



St. John's Lutheran

MESSENGER

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

April 2022

Pastor's Pen....

"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

As I was growing up and starting my faith journey many years ago, I remember wishing that I could just meet Jesus, the man, in the flesh. I wanted him to be as real to me as my mom and dad. Over the years, I have met Jesus many times in the flesh of others who have been as Christ to me, but that desire to know Jesus as a real person has never faded.

What I have discovered is that a trip to the Holy Land is just about as good as meeting Jesus walking along the road. My favorite part of Israel is Galilee. When I am standing in the ruins of the Synagogue in Capernaum, I know with certainty that I am situated on a place where the real, in the flesh Jesus also stood. Granted, his feet touched stones a few feet lower down than mine, since the ruins are of a 4th to 5th century synagogue built on top of the one that stood there in Jesus' time, but the stones of the original basalt foundation are visible in the outside walls. They are there underneath.

Often in the Holy Land, important places in Jesus' ministry have been marked by Christians, mostly Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox, by building a church over the location. Our guide told us, for example, that the Church of the Multiplication is the "traditional" spot where Jesus took five loaves and two fish and fed thousands. There are no baskets of crumbs left embedding in the rocks to suggest it is the exact place. However, whether it is or not, it's certainly close to where the Word made flesh performed the miracle of abundance, and that's good enough for me.

Galilee is quiet and green, and it is easy to imagine Jesus and his disciples walking from here to there as we visited Nazareth, Cana, and the shores of the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized.

Jerusalem is very different. It's a much bigger, busier city, and even in Jesus' time it was bustling with commerce, traffic and visitors from all over the known world. But there are also the quiet spots like the Garden of Gethsemane with its twisted old olive trees that are old enough to have listened to Jesus' anguished prayer just before he was betrayed.

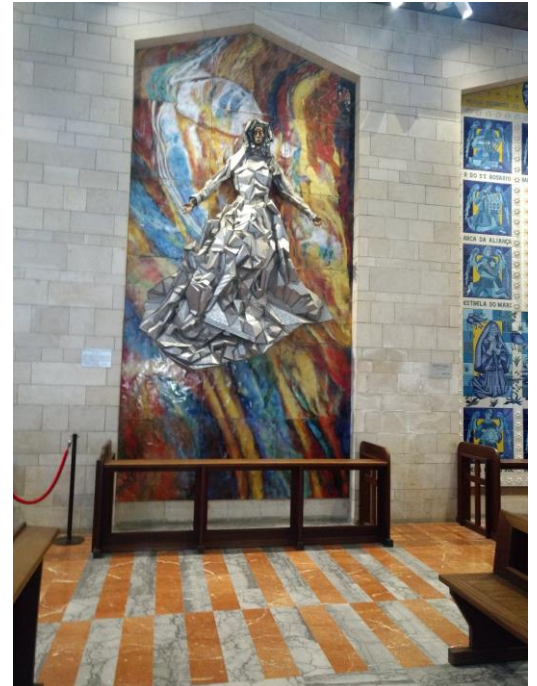
We were blessed to be in Israel just as tourism is beginning to start up again, and so we were able to visit the church in Bethlehem built over the spot where Jesus was born just steps away from the stone manger as well as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre which houses the place of Christ's crucifixion and his tomb in relative contemplative quiet without the crowds pressing in and the noise of many voices and feet. *(continued on next page)*

I am very grateful that I have been able to experience walking in the steps of my Lord throughout the land where he lived, ministered and died. It is a pilgrimage that I highly recommend to any who are able to do so. I found it to be just about as profoundly moving as meeting the real Word made flesh in person, which I look forward to doing when my faith journey is completed by and by.

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Joan



Fourteen Pointed Star over the spot where Jesus was born.



America's version of the Annunciation in the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth



Sunrise over the Sea of Galilee in Tiberius



Baptism site at the Jordan River

President's Chapel

Dear Siblings in Christ,

April 1st, 2022

Well it's the first of April, and we're in the home stretch to Holy Week and our grand Easter Celebration on April 17, 2022! I always found Holy Week to be an unbelievable contrast between utter humiliation and despair, followed by the eternal hope and joy of Christ's resurrection. Put yourself in the Apostles shoes for a moment, and "feel" what they felt. The intimacy of the Last Supper, the terrible fear and anger at the arrest, the utter bitterness of the brutal crucifixion, their denial of Jesus, and the "unbelief" of the women returning from the tomb to tell them it was empty. They witness a week that traversed the utter depths of despair to unspeakable joy. We weren't there, but we are still beneficiaries of God's grace! So celebrate Easter with great joy, our lives hereafter are firmly intertwined with the resurrection of Jesus!

I would like to also take a moment to thank all the adults who have participated in any of the midweek Lenten Bible Study, and I especially thank Mr. Jeff Armbruster who has joined us for each session!

Next, I would like to formally inform the Congregation of potential movement in our search for a permanent Pastor. As you know, the Call Committee led by Julie Helter completed a "Synod Ministry Site Profile" last summer that said we were seeking a half time Pastoral Call. Since it is rare for Pastors to be looking for half time work, we have been working with Synod for opportunities for a shared Pastoral relationship. I am pleased to announce we are *beginning early discussions* with Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Germantown about potentially sharing their Pastor with St Johns. The synod brokered a meeting between the Congregation's Council leadership, and their Pastor (Reverend Bonny Kinnunen). After this initial discussion both Councils have agreed to begin working on a "Shared Ministry Development Plan" that will identify where our Congregations can work together, what our common missions are, and how both Congregations could adjust schedules to accommodate a shared Pastoral Contract with Emmanuel. I must stress *this process could take many months*, and it will take some hard work and prayer to successfully conclude. After the joint Call Committee and Council negotiate the arrangement, we will bring it to the Congregation for discussion and approval. Be aware, any arrangement met will likely change *both* church's current service times. So pray about it with us as we see what plans God has for our future.

In the meantime, after Easter we will be seeing Pastor Joan at least Monthly, and continue to enlist Pastor Rogers Mtui and Pastor Stephen Kimpel to supply for us as we work through this arrangements.

Be sure to join us for Easer Breakfast on April 17th, the 1st one in two years. Remember, if you have any questions or concerns, you can always email me at brian.kent.phd@gmail.com. Peace be with you.

Brian M Kent, Ph.D., President
St John's Lutheran Church, Miamisburg, OH

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 10th at 9:00 a.m. rain or shine. Friends and neighbors are welcome. Meet in the Children's chapel.

EASTER BREAKFAST

Easter Breakfast will be on April 17th at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome to come share food and conversation before worship on Easter morning. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you would like to bring something.



DEFIBRILLATOR PURCHASE

The congregation is looking to purchase a defibrillator to be kept at church for emergencies. The cost is \$1400, and all but \$350 has been raised. If you would like to donate towards the purchase, please mark "Defibrillator" on your contribution envelope. Once the defibrillator is purchased, the congregation will receive training on its use.

Thanks to everyone who has already donated!

PERSONAL CARE KITS

The Discipleship Committee will be taking donations for Personal Care Kits to give to people in need to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

The items that will be needed are:

- Bar soap
- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Comb and brush
- Nail clippers
- Shaving supplies
- Feminine hygiene products



Items can be put in the red wagon in the narthex thru April 10th.

For more information, contact Cheryl Page 937-602-7952. Watch for details about when we will need help to assemble our Personal Care Kits that will be taken to Miamisburg Helping Hands.



On February 26th during Sunday school, the learning committee held a pre-lent pancake breakfast. Activities included eating pancakes, a pancake relay race and Alleluia boxes.



HONORARY TWIGS

On March 4 and March 12, 2022, TWIG 33 and Terrific Women In Giving Auxiliary President Barb Hager presented the Charity Crop Scrapbooking Ladies with certificates, goodie bags which included Dayton Children's Hospital Whirligig pins, TWIG pens, chocolates and toasted them as "Honorary TWIGs" for their invaluable contributions over the years. These remarkable women have gone above and beyond with their support especially during these past two years as the COVID 19 pandemic made fundraising difficult for TWIGs. These ladies gave unselfishly and allowed TWIG 33 to raise over \$22,000 during this time. They are indeed "Terrific Women In Giving" as they have helped the TWIG Auxiliary achieve their \$1.2 million pledge for Pediatric Behavioral Health Services for Dayton Children's Hospital in 2022.



TWIG 33 sincerely appreciates St. John's Lutheran Church for allowing us to host the Charity Crop three times a year. We truly would not have the success without your support!

SUNDAY ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85711628176?pwd=V0dOK21vekJqNTIwM3hOT2UyNzkyQT09>

Meeting ID: 857 1162 8176

Passcode: 071964

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,85711628176#,,,,*071964# US (New York)

+13017158592,,85711628176#,,,,*071964# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 857 1162 8176

Passcode: 071964

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85711628176?pwd=V0dOK21vekJqNTIwM3hOT2UyNzkyQT09>

REMINDER

You can always find the Zoom link for the simulcast Sunday services on St. John's website:
www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org

Click on the "In-Person Worship and Simulcast Link" menu option near the top of the home page.

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 then scroll to the bottom of the home page to sign up or contact the office to get signed up for electronic copies.

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.

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Life Line Screening (see insert included in the newsletter) will be at the church on May 25th, the office has 2 certificates worth \$70 off the price of the screening. They are available by calling the office.

Budget Report for February 2022

Income for February 2022: \$4,230.65

Expenses for February 2022:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Outreach | \$333.00 |
| Staff | \$1,985.24 |
| Facility Upkeep/Administration | \$779.41 |
| Roof Loan Payment | \$270.75 |
| Utilities | \$794.64 |
| Committees | \$20.00 |
| | \$4,183.04 |

February Budget Balance (income - expenses): \$47.61

YTD Income: \$13,633.66

YTD Expenses: \$8,563.90

Roof Loan Starting Balance: \$25,377.00

February 28, 2022 Balance: \$3,081.41

Description of categories:

Outreach: Benevolence, special benevolence.

Staff: Pastor's pay and expenses, staff salaries and benefits, FICA, worker's comp.

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

Property Insurance: paid once a year in April.

Roof Loan Payment: Monthly payment for fellowship hall roof repair loan from endowment.

Committees: Discipleship, Learning, Worship & Music.

Utilities: Gas, electricity, water and trash services.

Congregational Contacts

Council Members

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Brian Kent | *President | 937-885-3529/937-572-3025 |
| Everett Morris | *Vice President | 937-760-1099 |
| Linda Kent | *Church Treasurer | 937-885-3529/937-572-7815 |
| Cathy Zimmer | *Secretary | 937-212-9283 |
| Judy Kuemmel | *Financial Secretary | 937-321-1198 |
| Garry Andrews | | 937-848-2090 |
| Ida Geary | | 937-626-7765 |

*Executive Committee

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 |
| Brook Nauta | Learning Committee Chair | 513-217-0564/937-367-1473 |
| Ida Geary | WELCA President | 937-626-7765 |
| Doug McCabe | Organist | 937-866-8669 |
| Brook Nauta | Children's Choir | 513-217-0564/937-367-1473 |

Christian Education

| | | |
|----------------|---|---------------------------|
| Barb Hoffman | Pre-k through 1 st Grade | 937-859-8871/937-231-6341 |
| Brook Nauta | 2 nd Grade through 6 th Grade | 513-217-0564/937-367-1473 |
| Robin Skelding | Confirmation | 937-748-5405 |

Ministry Contacts

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Nancy McCabe | Prayer Chain | 937-866-8669 |
| Beth Knight | Son-Rise Breakfast @ First Lutheran | 330-692-2092 |



April 1

Brook Nauta

April 4

Marjorie Abner

Kendall Ring

April 6

Gary Naylor

April 8

Brody Lamb

April 12

Ida Geary

April 13

Amy Nauta

April 17

Alexandra Bell

April 30

Tom Settle



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
Email: secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org

HAPPENING'S IN APRIL

- April 4 6:30 p.m. WELCA Monthly Meeting @ church
- April 6 & 13 7:30 p.m. Mid Week Lenten Study
- April 7 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Leaders Meeting
- April 9 8:30 a.m. Saturday AA (one time event)
- **April 10 9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt**
 1:00 p.m. Area 56
- 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #32299 in Undercroft
- April 12 6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #35159 in Undercroft
- April 13 7:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #30200 in Undercroft
- **April 14 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service**
- **April 15 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service**
- April 17 6:00 a.m. SonRise Breakfast @ 1st Lutheran Church
- **9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast**
- April 20 6:30 p.m. Learning Committee Meeting
- April 24 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #32299 in Undercroft
- April 26 6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #35159 in Undercroft

Every Sunday at 7:30 p.m. AA/Al Anon meets in Fellowship Hall
Every Monday & Friday at noon, there is an AA Group in Fellowship Hall

*Please let the office know of any meetings and/or events that need to be included in the calendar.
This will ensure rooms are not double booked.*

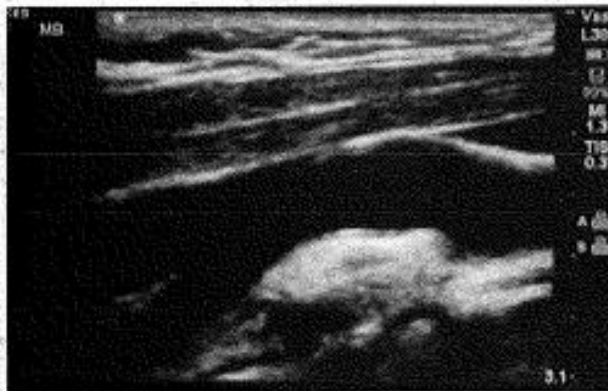
Take a step toward staying

Healthy & Active

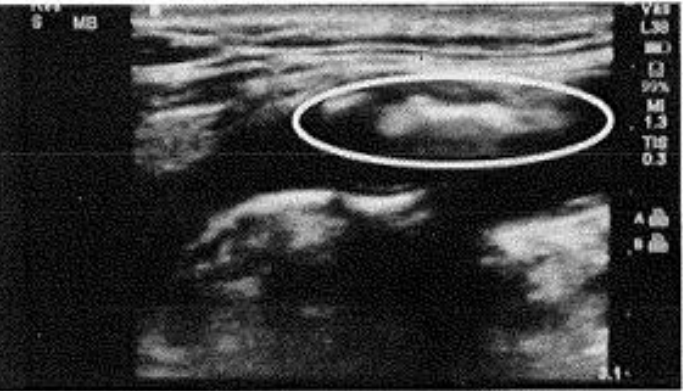
Life Line Screening goes beyond regular checkups to provide a more thorough look at your health.

Be Smart: Do More For Your Cardiovascular Health

No Plaque Buildup



Plaque Buildup



Advanced ultrasound technology looks inside your arteries for signs of plaque buildup. That's why **9 out of 10 cardiovascular doctors** support preventive screenings for those with key risk factors.*

Adults age 50+ and those 40 and older with one or more risk factors for cardiovascular disease should be screened.

*Key Risk Factors include: *High blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, obesity, smoking, family history.

We are coming to your neighborhood.

Where: Miamisburg - St John's Lutheran Church

When: Wednesday, May 25, 2022

To register for your appointment and to receive the special discount,
please call **1-800-324-1851** or visit **LLSA.SOCIAL/HS**

Trusted by Hospitals Nationwide.

Life Line Screening has partnered with over **100 hospitals** across the country and has conducted over **10 million screenings** since 1993.



Carotid Artery (Plaque) Screening

Ultrasound scan of the carotid arteries that screens for buildup of fatty plaque — one of the leading causes of strokes.



Heart Rhythm Screening (Atrial Fibrillation)

A quick and easy test using a 6-lead EKG placed on the arms and legs to identify the presence or absence of an irregular heartbeat.



Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Ultrasound screening for an abdominal aneurysm (enlargement) that could lead to a ruptured aorta.



Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening

Evaluates for peripheral arterial disease (PAD) in the lower extremities, which increases the risk of cardiovascular disease.¹



Osteoporosis Risk Assessment

Ultrasound screens the shin bone for bone mass density. Osteoporosis is painless and silent in its early stages.

5 Screenings for Only \$149
Special Package Pricing

¹ No single screening can detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease.

Screening results are provided to you in about 14 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes only. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Price does not include any applicable review fees. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. If you are unable to attend the screening for any reason whatsoever, we will issue a gift card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, for future screening services.