

ANNOUNCEMENTS – January 3rd

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Kim Cousino, given by Jim Cousino and family (2 vases); and in loving memory of Gary DeWitt on his birthday on January 4th, given by his family.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Christmas Eve (all online): 360

12-27-20: In Person: 59

OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

Marilyn Richards – Hospice Care at Divine Rehabilitation

PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES: *Add:* Mary Hubaker, Jeff Wheeler, Doug Amstutz, Art Balk, Hannah Culler & family, Don Dotson, Evan Matheney

Ongoing Concerns: Arlene (no last name given), Lynn Balogh, Bennett (no last name given), Karen Bless, Mitchell Broyls, Scotty Broyles, Lori Capitola, Jeannette Carlo, Pat Christy, Marjorie Counterman, Nancy Coy, Mary Ann Davies, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins & parents, Chiara Del-Mace, Ann Dudics, Emmalyn (no last name given), Cory Folk, Jean Fry, Paulette Giaimo, Grace Harris Greenbank, Joan & Marty Hanshew, Delores Heilman, Toni Henline, Karen Huber, Pastor Beth Huener, Jessica (no last name given), Dana Justice, Phyllis Kelly, Mark Kieswetter, Joanne Koch, Tom Kohn, Ada Kreger, Heidi LeGrand, Carol Lorenzen, Darlene Lorenzen, Teresa McFarland, Joyce Martin, Donald Meyer, Dave Miller, Sue Moszkowicz, Angie Noe, Joyce Ostapowicz, Liz Perozek, Pam Pirolli, Marilyn Richards, Steven Riegler, Logan Roberts, Norm Schumakerr, 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 JAN. 3 – JAN. 9

<u>Today</u>	9:00 am	- Worship
	10:30 am	- Virtual Sunday School for 3, 4, 5 year olds
	10:30 am	- Virtual Sunday School for 4 th , 5 th , & 6 th grades
	11:30 am	- Virtual Sunday School for 1 st , 2 nd , & 3 rd grades
	11:30 am	- 8 th Grade Catechism
<u>Monday</u>	9:30 am	- Quilting – see announcement for updates
	6:30 pm	- Altar Guild in Lounge – please wear masks

THANK YOU: Thanks everyone who donated to the Gideons International's "Birthday for Jesus" program. Here at First St. John we collected \$330. This will purchase 66 whole Bibles, or 225 pocket testaments that contain the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs. We pray that by reading God's Word, the people who will receive these scriptures will come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Thank you so much for your generosity.
– *Mark Ackerman*

FROM GENACROSS: As we celebrate this Christmas season of joy and giving, I'm writing to say thank you for the generous gift of \$562 given by First St. John to the Genacross Lutheran Services Toledo ministry. You are truly our partners in our commitment to embrace individuals and families with compassionate care and services throughout life's journey. First St. Joh is a gift from God to Genacross. Thank you and blessings to all. May God grant you a most blessed Christmas and a peace-filled New Year.
-- *Dr. Jim Dumke, VP for Mission Integration, Genacross Lutheran Services*

POINSETTIA NOTICE: If you ordered a poinsettia for Christmas, please stop by the lounge after church today to pick yours up. If you prefer to pick it up during the week, please call Toni in the church office to arrange a time.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: All newly elected and incumbent members of Church Council, Day School Board, WELCA, and Altar Guild should plan to attend church on Sunday, January 10th. Officers will be installed during both church services as they begin their 2021 duties.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: Virtual JAM Sunday School begins again TODAY. It is now being held every Sunday for all grade levels on Zoom. Miss Sue Ann teaches the three, four, & five year olds (preschool and kindergarten) at 10:30 am. Miss Darlene teaches the 4th, 5th, & 6th grades at 10:30 am; and then each month, Miss Darlene and Miss Sue Ann will rotate teaching the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd grades at 11:30 am. You can still sign up your children at any time. If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Paul at 419-350-3364 or Debbie Ladd at 419-250-1460.

QUILTING GROUP NEWS: We will quilt again this year, beginning on Monday, January 4th from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm in the lounge. **IMPORTANT:** Due to ongoing Covid concerns, please note that only those ladies who assemble and sew the quilts will meet for the first few weeks. Please wear your masks, and we will be six feet apart. Please enter through the back door of the church to come up to the lounge to avoid as much interaction with school students and staff as possible--for their health and yours. After a few weeks, we will follow up with information on how we will tie the quilts. If you have questions, please call Jane Neal at 419-276-5057 or Ginny Nissen at 419-698-2822.

ON-LINE BIBLE STUDY: Starting Wednesday, January 13th at 11:30 am Pastor Rayl will lead an on-line ZOOM Bible study on "The Sermon on the Mount." The class will meet each week on Wednesdays at 11:30 am for six weeks. There is no cost for material. To register for the class or if you have any questions, please contact Pastor Rayl at 567-395-0143 or email him at pastor1@firststjohn.com If we get enough interest, we will schedule another class for Wednesday evening.

CHRISTMAS TREE DONATIONS NEEDED: We have purchased a new Christmas tree for next year's Advent and Christmas seasons. The tree has been delivered. We had some money in a fund for Christmas decorations, but it wasn't enough to cover the entire cost. To that end, we are accepting donations for the tree and some new decorations for the sanctuary. If you would like to help, please make a check out to First St. John Lutheran Church and write "Tree Decorations" on the memo line. Then you can either drop it in the mail or put it in with your regular offering if you come to in-person worship. Thank you for your help.

NOTE ABOUT FAMILY BLESSING SUNDAY: Because of the ongoing Covid restrictions, we regret that we cannot have our annual Family Blessing Sunday this January. Perhaps when we return to regular worship, we will have it at a later date. In the meantime, we still pray that God blesses each of us and our families, today and always.

160th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING: We will hold a ZOOM meeting on Monday, January 18th at 7:30 pm. Please contact Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 with any questions.

LIVESTREAM NOTICE: We are now streaming the worship service live on our church website. Please note that if you are sitting in the pews closer to the front, you may be on camera. ☺ Our worship service will be live at 9:00 am each Sunday. You can view it on your computer, through most smart TVs, and also on any Apple product. (We are working out the kinks to try and get it to also play on Android products, so please bear with us.)

NEW MEMBER FOR SOUND BOARD TEAM: We are down to only 3 people who take turns operating the sound board for Sunday morning worship. We need one or two (or more!) individuals to help. Training is provided. We'd like to have additional people so each person will be "on duty" for only one week per month. If this is something you'd like to try, please contact Dave Wilbarger at 419-205-7855.

ONLINE GIVING: If you'd still like to consider online giving to the church, go to 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.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pick up in the Narthex in the alcove on the east side of the church. If you can deliver a box or two to other members, that would be helpful. You also can stop by the office during the week to pick them up.

OUR 160th ANNIVERSARY: This year, we will celebrate 160 years of ministry here at First St. John Lutheran Church. The 160th Committee is busy planning activities to celebrate, but we would like your input. Please call or email committee chairman Bob Haar if you have any ideas or thoughts about how we can best celebrate this momentous occasion. Also, if you would like to serve on the committee, please let Bob know by contacting him at either bobhaar36@gmail.com or 419-250-9409. He'd love to hear from you. Thanks.

HATS, MITTENS, GLOVES COLLECTION FOR ALL AGES: 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!

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY: Don't forget our ongoing ministry of giving hygiene items and cleaning products to the needy. We always need donations, either physical items or monetary. If you'd like to give monetarily, please make out your check to the church and write "Personal Needs Pantry" on the memo line. If you'd like to donate items, please place them in the left hand bin under the main bulletin board in the Narthex or in the green bin, also in the Narthex. You also can drop off items at the church office during the week. Here is a list of what we collect:

Please purchase full size items.

dish soap	shampoo, child	toothbrush, child
paper towels	laundry soap	tampons
toilet paper	fabric softener sheets	sanitary pads
tissues	body lotion	band aids
deodorant	body soap	toothpaste, adult
shampoo, adult	toothbrush, adult	toothpaste, child
disposable razors		