



# MESSENGER

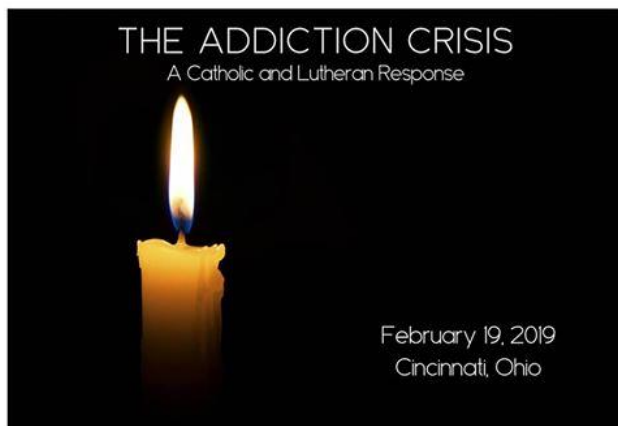
St. John's Lutheran

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

March 2019

## What Would Be Our Church's Next Steps?

After attending the first "**Addiction Crisis-A Catholic and Lutheran Response**" educational event, here are some possible next steps for us to consider. Our Discipleship Committee will be reviewing these recommendations.



### Low Commitment Possibilities:

Partner with local recovery houses to:

- Provide yardwork, minor household repairs (possibly God's Work/Our Hands Sunday, Sept. 8)
- Donate personal care or household items to a recovery house or recovery center
- Sponsor a holiday event at a local recovery center
- Pray for all individuals & families affected by addiction



### Make available prevention and recovery materials in your church:

- Put out "**GetHelpNow**" literature
- Distribute faith-based community tips for stopping overdose deaths
- Be a medication drop box location
- Talk to our kids about drugs
- Download the GET HELP NOW-Montgomery County App from the App Store or Google Play

### Moderate Commitment

Host educational trainings for our members and the neighborhood such as:

- Project Dawn (naloxone) training (1 hour)
- How to Talk to Kids about Drugs (1-2 hours)
- Mental Health First Aid training (8 hours)
- Trauma & Its Impact (2-4 hours)
- Each September during Addiction Recovery Month invite someone to share their recovery story as part of a worship message



### High Commitment

- Train leaders in "Building Prevention with faith" which teaches how to integrate prevention messages into small groups and worship
- Launch a recovery ministry or continue to host recovery activities such as 12 step fellowship groups (We have several that meet at St. John's currently)



## Pastor's Pen- Community Has Never Been More Important

**Galatians 6:2** Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

I've shared with you how heartbreaking it is when I'm called to sit with a family who has just lost a child or loved one to a drug overdose. Walking them from a waiting room to the trauma bay to see the body of their loved one is gut wrenching. As a chaplain and as a pastor, it has become an all too frequent reality. That's why I was so happy to see our ELCA Synod partner with the Archdiocese of Cincinnati to discuss concrete ways the faith community can respond to the addiction crisis. Addiction is a tragic disease that hijacks the brain, the person and the family that loves them.

Attending the joint conference event confirmed something I already knew, that community support (the kind that is found in our congregations) can play a pivotal role, not only in recovery but in prevention education. This is especially true if we are willing to become a safe space for people to talk openly about their lives and the burdens they carry. Community is important for so many reasons. For example, we are coming to understand that people seek and make meaning in their lives in diverse ways. Sometimes those ways are destructive such as hanging in a circle of unhealthy friends. For me and I suspect you, church is how and where **we** make meaning, secure in who and whose we are. When a person or family finds themselves affected by addiction, a supportive faith community can keep them grounded in healthy ways of developing the self and it can help them know the joy of a lifelong circle of like-minded friends.



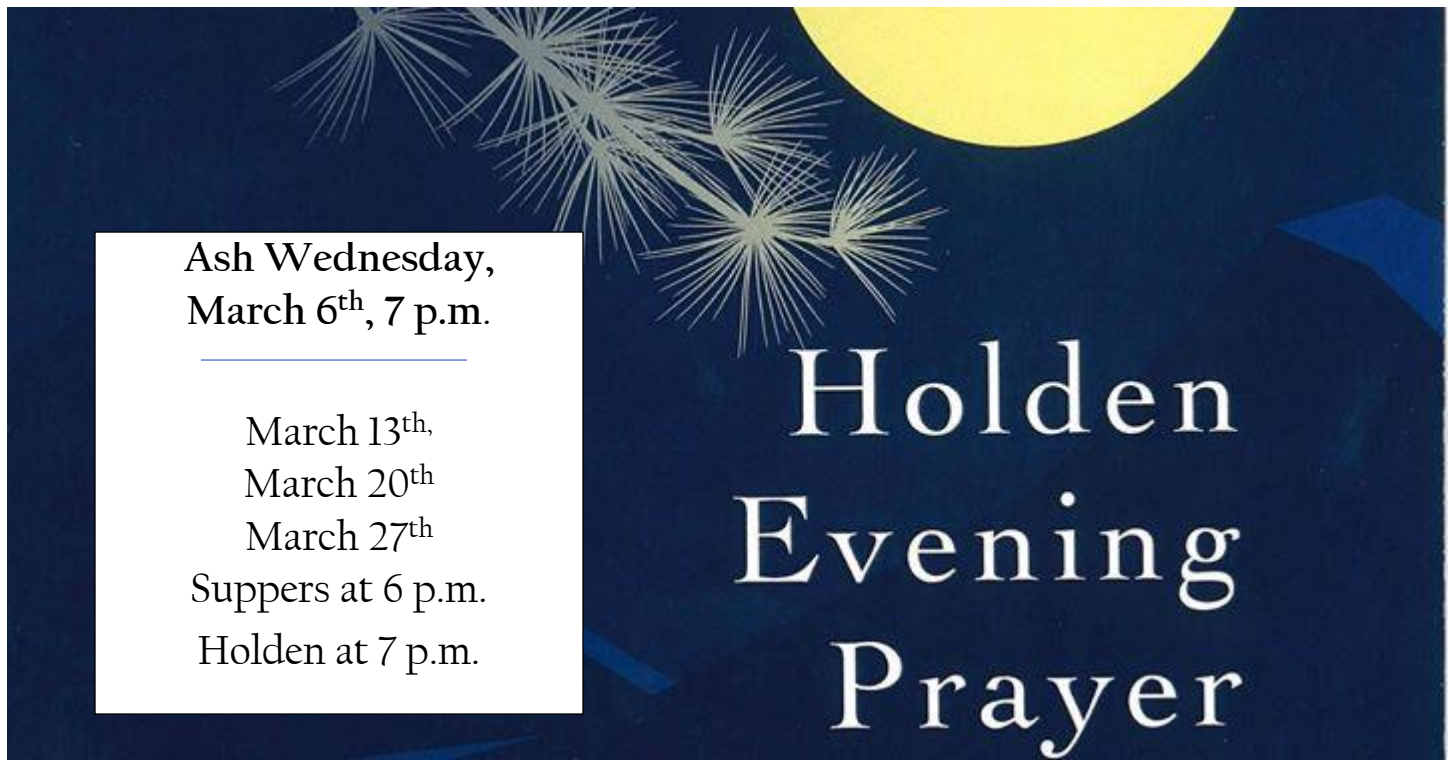
Roman's 3:23 reads "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." To be sure we are each a work in progress and knowing that, we are in a unique position to judge not. One of the ways we support others in community is by "carrying each other's burdens," (Galatians 6:2) by reaching out in love, listening in love, and when needed, giving someone a soft place to fall.

I confess that one of the things I love about each of you is that you too like to make a difference in the lives of others. You care deeply. Whether that is making noodles for the Chicken dinner that support Helping Hands food bank, or serving those who are experiencing food scarcity or homelessness during our Son Rise Breakfasts---you care about showing the love of God to others. I don't know exactly how we might involve ourselves as a congregation in ending the addiction crisis. I do trust that if that is where we feel Jesus is guiding us, we will follow. And I love that.

Peace & Possibility,

*Pastor Robyn*

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. We'll post it online on our website.

### **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.



### **EASTER FLOWERS**

Orders for Easter Flowers will begin on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, watch the bulletin for the order forms. As in the past, assorted Mums are \$10.00 each and Hydrangeas are \$12.00 each.

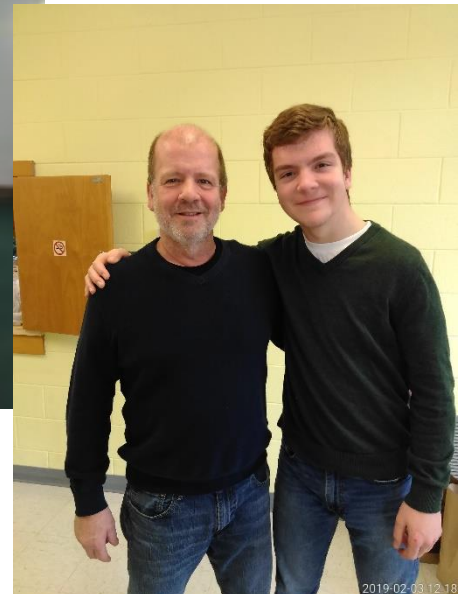
# Pastoral Installation

Mark your calendar for Sunday, March 10, 2019. Pastor Robyn will be installed as our new pastor during worship. Following the service we'll gather in the fellowship hall for a carry in luncheon.

## LIVELY LUTHERANS

The Lively Lutherans will be going to the O'Charley's on Saturday, March 16 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.

## COUNCIL INSTALLATION FROM FEBRUARY 23



Thank you to all of our wonderful council members for your willingness to serve St. John's in our mutual mission. And welcome to father and son, David and Luke Helter, our newest council members.

*This is from the flower donations throughout the year.*



Office Location: 534 Xenia Avenue  
Dayton, OH 45410  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 842  
Dayton, OH 45401-0842  
(937) 331-9440

January 14, 2019

St. John's Lutheran Church  
470 Gebhart Church Rd.  
Miamisburg, OH 45342

To the congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church,

Grace and peace to each one of you!

This is to acknowledge receipt of your recent donation dated 01-08-2019. The staff and volunteers at Jeremiah's Letter are grateful for your continued caring support, which is making a difference in the lives of the individuals and families we serve.

What a blessing it is! As we embark on a new year, we are excited about the opportunities to make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate within our community. Your contribution will be used to further the shared mission of helping those in need. Your faith and devotion in this mission is an inspiration to us and all those we serve.

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR HEARS OF COMPASSION AND CONTINUED SUPPORT OF JEREMIAH'S LETTER.*  
May God bless each and every one of you and thank you on behalf of the more than 12,000 individuals we are able to help each year. May the grace and peace of God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Terry O. Bruns  
Executive Director  
Jeremiah's Letter Inc.

TOB/dlh

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED  
SUPPORT  
TERRY

*Jeremiah's Letter, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization and all donations are tax deductible.*

Date: Saturday 04/06/19

Doors Open for Registration at 10:30 am

Conference time : 11:00 am - 3 pm



Dayton Conference

Spring Gathering

# Responding to God's Call



Speaker: John Pyron, Lutheran Disaster Response



Entertainment: Dianne Coble Ensemble



Child care is available upon request, please call Marcie at 937-974-8894

Location: Faith Lutheran Church  
3315 Martel Dr. Dayton, Ohio

For more information please call Marcia Calhoun:

Phone: 937-546-2024

E-mail: [lcalhoun2@yahoo.com](mailto:lcalhoun2@yahoo.com)

or

Marcie Griffin

Phone: 937-974-8894

E-mail: [mboegel88@gmail.com](mailto:mboegel88@gmail.com)

Soup and Sandwich Lunch  
\$3.00



2019-07

### Photo Highlights

Above: Olive Garden caters the food for our congregational meeting.

Bottom Left: Approving our revised constitution.

Below Right: Pancake Breakfast March 3<sup>rd</sup> with Bruce sharing his culinary skill.



Thank you to everyone who came out for our annual meeting.

Another year ending in the black!



**Budget Report for January 2019**

<b>Balance beginning of January:</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Income Towards Budget for January:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,050.27</b>
<b>Expenses Against Budget for January:</b>		
Outreach	\$250.00	
Staff	\$5,679.78	
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$821.03	
Property Insurance	\$0.00	
Utilities	\$530.73	
Committees	\$45.00	
		<b>\$7,326.54</b>
<b>Monthly Budget Balance (income - expenses):</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>723.73</b>
<b>Year-to-Date Balance end of January:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>723.73</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.

**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 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



- March 8  
    Aiden Ring
- March 11  
    David Helter
- March 15  
    Rose Mears
- March 22  
    Brian Kent
- March 28  
    Marilyn Boyd





*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)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Pancake Breakfast**

Sunday, March 3, 9:00 a.m.

### **Bible/Book Study Group & Potluck Lunch**

Sunday, March 3, 11:30 a.m.

### **Ash Wednesday Service**

Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 p.m.

### **Installation of Pastor Robyn with Luncheon to Follow the Service**

Sunday, March 10, 10:00 a.m.

### **Lively Lutherans**

Saturday, March 16, 11:30 a.m., O'Charley's

### **SonRise Breakfast**

Sunday, March 17, 6:00 a.m., 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran in Dayton

### **March Acolyte's**

March 3	Aiden Ring Brody Lamb
March 10	Aiden Larsen Annalise Larsen
March 17	Jesse Ñauta Amy Ñauta
March 24	Emma Holtzman Annalise Larsen
March 31	Melanie Ñauta Aiden Larsen

### **March Altar Guild**

Marilyn Boyd