

*ANNOUNCEMENTS – April 30<sup>th</sup>*

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Eardley Schuetz and Aunt Ruby, given by the Schuetz and Cromly families (2 vases); and in loving memory of Kim Cousino on her birthday on May 4<sup>th</sup> and also in loving memory of Kim on her and Jim’s 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, given by the Cousino family.

**MESSENGERS** are presented in honor of the third birthday of Addison Weber, daughter of Chelsea (Bell) and James Weber, given by Chuck and Andra Bell.

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

4-23-23: 8:00 am: 38    10:30 am: 83    Online: 48    Total: 169    JAM Sunday School: 8

**OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED**

Jean DeWitt – Orchard Villa  
Herb Frey – Elizabeth Scott Rehab

**PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES:** *Add:* Patty Meyer, Family of Irene Abbott, Jean DeWitt, Family of Keith Lofquist, Logan Roberts, Family of Brenda Seimet, Bill Zemnicki and Family

*Ongoing Concerns:* Kelley Allred, Lori Ansted, Bennett, Elizabeth Bland, Karen Bless, Pastor Joe Brosious, Bruce, Amy Brumley, Debbie Campbell, Lori Capitola, Greg Contat, Marjorie Counterman, Bob Davis, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins, Jane Doe, Emmalyn, Brian Everett, Janet Fern, Terry Filer, Herb Frey, Joe Frobase, Sarah Gladioux, Grace Harris Greenbank, Holly Henneman, Gary Henningsen, Kathy Johnson, Linda Joshi, Grant Kessler, Cindy Knavel, Tom Kohn, Eleanor Lang, Bishop Marcus Lohrmann, Joyce Martin, Annette McGorty, Tina Mc Quillan, Bonnie Meier, Deborah Miller, Donna Miller, Jack Millner, Janet Mooney, Karen Morrison, Logan Murphy, Rosann Murray, Nick, Pam Pirolli, Janet Quiroga, John Ranchan, Sherry Reamsnyder, Steven Riegle, Jean Ross, John Rowley, Laura Scherer, Bill Shedron, Shelley Sherman, Connie Singlar, James Spenthoff, LuAnn Spoerl, Kurt Steinhurst, Julie Swanson, Tom Tedrow, Joan Tilton, Joyce Trowbridge, Terry Vogalsang, Deb Dusseau Warnke, Katelyn Weirich, Brett Winslow, John Yard, Ruth Zasada, Raetta Zeisler, Bernie Zielinski, Rob Zunk

**CALENDAR FOR APR. 30 – MAY 6**

<b>Today</b>	8:00 am	- Worship
	9:15 am	- JAM Sunday School
	9:15 am	- Adult Bible Study
	9:15 am	- First Year Catechism
	10:30 am	- Worship
	11:30 am	- Second Year Catechism
	4:00 pm	- Family Bowling Night at Interstate Lanes
<b>Monday</b>	5:30 pm	- Bell Choir
	6:30 pm	- Altar Guild Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	11:00 am	- Ruth Circle at Applebees
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 am	- Miriam Circle
<b>Thursday</b>	11:00 am	- Bible Study
<b>Saturday</b>	11:30 am	- Rebecca Circle
	12:00 pm	- Day School Cinco De Mayo Celebration

**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!

**WELCOME AND THANK YOU** to Mary Mortemore who will play the organ for us today while Dr. Tony is on vacation.

**THANK YOU!** I'd like to thank everyone who came to my retirement reception last Sunday and those who dropped off gifts and cards. But not just for last Sunday. Thanks to all of you who have been so kind and patient with me from Day One, which began right after Thanksgiving in 2001. It was my privilege to serve you at First St. John for the last 21 years. God's blessings to you all! -- *Toni Wilbarger*

**FAMILY BOWLING TODAY!** Families of JAM (Jesus And Me Sunday School) children and also the families of Day School children are invited for a fun evening of bowling at Interstate Lanes in Rossford on TODAY from 4–6 pm. Food, drinks, bowling, and shoes will be taken care of for all JAM families! If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Stacy Donley at [stacydonley16@gmail.com](mailto:stacydonley16@gmail.com) with the number of people in your party who will be bowling so we can reserve enough lanes. See you there!

**MAY NEWSLETTERS** are available for pick up in the lounge and Narthex (lobby) if that is how you've elected to receive yours.

**RUTH CIRCLE NEWS:** We will go out to eat at Applebee's Restaurant on Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 am.

**FIESTA PARTY!** The Day School is having a Fiesta Party on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> in the Founders' Fellowship Hall (gym) from noon to 2:30. Come for tacos, music, raffle baskets, and fun activities for everyone, both school families and church members. Fiesta time!

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY:** 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.

**CHURCH TREASURER NEEDED:** We are searching for a new church treasurer who is a member of First St. John. **Please note:** This is a separate position from that of Church Accountant. Duties include: supervise the financial procedures, records and investments of the congregation; render a monthly income/expense statement compared to the budget; deliver an annual financial report to the congregation; be a member of the budget and finance committees; and recommend written financial policies and procedures for cash management (annual budgeting, fund accounting, and annual audit to the church council); and prepare an annual report to the congregation. Interested persons can contact Mark Ackerman (419-345-6934) or Brenda Fussell (419-367-7944).

**VOLUNTEER FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE NEEDED:** Carol Haar has resigned from the Finance Committee. If anyone is interested in joining the committee or if you have any questions, please contact Mark Ackerman (419-345-6934) or Brenda Fussell (419-367-7944).

**FREE CHALKBOARD:** A six-foot long chalkboard on wheels is downstairs in the JAM Sunday School area in the church basement. This is free to anyone who would like it.

**ANNUAL CARD PARTY MAY 9<sup>th</sup>** The 30<sup>th</sup> annual Card Party and Luncheon is Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at noon in our Founders' Fellowship Hall (elevator available). Cost is \$13, 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), Jane Schuetz (419-691-5506), or Emily Kruse at 419-836-5473. Everyone is welcome!

**DONATIONS FOR CARD PARTY:** We need donations for our card party raffle. Raffle prizes should have values at least \$25 (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 \$5 to \$10, like gift certificates, dish towels, small items from stores like Bath & Body Works, etc. Boxes are in the lounge and Narthex (lobby) for your donations of both types of prizes. Thank you!

**FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST:** The Men's & Women's Fellowship Breakfast groups will meet together. Our next breakfast will be Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am at the Woodville Diner.

**CARRUTH FUNDRAISER – CATALOGS AVAILABLE!** WELCA is selling beautiful Carruth sculptures as part of a spring fundraiser. They make great gifts for Mother's Day, weddings, birthdays, housewarming, etc. The sale runs for the entire month of May. Catalogs are now available in the lounge and the Narthex (lobby) for you to review, or you can view the inventory online. See future Sunday announcements and the May newsletter for more information. Contact Chris Hunsaker in the evenings (5 - 9 pm) at 419-376-7363 or email [chriscr@aol.com](mailto:chriscr@aol.com) with questions.

**PRAYER BUDDY REVEAL LUNCHEON:** All those who have been praying for one of the children or the staff in our Day School's begindergarten class, you will finally get to meet them! You are invited to a lunch on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from noon to 2:00 pm in the Founders' Fellowship Hall (gym). Please RSVP to the school office at 419-691-6480 or email [fsjdayschool@firststjohn.com](mailto:fsjdayschool@firststjohn.com). Thank you so much for your prayers for our begindergarten students and staff during this school year.

**MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY:** Join us on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> for be a brief Memorial Day Service of Remembrance. We will begin in the church sanctuary at 8:00 am then move to our Cemetery. Members of the Dunberger Post will be participating in the ceremony. Also, Doug Sweeny from Wreaths Across America will be our guest speaker.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We will need a few volunteers to help out in the church office from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm each day during the first two weeks of May. Tasks include answering the phone and doors, sorting and distributing mail, etc. If you can help on any of those days (May 3, 4, 8, 10, 11) or ***even a few hours*** on any of those days, please call pastor at 567-395-0143. Thank you!

**COMMUNION CARDS:** Each year we file a report with the ELCA, and there's a question about the number of active members we have. One requirement for active membership is communion attendance, so that's why we ask you to fill out communion cards. Please consider signing a communion card if you have not done so in the past so we can report more accurately to the synod. You can write confirmed members of an entire family on one card. No address or envelope number is needed unless you've changed your address recently. Please list only confirmed members since the new secretary will not know who your children are. Thank you!

**JAM SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:** Our lesson is on Zacchaeus, Luke 19:1-10. Our lesson focus is "Jesus loves us before we are perfect." Our memory verse is: "For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). This lesson is a familiar lesson that we have all heard. Attached is the song that summarizes the lesson. You will be humming or singing the song the rest of the day. Please save the date, May 14, Mother's Day. We are practicing songs to sing in church at the 10:15 service and we hope all of you will join us. We look forward to seeing you and your child on Sunday at 9:15.

#### **SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE:**

Sunday, May 7 at 9:15 am, Speaker Michael George from Genacross

Sunday, May 14 at 9:15 am, Special Mother's Day Bible Study

Sunday, May 21 at 9:15 am, Speaker Doug Sweeney from Wreaths Across America.

Sunday, May 28 - No Bible Study

Monday, May 29, at 8:00 am in the lounge - Special memorial day tribute with Doug Sweeney as our guest speaker.

Coffee and donuts provided for all events. Hope to see you there.

**MONTHLY MINISTRY OUTREACH** for May is our Member Assistance Fund, which helps support members who need temporary assistance with rent, utilities, etc. To support this effort, please place your check in the yellow envelopes in the pews and place in the offering plate. Thank you!

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY FOCUS ITEM:** The focus item for May is men's and women's deodorant. No travel sizes, please, as product is supposed to last for a month. Please deposit your donation 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!

**HELP NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Believe it or not, Vacation Bible School (VBS) is right around the corner and we need your help! Vacation Bible School will be held Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> – Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 -- 8:30 pm each night. If you would like to be a group leader, station leader or part of the setup and tear down crew, please contact our Youth and Family Minister Jacob Kelly at [fsjyouth@firststjohn.com](mailto:fsjyouth@firststjohn.com) or 419-356-2690. Also, a small dinner will be served in the gym from 5:15-5:45 pm every night, so we'll need help there as well. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jacob. Everyone is welcome!

**DAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION:** 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!

**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!

**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)

**SPRING CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW** on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at Majestic Care of Toledo (formerly Genacross next door) from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. For more information and registration forms, contact Diane Cline at 419-724-1414 or email her at [ActDir.ToledoMajesticCare.com](mailto:ActDir.ToledoMajesticCare.com)