



First St. John Journal



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This message, based on Psalm 101, is from the online format of the devotional magazine *Today in the Word*™.

I will sing of your love and justice;
to you, LORD, I will sing praise.

² I will be careful to lead a blameless life—
when will you come to me?
I will conduct the affairs of my house
with a blameless heart.

³ I will not look with approval
on anything that is vile.
I hate what faithless people do;
I will have no part in it.

⁴ The perverse of heart shall be far from me;
I will have nothing to do with what is evil.

⁵ Whoever slanders their neighbor in secret,
I will put to silence;
whoever has haughty eyes and a proud heart,
I will not tolerate.

⁶ My eyes will be on the faithful in the land,
that they may dwell with me;
the one whose walk is blameless
will minister to me.

⁷ No one who practices deceit
will dwell in my house;
no one who speaks falsely
will stand in my presence.

⁸ Every morning I will put to silence
all the wicked in the land;
I will cut off every evildoer
from the city of the LORD.

“Power corrupts,” as the saying goes, “and absolute power corrupts absolutely.” It’s true there is something about the human condition that makes power dangerous. In his commentary, the reformer John Calvin observed: “Although kings are not born fools, yet they are so blinded by their dignity that they think themselves in no respect indebted to their subjects.” The corrosive effects of power are seen not only in government but also in the church.

In this Psalm, David affirms a commitment to justice and holiness. He resolves to worship God by how he lives, by leading “a blameless life” (v. 2). He commits himself to extend this commitment to his position as king. He will run his “house” (kingdom) with integrity as well (v. 2). A part of running his kingdom with integrity included rooting out corrupt administrators and officials. David declares that “the perverse of heart shall be far from me, I will have nothing to do with what is evil” (v. 4).

David’s examination of his house and kingdom should prompt an examination of our own. Can we say, “I will be careful to lead a blameless life” (v. 2) or that we “will not look with approval on anything that is vile”? David desires to surround himself with people who are honest in their communication, who have integrity in their motives, and who will serve people faithfully (vv. 6–7). For David living with integrity was not just about being a good king, it was an act of worship (v. 1). And this choice would not be made once, but “every morning” (v. 8).

This psalm can extend beyond advice for leaders. Turn these verses into questions for personal reflection: Am I conducting the affairs of my heart with a blameless heart (v. 2)? Am I looking with approval on vile things (v. 3)? How will this affect our speech, our purchases, and our entertainment choices?

Prayer: Holy God, we ask You to cleanse our minds. Grant us fresh discernment to recognize what is vile in and around us. Make our ways blameless, so that we too can say, “I will have nothing to do with what is evil.”

Dr. Ryan Cook has taught at Moody Bible Institute since 2012. He earned his bachelor of arts in Bible and Theology from Moody and his master of arts in Old Testament from Grand Rapids Theological Seminary. He has worked in Christian education and served as a pastor in Michigan for seven years. During his time as a professor at Moody, he earned his doctorate from Asbury Theological Seminary. He now lives with his wife, Ashley, and their three children in the Chicagoland area.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUMMER MUSIC

We are looking for summer music to enhance our worship services—vocalists, instrumentalists, and hymn leaders! This is an opportunity for choir, bell choir, praise singers, and those who play an instrument to share their talents with us this summer. Hymn leaders still sing the hymns during the service. We now are asking for volunteers to sing or play during the offertory, as we did pre-Covid.

If you can volunteer your talents, please contact Toni in the church office at 419-691-7222. Also, please pass this invitation along to others of our church family. Thank you!

GRADUATION GIFTS



If your graduate signed up but was not able to attend Graduation Recognition Sunday on June 20th, we have some gifts for them. Please call Toni in the church office at 419-691-7222 to arrange a pick up.

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATE

We will hold a congregational update session after the 9:00 am service on Sunday, July 25th. This is just an informational meeting about projects at the church and upcoming events; there is no voting at this time.

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

The church secretary will be on vacation July 12 - 16th. Please have any announcements for the July 11th and 18th bulletins turned in to the church office by Tuesday, July 6th. Also, if anyone would like to help out in the office on Wed. or Thurs. from 9:00 am to noon that week, call Toni at 419-691-7222.

JULY ELDER SCHEDULE

During the summer, we have one service each Sunday at 9:00 am.

4th	Darold Henninger, Kevin Ruedy
11th	Dick Haar, Bob Hecklinger
18th	Tom Gaskins, Terry Ruedy
25th	Jeff Smith, Ted Hagedorn

MEMBER UPDATES

Births

None of which we are aware.

Baptisms

5-30-21 *Grant Alan Ruedy*, born December 8, 2020 to Michael and Nicole (Mira) Ruedy. Sponsors are Kailee Missler and Hannah Missler.

Marriages

None.

Deaths

6-20-21 Dorothy E. Laney

Transfers to First St. John

None.

Transfers from First St. John

Tommy and Kimberly Vaculik and their children Kieran Grames, Samantha Vaculik, and Adeline Vaculik to Christ United Methodist Church in Oregon, Ohio.

ALTAR GUILD NEEDS YOUR HELP



Each Sunday, we need at least two vases on the altar for the worship service (we can have three). Vases are \$15 each, and when no one signs up for flowers, the Altar Guild has to pay for them out of their own funds, which can be expensive when we go for several weeks with no one signing up.

Please consider selecting a Sunday and purchasing altar flowers. In the past, folks have signed up for vases in honor of someone's birthday or anniversary, or in memory of someone. However, there are plenty of other things to celebrate or commemorate. These may include: graduations, weddings (even if they are not here), holidays, a retirement, new baby, or a thank you to someone or a group for their hard work or thoughtfulness.

The red sign up book is under the main bulletin board in the Narthex (lobby) for you to choose which Sunday you want. Payment envelopes are in front of the small wooden box on the wall to the right of the bulletin board and also in the book. Just fill out the info, add your donation, and put it in the small wooden box on the wall by the bulletin board. You also can call the church office and have Toni sign you up. Thanks for helping!

CDs OF DR. PATTIN'S MUSIC

Dr. Pattin has received several requests for CDs of his music from church members. We now have five CDs available at \$15 each.

Briefly, here are their descriptions: **“With a Touch of Class”** includes 10 favorite hymns, arranged by Dr. Tony, along with several concert pieces; **“Live From New York”** is a recording of a 2002 concert at Merkin Concert Hall at Lincoln Center in New York City that includes works by William Grant Still, Debussy, Rachmaninoff, and George Gershwin; **“Recital Highlights”** has live performances from The University of Montevallo Recital Hall in Alabama where Dr. Tony taught for many years and includes pieces from Bach, Debussy, Mompou, Chopin, and Gershwin; **“Tidings of Comfort and Joy”** is a festive holiday collection, including Dr. Tony’s version of Themes from “The Sound of Music” by Rodgers and Hammerstein; and finally **“Trip Down Memory Lane”** that was commissioned by a couple celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary and includes arrangements of Moon River, Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, Moonglow, Stardust, and Misty.

If you’d like to purchase CDs, please call or stop in to the church office. (If paying by check, please make it out to Anthony Pattin.)

FALL CATECHISM SIGN UP & ORIENTATION

We’re getting a head start on next fall’s catechism class, so we’d like to announce that catechism orientation will be Sunday, September 12th at 9:00 am in the catechism room (located on the middle floor of the Educational Building near the ladies restroom). If you have a child who will be in the 7th or 8th grade this fall, please call Toni in the church office at 419-691-7222 to sign up. Students are encouraged to invite their friends!



PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY

July’s focus item is body lotion. You can deposit items in either the bright green bin in the lounge or the left pull-out drawer next to the Feed Your Neighbor bins in the Narthex under the main bulletin board. Thank you!

MEET OUR NEW YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER



Greetings, all! My name is Jacob Kelly and I am the new Youth and Family Minister here at First St. John. I am from Toledo, Ohio. I graduated from Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor’s degree in Human Development and Family Studies. I have also obtained a Certificate in Youth Ministry from the University of Dayton and lastly, I am currently in the process of obtaining my Master’s degree in Youth and Family Ministry from Grand Canyon University.

For the past four years I have been a volunteer youth minister at my local parish, helping out with their 7th and 8th grade faith formation class. I feel this experience has given me the necessary tools to be successful here at First St. John. When I am not volunteering, you can find me on the tennis court or cheering for my favorite hockey team, the Columbus Blue Jackets.

If you have any questions or just want to say hi, my door is always open. I look forward to meeting you all soon!

FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE

Hello friends,

When last we spoke, the United States and First St. John Lutheran Church were turning the pages of history to the year 1901. Pastor William Wacke ushered in tremendous growth for the church and the orphanage. The Orphans Home recorded 99 children and two elderly in residence. The church celebrated 700 children in its Sunday School. The German language was still used in worship.

As more and more farm families settled in the Oregon area, church attendance soared, thus creating a need to build a new sanctuary, which was built in 1928 at a cost of \$88,000!!!! In 1918 a new brick building was built for the orphanage residents at a cost of \$80,000, and also a new "Altenheim," or old folks home, was built in 1906 and housed 28 residents. But in 1929, the winds of change would soon occur. We'll talk about that next month.

Until then, save me a slice of cheese,
Ludwig, the Church Mouse



PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES
(As of 6/28/21)



Crisis Prayer List: *This is for those who need prayers in an urgent matter such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals will be moved to "Chronic" after the first month unless one of the prayer chain contacts is contacted about special circumstances:*

Thomas Abalos, Sr.
Pastor Blohm
Amy Brumley
Family of Dorothy Laney
Family of Elsie Pfouts
Family of John Presley
Kellie Ulrich

Chronic Prayer List: *This is for those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, ongoing medical struggles and recovery and/or personal situations. Individuals will be moved off after 3 months unless one of the prayer chain contacts has been contacted about special/continuing circumstances:*

Art Balk
Lynn Balogh
Bennett (no last name given)
Karen Bless
Pastor Joe Brosious
Lori Capitola
Jeannette Carlo
Pat Christy
Greg Contat
Marjorie Counterman
Jill Cousino
Nancy Coy
Hannah Culler
Mary Ann Davies
Olivia & Delaney Dawkins
Dawn (no last name given)
Chiara Del-Mace
Don Dotson
Emmalyn (no last name given)
Collin Folk
Karen Frey
Herb Frey
Jean Fry
Paulette Giaimo
Grace Harris Greenbank
Delores Heilman
Toni Henline
Gary Henningsen
Karen Huber
Pastor Beth Huener
Dana Justice
Joanne Koch
Tom Kohn
Ada Kreger

Heidi LeGrand
Linda (no last name given)
Carol Lorenzen
Joyce Martin
Evan Matheney
Bonnie Meier
Donna Miller
Lucille Paul
Liz Perozek
Pam Pirolli
Steven Riegle
Logan Roberts
Ann Ryan
Leona Ryan
Norm Schumaker
Judy Sharp
Skylar (no last name given)
Connie Singlar
Ann Smith
Girard Stewart
Julie Swanson
Tom Tedrow
Becky Thielan
Joan Tilton
Jane Vargo
Mark Walker
Nick Wasserman
Katelyn Weirich
Jeff Wheeler
Bill Wiener
Sharon Winslow
John Yard
Ruth Zasada
Raetta Zeisler

Please let one of the prayer chain contacts know if any of these individuals could be moved off the list.

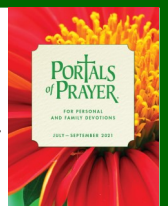
Prayer Chain Contacts

Carol Abbey 419-351-9795 or cabbeyrn@aol.com

Lynn Folk	419-309-7977
Donna Koehn	419-705-9560
Darlene Lorenzen	419-351-6293
Gloria Ross	419-836-7166

PORTALS OF PRAYER

The Portals of Prayer devotional booklets for July through September have arrived (both large and small print). These can be found in the lounge in the Educational Building, the Narthex (lobby), and the caddy on the wall outside the door by the choir loft (only small print versions are there).





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us for VBS here at First St. John Monday, July 26th through Thursday, July 29th from 6:00 to 8:30 pm when our theme will be “Treasured: Discovering You’re Priceless to God.” **NOTE:** We will be serving a light supper between 5:00 and 5:30 pm, so come for dinner and stay for VBS!

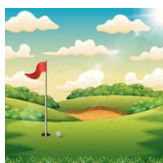
Vacation Bible School is for children ages 3 through going into 5th grade. Youth ages 6th grade and over are also very welcome to help! Our leaders this year are Lori Pfeiffer and Andrea Buckley (Andrea is our Day School administrator).

To register your child, please go to <https://firststjohndayschool.org/vacation-bible-school/> (scroll to the bottom of the web page) or pick up a form from the lounge, Narthex (lobby), or office.

Please think about how you might be able to help us prepare or volunteer during that week. We will need lots of volunteers! See the article in the right column for some items we need help purchasing.

DAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Day School has been busy this summer. Our summer camps have been a great success as we have had full classes during most of our weeks. Registration is continuing for the 2021/2022 school year. We are so excited to be loosening restrictions, and we look forward to including more parents and church members in our education plans. If you are interested in what we have been doing, we have short videos each week highlighting our activities. The videos are featured on the Day School website at www.firststjohndayschool.org



DAVID WINSLOW MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

This four-man scrambles will begin on Saturday, August 7th at 8:00 am at the Eagles Landing Golf Club. Price is \$75 per person, which includes lunch and a hot dog and beverage at the turn. Prizes will be awarded for 1st place, longest drive and closest to the pin. Reservation and fees are due by Sunday, August 1st. If you’d like to register or sponsor a hole, call Mike Winslow at 419-691-8430.

Proceeds go to the Winslow Scholarship Fund at First St. John.

FALL REGISTRATION



Registration for the fall Day School program for the 2021/2022 year (beginning August 18th) is underway. The registration fee is waived for active church members, but you must complete the registration form to reserve a spot for your child. Forms are on the school’s website: www.firststjohndayschool.org Children must be at least 3 years old and potty-trained. Classes are from 9 am - noon, with extended care available from 6 am - 6 pm. Questions? Call Andrea Buckley at 419-691-6480.

FOR 160th ANNIVERSARY MEETING

We will continue meeting throughout the summer via Zoom. Our next meeting date and time is Monday, July 19th at 7:30 pm. See you soon!



DONATIONS NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be Monday, July 26th through Thursday, July 29th. We hope you can help us with supplies by purchasing the following items. We need enough to serve 100, but you don’t have to buy that many (unless you want to!). We will update you with what is still needed as we draw closer to the date. Thank you!

- Plastic bottle cap tops (water or pop)
- Gummy Snacks (individually pre-packaged servings)
- Small white non-coated plates
- Straws
- Small size water bottles for dinners
- Hot Dogs
- Hot Dog Buns
- Individual Serving Bags of Chips
- Chicken Nuggets
- Individual Fruit / Applesauce Cups
- Granola Bars (no nuts)
- Taco Chips (for nachos)
- Ground Beef
- Cheese
- Lettuce
- Tomato
- Sour Cream
- Nacho Cheese