

## *ANNOUNCEMENTS – March 26<sup>th</sup>*

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Erwin Vogelsang and Eardley Schuetz on their birthdays, given by the Schuetz and Cromly families.

### **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

3-19-23: 8:00 am: 39    10:30 am: 107    Total: 146

JAM Sunday School: 7    Adult Bible Study: 7

3-22-23: 11:00 am: 23    6:30 pm: 29    Total: 52

### **OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED**

Paulette Giaimo – Promedica Nursing & Rehab Center (Perrysburg)

Herb Frey – Elizabeth Scott Rehab

Irene Abbott – Parkcliffe Community - Northwood

**PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES:** *Add:* Bernie Zielinski, Steven Riegle, Kelley Allred, Jean Ross, Lori Ansted, Janet Mooney, Paulette Giaimo, Bishop Marcus Lohrmann, Dave Wilbarger Sr., Herb Frey, Bob Davis, Jane Doe, Annette McGorty, Jack Millner, Logan Roberts, Bill Shedron, Kurt Steinhurst

*Ongoing Concerns:* Bennett, Elizabeth Bland, Karen Bless, Pastor Joe Brosious, Tracy Broyles, Bruce, Amy Brumley, Debbie Campbell, Lori Capitola, Greg Contat, Marjorie Counterman, Frances Cousino, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins, Emmalyn, Brian Everett, Janet Fern, Terry Filer, Anne Okonski Frank, Joe Frobese, Sarah Gladioux, Grace Harris Greenbank, Holly Henneman, Gary Henningsen, Sara Houghtaling, Kathy Johnson, Linda Joshi, Grant Kessler, Cindy Knavel, Tom Kohn, Eleanor Lang, Joyce Martin, Tina Mc Quillan, Bonnie Meier, Deborah Miller, Donna Miller, Karen Morrison, Logan Murphy, Rosann Murray, Norma Newell, Nick, Pam Pirolli, Janet Quiroga, John Ranchan, Sherry Reamsnyder, John Rowley, Laura Scherer, Shelley Sherman, Connie Singlar, James Spenthoff, LuAnn Spoerl, Julie Swanson, Tom Tedrow, Joan Tilton, Joyce Trowbridge, Terry Vogalsang, Deb Dusseau Warnke, Katelyn Weirich, Brett Winslow, John Yard, Raetta Zeisler, Ruth Zasada, Rob Zunk

### **CALENDAR FOR MAR. 26 – APR. 1**

<b><u>Today</u></b>	8:00 am	- Worship
	9:15 am	- JAM Sunday School
	9:15 am	- Adult Bible Study
	9:15 am	- Choir Practice
	10:30 am	- Worship / Communion
<b><u>Monday</u></b>	5:30 pm	- Bell Choir
	7:30 pm	- Dartball (Away)
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>	11:00 am	- Lenten Service in Church
	6:30 pm	- Lenten Service in Church
<b><u>Thursday</u></b>	11:00 am	- Bible Study
<b><u>Saturday</u></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 in the Narthex (lobby).

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Please remember to silence your cell phone before church begins. Thanks!

**ROSE ON THE LECTERN** is to honor a son, Kyler James, born March 21<sup>st</sup> to Ryan and Nichole (Goodin) Hugueley. Congratulations!

**THANK YOU:** To all at First St. John: Many thanks for giving us the use of the lounge for our piano recital last Sunday. It was the perfect space! Thanks also to Toni for help with furniture placement.

*-- Sincerely, Vivienne Sommerfield*

## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES:**

Palm Sunday	April 2 <sup>nd</sup> : 8:00 am & 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday	April 6 <sup>th</sup> : 11:00 am & 7:00 pm
Good Friday	April 7 <sup>th</sup> : 12:00 pm (no evening service)
Easter	April 9 <sup>th</sup> : 8:00 am & 10:30 am

**EASTER FLOWER SALE – DEADLINE IS TODAY:** Someone from the Altar Guild will be in the Narthex (lobby) today after both services if you'd like to place an order for Easter flowers that will decorate our altar area that day. You can choose from lilies, daffodils, hyacinths, and/or tulips. Plants are \$15 each. Order forms also are in the bulletin.

**WINSLOW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS – DEADLINE MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>:** This scholarship is for high school seniors who are members of First St. John and who will attend college for the 2023/2024 school year. Applications are in the church office. Stop by any time during office hours to pick up an application or contact Toni in the church office to have a copy emailed to you. Turn in your completed application to the church office by March 31<sup>st</sup> to be considered. Money is supplied from proceeds of the Winslow Memorial Golf outing held each summer, along with donations from church members.

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** We will hold a special congregational meeting on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> after both services to vote on whether to change our Sunday worship schedule to just one service each Sunday. Members who attended discussion meetings the last several weeks filled out a comment sheet. Those responses have been compiled and are available to pick up from the lounge or Narthex (lobby). Please plan on attending this meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**EASTER EGG HUNT:** Who's excited for an Easter Egg Hunt? All JAM Sunday School children are invited to our hunt next week on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> during our 9:15 am Sunday School hour. Afterwards, all the children are invited to join the Palm Sunday Processional at the start of the 10:30 worship service. See you there!

**YMCA SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS:** We would like to contribute to the YMCA's 2023 Campaign to raise funds for its Child Care and Summer Camp scholarships and other programs that serve the needy in our community, such as "lunch and learn" for older adults and health and well-being classes for youth and adults. The Eastern Community YMCA also has two childcare centers for infants through school age children. If you would like to contribute, please make a check out to "Eastern YMCA" and either place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Mike Winslow will be collecting for this cause through April 30<sup>th</sup>. For more information, you can go online to [www.ymcatoledo.org](http://www.ymcatoledo.org)

**ATTENTION CHOIR:** Dr. Tony is leading rehearsals for Easter in the choir room today at 9:15 am. We also will rehearse next Sunday at 9:15 am.

**WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES:** Our last Lenten service this season will be held on Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am and 6:30 pm in the church sanctuary.

**CHAPEL COMMUNION NOTICE:** Chapel Communion in April will be Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 pm. The date was moved ahead one week because the regular date falls on Easter.

**JAM SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:** Our lesson was on healing based on John 13:1-20. Our Lesson Focus was "Jesus teaches us humble service." Our memory verse was: "For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you." John 13:15 Also, save the date, May 14, Mother's Day. We are practicing songs to sing in church and we hope all will join us. We look forward to seeing you and your child on Sunday at 9:15.

**DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS FOR THE LENTEN SEASON:** We have some free devotional booklets for each day of the Lenten season. The booklets are titled, "Promised Treasures" and is a companion to our Lenten worship series this year. There are some on the countertop with the bulletins in the Narthex (lobby) and a few on the table outside the church office in the Educational Building.

**SOCKS FOR SALEM – DEADLINE IS NEXT WEEK:** We have begun collecting socks for Salem Lutheran Church's neighborhood ministries. They call themselves a "mission church" to serve the underprivileged in their neighborhood, which is the poorest in Toledo. Most families live at or below the federal poverty level. Salem accepts new or gently used socks for men, women, and children. Last time we collected we had a total of 250 pairs of socks! Collection boxes are in the lounge and the Narthex (lobby) to accept your donations. Deadline for donations is April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you!

**NEWS FROM LUTHERAN MINISTRIES OF MERCY ANNUAL MEETING:** Two representatives from First St. John Lutheran Church attended the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Lutheran Ministries of Mercy (LMM) meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup>. LMM is a combination of Filling Memorial Home (64<sup>th</sup> annual meeting), Luther Home of Mercy (95<sup>th</sup> annual meeting) and the Lutheran Social Services of NW Ohio (112<sup>th</sup> annual meeting). Bishop Daniel Beaudoin's opening remarks and prayer focused on the theme: "MANY VOICES ONE STORY". Dinner was served before the business meeting. The meeting included an annual financial report and nominations for the LMM & LSS foundation boards. Guest speakers from each agency presented a short speech and video presentation of accomplishments during the past year. Some of the numbers presented were 281,865 meals served to food pantry clients, 3,475 volunteer hours, and 835 clients served in mental health and substance abuse programs. A final message was given by Bishop Chester Trail: "We hear the voices of those we serve, their families, our donors, and so many in our communities . . . as those voices come together, they tell the same story-- a story of love and caring, reminding us that we are not so different at all."

**DAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN:** Registration for the 2023-2024 fall Day School program has begun. The registration fee is waived for active members of the church, but you must still complete a registration form to reserve a spot for your child. The form can be found online at [www.firststjohndayschool.org](http://www.firststjohndayschool.org) Children must be at least 3 years old and potty-trained. Our classes are from 9:00 am to noon, with extended care available from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. We also will have our Summer Child Care program for children ages 3-12 years old. The Day School will host summer camps each week with a different theme. Both children needing childcare and children looking for fun activities will be welcome. Watch for more on that in the coming weeks!

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY FOCUS ITEM:** The focus item for March is laundry detergent. The detergent brand we usually have is Xtra, but it's getting harder to find these days. Whichever brand you donate, please keep in mind that each bottle should last for at least 35-40 loads. Please deposit your items in the green bin in the lounge or in the left pull out bin under the main bulletin board in the Narthex (lobby). Thank you!

**SPECIAL FUNDS BROCHURE:** A brochure explaining each of our First St. John's special funds (Memorial, Housing, Endowment, Cemetery, Ackerman Day School Scholarship, David Winslow Scholarship) can be found in the lounge and the Narthex (lobby) if you are interested.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Our annual Card Party and Luncheon will be Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Founders' Fellowship Hall (formerly known as the gym). Items will be needed to give as door prizes (\$5 to \$10 in value) and larger items for the raffle (\$25 or more). For questions, please call Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506 or Emily Kruse at 419-836-5473.

**MONTHLY MINISTRY OUTREACH:** Our monthly outreach for March is Lutheran Disaster Response. With the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, the death toll is unimaginable. Lutheran Disaster Response needs our support to care for the survivors, many of whom no longer have a home. Green envelopes are in the pews if you would like to donate to this worthy cause. Make your check out to First St. John and write "Lutheran Disaster Response" on the memo line. Then place your envelope in the offering plate or mail it to the church. Thank you.

**PORTALS OF PRAYER:** The April–June Portals of Prayer devotional booklets (in either large or regular print) are available for pick up in the lounge and the Narthex (lobby). A few of the regular print booklets also can be found in the caddy outside the door by the choir loft.

**HELP WANTED - CHOIR DIRECTOR:** We still need a choir director. Please put the word out to anyone you know who may be interested or who may know someone else who might be. This is a paid, part-time position. Responsibilities include directing the choir, assisting with music for worship and special services, along with over-sight and coordination of the church's music program. For more information and a job description, please call Pastor Rayl at 567-395-0143. Questions or resumes should be directed to his attention at, [pastor1@firststjohn.com](mailto:pastor1@firststjohn.com), or mailed to the church office. Thanks for your help!

**GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES ANNUAL MEETING** will be virtual again this year. Please join them for their 163<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting on Tuesday, April 18<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 419-861-4990 or email her at [BApel@Genacross.org](mailto:BApel@Genacross.org) by April 11<sup>th</sup>. Include your congregation name and city, along with name(s) and email address(es) of each participant.



## Celebrating women in our community: past, present and future.

Please join us in celebration of Women's History Month.

**Wednesday, March 29, 2023 | 10 a.m.**  
**The Gardens of St. Francis**  
**930 South Wynn Road | Oregon, Ohio**

- 10 a.m. Meet and greet with juice, coffee, muffins, yogurt and fruit.
- 10:30 a.m. Prayer service
- 11:15 a.m. Speaker, Sr. Nancy Surma, OSF
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Open forum with guest speakers from various community-based organizations
- 2 p.m. Tours available

*There is no charge to attend.*  
*RSVP by Friday, March 24 to Kristy at 419.698.4331*  
*or [kristy.wortketter@commonspirit.org](mailto:kristy.wortketter@commonspirit.org).*

**Hello humankindness®**

