



# MESSENGER

*St. John's Lutheran*

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

July 2019

## Happy 200 Years St. Johns!



The official anniversary of St. John's is Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for a special picnic to commemorate and celebrate the day, Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. Mayor Dick Church (pictured right), a former member of St. John's, is preparing a special proclamation for the day. We'll have activities for the kids, a special barbecue meal and more. Pastor is planning a short dedication for the future, involving our children and youth.



A special thank you to Linda Kent who worked with Thrivent to secure a grant that will help pay for the event. We'll invite representatives from Helping Hands Food Bank to celebrate with us.

The meats, beverages, and a few sides will be provided by the council. If you are able to provide a side dish or dessert to share, it will be most appreciated. Feel free to dress casually for the day.

Our history committee will have artifacts and photos on display for our enjoyment.

We hope you'll invite family and friends to both worship and the picnic on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Pastor Robyn is preparing a fun "throwback" sermon to remember the ways pastors preached in the past, bringing it forward to illustrate how the purpose, delivery, and content of sermons have moved from scaring you into heaven to loving you into your best life. Nancy and Pastor will pick some special hymns to round out the experience.



## Pastor's Pen- Just Imagine...

*Colossians 1:11-12 "May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light."*

The best part of celebrating our bicentennial has been learning about our story like history. What a blessing to hear each of the temple talks that have shared your memories. Learning from you who were here as young children that the old sanctuary didn't have restrooms but rather out-houses, puts any whining about winter woes to rest! Imagine huddling around a single stove and having to go outside during a snow storm!

And across the street at the site of the old log cabin where worship was once held in even more rustic surroundings, I can almost hear the faint sounds of the faithful singing the old hymns. Did you know that there is an old hickory tree on the front of that property? And another one a ways back. It sits between our old pioneer cemetery and the Reed homestead, likely marking the property line but also providing the edge of the original dirt road where our members drove horse and buggy to church services or to bury their loved ones. I learned that there is even an old stone bridge laying silent in the creek, a bridge that would have carried so many people along its back. This is holy ground.

What were they thinking and hoping back in the day? They could only have imagined the future that is now ours to steward. What must God think as God imagines the next hundred years? That is the sacred invitation that this bicentennial provides. What will we do with the gift we've been given? How will we honor the saints in light that have walked these grounds, shared the faith, and raised up our parents, grandparents and great grandparents? Can you hear them whispering their wisdom in your ears?

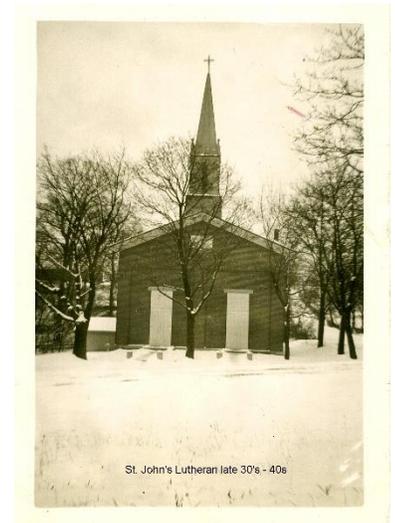
It was equally a blessings to remember those married within our walls over these last 200 years. Remembering them while officiating the renewal of vows for today's generation was, well, really wonderful. Thank you to all who participated and to all who came to witness the love in this place we call St. John's.

Such is the way with history and its memories. Quoting from a portion of the vow renewal ceremony, applying it more generally, "(Remembering) provides order and gives resonance to events. It links one day with the next. It lets us refine out the essential from the trivial. It lets us use ourselves on things that matter, things that make a life—things that make a future."

I'm grateful that our anniversary takes place in the carefree summer. I pray that allows us to really enjoy our memories. Come fall we can open a conversation about where we go in the future. I thank each of you for being such an integral part in St. John's history and journey forward. May we gather, grow, and go for God.

In Love,

*Pastor Robyn*



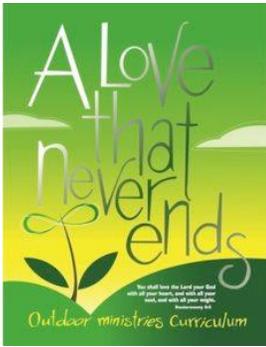


# COMMUNITY LIFE



PureCOUTURE  
FROM SOCIAL

Thank you to Pure Couture Formals, 464 Springboro Pike, Miamisburg. They loaned us the mannequins used during our Vow Renewal bridal gown display.



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

Invite your grandchildren, friends and neighbors to have fun while practicing skills that contribute to a world where everyone is safe, loved and able to realize their unique God's given potential! Signups for kids 5-13 are on the St. John's website.

We will be decorating the church building on Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Please join us!

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## BACK TO SCHOOL AND LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The Discipleship Committee will be collecting supplies for the Miamisburg School District now thru July 28<sup>th</sup>. The supplies will be distributed to the students on Thursday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. Supplies collected after that time will be used for the School Kits for Lutheran World Relief. There will be a wagon in the sanctuary foyer to drop of your school supplies. Below is a list of recommended supplies:

- Backpacks
- Filler paper (wide and college ruled)
- Spirals (wide and college ruled) 70 sheet
- Graph paper
- Journals
- 3 Subject spirals
- Folders
- Folders with prongs
- Index cards
- Dividers
- 1-inch binders
- 1 ½-inch binders
- Pencil bags (more of the grades require these than boxes)
- Pencil boxes
- #2 pencils
- Pens (red, blue and black)
- Highlighters (these are used in most grades)
- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Crayons
- Pink erasers
- Pencil sharpener
- Pointy and blunt scissors
- Glue sticks (some grades required 6 or more)
- Glue (not used by as many grades)
- Ruler with inches and centimeters



*Join us for Carols and Cookies July 28<sup>th</sup>  
during & after Worship*

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A great big thank you to everyone who has contributed funds towards the **repair and restoration of our roof, steeple, and landscaping!** As of Sunday, we were approximately \$2000 away from being able to schedule all the work. That is great news. Donations are gratefully accepted.



**Photo Directory:** It's time for St. John's create a new photo directory to include all our families and individual members! Photography will take place August 13 or 14th at the church. Signups are open now. Go to our website and click on the link.

**What to expect:** A professional photography session with no session fees. You will view your images immediately after your session to make your selections

**You will receive:** One FREE 8X10 standard print and church directory. \$30 to spend at Shutterfly.com with any Lifetouch photography purchase.



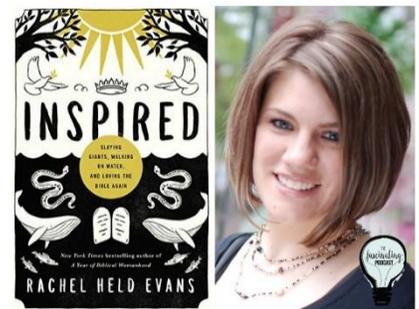
**Fun details:** Well behaved pets are welcome. Multi-generational photo sessions are encouraged. You can have generational family groups in one image and separate families in others. Lifetouch invites people to bring meaningful items you would like included in your image. (I.e. holding a photo of great-great grandparents, sports equipment, musical instrument, etc.) If you or your family is not available on either of our two photo session days, we can arrange for you to be photographed at a different church location on a separate day.



Please beware. A scam targeting churches is circulating in our area. The scam gets names and cell phone numbers from church websites and newsletters and pretends to send a text message from the pastor. It asks for the person to purchase a gift card supposedly for some worthy need. Your pastor would not send you a fundraising text message. Plus, any request to purchase gift cards, giving the number to a third party is almost always a scam.

### **BIBLE STUDY BRUNCH RETURNS FOR JULY. ALL ARE WELCOME.**

Our next Bible Study brunch will meet on Sunday July 7th after worship. Please read the introduction and first chapter of Rachel Held Evan's book "Inspired" before our gathering. Bring a breakfast or lunch item to share if you can. You can also download a free copy of the study guide from her website at [www.rachelheldevans.com/inspired](http://www.rachelheldevans.com/inspired)



### **LIVELY LUTHERANS**

The Lively Lutherans will meet on Saturday, July 20th at Archer's Tavern in Centerville 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.

### Chicken Sesame Salad

|                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 chicken breasts  | 1 head shredded lettuce |
| 2 tsp. ginger      | 4 green onions          |
| ½ cup sesame seeds | 1 can rice noodles      |
| ½ cup almonds      |                         |

#### Dressing:

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 tbsp. sugar              | 1/2 tsp ground pepper |
| 4 tbsp. white wine vinegar | 1 cup oil             |
| 1 tsp. salt                |                       |

Boil: chicken breasts in ginger, cool and dice.

Toast: sesame seeds and almonds.

Layer: shredded lettuce, green onions (chopped), chicken, sesame seeds, almonds and rice noodles.

Dressing: Cook and cool; sugar, white wine vinegar, salt & ground pepper and oil (when ready to serve).

Just before ready to serve, pour dressing, toss and serve immediately. This salad does not keep overnight (it will get soggy).

*This recipe was submitted by Barb Hoffman from the "Kitchen Keepsakes from St. John's Family" cookbook that was published in 1998 by the Women of St. John's Lutheran Church.*



### SUMMER TEMPLE TALKS

Remember to sign up in the narthex to share your memories of St. John's. We know many of you have either grown up here or spent your entire adult lives at St. John's. Youth are also welcome to share favorite memories about why their church family is special in their lives.



**Budget Report for May 2019**

|  |            |              |
|--|------------|--------------|
| Balance beginning of May:                          |            | (\$6,590.28) |
| Income Towards Budget for May:                     | \$         | 6,496.58     |
| <b>Expenses Against Budget for May:</b>            |            |              |
| Outreach   | \$250.00   |              |
| Staff  | \$5,557.49 |              |
| Facility Upkeep/Administration                     | \$764.39   |              |
| Property Insurance                                 | \$0.00     |              |
| Utilities  | \$382.41   |              |
| Committees   | \$139.95   |              |
|  |            | \$7,094.24   |
| <b>Monthly Budget Balance (income - expenses):</b> | \$         | (597.66)     |
| <b>Year-to-Date Balance end of May:</b>            |            | (\$7,187.94) |

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.



- July 1  
Evan Lewis Bell
- July 12  
Barb Adams  
Emily Bell
- July 14  
Craig Naylor
- July 23  
Ruby Clark
- July 26  
Ron Bowen

**Congregational Contacts**

Robyn Provis                      Pastor                                      513-633-6038

**Officers**

|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| Cheryl Page  | *President/Discipleship & WELCA Liaison | <b>*Executive Committee</b><br>937-602-7952 |
| David Helter | *Vice President                         | 937-694-4321                                |
| 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 Nauta  | 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 Nauta  | 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 Nauta & 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 |



- July 5  
Doug and Nancy McCabe
- July 21  
Everett and Ursula Morris



*St. John's Lutheran*

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
470 S. Gebhart Church Road  
Miamisburg, OH 45342  
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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

### **Decorating for Peace Camp**

Saturday, July 6, 9:00 a.m.

### **Peace Camp**

Monday, July 8 thru Friday, July 11, 6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

### **Lively Lutherans**

Saturday, July 20, 11:30 a.m., Archer's Tavern

### **SonRise Breakfast**

Sunday, July 21, 6:00 a.m., 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran in Dayton

### **Bicentennial Picnic**

Sunday, July 21, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

### **Council Meeting**

Sunday, July 28, 11:15 a.m.

### **JULY ACOLYTE'S**

|         |                                 |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| July 7  | Aiden Ring<br>Brody Lamb        |
| July 14 | Melanie Nauta<br>Emma Holtzman  |
| July 21 | Aiden Larsen<br>Annalise Larsen |
| July 28 | Aiden Ring<br>Brody Lamb        |

### **JULY ALTAR GUILD**

Tom and Barb Hoffman