



St. John's Lutheran

MESSENGER

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

October 2023

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:5

If you are living your life with God, you probably already know to be ready for surprises. Scripture tells us again and again about how God can do amazing and unexpected things. God divided the sea so the Israelites could walk to safety on dry ground, then God fed them with manna from heaven. Sarah became pregnant in old age and Mary became pregnant while still a virgin. Jesus turned water into wine and fed 5,000 with just a few loaves and fish.

Of course God's biggest surprise was when Jesus walked out of the tomb! God is always up to something, it seems. The verse quoted above from Revelation reminds us of God's promise, "See I am making all things new."

God's promise is true not just for "Bible times" but also for us, now. It would seem that God has brought St. John's Lutheran Church into one of these surprising times as you pray and discern the possibility of calling a new Pastor. For years the message from Synod has been, "there are no candidates," (the clergy shortage is a real thing). But now the Holy Spirit has stirred up this opportunity with a pastoral candidate. God is doing a new thing, indeed!

Now, God doing a new thing is one piece of the puzzle. God's children responding to the new thing God is doing is another. Can I just say, I have been so inspired by your response to this "new thing" God is doing. Calling a permanent Pastor takes resources and an openness to new possibilities for mission and ministry. Your response to the "flash pledge drive" indicates your trust and enthusiasm for this new thing God is doing. Your generous pledges show your trust that "God ain't done with St. John's yet," and your faith that God still has work for you to do.

(Continued on next page)

I am thrilled for you and the ministry at St. John's. This was my hope for you from day one of my serving among you, that you would have a permanent pastor. From my vantage point you have done all that you can to respond positively and faithfully to this opportunity. That is all you can do. Now is time to continue to pray and see where the Spirit takes this. Well done, good and faithful servants!

Finally, I want to lift up the work that Brian Kent and the Council and July Helter and the Call Committee have done to get the call process to this point. Their leadership, trust, discernment, diligence and welcome to Candidate have been outstanding. Please be sure to thank these folks for the time and commitment they have faithfully offered.

Pastor Heidi Johns
See you in church!

PRESIDENT'S CHAPEL

Dear Siblings in Christ,

October 1, 2023

If you were not in Church September 24th, we have great news! Pastor John Czarnota chose St Johns as his "Primary Candidate" for a new Call in Dayton, Ohio! After many years of waiting, preparation, and prayers, we are finally ready to receive a new Pastor!

This declaration sets in motion a series of final steps leading to the issuance of a call. First, there is a tradition within the Southern Ohio Synod for the call committee to host a Congregational meet and greet before the Congregational meeting to vote on a call. Since Pastor John is still serving his home church in Wisconsin on Sundays, we have scheduled a small reception with light refreshments to take place on Thursday Evening October 5th from 7-8 PM in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. (The Fellowship hall is not available due to a previously scheduled event). If it is possible, I urge you to take the opportunity to come on Thursday October 5th to meet Pastor John!

The following Sunday, October 8th, directly following our Sunday Service, we are calling a Congregational Meeting to discuss Pastor John's Call for the purpose of issuing a permanent call. A representative from the Southern Ohio Synod will be present, but I don't yet know who that will be. The meeting will be divided into two parts. The first part will be the discussion and motion by the Congregation to issue the call. This must be done by written

(Continued on next page)

ballot, and must carry by a 2/3rds majority. The second part will be the approval of his compensation package, which will be presented in detail, and must be passed by a simple majority. Once these two steps are finished, the Synod and St Johns will sign the Call paperwork. Technically, Pastor John has 30 days to accept, but he says he will not take more than a few days after the paperwork reaches him.

Assuming St John's issues (and Pastor John officially accepts) the call, Pastor will give his official 30 day notice of departure to his home church in Wisconsin. His current thinking is that he will join us and start his call roughly 30 days, plus or minus, after he gives his notice in Wisconsin.

You now know the latest! Be sure to thank Julie Helter and the Call Committee members for their terrific work. We are about to embark on a new phase of St John's ministry, so praise the Lord and get ready. It's going to be a great journey!

Brian M Kent, Ph.D.
President, St John's

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASSES

- Preschoolers - Elementary: Join us in the Sunday school wing at 9am every Sunday for Bible stories, songs, crafts and games.
- Middle schoolers: Join us in the Sunday school wing at 9am every Sunday for confirmation studies and activities.
- High Schoolers: We will meet in the Sunday school wing at 9am on the first Sunday of each month. On October 1st, come see if you can puzzle your way out of the Escape Room challenge to free Paul from prison.
- Adults: Join us in the Upper Room at 9am on Sundays, October 8-29, for an ELCA Bible study that explores the perspective of scripture on refugees and migrants, led by Brook Ñauta. This is will be a conversation based on the agreement that: immigration is a complex issue; there are strongly held, differing opinions among us; we will seek to understand how best to serve; we will speak respectfully about everyone including immigrants, migrants and those who enforce immigration law. Come on October 8 ready to share stories of our own families.

OCTOBER 7th IS SHRED AND BREAD DAY!

Saturday, October 7 from 10 am - 2 pm,
St. John's will be holding the annual Shred
and Bread event.

Drop off your sensitive household
documents for free shredding, and also
support Miamisburg Helping Hands Food
Pantry by donating nonperishable food
items and/or cash.



Enjoy a complementary donut and cup of coffee or a bratwurst and chips when you
participate in this outreach event.

You can also donate to Helping Hands online at www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org.

WELCA GARAGE SALE/BAKE SALE - SATURDAY, OCT. 28 - 9:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Start collecting your items that you would like to donate to the sale. Items can be put in
fellowship hall starting **MONDAY, OCTOBER 23rd**. Items will need to be at the church by
Friday, Oct. 27th. Crafts, indoor plants, tools, household items and holiday decoration can be
brought in. 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 and include a price.

Let Ida Geary and/or Cheryl Page know if you can with setting up fellowship hall during the
week, on Saturday to assist with the sale or on Monday to box everything up.



Trunk or Treat
Saturday, October 28th
6:00-8:00 pm.

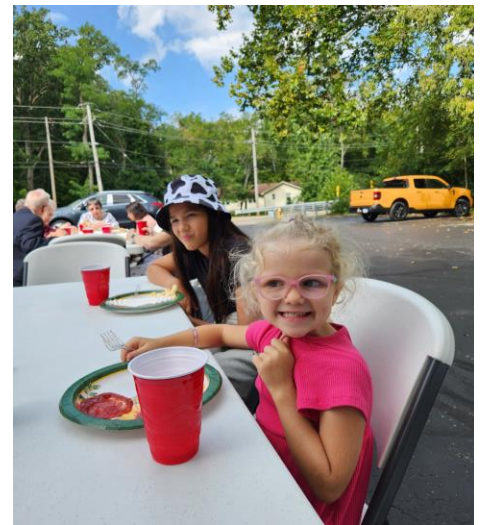
BLUE STAR MOTHERS

The Discipleship Committee will be taking donations of the items below that will be given to Blue Star Mothers who will then send to our deployed troops for Christmas. Everything will need to be at church by Sunday, Oct. 29th.

- Tuna or chicken in foil packs (no cans)
- Pop Tarts
- Men's body wash/shampoo – all in one
- Toothpaste in boxes
- Chapstick
- Lotion – no pumps
- Deodorant (solid)
- Slim Jims
- Protein or granola bars
- Trail mix – individual bags
- Cookies – individual packs (no bags)
- Gum
- Tic tacs
- Drink mixes – individual servings
- Combos – small packs
- Tissues – small packs

RALLY DAY COOKOUT

On Sunday, Sept. 10th, to celebrate "Rally Day" a picnic was held at the church after worship.



Join Zoom Meeting on Sundays

<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.

On September 20th, Nancy Andrews celebrated 45 years of working at Kettering Hospital. Congratulations Nancy!



Budget Report for August 2023

Income for August 2023: \$8,041.66

Expenses for August 2023:

Outreach	\$333.00
Staff	\$1,953.63
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$1,786.02
Property Insurance	\$438.83
Utilities	\$438.18
Committees	\$292.10
	\$5,241.76

August Budget Balance (income - expenses): \$2,799.90

YTD Income: \$60,734.67

YTD Expenses: \$54,512.33

Description of categories:

Outreach: Benevolence, special benevolence.

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

Conference: Council retreat.

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

Property Insurance: paid monthly

Committees: Discipleship, Learning, Worship & Music.

Utilities: Gas, electricity, water and trash services.

Congregational Contacts

Pastor Heidi Johns Interim Pastor 513-255-6279

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		
Cindy Kemper		937-367-2341

Organizations, Boards and Staff

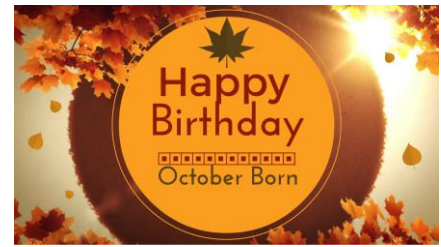
Karen Doyle	Church Secretary/Messenger Editor	937-866-3780
Tom Hoffman	Board of Trustees Chairman	937-859-8871/937-654-1218
Cheryl Page	Discipleship Committee Chairman	937-602-7952
Brook Nauta	Learning Committee Chair	513-217-0564/937-367-1473
Ida Geary	WELCA President	937-626-7765
Doug McCabe	Organist	937-866-8669
Brook Nauta	Children's Choir	513-217-0564/937-367-1473

Christian Education

Beth Knight	Pre-k through 1 st Grade	937-330-692-2092
Barb Hoffman		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 1
Daniel Kent
Sandi Null
October 7
Kenneth 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



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

Web: www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org

Email: secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org

HAPPENING'S IN OCTOBER

- | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| • October 2 | 6:30 p.m. | WELCA meeting at the church |
| • October 5 | 7:00 p.m. | Meet Pastor John |
| • October 6 | 5:00 p.m. | TWIGS Scrapbooking Event |
| • October 7 | 9:00 a.m. | TWIGS Scrapbooking Event |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Shred & Bread |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Dayton Tamil Academy |
| • October 8 | 11:15 a.m. | Congregational Meeting |
| • October 10 | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #35159 |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #3330-2023 |
| • October 14 | 10:00 a.m. | Dayton Tamil Academy |
| • October 15 | 6:00 a.m. | SonRise Breakfast |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Area 56 |
| • October 21 | 10:00 a.m. | Dayton Tamil Academy |
| • October 24 | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #35159 |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #3330-2023 |
| • October 28 | 9:00 a.m. | WELCA Garage Sale |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Dayton Tamil Academy |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Trunk or Treat |

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

Monday's & Friday's at noon - AA Group meets 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.*