



St. John's Lutheran

MESSENGER

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

October 2019

When the Needs of the Community and the Passions of a Church Come Together, We Call it **MISSION**

Sometimes a photo is just too perfect not to share widely. This is one of those times. Look at these happy, smiling faces. Meet our wonderful **Son Rise Breakfast Servers**. Our partnership church, First Lutheran in downtown Dayton serves a significant population of people who are either homeless or food insecure. Area

churches share the joy of preparing a hot breakfast each Sunday morning. St. John's takes over the kitchen on the third Sunday of every month. The breakfast is chaired by Kim Naylor, daughter of Gary and Diane Naylor. Pictured from left to right is Nancy Andrews, Julie Helter, Beth Knight, Amy Nauta, Sara Bell and Melanie Nauta. In the middle/back is Brook Nauta, Jessie Nauta and Kim Naylor. The Skelding family are also team regulars. If you'd like to join the team, please contact Kim at 937-903-8638. Thank you to all who serve. You are making a difference in the lives of so many.



The flower was a gift to St. John's from the recent ice cream social thanking all the churches that serve at First Lutheran.



Pastor's Pen- Sometimes Grace Surprises Me.

Acts 20:24 *However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.*

Several times this month I've found myself saying "there's grace enough for that." And there is. Grace abounds. I think of grace as a verb. It's the mechanism of how God makes things happen in the world and in our lives. God graced the creation into existence. God graces us with the right friend at the right time. God graced us with the son, Jesus. God graces us with _____ (fill in the blank).

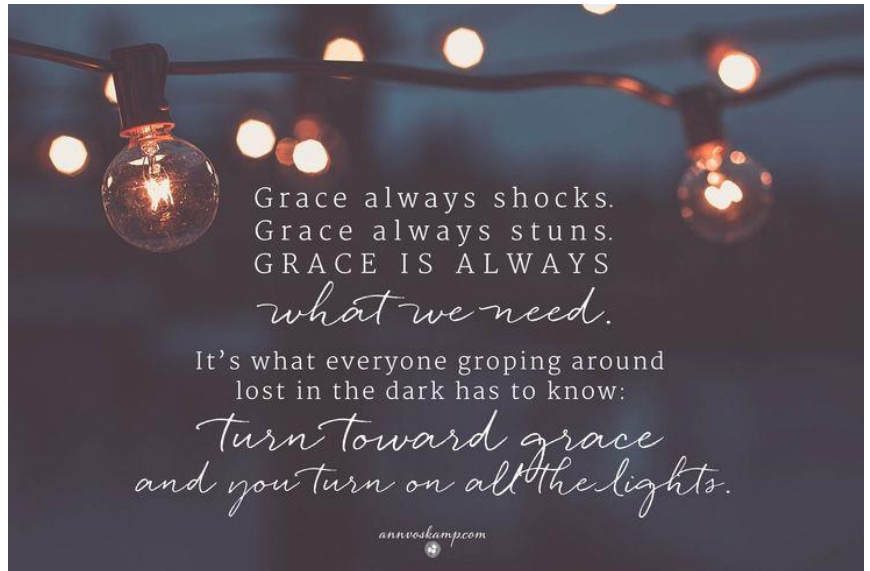
God's grace sometimes surprises me, usually when I'm not paying adequate attention. It might be walking outside just as the sunset peaks. Or it might be having two children attempt to hug me during the passing of the peace, choosing the exact same time to fly at me, nearly knocking me off my feet. Oh how I love when that happens! God has graced us with this community of faith, and St. John's has paid forward that grace in our community for two hundred years.

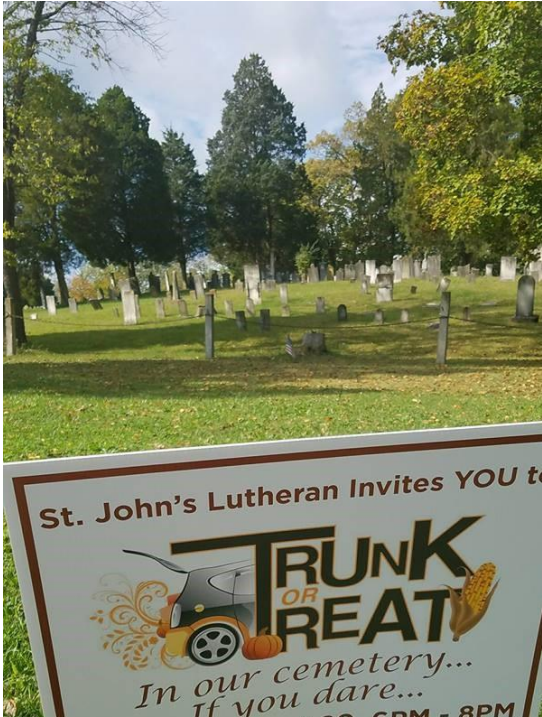
Our leadership council has been reflecting on where God is calling us to next. What will the next fifty years look like? Part of that reflection has resulted in our thinking about how the Miamisburg Schools (for one example) has been graced by the donations of school supplies we deliver every year. We can even see the grace and gratitude on the faces of those we feed every month at our SonRise breakfast. I heard one man say, "Wow, we get cereal AND French toast, and NOW we get sausage, eggs, hash browns, AND even a banana!" Truly we make a difference in each other's lives and in the lives of our community when we share God's grace in the many ways we share it! It makes me think that GRACE is, well, CONTAGIOUS! Once we "catch it" we give it to others.

One of the things I love most about the ELCA is how we declare that there is grace enough for us to be unified in Christ while not always believing the exact same things. There is grace enough for difference. There is grace enough for different expressions of faith. Each of you graces me daily with your faith, your friendships, and your passion for God's people. I look forward to seeing how God's grace will continue to be witnessed to and shared by each of us.

In Grace & Gratitude,

Pastor Robyn





TRUNK OR TREAT IS COMING!

It's time to get ready with your costume and candy for our annual trunk or treat event. Weather permitting we'll hold it in our cemetery, or if necessary, inside the church.

As usual we'll decorate our car trunks for the occasion.

Trunk or treat is scheduled for Friday, October 25th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



This year we're adding a special "flash mob" of witches who are learning a popular German dance. Dancers of all ages and abilities are welcome. All you'll need is a broom and a good attitude. It's all in good fun and we hope you'll join in.



Curious?

Phone the Church Office
for Details on Any Event!
937-866-3780

OCTOBER 2019



St. John's Lutheran

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 Confirmation Class/Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am First Communion Class 11:45 am Indian Dance 4:00 pm AA/AI Anon 7:30 pm	30 AA Group 12:00 noon Girl Scout Troop #39996 6:30 pm	OCTOBER 1 Sewing 9:30 am	2	3 Girl Scout Leader Meeting 7:00 pm	4 Health Class 9:30 am AA Group 12:00 noon TWIGS Scrapbooking Event 5:00 pm	5 TWIGS Scrapbooking Event 9:00 am Animal Blessing 1:00 pm Dayton Tamil Academy 3:00 pm
6 Confirmation Class/Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Bible Study 11:15 am Brunch 4:00 pm Indian Dance 4:00 pm AA/AI Anon 7:30 pm	7 AA Group 12:00 noon WELCA Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm	8 Sewing 9:30 am	9	10 Girl Scout Troop #30200 Meeting 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop #35159 Meeting 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop #32399 Meeting 6:30 pm	11 Health Class 9:30 am AA Group 12:00 noon	12 Noodle Making 9:00 am Dayton Tamil Academy 3:00 pm
13 Adult Bible Study/Confirmation Class/Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Council Meeting 11:00 am Indian Dance 4:00 pm AA/AI Anon 7:30 pm	14 AA Group 12:00 noon Girl Scout Troop #39996 6:30 pm	15 Sewing 9:30 am	16 Sewing in Fellowship Hall 9:30 am	17 Learning Committee Meeting 7:00 pm	18 Health Class 9:30 am AA Group 12:00 noon	19 Lively Lutherans @ El Toro 11:30 am Dayton Tamil Academy 3:00 pm
20 SonRise Breakfast 6:00 am Adult Bible Study/Confirmation Class/Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Indian Dance 4:00 pm AA/AI Anon 7:30 pm	21 AA Group 12:00 noon	22 Sewing 9:30 am	23	24 Girl Scout Troop #30200 Meeting 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop #35159 Meeting 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop #32399 Meeting 6:30 pm	25 Health Class 9:30 am AA Group 12:00 noon Trunk or Treat 6:00 pm	26 Holiday Bazaar 9:00 am Dayton Tamil Academy 3:00 pm
27 Adult Bible Study/Confirmation Class/Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Indian Dance 4:00 pm AA/AI Anon 7:30 pm	28 Garage Sale 9:00 am AA Group 12:00 noon Girl Scout Troop #39996 6:30 pm	29 Sewing 9:30 am	30	31	NOVEMBER 1 Health Class 9:30 am AA Group 12:00 noon	2 Dayton Tamil Academy 3:00 pm



GORGEOUS QUILT FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Thank you to our St. John's quilters for your tireless work on the newest quilt.



DINNER AT MARIE HUFFMANS

For more years than either Ida Geary or Jean Roberts can pinpoint, Marie Huffman has been feeding people with her wonderful home cooking and catering. Every year the WELCA women sign up to have dinner in Marie's home as well as to be able to purchase loaves of her homemade bread. Pictured at right is Marie with her granddaughter. Pictured below are the ladies who were able to enjoy her beef roast, scalloped potatoes, fresh tomatoes, peach cobbler and homemade cinnamon swirl bread. Thank you Jean for introducing us to Marie.



CONGRATULATIONS KENDALL

Kendall Ring was Mark Twain Elementary School's student of the month for August.





BIG NEWS

Our SonRise breakfasters are collecting blankets and comforters, coats and sweatshirts, hats, gloves, boots and towels for our friends at First Lutheran. They can be new or used. We will have a bin in vestibule and plan to take them up October 19th.

BRING YOUR FURRY, FEATHERY or SCALY CHILDREN

...for a short service of blessing of our animals, a blessing that celebrates the relationships of trust and loyalty experienced by those who share their lives with animals. The event will take place Saturday, October 5th at 1:00 p.m., outside in the Lord's Glen. Please have your pets secured by a leash or carrier.



Caramel Popcorn

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 20 cups popped popcorn | ½ cup light Karo syrup |
| 2 cups light brown sugar | 1 tsp. salt |
| 1 cup margarine | ½ tsp. baking soda |

Combine brown sugar, margarine, Karo syrup and salt. Bring to a boil for 5 minutes on medium heat, stirring constantly. Stir in ½ tsp. baking soda. Put popped popcorn in large roasting pan. Pour sugar mixture over popcorn. Bake at 250° for 1 hour, stirring every 15 minutes. Pour out onto cookie sheet and break apart.

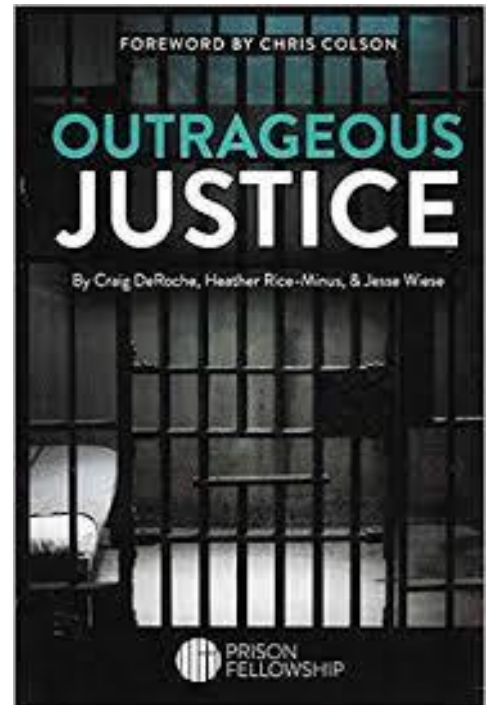
This recipe was submitted by Cindy Kemper from the "Kitchen Keepsakes from St. John's Family" cookbook that was published in 1998 by the Women of St. John's Lutheran Church.


JOIN JULIE HELTER FOR A NEW ADULT FORUM BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP

Led by Julie Helter, please join her Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m., on October 6th. The "Outrageous Justice" study will last six weeks and will help us learn, discuss and be challenged regarding the American criminal justice system. One goal is that we will be moved to seek justice and pursue true hope, restoration, and healing for the millions of individuals and families touched by crime and incarceration in America. We'll learn what the bible says about responding to crime and incarceration? **SESSION ONE: JUSTICE THAT RESTORES.** The Bible teaches that God is outraged by injustice and calls His people to take action to address it. But given the millions of individuals and families touched by crime and incarceration in America and the complexities of our criminal justice system, how can followers of Jesus pursue justice that restores?

In subsequent weeks we'll talk about Justice that Responds, Justice that Listens, Justice that fits, Justice that Transforms, and Justice that Redeems. Please join us. The first class will meet that morning with participants deciding if mornings or evenings are preferred going forward.

This study is from the Prison Fellowship organization.





ST. JOHN'S HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Presented by
St. John's Lutheran Church
470 S. Gebhart Church Rd.
Miamisburg, OH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019

9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

Seasonal decorations
Baked Goods – crafts
Grandma's attic collection
(garage sale items)

Lunch available

11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

**Proceeds Will Benefit
Community Outreach Programs**

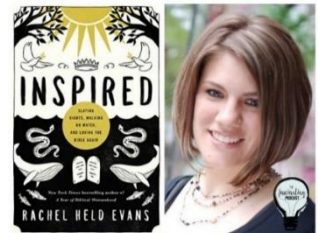
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE BAZAAR

- On Saturday, October 12th at 9:00 a.m. we will be meeting in fellowship hall to make noodles. We are going to need people to mix, dry, roll, cut and spread the noodles. **ALL** help is appreciated, including men and children.
- Items needed for Grandma's Attic: homemade baked goods, candy, craft items, indoor plants and garage sale items, including tools, household items and holiday decoration. Please no clothing or large-scale furniture. Items can be brought to church the week of October 21st and placed in fellowship hall.
- Volunteers will be needed the week of the bazaar to set-up fellowship hall for the bazaar.
- On Saturday, we will need people to work the bazaar, serve lunch and clean-up.
- On Monday, October 28th volunteers are needed to work the garage sale and then to box up anything items that are left to be taken to Goodwill or Salvation Army.

Contact Ida Geary at 626-7765 if you are able to help in **ANY** way or have questions!

BIBLE STUDY BRUNCH - ALL ARE WELCOME

The next Bible Study brunch will meet on Sunday October 6th after worship. Please read the third 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



LIVELY LUTHERANS

The Lively Lutherans will meet on Saturday, October 19th at El Toro Mexican Restaurant on Miamisburg-Centerville Rd. at 11:30 a.m. 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.

ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER

The newsletter is available electronically. Signing up on the website is easy - just go to the About Us tab, click on newsletter than scroll to the bottom of the home page to sign up.

Your home copy of the Messenger will be in full color ... and ... you will be saving the church the cost of postage to mail it if you missed picking up your printed copy on the first Sunday of each month.

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, Pastor Robyn's visit with communion and visits from members. All of you are my Church Family and I can't begin to imagine making it through life without all of you.

God Bless You, Pat McGraw



Southern Ohio Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
*Stronger and Better Together:
Joining Jesus in the Restoration of the World*

A CLARIFYING NOTE FROM BISHOP SUZANNE DILLAHUNT

The recent vote by the ELCA to become a Sanctuary Denomination has caused a flurry of questions, debate, interest, comments, criticism, anger and rejoicing in social and news media, from members, and concerned friends from across the country. On August 7, the Assembly adopted a resolution that, among other things, declared the ELCA to be “a sanctuary church body”. We received questions and comments as well, some in support of the action and some against. There is a lot of misinformation swirling around and I want to invite you to stop and breathe, creating space to look at and absorb exactly what all of this means. **It is important to look at the materials and the resolution itself.** So as we breathe together and ask the Lutheran Question: ‘What does this mean?’ keep in mind the following:

- The Churchwide Assembly’s declaration as a sanctuary denomination binds ONLY the ELCA Churchwide Organization; it does NOT bind congregations, synods or other organizations.
- Furthermore, the resolution passed this past week affirmed “the long-term and growing commitment of this church to migrants and refugees and to the policy questions involved”. Declaring the ELCA to be a sanctuary church body is a public declaration that we will continue doing what we have been doing as a church for a long time in support of refugees and immigrants.
- The Churchwide Assembly did NOT define what it means to be a sanctuary denomination, but rather requested that the ELCA Church Council provide guidance as to what it means to be a sanctuary
- **The Churchwide Assembly (and this is important) did NOT call for any illegal actions. All actions mentioned by the assembly are legal, and whether any person or organization chooses to engage in civil disobedience and accept the consequences is up to them.**
- I repeat, NOTHING in this action binds synods, congregations or any other organizations affiliated with the ELCA...It binds Churchwide and Churchwide alone. And the question of what does this mean and how we live into this is the Church Council’s work. We have to expect people to interpret the declaration in many ways.
- What can you do? Keep breathing and do some homework...
- Review the [resolution as reported](#) in the Assembly’s Legislative Update (See ELCA website)
- Take a look at and re-read the [ELCA Social Teaching Statement on Immigration](#) which helps provide the context and history that informed the decision
- Review the 2018 SOS Resolution on the Separation of children from parents which, we as a synod, passed: [2018 SOS Assembly Resolution](#)
- FAQs from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): [ACLU Sanctuary Congregations and Harboring FAQs](#) :

Finally, remember the mission, vision and values of this Synod:

Our Mission is to **proclaim the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ’s death and resurrection...**we share and invite others to know God’s love and grace in Jesus.

Our Vision and Values: Stronger and Better Together...**Joining Jesus in the Restoration of the world** as we Clarify, Cultivate and Collaborate.

Blessings,
Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt

Budget Report for August 2019

Balance beginning of August:		(\$12,857.92)
Income Towards Budget for August:	\$	6,069.99
Expenses Against Budget for August:		
Outreach	\$250.00	
Staff	\$5,063.05	
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$658.45	
Utilities	\$393.34	
Committees	\$48.94	
		\$6,413.78
Monthly Budget Balance (income - expenses):	\$	(343.79)
Year-to-Date Balance end of August:		(\$13,201.71)

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.



- October 1
Mindie Bell
Daniel Kent
Sandi Null
- October 7
Ken Yeazel
- October 11
Karen Naylor
Kimberly Naylor
- October 12
Tammy Denman
- October 15
Paul Hamilton
- October 19
Pat Ball
- October 21
Tonya McKown
- October 25
Gail Braun
- October 27
Jim Denman
- October 31
Linda Holt

Congregational Contacts

Robyn Provis Pastor 513-633-6038

Officers		*Executive Committee
Cheryl Page	*President/Discipleship & WELCA Liaison	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 st Grade	937-859-8871/937-231-6341
Brook Nauta & Kim Holtzman	2 nd Grade through 6 th Grade	513-217-0564/937-367-1473
Robin Skelding	High School	937-748-5405

Ministry Contacts

Nancy McCabe	Prayer Chain	937-866-8669
Kim Naylor	Son-Rise Breakfast @ First Lutheran	937-903-8638



- October 3
Joe & Mary Wilson
Dana & Judy Kuemmel
- October 6
Tom & Karen Settle



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
Email: secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org

SAVE THE DATES

Animal Blessing

Saturday, October 5, 1:00 p.m., the Lord's Glen

WELCA

Monday, October 7, 6:00 p.m., at Church

Noodle Making for Bazaar

Saturday, October 12, 9:00 a.m.

Council Meeting

Sunday, October 13, after church

Lively Lutherans

Saturday, October 19, 11:30 a.m., El Toro

SonRise Breakfast

Sunday, October 20, 6:00 a.m., 1st Lutheran in Dayton

Trunk or Treat

Friday, October 25, 6:00 p.m.

Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, October 26, 9:00 a.m.

OCTOBER ACOLYTE'S

October 6	Aiden Ring Brody Lamb
October 16	Jesse Ñauta Amy Ñauta
October 20	Aiden Larsen Annalise Larsen
October 27	Melanie Ñauta Emma Holtzman

OCTOBER ALTAR GUILD

Kim Holtzman