

ANNOUNCEMENTS – October 1st

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Hilda Wiemeijer, given by the Morrison Family; and in honor of Deb & Mark Ackerman's 40th wedding anniversary, given by family.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

9-17-23: 8:00 am: 34 10:30 am: 117 Online: 44 Total: 195
JAM Sunday School: 8 Adult Bible Study: 8

OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED

None at the time of printing.

PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES: Add: Jeffrey Hess, Family of Annette McGorty, Philip Pattin, Family of Susan Seibert, Steve Welling

Ongoing Concerns: Lori Ansted, Jessica Baron, Bennett, Elizabeth Bland, Karen Bless, Pastor Joe Brosious, Amy Brumley, Debbie Campbell, Brittany Collins, Greg Contat, Marjorie Counterman, Bob Davis, Olivia & Delaney Dawkins, Jane Doe, Janet Fern, Terry Filer, Bob Foss, Herb Frey, Joe Frobase, Grace Harris Greenbank, Holly Henneman, Gary Henningsen, Katrin Howard, Kathy Johnson, Linda Joshi, Grant Kessler, Cindy Knavel, Tom Kohn, Eleanor Lang, Tina McQuilin, Bonnie Meier, Patty Meyer, Deborah Miller, Donna Miller, Jack Millner, Janet Mooney, Karen Morrison, Sawyer Mullen, Logan Murphy, Rosann Murray, Nick, Pam Pirolli, Janet Quiroga, John Ranchan, Sherry Reamsnyder, Rita Riegle, Steven Riegle, Logan Roberts, John Rowley, Sandy, Laura Scherer, Tim Schmidlin, Janice Sheahan, Bill Shedron, Shelley Sherman, Connie Singlar, Linda Smith, Jerry Smith, Jim Sommers Jr, James Spenthoff, Julie Swanson, Tom Tedrow, Joan Tilton, 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 OCT 1. – OCT.7

<u>Today</u>	8:00 am	- Early Worship/Communion
	9:15 am	- Adult Bible Study
	9:15 am	- J.A.M. Sunday School
	10:30 am	- Late Worship
<u>Monday</u>	5:30 pm	- Bell Choir Practice
	6:30 pm	- Altar Guild Meeting in the lounge
	7:30 pm	- Dart Ball in the gym
<u>Tuesday</u>	11:00 am	- Ruth Circle in the lounge
<u>Wednesday</u>	9:30 am	- Miriam Circle in the lounge
	6:30 pm	- Hannah Circle in the lounge
<u>Thursday</u>	11:00 am	- Bible Study in the lounge
	6:30 pm	- Choir Rehearsal
<u>Saturday</u>	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!

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.

CHICKEN AND HAM DINNER will be held on November 4th from 4 to 6:30 pm. This dinner will be drive-thru only. Tickets go on sale October 1st. Dinner will consist of chicken and ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, 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 Rogers 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).

CIRCLE NEWS

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

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

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

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet next on Saturday, October 7th 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), or contact the church office (419-691-7222).

DARTBALL STARTS THIS WEEK! First St. John #1 & #2 teams will be hosting dart ball again this week 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, October 29th 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 8th. 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 Huguely 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 22nd 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 on October 8th in the gym. The movie will be ***"I Still Believe"***, (based on a true story). The Biblical lessons can be prayer / miracles / forgiveness. Movie will be about 2 hours long, free-will offering; and dinner will be served at 5:30pm with movie to follow at 6:15pm.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP REMINDER: Fall clean-up of the cemetery will be done on Sunday, October 15th. Please remove any decorative items from the gravestones that you wish to keep BEFORE the October 15th 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 12th. *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 October-December 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)

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 October will be our very own The Gospel Rescue Mission. The Gospel Rescue mission is a local ministry that ministers to the spiritual & physical needs of the homeless and low income throughout northwest OH & Southeast MI. They rely on local support to fund materials, services, skilled trades and volunteers to make this home mission possible. *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 October will be **adult toothbrushes and toothpaste (no more than 4 to package)**. *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).