



St. John's Lutheran

# MESSENGER

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church located in Miamisburg, Ohio, Established in 1819

April 2019

## Here's what's on the Calendar for our Bicentennial Celebration

Here are some of the exciting things we're planning for our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a church. Exact dates need to be selected by the committees and approved by council. Thank you in advance for everyone who has signed up to help plan.

**February:** We completed and submitted our revised constitution for final synod approval, giving us the opportunity to reflect on our ministries and mission.

**March:** We celebrated the Installation of Pastor Robyn with a worship service and luncheon.

**April:** We will celebrate our 199th Easter as a congregation! Alleluia!

**May:** We'll Invite past confirmands back to St. John's to hear about their lives, hear stories about their memories, eat together and take some group photos showing their confirmation years. If you're on the event planning committee, now is the time to begin reaching out to confirmands who are still in the area.

**June:** Love will be in the air when we host a wedding reception and vow renewal, inviting the community and especially anyone who was married in either St. John's sanctuary. Plus Pastor Robyn will give the opening prayer at the Miamisburg City Council meeting.

**July:** Outdoor picnic party and short service in our outdoor worship space. Let's invite some dignitaries.

**August:** Display and description of historical items and artifacts.

**September:** As soon as weather allows repair of the water leak around our steeple, we hope to hold a rededication of both sanctuaries to help us remember our founders and the many lives that have been influenced by our presence in the Miami Valley.

**October:** Our annual "Trunk or Treat" family event in our historic cemetery.

**November:** St. John's will host the Miamisburg Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service.





## Pastor's Pen- Easter Hope and Love Wins

**John 15:12** "This is my commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you."

I enjoy remembering the things of Easter's past. Spring always included a shopping excursion for new white shoes. Don't ask me why, but when we would get home I would position them on my night stand, displayed like they were in the store, one shoe on top, at right angles to the other shoe. That way I could see them if I woke up in the night. There is something fresh and new about the metaphors that surround Easter—eggs, baby chicks, new shoes and the spring colors of possibility. Metaphors are meant to point us towards the deeper meanings of Easter. **The resurrection of Jesus calls us to newness of life and proclaims God's message that goodness will always triumph over evil; justice over injustice; love over hate; truth over deceit; life over death.**

Lent has given us many weeks to notice God's presence in our lives. Did you find God in any surprise locations or circumstances? Have you missed our alleluias? I confess that I uttered a few under my breath at my installation as your pastor. Being with you is a "cup runneth over" kind of feeling. I thank you for a wonderful day!

This month because of the violence at two mosques in New Zealand, the interfaith community was invited to come together to remember, grieve, and to comfort one another. We gathered at the Al-Huda Mosque in Bellbrook. I was asked to be one of a handful of speakers that night. It was a powerful event with hundreds of people present. After my short address, I was approached by the young women in the photo above. They were moved by my words and wanted to say thank you and...of course take a selfie! There was such an outpouring of love that grown men cried.



At the conclusion of the event the Muslims went to the back wall to pray the prayer offered when someone dies. They explained that they do this with their backs to us, as a way of saying they trust that we have their backs. All of it inspired me to remember that Jesus's resurrection is the bold assertion of God's power over the forces that create fear, war, poverty, racism, xenophobia (dislike of or prejudice against people from other countries), homelessness, loneliness, and oppression. The resurrection of Jesus declares that evils in the world will not, and cannot, overtake the love of God.

As we enter into these last days of Lent and stand in awe of God's love, I pray we know that the light that comes into the world shines on, and for, every human being.

As-Salaam-Alaikum (Peace be unto you),

*Pastor Robyn*

# HOLY WEEK



# SCHEDULE

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	April 14	10:00 A.M.
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	April 18	7:00 P.M.
<b>Good Friday</b>	April 19	7:00 P.M.
<b>Easter Breakfast</b>	April 21	9:00 A.M.
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	April 21	10:00 A.M.

As we prepare our hearts and souls for Easter, join us on Wednesday evenings for soup, sandwiches and...

Also, look for a home Lenten Study, provided by the Southern Ohio Synod. You can find it online on our website under "latest posts."

April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
April 10<sup>th</sup>  
Suppers at 6 p.m.  
Holden at 7 p.m.  
Maundy Thursday  
April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.  
Good Friday  
April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.  
Easter April 21st  
Breakfast 9:00 a.m.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.

## Holden Evening Prayer



## EASTER EGG HUNT

Our annual Easter Egg hunt will take place on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Invite your friends and family for egg hunting, decorating and prizes!

Please leave donations of candy or prizes (can be small to fit in eggs, or larger for the prize table) in one of the Sunday school rooms by April 7<sup>th</sup>.

## EASTER BREAKFAST

Join us for Easter breakfast on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall. Donations will be accepted for VBS/Peace Camp.

## EASTER FLOWERS

Order forms for Easter Flowers are included in the bulletin. Please fill out a form or call the office by April 7<sup>th</sup> to place your order. As in the past, assorted Mums are \$10.00 each and Hydrangeas are \$12.00 each.



Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> Pastor Robyn was installed as St. John's Lutheran Church pastor.

Bishop's Assistant Pastor Katie Kerrigan was here from the Synod for the installation.

After church a luncheon was held in Pastor Robyn's honor.



*In case you missed our special visitor on March 17<sup>th</sup> during the children's message, meet Henny Penny. The gospel was from Luke 13: "How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings." Chickens are protective, loving, and fierce--as is our God. It's not often one of God's feathery creatures comes to church. ❤️ Miss Henny Penny was hand raised by the Holtzman family. Thank you for sharing her with us.*



## **LIVELY LUTHERANS**

The Lively Lutherans will be going to the Old Bag of Nails on Saturday, April 13 at 11:30 am. The Lively Lutherans group is open to all members. We enjoy a monthly luncheon with good food and fellowship and an occasional special outing. Please contact Ida Geary (937-626-765) if you have any questions.

## **PERSONAL CARE ITEMS**

During Lent the Discipleship committee will be collecting personal care items to be given to Helping Hands. Starting March 6<sup>th</sup> thru April 14<sup>th</sup>, please place items in the wagon located in the narthex. Items that are needed are: toothpaste/toothbrush, toilet paper, shampoo, soap, sanitary pads, deodorant, comb/brush and nail clippers.

### **Yes, I'm an introvert.**

No, I'm not shy. No, I'm not stuck up.  
No, I'm not antisocial. I'm just listening.  
I'm just observing. I can't stand small talk. But I'll talk about life for hours.  
I'd rather be home with a close friend or two than among a crowd of acquaintances. Don't scold me in public.  
Don't embarrass me in public.  
Respect that I am reserved. And if I open myself up to you, know that means you're very special to me.

# Fundraiser to Benefit "Miamisburg Helping Hands" Food Bank

## Chicken Noodle Dinner



**Saturday, April 27, 2019  
4:30 to 7:00 PM**

**St. John's Lutheran Church  
470 S. Gebhart Church Road  
Miamisburg, OH**

**Menu:**

Homemade Chicken & Noodles  
Mashed Potatoes  
Salad  
Biscuits  
Dessert

Sponsored by:  
St. John's  
Women of WELCA

**Budget Report for February 2019**

<b>Balance beginning of February:</b>		<b>\$723.73</b>
<b>Income Towards Budget for February:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,941.99</b>
<b>Expenses Against Budget for February:</b>		
Outreach	\$250.00	
Staff	\$4,987.40	
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$852.09	
Property Insurance	\$0.00	
Utilities	\$508.05	
Committees	\$45.00	
		<b>\$6,642.54</b>
<b>Monthly Budget Balance (income - expenses):</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(700.55)</b>
<b>Year-to-Date Balance end of February:</b>		<b>\$23.18</b>

Notes:

Description of categories:

**Outreach:** Benevolence, special benevolence.

**Staff:** Pastor's compensation, mileage, continuing education, and benefits; staff salaries and FICA; workers' compensation premiums.

**Facility Upkeep/Administration:** Maintenance/repair and office expenses.

**Committees:** Discipleship, Evangelism, Learning, Stewardship, Worship & Music

**Utilities:** Gas, electricity, water and trash services.



- April 1  
    Brook Ñauta
- April 4  
    Marjorie Abner  
    Kendall Ring
- April 6  
    Gary Naylor
- April 8  
    Brody Lamb
- April 13  
    Amy Ñauta
- April 17  
    Alexandra Bell
- April 21  
    Bill Schiwetz
- April 30  
    Tom Settle

**Congregational Contacts**

Robyn Provis                      Pastor                                      513-633-6038

<b>Officers</b>		<b>*Executive Committee</b>
Cheryl Page	*President/Discipleship & WELCA Liaison	937-602-7952
Linda Kent	*Church Treasurer	937-885-3529/937-572-7815
Barb Hoffman	*Council Recording Secretary	937-859-8871/937-231-6341
Judy Kuemmel	*Financial Secretary	937-321-1198

**Organizations, Boards and Staff**

Karen Doyle	Church Secretary/Messenger Editor	937-866-3780
Tom Hoffman	Board of Trustees Chairman	937-859-8871/937-654-1218
Cheryl Page	Discipleship Committee Chairman	937-602-7952
Cheryl Page	Personnel Committee Chairman	937-602-7952
Brook Ñauta	Learning Committee Chair	513-217-0564/937-367-1473
Ida Geary	WELCA President	937-626-7765
Doug McCabe	Organist	937-866-8669
Nancy McCabe	Choir Director	937-866-8669
Brook Ñauta	Children's Choir	513-217-0564/937-367-1473

**Christian Education**

Robin Skelding	Sunday School Superintendent	937-748-5405
Barb Hoffman	Pre-k through 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	937-859-8871/937-231-6341
Brook Ñauta & Kim Holtzman	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade through 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	513-217-0564/937-367-1473
Robin Skelding	High School	937-748-5405

**Ministry Contacts**

Nancy McCabe	Prayer Chain	937-866-8669
Diane Naylor	Son-Rise Breakfast @ First Lutheran	937-748-2137



- April 10  
    Kenneth & Sandra Yeazel
- April 23  
    Garry & Nancy Andrews
- April 30  
    Tom & Barb Hoffman



*St. John's Lutheran*

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
470 S. Gebhart Church Road  
Miamisburg, OH 45342  
Phone: 937-866-3780  
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon  
Web: [www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org](http://www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org)  
Email: [secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org)

## SAVE THE DATES

### **Bible Study Brunch**

Sunday, April 7, 11:15 a.m.

### **Lively Lutherans**

Saturday, April 13, 11:30 a.m., Old Bag of Nails

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Sunday, April 14, 9:00 a.m.

### **Finance Team Meeting**

Sunday, April 14, 9:00 a.m.

### **Maundy Thursday**

Thursday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

### **Good Friday**

Friday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.

### **Easter Breakfast/Service**

Sunday, April 21, 9:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

### **Chicken Noodle Dinner**

Saturday, April 27, 4:30 p.m.

### **April Acolyte's**

April 7	Jesse Ñauta Amy Ñauta
April 14	Aiden Ring Brody Lamb
April 21	Melanie Ñauta Emma Holtzman
April 28	Aiden Larsen Annalise Larsen

### **April Altar Guild**

Kim Holtzman