

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS – September 24<sup>th</sup>***

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of our daughter, Andrea Schumaker, given by Jim & Diane Schumaker; In honor of the birthday of Bob Giaimo on September 5<sup>th</sup>, given by the Schweizer & Yenrick families; and in honor of the birthdays of Diane Habegger and Darlene Metzger (9/23), given by Darlene and Walt Metzger.

**MESSENGERS** are in honor of Shannon (Abbey) & Kevin Aschemeier on their 8<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary given by their family.

**ROSE ON THE LECTERN** is to honor the birth and baptism of Millie Rose Szymczak (born May 10, 2023), daughter of Bo Szymczak and Alissa Lynch.

### **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

9-17-23: 8:00 am: 40      10:30 am: 280      Online: 40      Total: 360

JAM Sunday School: 5      Adult Bible Study: 8

### **OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED**

*None at the time of printing.*

**PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES:** Add: Jim Sommers, Jr.

**Ongoing Concerns:** Lori Ansted, Jessica Baron, Bennett, Elizabeth Bland, Karen Bless, Pastor Joe Brosious, Amy Brumley, Debbie Campbell, Brittany Collins, Greg Contat, Marjorie Counterman, Family of Sandra Counterman-Frazier, Bob Davis, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins, Jane Doe, Janet Fern, Terry Filer, Bob Foss, James Fox, Herb Frey, Joe Frobase, Sarah Gladieux, Grace Harris Greenbank, Holly Henneman, Gary Henningsen, Katrin Howard, Kathy Johnson, Linda Joshi, Grant Kessler, Cindy Knavel, Tom Kohn, Eleanor Lang, Family of Joyce Martin, Annette McGorty, Tina McQuilin, Bonnie Meier, Patty Meyer, Deborah Miller, Donna Miller, Jack Millner, Kari Montag, Janet Mooney, Karen Morrison, Sawyer Mullen, Logan Murphy, Rosann Murray, Family of Charles Nelms, Family of Norma Newel, Nick, Pam Pirolli, Janet Quiroga, John Ranchan, Sherry Reamsnyder, Steven Riegle, Logan Roberts, John Rowley, Kevin Ruedy, Sandy, Laura Scherer, Tim Schmidlin, Janice Sheahan, Bill Shedron, Shelley Sherman, Connie Singlar, Linda Smith, Jerry Smith, Family of Louise Sommers, James Spenthoff, Julie Swanson, Tom Tedrow, Joan Tilton, Family of Peggy Torda, Joyce Trowbridge, Craig Traver, Terry Vogalsang, Deb Dusseau Warnke, Katelyn Weirich, Jean Wilson, Donna Winslow, John Yard, Ruth Zasada, Raetta Zeisler, Bernie Zielinski

### **CALENDAR FOR SEP.24 – SEP.30**

|                        |          |                                  |
|------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| <b><u>Today</u></b>    | 8:00 am  | - Early Worship                  |
|                        | 9:15 am  | - Adult Bible Study              |
|                        | 9:15 am  | - J.A.M. Sunday School           |
|                        | 10:30 am | - Late Worship/Communion         |
|                        | 11:45 am | - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Catechism |
| <b><u>Monday</u></b>   | 5:30 pm  | - Bell Choir Practice            |
|                        | 7:30 pm  | - Dart Ball in the gym           |
| <b><u>Thursday</u></b> | 11:00 am | - Bible Study in the lounge      |
|                        | 6:30 pm  | - Choir Rehearsal                |
| <b><u>Saturday</u></b> | 8:30 am  | - Fellowship Breakfast           |

**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!

**BAPTISM TODAY (10:30 service)** is for Millie Rose Szymczak, born May 10, 2023 to Bo Szymczak and Alissa Lynch. Millie's sponsors are Ty Szymczak and Jenilee Soto.

**PLEASE RETURN BAPTISMAL INSERTS:** After the 10:30 service, please place the baptism inserts from the bulletin in the plastic bins located in the Narthex (lobby) or on the small pew by the door near the choir loft. Thank you.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** Please join us every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the Lounge for our Adult Bible Study hour. Each Sunday we study the day's Gospel lesson by using the three Cs- Context, Character, and Conclusions. So join us for coffee, tea, donuts, and Bible study. Questions? See Bob Haar.

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** Pastor will again host a Thursday morning bible study focusing on the book of Ecclesiastes every Thursday at 11am in the lounge. If you are interested in joining and cannot make it in person, reach out to Pastor for an option to Zoom in via computer.

**SECOND YEAR CATECHISM** will begin today, September 24th at 11:45am following second service and will be held every other Sunday. For more information or details contact Pastor Rayl at [pastor1@firststjohn.com](mailto:pastor1@firststjohn.com) or (567) 395-0143, or via the church office, 419-691-7222.

**CHICKEN AND HAM DINNER** will be held on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 7 pm. This dinner will be drive-thru only. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of October. Dinner will consist of chicken and ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls, and a dessert. Tickets will be \$12 for Adults, and \$8 for children 4-10 years. We will also need volunteers to help get the dinners ready for the drive-thru. Please see Sue Ann Rodgers to sign-up.

**BELL CHOIR** will meet every Monday at 5:30pm for rehearsal. They are looking for a few more people to join. No experience needed and Cheri will train you! Contact Cheri Sergent for more details (419-410-3572).

**THANK YOU** to all who made Rally Day and the After-Party a huge success last week! It was a blessing to see the church so full and to hear the children of the Day School sing. We had a great turnout for the after service festivities. It was nice to see so many new faces! Thank you!

*-- JAM Sunday School Board and the Day School teachers*

**THANK YOU** to everyone for the prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits while I was recovering from knee replacement surgery. They were very appreciated!

*--Sue Ann Rodgers*

**THANK YOU** for the generous donation from your congregation of \$85 and for serving Lutheran Social Services Ministries. You are helping us serve more people in our community that otherwise may be overlooked. You are appreciated!

*--Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio*

### **CIRCLE NEWS**

**RUTH CIRCLE** will meet next on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> in the lounge at 11:00 am.

**MIRIAM CIRCLE** will meet next on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> in the lounge at 9:30 am.

**HANNAH CIRCLE** will meet next on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> in the lounge at 6:30 pm.

**REBECCA CIRCLE** will meet next on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> in the lounge at 11:30 am.

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY COORDINATOR NEEDED!** We are in need of a new personal needs pantry coordinator as Karen Holmes will be stepping down at the end of this year. This is a volunteer job that averages about 12-15 hours of time a month. It involves ordering and stocking the pantry items, collecting and recording the weekly data, sharing the data monthly with Lutheran Social Services, and creating the yearly schedule for the volunteers. Karen is willing to train someone over the next few months and assist him/her, as needed. If you have any questions about the operation of the pantry or would like more details, please feel free to contact Karen at 419-279-4289.

**WE ARE HIRING!** We are starting the search for a Facility Maintenance Manager. The primary function will be to perform the custodial duties and perform light maintenance work in the church and educational building, along with assisting the trustees in being present for outsourced inspections and repairs. A full job description will be available soon and posted throughout the building and online. For more information, please contact Andrew Hodges, Pastor Rayl ([pastor1@firststjohn.com](mailto:pastor1@firststjohn.com)), or contact the church office (419-691-7222).

**DARTBALL STARTS THIS WEEK!** First St. John #1 & #2 teams will be hosting the first night on September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:30 PM in the educational building (gym area). Please mark your calendars. If any questions, please reach out to Bill Nelson or Bob Haar.

**THE NEXT FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST** will happen on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am at Woodville Diner (1949 Woodville Rd, Oregon, OH). Please join us for breakfast, devotions, and good Christian fellowship. Questions? Bob Haar at 419-250-9409.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** will be Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be decorating the church for the fall season! The Quilters Group will also have some of their quilts on display for purchase. For more information, contact Beth Hugueley at 419-350-0529.

**2023 CANDY CRAWL** Once again we will host a stop for the local Candy Crawl! This year the Candy Crawl will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4-6 pm. The Candy Crawl is a community-wide event where we will pass out candy in a drive-thru format. It has been a big hit the last few years. If you want to donate candy, or are interested in helping out, please contact Deb Ladd 419-250-1460, or drop off in the church office.

**MOVIE NIGHT** we will host a movie night tentatively on October 8<sup>th</sup> in the gym. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm with movie to follow at 6:15pm. Stay tuned for more details!

**CEMETERY CLEAN-UP REMINDER:** Fall clean-up of the cemetery will be done on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. Please remove any decorative items from the gravestones that you wish to keep BEFORE the October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline to avoid them being taken down.

**2023 OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** Once again we will be packing shoeboxes to be delivered to children in need around the world. Fill any standard size shoebox with items, or stop down in the Sunday School area to pick up a red and green Operation Christmas Child box. The last day to return a filled shoebox to church will be Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. *If you can, please add \$9 per box to help with shipping.* **Please note that the following items should not be included in your box:** Vaseline®, scary items (things that will frighten a child rather than bring joy), war-related items (such as toy soldiers, military vehicles, or wearable camouflage), liquid paint sets or liquid glue, rubber balls with liquid filling, liquid lip gloss, matches or fire starters, seeds, sand/rocks/shells gathered from nature, all types of food, candy, or gum, medications or vitamins, toothpaste, nail polish, money or play money, baby powder, liquids or lotions, breakable items or glass containers, aerosol cans, used clothing or toys. Thank you for helping us meet our goal and share the message of God's love with 160 children around the world. Contact Deb Ladd for more details. 419-250-1460

**PORTALS OF PRAYER** The July-September copies of Portals of Prayer are available in the Narthex (lobby), in the caddy on the wall outside the church, and in the lounge for pick-up. You can also pick up during the week at the church office, or request a copy be mailed to you at the church office at 419-691-7222 ([office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com))

**ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP:** Flowers on Sundays beautify the sanctuary and are dedicated to the glory of God. You can assist by signing up and using it as an opportunity to honor/remember a loved one. The flower sign-up book is in the narthex, \$15/vase or call the church office, at 419-691-7222. There are also weekly opportunities to honor or remember loved ones by donating the cost of messengers (\$10) homebound reach (\$10) and chancel lighting (\$15).

**MONTHLY MINISTRY OUTREACH** for September will be our very own St. John Lutheran Day School! Did you know that FSJ Lutheran Day School has been a ministry of our church for the past 46 years!? The school strives to prepare students for the academic, social, intellectual, and spiritual challenges they will face as they grow and mature as well as help them develop their unique God-given gifts. The school's staff of 10 does an amazing job of showing the love of Jesus to the children who enter their walls. *To support this effort, please place your check in the yellow envelopes in the pews and place in the offering plate.*

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY FOCUS ITEM:** The focus item for September will be **adult and baby shampoo**. *No travel sizes, please, as the 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).