



St. John's Lutheran

MESSENGER

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church located in Miamisburg, Ohio, Established in 1819 October 2022

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:19

God is always in the business of doing new things. Every morning is a new creation for the world, and we are created new and rinsed clean by the waters of baptism.

Many churches are discovering that the years of the pandemic have created new challenges. It's been difficult to get people to volunteer to work on bringing back the fellowship and outreach life of the congregation after such a long time without these activities of discipleship. Ways of worshipping changed suddenly as it was no longer safe to meet in large groups, and we had to both learn how to do worship virtually and adapt to this new way of gathering together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Some people simply did not like this new experience and turned away from the church completely during that time. Some have returned; some have not. Others found this new way of worshipping to be very meaningful and appreciated the flexibility of worshipping at any time or place if unavailable at 10am on Sunday morning. Some of those folks will remain faithful distance partners in worship, and others want to become involved in person now that the dire threat of illness has declined.

Earlier this summer, you were asked to participate in a Congregational Vitality Survey, and now on Sunday, October 23rd, we will all have a chance to find out what the survey suggests about our ministry at the corner of Gebhart Church Road and Maue. Pastor Katie Kerrigan, the Southern Ohio Synod's Director of Evangelical Mission, will be joining us for worship and discussing the survey at a fellowship gathering with a light lunch after the service.

After months and months of hitting the "snooze" button, it is time for the good people of St. John's Lutheran Church to reawaken to God's call to ministry in our community. God has a mission in the world and it belongs to God, not us! God is out there on the loose and up to something much bigger than just our congregation. God is on a mission to bless the whole world, and we are invited to take part in that mission. Pursuing God's mission is what we are called to do as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Talking about the vitality of our congregation is a great first step to re-engaging in more active ministry. Pastor Kerrigan will help us to have that discussion. In order to prepare yourself to take part in our conversation, here are a few things that might be helpful for you to think about.

(Continued on next page)

There are three characteristics of healthy and growing ELCA congregations: Purpose, Willingness to Change and Shared Leadership. What we need to reflect on is that it isn't good enough to survive; it's God's desire that we thrive as individuals and as a congregation. We know we can survive and sustain things at our current levels, but how are we invited to take a greater role in God's mission in the world?

A good question to ask is if we have a sense of purpose. Do we have a collective sense of what God wants us to do? Are we pointing out into the world instead into our building? While God is always doing new things, are we willing to change? Are we so committed to God's purpose that we will find new ways of doing things in order to get the job done?

Shared leadership is one thing that has been forced on St. John's by the absence of a designated pastor. While that is certainly something that increases the challenge, it has also shown you that you are able to take care of the business of the church and each other by stepping into your role in the Priesthood of All Believers. Every single one of you are a minister for Christ, because all of life is ministry and service to God.

Our congregation will be challenged by what we hear from Pastor Kerrigan, but we can make sure that the challenge is the inspiration we need to recover our sense of purpose and mission in our community.

Please plan on joining us on Sunday, October 23rd after worship. The stakes are high for our future and our ability to be a part of God's mission. See you there!

Serving our Lord with you,
Pastor Joan



Dear Siblings in Christ,

October 1st, 2022



Did this poster get your attention? Great, I certainly hope so, because October is a crazy busy month for St John's and council needs some serious member help for some upcoming events. So, what's on the calendar?

The month opens with the second week of a big TWIGS event in the fellowship hall Friday, September 30th – Saturday, October 1st. Of course, being a Saturday, the Tamil School will be in session 10:30 am-12:30 pm that same day. On the 1st, we will again have our 2022 Community "Shred and Bread" event from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. We will serve coffee, donuts, brats and drinks (free will donation) during this time. I'll need perhaps 3-4 people to help direct traffic, take donations, hand out food (Tom Hoffman's cooking), and just have a great time, all while raising funds and collecting food for Helping Hands of Miamisburg. See the Kent's to volunteer.

On Sunday, October 23rd, we will have a special congregational event and a catered luncheon. The purpose will be to listen to and receive the results of our Congregational Vitality Survey from Pastor Katie Kerrigan from the Southern Ohio Synod. She will attend our service, and she will stay for lunch. We will be supplying light sandwiches and drinks, and members are welcome to (but not required to) bring a small desert or cookies. Again, I need about 6 people to volunteer to arrange for the lunch, help set up and clean up the fellowship hall for lunch, and take charge of this event.

On Friday, October 28th, we will have our community trunk or treat from 6:00-8:00 pm. Last year's event attracted over 350+ people, and we were overwhelmed with traffic and ran out of candy. This year we want to plan traffic control better. In addition to asking for help from the city police, I would like 3-4 volunteers *in addition to those setting up the trunk or treat*, to help with managing traffic and helping kids cross the street in the dark. This is a GREAT event, we want it to be fun AND safe. Let Brook Nauta know if you want to help out!

Then on Saturday, October 29th, WELCA will hold their annual "Grandma's attic" sale. Let Ida Geary and or Cheryl Page know you can help at any time setting up fellowship hall during the week, or on Saturday to assist with the sale or Monday to help put everything away.

So, if you haven't noticed, the pandemic is now endemic, life moves on. We're depending on "all hands" to help out in renewing St John's church life, so your help would be most welcomed. Gods Blessings!

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



Please sign up to help with Trunk or Treat on October 28, 6:00-8:00 pm.

You can decorate your car or your chair and come pass out candy.

For those who can't attend, donations of candy can be placed in the bin in the narthex.



WELCA will meet on Monday, October 3rd at the church.

All women are welcome to attend.

GRANDMA'S ATTIC

Start collecting your items that you would like to donate to Grandma's Attic. Items can be brought to church **after** October 24th and put in fellowship hall.

Items needed are: crafts, indoor plants and garage sale items, including tools, household items and holiday decoration. Please no clothing or large-scale furniture. We will also be collecting homemade baked goods and candy that will be sold at the event. Please package in small quantities.

Help will be needed on Tuesday, October 11th at 9:00 a.m. to make noodles. We need people to roll dough, cut & scatter the noodles on the table for drying.

There will be no lunch served that day, the noodles will be for sale during the bazaar.

Please see or contact Ida Geary (937) 626-7765 if you would like to help with noodle making, setting up grandma's attic, assisting during the day of the sale, and on Monday, cleaning everything up.

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.

Jacks' Carrot Cake

2 cups sugar	2 tsp. soda
1 ½ cup oil	½ tsp. salt
4 eggs	3 cups carrots (grated)

Frosting:

8 oz. cream cheese	2 tsp. vanilla
1 stick butter	1 cup walnuts
16 oz. powdered sugar	

Cream sugar, oil and eggs. Add flour, cinnamon, soda, salt and grated carrots. Pour into greased and floured cake pan. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

Frosting: Cream butter, cream cheese, powdered sugar and vanilla together. Add walnuts. Spread on cooled cake.



10-06-2006

WILL YOU PLEASE PICK UP ALL YOUR CLOTHES?

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)

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.



Budget Report for August 2022

Income for August 2022: **\$5,616.97**

Expenses for August 2022:

Outreach	\$333.00
Staff	\$1,796.65
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$1,463.44
Property Insurance	\$0.00
Utilities	\$348.58
Committees	\$20.00
	\$3,961.67

August Budget Balance (income - expenses): **\$1,655.30**

YTD Income: **\$56,204.83**
YTD Expenses: **\$46,233.65**

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 August.

Roof Loan Payment: Fellowship hall roof loan paid off in June, 2022.

Committees: Discipleship, Learning, Worship & Music.

Utilities: Gas, electricity, water and trash services.



October 1
Daniel Kent
Sandi Null
October 7
Ken Yeazel
October 11
Karen Naylor
Kim Naylor
October 12
Tammy Denman
Jeff Nade
October 15
Paul Hamilton
October 19
Pat Ball
October 21
Tonya McKown
October 25
Gail Braun
October 27
Jim Denman
October 29
Nick Turkelson

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



October 3
Dana & Judy Kuemmel
Joe & Mary Wilson
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-T-T-F 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

Closed Wednesdays

Web: www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org

Email: secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org

HAPPENING'S IN OCTOBER

- October 1 9:00 a.m. TWIGS Scrapbooking Event
- 10:00 a.m. Bread & Shred
- 10:30 a.m. Dayton Tamil Academy
- October 3 6:30 p.m. WELCA Monthly Meeting
- October 6 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Leaders Meeting
- October 8 10:30 a.m. Dayton Tamil Academy
- October 9 1:00 p.m. Area 56
- October 11 9:00 a.m. Noodle Making
- October 15 10:30 a.m. Miamisburg Historical Society, Cemetery Workshop
- 10:30 a.m. Dayton Tamil Academy
- October 16 6:00 a.m. SonRise Breakfast
- October 19 6:30 p.m. Learning Committee Meeting
- October 28 6:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat
- 10:30 a.m. Dayton Tamil Academy
- October 29 10:00 a.m. Grandma's Attic

Sunday's at 7:30 p.m. - AA/Al Anon meets in Fellowship Hall

Monday's & Friday's at noon - AA Group in Fellowship Hall

Please notify the office of any meetings and/or events that need to be included in the calendar.

This will ensure rooms are not double booked.