



# MESSENGER

*St. John's Lutheran*

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

May 2019

Temple talks in Lutheran congregations used to be a regular occurrence. Have you done them at St. John's? Typically the talks had to do with stewardship. Members were invited to give a 2-5 minute talk about a particular topic related to giving. Instead...

Beginning next month, we invite you to sign up to share memories of St. John's from over the years. Or if you are a newer member you can speak about what you like about St. John's, maybe what drew you to this congregation?

This is open to members of all ages and will be another way we can celebrate our bicentennial year.

Now we know that none of you have been here for 200 years, but we do know that there are many of you who were raised in this congregation. Some of you are third or fourth generation and may have stories



has St. John's changed your family?

Look for a signup sheet outside the sanctuary where you can indicate that you'd be willing to share. You'll pick the Sunday that is best for you.

Now don't be scared. We're all family so there is no reason to be nervous. We would love to hear from you because each memory or reason you love this church will make our own experiences richer.

To get us started, Pastor will kick it off with a panel sermon, inviting a small group to be interviewed about your best memories. If you'd rather be part of a group interview format and not an individual 2-5 minute talk, we can make that happen. We can't wait. Are you excited?

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT SUNDAY



Be in the pews this weekend to hear a special announcement

### TEMPLE TALKS

Every Sunday in June, July & August, we invite you to speak.

that date back decades or more. How has St. John's made a difference in your life and in our community? What's one of your dearest memories? Funniest memories? If you were raised here, why did you continue to raise your own family at St. John's? How



## Pastor's Pen- The Fear Factor

***“Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.”***

***Isaiah 41:10***

**F**ear is something we all experience. No one is immune. Being afraid can be healthy and appropriate, especially if danger is involved. However when fear becomes crippling, it's not helpful. It holds us back.

The early disciples found themselves regularly afraid. Immediately after the crucifixion the bible records that they were hiding out for fear of the Jews. The disciples were Jews themselves so really, they were afraid of the unknown, of not knowing what would become of them now that Jesus was physically absent. It wasn't until they grasped the reality that Jesus would be with them always that they took courage enough to get back to work. Courage doesn't mean you are no longer afraid. It means you are willing to act despite your fear.

The story of the disciples can provide comfort and perspective because we know how the story turns out. If the disciples had remained locked away in fear, the gospel would never have gotten the worldwide traction that caused it to spread. Scripture tells us that they continued to preach, teach, baptize, and heal. We also know that Paul traveled far and wide to share the gospel.

This month my daughter has been experiencing some health issues. Her doctors sent her for an MRI.

The test came back normal, but she was really scared as she waited for her test appointment and then for the results. Melissa has a deep faith. We reminded one another that God was working through the doctors to find the cause of her issues. Finding the trust to give something to God is easy but it's only a first step. Next we have to have the courage to leave it in God's hands, not taking it back while we endlessly worry! If you are going to surrender something to God, lay it at God's feet imagining that God is standing waist high in a river. Then post a sign that says, "NO FISHING!"

In the end, we do what you can within our capacity, then we pray and leave the rest to God. From **Philippians 4:6-7** *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

Peace,

*Pastor Robyn*

### REALITY OF FEAR:

**You're not scared of the dark.**

*You're scared of what's in it.*

**You're not scared of heights.**

*You're afraid of falling.*

**You're not afraid of the people around you.**

*You're afraid of rejection.*

**You're not afraid to love.**

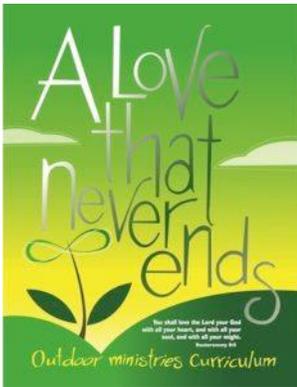
*You're afraid of being loved back.*

**You're not afraid to let go.**

*You're just afraid that he's really gone.*

**You're not afraid to try again.**

*You're just afraid of getting hurt for the same reason.*



## **A LOVE THAT NEVER ENDS PEACE CAMP - JULY 8-12, 6:00 -8:15 P.M.**

God's love never ends and never runs out. It is a love for everyone no matter what we do. Come help us share this love. There will be games, crafts, snacks, Bible stories, as well as practice caring for ourselves and others. We need volunteers! There are many ways you can help. See the sign-up in the narthex or talk to Brook Nauta.

## **CHICKEN NOODLE DINNER**

Thanks to everyone who volunteered with setting-up, bringing desserts, serving and clean-up at the Chicken Noodle Dinner on April 27<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds from this event will go to Miamisburg Helping Hands.

## **THANK YOU**

The Discipleship Committee would like to thank everyone who donated personal care items that was given to Miamisburg Helping Hands. We collected: 66 rolls of toilet paper, depends undergarments, 3 packages of sanitary wipes, 3 packages of sanitary pads, 32 diapers, 18 tubes of toothpaste, 49 toothbrushes, 125 dental flosses, a toothbrush holder, 11 shampoos, 2 hair conditioners, 4 hairbrushes, 15 combs, 11 nail clippers/kits, 1 package band-aids, 1 medical tape, 2 packages of masks, 13 bars of soap, 13 deodorants, 1 moisturizer, 1 powder, 1 hair removal, and lots of miscellaneous samples.



*Church Mice.*

## **LIVELY LUTHERANS**

The Lively Lutherans will be going to the Cheddar's on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **WELCA SALAD CARRY-IN**

All the ladies are invited to WELCA's salad carry-in on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> in fellowship hall at 6:30.

## **SYNOD-WIDE ASSEMBLY WORSHIP**

Weaver Chapel, Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio  
June 7-8



We welcome special guest, The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, to our worship service. Bishop Eaton will preach and Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt will preside.

Theme is Luke 24:13-34 The Road to Emmaus.

All members of the Southern Ohio Synod are welcome to join us for this worship service.

## **PRIMARY ELECTION: MAY 7<sup>th</sup>**

St. John's is a polling location so there will be a lot of traffic in both the building and parking lot. Please be especially cautious if you will be on the property on Tuesday from 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.



### ***St. John's newest addition....***



Rowan Brewer who was born on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Rowan weighed 6 pounds and 12 ½ ounces and is 21 inches long.

Austin and Molly Brewer are Rowan's proud parents.



Thanks to everyone who helped make the noodles on Saturday, March 30th. Your help was very much appreciated.









*St. John's Lutheran*

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
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## SAVE THE DATES

### **Bible Study Brunch**

Sunday, May 5, 11:15 a.m.

### **Primary Election**

Tuesday, May 7, 6:30 a.m.

### **Lively Lutherans**

Saturday, May 18, 11:30 a.m., Cheddar's

### **SonRise Breakfast**

Sunday, May 19, 6:00 a.m., 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran in Dayton

### **Memorial Day**

Monday, May 27, Office Closed

### **May Acolyte's**

May 5	Jesse Ñauta Amy Ñauta
May 12	Aiden Ring Brody Lamb
May 19	Melanie Ñauta Emma Holtzman
May 26	Aiden Larsen Annalise Larsen

### **May Altar Guild**

Marilyn Boyd