dinners were donated to St. Louis Helping Hands in east Toledo.

**“CANDY CRAWL” THIS AFTERNOON:** We are joining with several local churches and businesses today for a “Candy Crawl” from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. We will have one station in the parking lot across from the church to hand out candy. If you would like to come and decorate your car trunk, you are very welcome. Parents will drive their children to the different locations.

**IN-PERSON COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** We can begin in-person meetings ***IF*** the following are met: Groups must be no more than 10 people, everyone must wear masks, ***AND*** everyone must sit 6 feet apart for ***proper social distancing***. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

**JAM SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Today at 10:30 am our fourth and fifth grade students will have a live Zoom lesson. If you miss the live lesson, it will be posted later in the week on our church website at [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com). Lessons will be on a staggered schedule depending on the age of the students. You can sign up your children any time! If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Paul at 419-350-3364 or Debbie Ladd at 419-250-1460.

**7<sup>th</sup> GRADE CATECHISM ORIENTATION:** We will hold a catechism orientation meeting for 7th graders and their parents on Sunday, November 1st at 10:30 am in the lounge (after our 9:00 am service). Please wear masks and socially distance as best you can. If you have any questions before then, please contact Pam Beavers 419-276-8925 or Pastor Rayl at 567-395-0143.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME:** Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Halloween night so you'll be on time for church next Sunday!

**NEXT SUNDAY IS ALL SAINTS DAY:** Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints Sunday. We will remember our church family who passed away from November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2020 (we already have those names). If there is someone you want to honor who was not a member or who was a member who passed away prior to November 2019, please contact the church office at 419-691-7222 or [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com) to have their names included on that day. Thank you.

**PART-TIME POSITION HELPING ADA KREGER:** When Ada returns home, her grandson Jonathan will need someone to help her during the day while he's at work. If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact the church office at 419-691-7222 and we'll put you in touch with him.

**ALTAR GUILD MEETING:** We will meet Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm in the lounge. Please bring your mask and sit 6 feet apart for social distancing. Thank you.

**8<sup>th</sup> GRADE CATECHISM NEWS:** We will meet each week for the next three Sundays (today, November 1<sup>st</sup>, and November 8<sup>th</sup>) with class lasting from 11:30-1:00). Then we will meet every other week until the end of the year (November 22<sup>nd</sup>, December 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>). After Christmas break, we will begin again on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, then meet every other Sunday from 11:30 – 1:00.

**REBECCA CIRCLE NEWS:** Rebecca Circle is cancelling the remainder of this year's Bible studies and also the first few months of 2021. They are looking to hopefully start back in the spring.

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY EXTRA COLLECTION:** The Personal Needs Pantry is collecting hats, mittens and gloves to distribute to our clients during the upcoming winter season. We need items for men, women and children of all ages. If you are able to donate, please place your items in the pantry drawer or the green tub that are both located in the Narthex (lobby) of the church. We will take donations throughout the winter season. Thank you in advance for your help!

**HANNAH CIRCLE:** We will meet on Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the lounge. Please wear your mask at all times and keep 6 feet apart.

**NEW CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED:** We are looking for new Council members for the upcoming year. We need people for Property Management, Elders, Finance Committee, Sunday School Board, and Day School Board. Please contact Mark Ackerman at 419-345-6934 or the church office at 419-691-7222 if you are interested or have any questions.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES:** We still are holding this annual event. A few shoeboxes will be in the Narthex, but we encourage you to use your own this year. (**NOTE:** Hobby Lobby stores have plastic Operation Christmas Child boxes available for \$2.99, which is nice because you don't have to wrap them.) The last day to turn in boxes will be Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> (no exceptions). You can bring your box to in-person worship or drop it off during the week (call the office when you arrive.) This year, you can also build a "virtual shoebox" on the Operation Christmas Child website. To see how to do this, go online to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/>

**EGGLESTON-MEINERT-PAVLEY CALENDARS** for 2021 are in the Narthex if you'd like to take one.

**PASTORAL VISITS TO NURSING HOMES:** Restrictions on visits to nursing home facilities have been eased somewhat. If you have a relative in a nursing facility and would like Pastor Rayl to visit, please contact him. Also, make sure that you or another family member will accompany Pastor Rayl while he meets with your relative. Also note that you must set up an appointment with the nursing facility in order to have pastor visit. Please call pastor at 567-395-0143 with any questions.

**RUTH CIRCLE NEWS:** We will not meet in November.

**HELP US CELEBRATE OUR 160<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY!** Next year is First St. John's 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and we'd like to have a great celebration. That means planning will start soon! If you would like to help with this awesome event scheduled for October 24, 2021, please call Deb Ladd at 419-250-1460.

**ONLINE GIVING:** If you'd still like to consider online giving to the church, go to [www.firststjohn.com](http://www.firststjohn.com) and click on "Stewardship & Giving" to sign up for the Vanco program. (If you need help, contact Lisa Anderson at 419-392-3712). Thank you so much for continuing to support First St. John in these times.

**ORDERING ALTAR FLOWERS:** The flower sign-up book is in the church office. If you would like to order altar flowers, you can call Toni at 419-691-7222 or email her at [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com)

**FALL GATHERINGS, ALL WELCOME:** Everyone is invited to join Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and the NW Ohio Synod staff for virtual fellowship and conversation about what it means to be "On the Way" together. Remaining virtual meetings are Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am and Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 pm. For more information, please go to [www.nwos-elca.org](http://www.nwos-elca.org)

**COMMUNITY PANTRY AT PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN:** Prince of Peace Lutheran, located at the corner of Lallendorf and Pickle roads in Oregon, has a mini community pantry in their parking lot. It's stocked with non-perishable food items and toiletries for anyone who needs them, but it's also open to anyone wanting to donate these items.

**ADOPT-A-RESIDENT AT LUTHER HOME OF MERCY:** With your help, Luther Home of Mercy hopes each of their residents will have a present under the tree this Christmas. If you are interested in helping, contact Arielle Semer at 419-972-4431 or [asemer@lutherhome.org](mailto:asemer@lutherhome.org) When you sign up, you will receive gift ideas for the resident. Then simply purchase the gifts and deliver them to Luther Home a few weeks before Christmas. Luther Home of Mercy is located at 5810 N. Main St. in Williston, OH.

**PANDEMIC AND THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS:** This was recently posted by the Northwest Ohio Synod's Deacon Sherry Krieger, Director of Leadership for Congregational Care. "The relapse and overdose rate has increased by 30% since March 2020. Mental health issues related to our lock down and the pandemic are especially hard for people with depression. If you or someone you know needs help, NAMI, The National Alliance on Mental Illness, has a 24-hour helpline: 800-950-6264." Check their website at [www.nami.org/help](http://www.nami.org/help) for more information.