

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – March 27<sup>th</sup>

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Erwin Vogelsang on his birthday March 30<sup>th</sup> and his passing on March 31<sup>st</sup> and in loving memory of Eardley Schuetz on his birthday, both given by the Schuetz and Cromly families.

### **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

3-20-22: 8:00 am: 37    10:30 am: 74    Online: 32    Total: 143  
3-23-22: 11:00 am: 29    7:00 pm: 27    Total: 56

### **OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED**

Ken Villhauer – Bay Park Hospital  
Jeff Smith – HCA Florida Ocala Hospital  
Eleanor Cochenour – Gardens of St. Francis Rehab

**PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES:** *Add:* Family of Mary Batchman, Ken Villhauer, Jeff Smith, Family of Marilyn Cashen, Joe, Helen, Terri Bianchini, Andrea Hosley, James Spenthoff, Leona Ryan, Jill Nault, Deb Dusseau Warnke, Family of Judy Sharp, Ken DeWitt, Ann Dudics, Eleanor Cochenour, Tina McQuillin, Julie Frederick, Deborah Miller, Vickie Schnapps, Family of Norm Schumaker, Terry Vogalsang

**Ongoing Concerns:** Lynn Balogh, Bennett, Dan Bibish, Karen Bless, Pastor Joe Brosious, Bruce, Amy Brumley, Lori Capitola, Jeannette Carlo, Jordyn Cheatham, Pat Christy, Richard & Marjorie Counterman, Hannah Culler, Mary Ann Davies, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins, Dawn, Chiara Del-Mace, Emmalyn, Debbie Eversman, John Geiger, Paulette Giaimo, Sarah Gladieux, Grace Harris Greenbank, Tom Hartford, Gary Henningsen, Pastor Beth Huener, Mark Kieswetter, Derek Kochanski, Tom Kohn, Sharon Kruse, Morgan Landry, Heidi LeGrand, Linda, Joyce Martin, Bonnie Meier, Christina Merritt, Donna Miller, Logan Murphy, Nick, Pam Pirolli, Janet Quiroga, John Ranchan, Todd Reynolds, Sara Richardson, Logan Roberts, Ann Ryan, Jim Schumaker, Shelley Sherman, Skylar, Ann Smith, Julie Swanson, Tom Tedrow, Joan Tilton, Carlene Trost, Kellie Ulrich, Jane Vargo, A.J. Walker, Katelyn Weirich, Bill Wiener, Sharon Winslow, John Yard, Raetta Zeisler, Rob Zunk

### **CALENDAR FOR MAR. 27 – APR. 2**

<b>Today</b>	8:00 am	- Worship
	9:15 am	- JAM Sunday School
	9:15 am	- Adult Bible Study in Lounge
	9:15 am	- Catechism
	10:30 am	- Worship / Communion
<b>Monday</b>	9:30 am	- Quilting
<b>Wednesday</b>	11:00 am	- Lenten Service
	7:00 pm	- Lenten Service
<b>Thursday</b>	11:00 am	- Bible Study
	4:00 pm	- School Staff Meeting
	7:00 pm	- Choir
<b>Saturday</b>	11:30 am	- Rebecca Circle

**WELCOME** to First St. John Lutheran Church! We're happy you're here. If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest book, located in the Narthex (lobby).

**WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** to the family and friends of Mary Batchman. Mary passed away on Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. There are no funeral arrangements at this time.

**THANK YOU:** Your generous gift of \$360 to our Genacross Family and Youth Services Ministry is a concrete expression of the love of God. Through it, God is doing something significant about the needs of His people. You continue to be a blessing as we serve together. We're so very thankful for you!!

-- Dr. Jim Dumke, VP for Mission Integration, Genacross Lutheran Services

**WINSLOW SCHOLARSHIP- DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY:** This scholarship is for high school seniors who are members of First St. John and will attend college for the 2022/2023 school year. Applications are in the church office. Stop by any time during office hours to pick up an application. ***Turn in your completed application to the church office by March 30<sup>th</sup> to be considered.***

**SPECIAL MOVIE NIGHT:** On Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm, we will be showing home videos of the orphanage, showing the children and events that took place. Tom Hartford will narrate the videos. If you'll recall, Tom told his story of growing up in the orphanage back on Genacross Sunday (February 6<sup>th</sup>). Other residents will share their stories and answer questions about their lives in the orphanage. Beverages and snacks will be available. If you'd like to attend, please RSVP to either Tom at 419-302-1549 or the church office at 419-691-7222. ***NOTE: Due to the Bunny Hop event in our big parking lot that day, parking for movie night will be only in back of the church.***

**CANDY NEEDED FOR AREA-WIDE "BUNNY HOP":** Local churches again are teaming up to offer a community-wide "Bunny Hop" on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. To that end, we need donations of candy. We will have one station in the parking lot across from the church to hand out candy. Parents will drive their children to the different locations in the area. At our similar event at Halloween, there were 200 or more cars that came through, even though it was a very rainy day. If you can help, we will need bags of candy. We will put several pieces in Ziploc bags for the children to take. Collection boxes will be in the Narthex if you bring the candy to in-person worship. Or, you can come to the Educational Building during church office hours from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm during the week to drop off your donation. Thank you in advance for your help!

**EASTER FLOWER SALE – DEADLINE APPROACHING:** If you'd like to order flowers to decorate our church for Easter, an order form is in the bulletin. You can choose from Easter lily, yellow daffodil, hyacinth, or tulip. Cost of each plant is \$12.00. If paying by check, please make it out to First St. John Lutheran and write "Easter flowers" on the memo line. **Deadline for orders is NEXT SUNDAY, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**WINTERFEST WRAP UP:** Thanks to everyone who came and helped with our first Winter Fest. We had a great time! Thanks also to Andy Hodges for donating the generator; to Matt Miller for the use of his truck and wagon that we called the Sleigh Wagon; to Kyle Butler and Michelle Layman for the fire pit we used for making s'mores; to Jordan and McKenna Cummerow and Aubrey Swartz for helping with the popcorn; and to the Sunday School Board and JAM teachers who put it all together. And a big "thank you" goes to our wonderful congregation for your donations. Thank you!

**TO SEND A CARD TO JEFF SMITH:** As most of you know, Jeff was vacationing in Florida and was out on his bicycle when he was hit by a car. He has already had one surgery with more coming. He is currently in a hospital in Florida. If you'd like to send a card, here is Jeff and Debbie's address in Florida (their mail here in Oregon is being forwarded): Jeff & Debbie Smith, 9701 East Highway 25, Lot 114, Bellview, FL 43320

**CAN YOU HELP THESE SENIORS?** Many seniors at the Oregon Senior Lofts (near the Drive-in on Navarre Ave.) are lonely and lack companionship and Christ-like love. The Lofts is a senior housing community for individuals age 55+. Would any family or church group consider volunteering to serve just ONE HOUR this year to host an activity for our neighbors at the Lofts? Hosting ideas: Bingo, crafts, social hour, games, a bible message, exercise class, refreshments, etc. Day/Time/Month: You choose! Per management, ideally (M-F) during business hours. To sign up for a month, please contact Karen Culler at kculler21@gmail.com or 419-276-2798.

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING UPDATE:** So far, between the money and the food donations we've collected, we have the equivalent of 865 food items donated. (For those who want to know the details, each dollar we collect translates into one food item that Lutheran Social Services can purchase for their pantry. We've collected 511 items and \$489.25 [that's 1,000 items] so far.) This is the last week to collect, so as we're coming into the "home stretch," we need just a little more to reach our goal of 1,600 items! We will be collecting throughout the rest of the month. THANK YOU!!!

**NEW PORTALS OF PRAYER AVAILABLE:** The Portals of Prayer Devotional booklets for April through June are now available for pick up. You can find them in the Narthex (lobby), the lounge, the church office, and in the small caddy outside of the door by the choir loft. They come in both large and small print versions. Feel free to take some for a friend!

**MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES:** We have weekly Lenten services on Wednesdays at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm. Both services are held in the church sanctuary. This week's topic is "God's Will and My Worldview," reflected by Paul's conversion.

**ALTAR GUILD MEETING:** Our next meeting is Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the lounge. Note also that we will practice for the Maundy Thursday service on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We will set up for Easter on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Thank you.

**MIRIAM CIRCLE NEWS:** We will begin our new Bible Study, "Encouraging One Another," at our next meeting on Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. The cost is \$9 for each book. See you soon.

**DAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN:** Registration for the Day School's 2022-2023 year has begun. Members of First St. John have the opportunity to enroll their children and pay no registration fee. If you have any questions or would like to tour the school, please call our administrator, Andrea Buckley, at 419-691-6480.

**THE CARD PARTY IS BACK!** The 29<sup>th</sup> annual Card Party and Luncheon is Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at noon in our gym (elevator available). Cost is \$12, which includes a wonderful lunch with homemade desserts. Door and raffle prizes available. Even if you don't play cards, come and play board games or just hang out with your friends from First St. John. For reservations, call the church office (419-691-7222) or Jane Schuetz (419-691-5506). Everyone is welcome!

**DONATIONS FOR CARD PARTY:** We need donations for our card party raffle. Raffle prizes should have values at least \$30 (gift certificates, gift baskets, flower arrangements, etc.) Door prizes can be something you make or that you can ask a business to donate. These are worth about \$10 to \$15, like gift certificates, dish towels, small items from stores like Bath & Body Works, etc. Boxes will be in the lounge and Narthex (lobby) for your donations of both types of prizes. Thank you!

**LUTHERAN MINISTRIES OF MERCY MEETING REPORT:** Two delegates from First St. John attended the 9<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of Lutheran Ministries of Mercy (LMM) on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The LMM is a combination of Filling Memorial Home (63<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting), Luther Home of Mercy (94<sup>th</sup> annual meeting), & Lutheran Social Services of Northwest Ohio (LSSNO - 111<sup>th</sup> annual meeting). The theme for this year was "BY GRACE.... WITH GRATITUDE." Introductory remarks were conducted by Rev. Daniel Beaudoin (Bishop - NWO) & Rev. Kevin Wilson (president Ohio district - Missouri Synod). Part of the business meeting included nominations for the LSS Foundation Board and nominations for the LMM Board. The featured speaker was Senior Pastor Niklaus Schillack from Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Bloomfield Hills, MI. Pastor Schillack spoke about how so few people (258 volunteers / 904 staff) can impact so many people (29,493) in a positive way, from care facilities to counseling.

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY FOCUS FOR MARCH** is toilet paper. (Our item for April is facial tissues.) Please deposit your items in the pull-out drawer to the left of the Feed Your Neighbor bin in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) or in the green bin in the lounge. Thanks!

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** I'm always very thankful for the volunteers who are on the front lines of this ministry. Presently, we are short two volunteers to hand out products to the clients. If you are interested, please contact me or Toni in the church office. -- *Karen Holmes*

**MONTHLY MINISTRY OUTREACH** for March is Lutheran Social Services (see above). Special envelopes will be in the pews starting next week if you would like to donate to this worthy cause. Make your check out to First St. John and write "LSS Food Pantry" on the memo line. Then place your envelope in the offering plate or mail it to the church. Thank you.

**CEMETERY CLEAN UP:** We will have our semi-annual cemetery clean up on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Volunteers are needed—the more hands we have, the quicker we finish! Please remove anything from a grave that you would like to keep—older decorations, grave blankets, and especially anything from Christmas—before April 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**SUMMER DANCE PARTY FOR CONFIRMATION ALUMNAE:** Save the date--Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm in the gym. We are having a Confirmation Alumnae Summer Dance Party. If you were confirmed here at First St. John (and even if you weren't), come out and listen to the golden oldie hits spun by Bob "Elvis" Haar! Better yet, come and dance to the hits from the 50s, 60s, and 70s. It's time to get groovy and let your hair down! Pizza and pop provided. Confirmation alumnae, their guests, and EVERYONE are invited. Call the church office at 419-691-7222 or Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 to RSVP—**deadline for reservations is Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**. Get your confirmation class together to "bee-bop" and "doo-wop" the night away. See you there!!!!

### **REMAINDER OF EVENTS FOR OUR 160<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION**

Sunday, May 1: Altar Guild Celebration  
Sunday, May 8: Mother's Day and Quilter's Celebration  
Sunday, May 15: Choir Celebration Sunday  
Sunday, May 22: Vision Sunday  
Sunday, May 29: Veterans Memorial Remembrance in Church  
Monday, May 30: Veterans Memorial Remembrance in the Church and Cemetery at 8:00 am.  
Saturday, June 4, 5:00 to 8:00 pm: Confirmation Alumnae Celebration's Summer Dance Party  
Sunday, June 19: Father's Day, Graduate Recognition Sunday, Winslow Scholarship Award Presentation, and Remembrance of Past Scholarship Winners.

**COMMUNITY DISCOUNT CARDS:** This ongoing fundraiser for our Day School involves purchasing a card that allows you to enjoy special discounts at your favorite local vendors. The card is good from November 1, 2021 to November 1, 2022. Some of the savings include 15% off at El Camino Real, \$12 for a 20-pound propane tank refill at Gladieux Home Center, 10% off at Salad Galley, 10% off at Lee Williams House of Meats, 15% off a full service oil change at Valvoline, \$5 off \$25 at Live Lively Boutique, plus discounts at other local stores like Soap City Car Wash, Shawarmaholic, Beth Allen's Florist, Great Clips, Eastern Lanes, and Marco's Pizza. **\*\*Cards are now just \$15**, and you can buy them from the church or Day School offices during the week. Thank you for supporting the Day School!

**JESUS AND ME SUNDAY SCHOOL - YOUR IDEAS ARE NEEDED!** Our JAM Sunday School attendance is extremely low, and we need your help. Whether the reasons are due to Covid, families out of town on Sundays, or sports tournaments on Sundays, it's clear the spiritual foundation that is so critical for our young children is being set aside in favor of other things. Please give this problem some thought, and if you have any suggestions or ideas you feel can help us bring back our children, please contact Sandhya Holston at 419-215-8970 or email her at [diyah812@yahoo.com](mailto:diyah812@yahoo.com) Thank you so much.

**GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES ANNUAL MEETING** will be virtual this year. Please join them for their 162<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. More details will follow as the date approaches. To make a reservation for the event, please call Bev at 419-861-4954 or email her at [BApel@Genacross.org](mailto:BApel@Genacross.org) by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE – YOUR GIFTS DOUBLED:** Lutheran Disaster Response is partnering with Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service agencies in Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia, and Hungary to provide those fleeing Ukraine with immediate assistance such as food, blankets, water, and hygiene kits. Your help is desperately needed. **NEW: Through a generous offer to Lutheran World Relief, all gifts given between now and April 10<sup>th</sup> will be doubled.** You can call 1-800-638-3522 Monday – Friday from 8AM to 5PM Central Time to make a donation with a credit card. Or you can mail a check to Lutheran Disaster Response and write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on the memo line. Then send it to: **Lutheran Disaster Response, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

**PORTAGE VALLEY FEDERATION OF LUTHERAN MEN & PASTORS SPRING MEETING** will be Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at Luther Home of Mercy, 5810 N. Main St., Williston, OH. Speaker is Nancy Borders of Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dog Ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church in Toledo. Their current outreach project is to help fund beds for residents of the Luther Home of Mercy. Individuals who want to support this cause but cannot attend may sent donations directly to: Ralph Aufdenkamp, Treasurer, 8369 Kramer Rd., Bowling Green, OH. 43402.