



St. John's Lutheran

MESSENGER

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

June 2022

"And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'" Isaiah 30:21

We all come to moments when we face what seems to be a momentous decision. Even little children are aware that decisions have consequences when they decide whether to break the rules or obey their parents and teachers.

The older we get, the more those decisions tend to have long term implications. Choosing whether to take a foreign language in high school or take some other elective may introduce a student to something that catches her fancy and steers her life's work. As adults we make significant decisions like whom to marry or to remain single, whether or not to have children, whether to incur debt to go to college or buy a house or car.

Sometimes the great significance of the decision can paralyze us as we fear making the wrong choice. What if....it doesn't work out? We may pray about our decisions, but sometimes it seems awfully difficult to discern which choice will move our lives in the direction that God would have us go.

I know I faced such a moment in my mid-fifties as I contemplated going to seminary and becoming a pastor. To go would require a move away from my elderly mother and other family, selling my very pleasant condo and becoming a tenant in a city where I knew no one, taking a severe cut in income, and causing a drain on my savings when I was nearing the end of my working years. Was God really calling me to give up all that I had worked to achieve in order to serve as a pastor for a decade or two?

This passage from Isaiah gave me comfort in the stress of decision-making. Whether I enrolled at Trinity Lutheran Seminary or remained in the life I was living, I could count on Jesus walking behind me making either path work for my good and the well-being of others.

There was a great cost in choosing the path I did. It led me to a failed first call and disability due to stress-induced cardiac issues. It led me to question if I had misjudged my earlier decision. Maybe I did not have the gifts for ministry after all. Those were dark and discouraging days, but eventually I found my way back to this scripture and the faith that even in my losses, I could depend on God accompanying me as I moved in an unexpected, new direction.

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And I have found that God has blessed me abundantly in the new roads I have taken. I've served four congregations in times of transition, meeting and working with wonderful people all trying to walk in tandem with Jesus.

This summer, many of us will do some traveling—something we've not done for the two previous summers. Take heart! God is going with you to the beach or to the mountains or to visit friends and family.

Jesus will also be walking with you any time you push off on a new life adventure whether it's going to high school, college, a new job, or a long-awaited retirement. Some decisions may turn out not to be good choices, but even if that happens, God will be there to guide you to better times.

Serving our Savior with you,

Pastor Joan

President's Chapel

Dear Siblings in Christ,

June 1st, 2022

For those that perhaps didn't notice, the cold is gone and summer is soon to be on us. This means short sleeves, vacations, and perhaps a few summer absences from Sunday services. No worries, we will continue to record and download our services weekly even if you miss. And if you happen to be taking a lazy Sunday morning in your hotel room bed on vacation, you can always join us virtually. No matter where you travel to, your Lord and your church are always close by.

I also want to take this opportunity to formally welcome Nick, Paige, and Wyatt Turkelson (see pictures on the next page) into the family of St John's Lutheran Church. Personally, I was sorry to not be there to witness your baptismal vows, but Linda and I were in Mobile interring my brother Mark who passed away in March of 2020. So we were in spirit putting him in his final resting place, while at the same time very happy that the Turkelson family are now full members of our Congregation. A special thanks to all who made that Sunday Baptismal Service special, as well as the video production team that stepped in to help us in our absence.

Well, Summer is also going to bring another opportunity for St Johns. Working with Pastor Joan and the Southern Ohio Synod, we will be planning to bring in a special expert to help administer what the synod calls a "Congregational Vitality Survey". Now before you sigh and start reading the sports section, this is all good. It will be a quick 15 question survey we will ask families to complete over one of two consecutive Sundays after. The survey should take no more than 15 minutes. Families can collaborate or fill out individual surveys. After the survey is over, our Synod rep, Ms. Katie Kerrigan

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will return to go over the results with the Congregation, likely at a congregational light lunch after a service. The information will help guide both Council and the rest of the church on what direction God is calling us to go in the years ahead. Please plan to participate, and watch for the final dates to be announced. If you know for sure you will miss both Sundays of the survey, we can mail or email one to your home for you to complete. Let me and Karen know if that situation applies to you.

That's about it for now. We still have some external landscaping and service projects around the church we need help with, so when Tom Hoffman posts the times and dates, consider contributing a couple of hours to help. Remember many hands make light work. In the meantime, go for a walk, hike, bike ride, or plan a family picnic. In 6 months you'll be complaining about the cold again, so enjoy your summer, be safe, and pray to our Lord for some peace and stability. We could always use more of that!

Respectfully,

Brian

Welcome to our Church



ROOF LOAN IS PAID OFF IN JUNE!

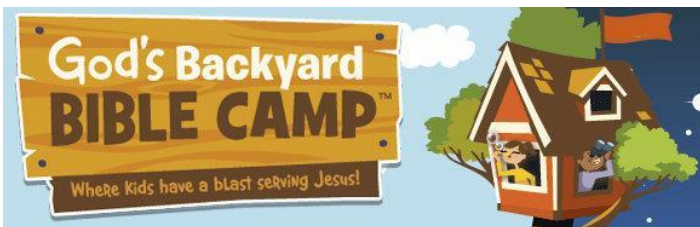


WE DID IT THANKS TO YOU!

The fellowship hall roof loan will be paid off by the end of June! Thanks to all of you who helped contribute additional funds to retire this loan almost 8 years early!

SUMMER PARK LUNCHES

St. John's will be providing 30-50 sack lunches every Friday from June 10-July 29 for kids attending Miamisburg Park Days. We need volunteers each Friday to pack the lunches and deliver them to Riverfront Park (downtown Miamisburg) around 11:00 a.m. We also need donations of food items and/or money to purchase them. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Beth Knight.



Our joint VBS for preschool-elementary kids will be June 27-July 1 at Parkview United Methodist. Please invite your family and friends. Registration is at stjohnsmiamisburg.org.

TOILETRIES FOR SOCKS OF LOVE

In the coming weeks we will be collecting travel sized toiletry items and tube socks for the Socks of Love project during VBS.



On May 29th our Youth assisted with the service.

As always they did an excellent job!

The next service they will be assisting will be July 31st.



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/u/kdSEte9ZyO>

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 than 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.

Budget Report for April 2022

Income for April 2022:	\$7,634.22
Expenses for April 2022:	
Outreach	\$333.00
Staff	\$2,738.51
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$1,374.86
Property Insurance	\$4,750.00
Roof Loan Payment	\$270.75
Utilities	\$749.38
Committees	\$22.59
	\$10,239.09
April Budget Balance (income - expenses):	(\$2,604.87)
YTD Income:	\$19,724.00
YTD Expenses:	\$13,886.04
Roof Loan Starting Balance:	\$25,377.00
April 30, 2022 Balance:	\$1,263.01

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.



June 11
Karen Settle
June 17
John Boyd
June 22
Matthew Page
June 23
Nancy Jones-Andrews
June 29
Dan Reed
June 30
Luke Helter
Everett Morris

Congregational Contacts

Council Members		*Executive Committee
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

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



June 25
Jim & Tammy Denman



St. John's Lutheran

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon
Web: www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org
Email: secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org

HAPPENING'S IN JUNE

- June 3 5:00 p.m. Twigs Scrapbooking Event
- June 4 9:00 a.m. Twigs Scrapbooking Event
- June 10 5:00 p.m. Twigs Scrapbooking Event
- June 11 9:00 a.m. Twigs Scrapbooking Event
- June 12 1:00 p.m. Area 56 Meeting
- June 15 6:30 p.m. Learning Committee Meeting
- June 18 9:00 a.m. Area 56 Assembly in Fellowship Hall
- June 19 6:00 a.m. SonRise Breakfast
- June 27 – July 1 6:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School @ Parkview United Methodist

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.*