



St. John's Lutheran

MESSENGER

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

September 2024

Sharing God's Grace

<SPOILER ALERT!>

(Rally day is September 8th. Please join us for a fun launch of Sunday school and the school year. You will be asked (in a fun way) about "Sharing God's Grace". My thoughts this month thus turn this way, spoiler though it is.)

We are "saved by grace". We are "justified by grace through faith". Luther's great reformation of the church can be tied back to rediscovering the role of grace in faith – God's work, not ours. We are "grace people", living lives of gratitude for what God has already done for us.

How then do we share this grace with others? Is it in treating them with the same unconditional favor that God shows us? Is it "unearned" acts of love and compassion? Is it in our deeds or our attitudes? Are we cognizant of God's grace toward us even as we fail to fully embody it?

Long ago, I was taught an acronym to remember GRACE – God's Riches At Christ's Expense. We really have been blessed deeper than we normally think about. Blessed to be a blessing. How do we share God's grace?

Hopefully, your brain is churning with ideas. I look forward to interacting with them in some mysterious way on Rally Day, September 8th!

Pastor John

GRACE-FULL RALLY DAY/PICNIC AND ART PROJECT

Sunday school and confirmation classes for children Preschool-8th grade will start again on September 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the children's chapel.

Please stay after worship on September 8th for a picnic. The Learning Committee will provide chicken, please bring a side or dessert.

After the picnic, you are invited to work on a congregational art project. The theme is "Sharing God's Grace". Each person will get a canvas which they can fill with paint, a collage, fabric, any design that represents God's grace to you. Artistic talent is not required, but you may want to think about what God's grace looks like to you beforehand. These will be hung in the hallway between the narthex and Sunday school wing. Paint and some other materials will be available on September 8th, but you are also welcome to bring your own supplies. If you can't make it that day or want more time, you can take the canvas home to work on it there. We hope everyone will participate.

WELCA EVENTS

- WELCA meetings will now start at 6:00 p.m. instead of 6:30. For the September 9th meeting we will all meet at Perkin's at 6:00 p.m. If your planning on going let Ida know that afternoon so she can reserve the room.
- Have you ever daydreamed about being a princess? Join us for a princess party! Learning about being God's special princess from his Word. **ALL WOMEN** are invited to attend on Sunday, Sept. 22nd at 2:00 p.m. in fellowship hall. There will be words on being God's daughter, light refreshments, a fall craft, door prizes and fellowship. The cost is \$5.00. Please register by Monday, Sept. 16th with Ida Geary, 937-626-7765.

SHRED & BREAD EVENT

This year's Shred & Bread event will be held on Saturday, September 28th from 9:00 am -1:00 pm. This event supports Miamisburg Helping Hands, so donations of cash or canned goods for the food bank are welcomed and can be dropped off when you bring your sensitive household documents for shredding.

The shredding is provided by Boundless, partnered with Super Shred, which provides special needs individuals with prevocational training and is owned by a family with a special needs son, so St. John's is happy to partner with this worthy organization as part of our program to support Helping Hands. Coffee and donuts will be provided in the morning, and brats and chips will be provided at lunchtime, while supplies last!

LAY ASSISTANTS WANTED!

Interested in serving your church in a new way? We are recruiting for more lay assistants. These are the people that help lead the service up front with pastor. No experience necessary! We are gathering all interested people after worship on September 29th, new and returning veterans alike! Thank you for considering serving in this way.

FROM THE DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE

We will be collecting school kits for Lutheran World Relief thru the end of the month.

The kits are very specific:

- 4 - 70 sheet Notebooks
- 24 count Crayons
- 1 Pencil Sharpener
- 1 - 30cm Ruler
- Blunt Scissors
- 5 unsharpened Pencils
- 5 Black or Blue Pens
- 1 - 2 1/2" Eraser

Please put items in the wagon that is located in the narthex. Thank You.

BACKPACK BLESSING

During the children's sermon on August 11th, Pastor John blessed all of the children's backpacks! May God be with them always!



\$456.00 donation! So Awesome!

Thank you so much for your generous donation. We appreciate your support.

On behalf of our active duty military serving the United States of America and our Veterans, we sincerely thank you.

*The Blue Star Mothers of America
Miami Valley Chapter 3 Ohio*



Office Location: 534 Xenia Avenue
Dayton, OH 45410
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 842 Dayton,
OH 45401-0842
(937) 331-9440
jeremiahsletter.com
dennis.jeremiahsletter@gmail.com

"But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...for in its welfare you will find your welfare." Jeremiah 29:7

August 5, 2024

St. John's Lutheran Church
470 S. Gebhart Church Rd.
Miamisburg, OH 45342

To the Congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church,

Grace and peace to you!

My apologies for the delayed response, although confident you will understand.

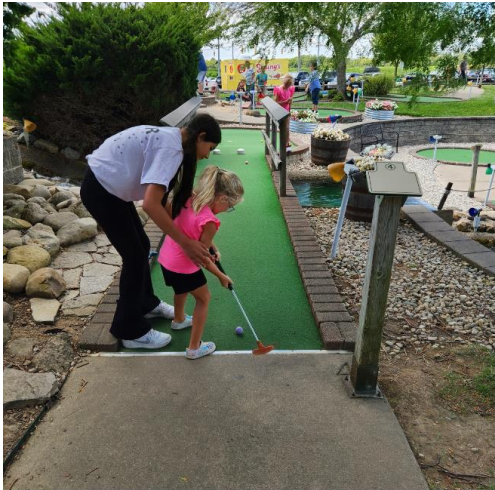
This is to acknowledge receipt of your most recent donation dated May 13, 2024 in the amount of \$430.00. We are grateful for your continued caring support and sharing in our mission of helping others. This is making a difference in the lives of the individuals and families we serve.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS, HEARTS OF COMPASSION AND FAITHFUL SUPPORT OF JEREMIAH'S LETTER. May God bless each and every one of you and thank you on behalf of all the individuals and families we are able to help each year. May the grace and peace of God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Your brother in Christ,


Dennis L. Hawley
Executive Director
Jeremiah's Letter Inc.





YOUNG'S JERSEY DAIRY

After worship on Sunday, August 11th, the congregation was invited to go to Young's Jersey Dairy for an afternoon of food, fun and games. A fun time was had by all!

ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?

Thrivent members are eligible for participating in the Thrivent Choice program, where up to \$250 per project can be requested. These projects are intended for outreach programs, not the general expenses of the congregation, and could be requested for such events and activities as the Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser, Shred & Bread fundraiser, Christmas Forest, School Supplies, and any other outreach activities that our congregation supports.

How can you help? Contact your Thrivent representative to see if your membership makes you eligible for the Thrivent Choice program.

If you are eligible, please let Linda Kent or Karen Doyle know so that we can create a list of Thrivent members within the congregation.

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 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 July 2024

Income for July 2024:		\$8,648.97
Expenses for July 2024:		
Outreach	\$333.00	
Staff	\$7,853.03	
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$1,140.94	
Property Insurance	\$479.83	
Utilities	\$435.91	
Committees	(\$5.60)	
		\$10,237.11
July Budget Balance (income - expenses):		(\$1,588.14)
YTD Income:	\$63,870.09	
YTD Expenses:	\$73,121.37	
YTD Balance:	(\$9,251.28)	

Description of categories:

Outreach: Benevolence, special benevolence.

Staff: Pastor and staff pay and expenses.

Facility Upkeep/Administration: Maintenance and office expenses.

Property Insurance: paid monthly

Committees: Discipleship, Learning, Worship & Music.

Utilities: Natural gas, electricity, water and trash services.

Congregational Contacts

Pastor John Czarnota Pastor 920-642-3363

Council Members

Julie Helter	*President	937-232-3378
Garry Andrews	*Vice President	937-848-2090
Linda Kent	*Church Treasurer	937-885-3529/937-572-7815
Judy Kuemmel	*Financial Secretary	937-321-1198
Allen Jackson	*Recording Secretary	937-672-7888
Ida Geary		
Cindy Kemper		937-367-2341
Cathy Zimmer		937-212-9283

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
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September 6
Olivia Knight
September 8
Jonathan Czarnota
September 9
Cathy Zimmer
September 17
Garry Andrews
September 19
Judy Kuemmel
September 24
Barb Hoffman
September 27
Bernice Bowell
September 30
Sara Bell
Mai Fenwick



Charlie & Gail Braun
September 13
Bobby & Beth Knight
September 18
Brian & Linda Kent



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

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

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|----------------|------------|--|
| • September 8 | 9:00 a.m. | Sunday School/Confirmation Class's begin |
| | 11:15 a.m. | Rally Day Picnic/Art Project |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Area 56 Meeting |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #35159 |
| • September 9 | 6:00 p.m. | WELCA Meeting @ Perkins' |
| • September 21 | 10:00 a.m. | Area 56 Assembly |
| • September 22 | 2:00 p.m. | WELCA Women's Event |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Girl Scout Troop #35159 |
| • September 25 | 6:30 p.m. | Council Meeting |
| • September 27 | 5:00 p.m. | TWIGS Scrapbooking Event |
| • September 28 | 8:00 a.m. | TWIGS Scrapbooking Event |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Shred & Bread |
| • September 29 | 11:15 a.m. | Lay Assistant Meeting |

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

Friday's at 6:30 p.m. Dayton Tamil Academy

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.