

ANNOUNCEMENTS – April 3rd

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the glory of God in honor of Adele Bibish's 5th birthday on April 2nd, given by her Grandma Lorenzen.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

3-27-22: 8:00 am: 35 10:30 am: 89 Online: 30 Total: 154
3-30-22: 11:00 am: 33 7:00 pm: 21 Total: 54

OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

Carlene Trost – Toledo Hospital
Eleanor Lang, Ken Villhauer – Orchard Villa
Jeff Smith – HCA Florida Ocala Hospital
Eleanor Cochenour – Gardens of St. Francis Rehab

PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES: *Add:* Family of Sharon Winslow, Lynn Folk, Family of Mary Batchman, Terri Bianchini, Family of Marilyn Cashen, Eleanor Cochenour, Ken DeWitt, Ann Dudics, Helen, Andrea Hosley, Joe, Eleanor Lang, Jill Nault, Leona Ryan, Family of Judy Sharp, Jeff Smith, James Spenthoff, Ken Villhauer, Deb Dusseau Warnke (**Note:** *In order to save space in the announcements, the Ongoing Concerns list will not be printed today. Please check the bulletin board postings and the April newsletter for these names.*)

CALENDAR FOR APR. 3 – APR. 9

Today	8:00 am	- Worship / Communion
	9:15 am	- JAM Sunday School
	9:15 am	- Adult Bible Study in Lounge
	9:15 am	- Catechism
	10:30 am	- Worship
Monday	4:30 pm	- Praise Singers Practice
	5:30 pm	- Bell Choir
	6:30 pm	- Altar Guild
	7:30 pm	- Dartball (Home)
Tuesday	11:00 am	- Ruth Circle
Wednesday	9:30 am	- Miriam Circle
	11:00 am	- Lenten Service
	7:00 pm	- Lenten Service
Thursday	11:00 am	- Bible Study
	7:00 pm	- Choir Practice
Friday	6:00 pm	- Wedding Rehearsal – Guth/Dunaway
Saturday	9:00 am	- Cemetery Clean Up Day
	4:30 pm	- Wedding / Guth/Dunaway

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 Duane and Donald Curtis. Duane passed away on March 7th and Don passed away on March 28th. No services are planned for Duane; services for Donnie were held on Friday.

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

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING THANK YOU: We collected the equivalent of 1,404 food items. (Each dollar donated equals one food item Lutheran Social Services can buy for the pantry. We collected 560 items and \$844.) Thank you for your generosity, and thank you to the catechism class for transporting the items.

EASTER FLOWER SALE – DEADLINE IS TODAY: 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. Someone should be in the Narthex (lobby) to take your orders today after each service.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES:

Maundy Thursday	April 14 th : 11:00 am & 7:00 pm
Good Friday	April 15 th : 12:00 pm (no evening service)
Easter	April 17 th : 8:00 am & 10:30 am

ALTAR GUILD MEETING: Our next meeting is Monday, April 4th at 6:30 pm in the lounge. Note also that we will practice for the Maundy Thursday service on Tuesday, April 12th at 6:00 pm. We will set up for Easter on Saturday, April 16th 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 6th at 9:30 am. The cost is \$9 for each book. See you soon.

CALLING ALL CHOIR ALUMNI: As part of the church's 160th anniversary, May 15th is Choir Celebration Sunday. We are inviting ALL former choir members and praise singers to join us in singing that day! We will hold special rehearsals for everyone on Thursday, May 5th and Wednesday, May 11th at 7:00 pm each night. Praise Singers practice will be Monday, May 9th at 4:30 pm. If you know someone who used to be in the choir, please tell them about this event. If you have any questions, please contact any current choir member or call Annette Slater at 419-262-0880. We're really looking forward to seeing everyone!

QUILTING WRAP UP: We finished our sessions for this year, and we made 117 adult and 10 baby quilts. Thank you to everyone who pinned, tied and sewed quilts, whether you came to church or worked on quilts at home. Our quilts are being donated to several charities, including Dialysis Center of Oregon, Beach House, Salem Lutheran, Cocoon Ministries, and the Bed Ministry of First Presbyterian in Monroe, MI. We look forward to Quilter's Sunday on May 8th when we will have our quilts on display during church that day.

ORPANAGE VIDEOS FOR MOVIE NIGHT: On Sunday, April 10th 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 6th). 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.**

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE: This Wednesday, our Lenten services are at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm in the church sanctuary. This week's topic is "God's Will and My Response," shown in the witness of Lydia.

ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE: The rummage sale will be Thursday, May 5th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and Friday, May 6th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you can, please bring in your items April 26th–29th from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm and place them on the gym stage. You also can bring in your items on May 2nd and 3rd from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. We need volunteers to help run the elevator during all drop off times AND during the sale. If you can help run the elevator, please use the slip below, or you can call the church office at 419-691-7222. We also need people to help sort through items and set them on the tables, and clean up afterward. If you can help, call the church office at 419-691-7222 or Sue Ann Rogers at 419-280-1310. Please come out to help make this one a success. A big thank you goes out to everyone who has helped in the past to make our Rummage Sale a success. *** Please note this will be our last rummage sale. ***

Yes, I can help run the elevator for the Rummage Sale. (Please circle the days you're available.)

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Days available: April 26 April 27 April 28 April 29 May 2 May 3 May 4 May 5 May 6

CANDY NEEDED FOR AREA-WIDE “BUNNY HOP”: Local churches again are teaming up to offer a community-wide “Bunny Hop” on Sunday, April 10th 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!

CARD “SHOWER”: Pat Christy, a friend to many WELCA ladies, is celebrating her 90th birthday on April 14th. We’d like to invite you to send a birthday card to brighten her day. If you choose to send one, here is her address: 19821 E.W. Curtice Rd., Curtice, OH 43412. Thank you!

MEN’S & WOMEN’S BREAKFAST: Our next Men’s & Women’s Breakfast Fellowship will be Saturday, April 23rd at 8:30 am at Frisch’s Big Boy Restaurant on Woodville Rd. Please make note of the change in the time and place. See you there!

TO SEND A CARD TO JEFF SMITH: Jeff is currently in a hospital in Florida. If you’d like to send a card, here is Jeff and Debbie’s Florida address (their mail here in Oregon is being forwarded): Jeff & Debbie Smith, 9701 East Highway 25, Lot 114, Bellview, FL 43320

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!

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 29th annual Card Party and Luncheon is Tuesday, May 10th 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!

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY FOCUS 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 9th 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 9th. Thank you.

SUMMER DANCE PARTY FOR CONFIRMATION ALUMNI: Save the date--Saturday, June 4th at 5:00 pm in the gym. We are having a Confirmation Alumni 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 alumni, 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 15th**. Get your confirmation class together to "bee-bop" and "doo-wop" the night away!

REMAINDER OF EVENTS FOR OUR 160th 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 Thank you so much.

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.

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 Disaster Response, all gifts given between now and April 10th 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**