



*St. John's Lutheran*

# MESSENGER

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

April/May/June 2026

This is a photo of the Cliffs of Moher (pronounced Moh-er). It is a place famed for its stark contrasts – flat, emerald fields vs. steep foreboding cliffs, land vs. sea. Etc. A place of internationally recognized beauty, it was also an early monastery. I love the idea of this type of place as “holy ground.” In addition to the natural beauty that itself points to God; the contrasting sense of the place does this as well. This is the seashore – the meeting of two worlds land and sea. This is fertile ground – bee hives, plentiful harvests etc. with impassable cliff faces.



We approach Easter. God enters again into our world in a radical way, coming through death to conquer sin and death in the resurrection and new life in Christ. Our world meets paradise. The contrasts are huge, yet here we are – an edge people. We sit- firmly in this world, but able to look into the next. We see the expanse of waters, baptismal promises pointing us to deeper meanings. We see the impossible. We experience God's possibility. We exist- here AND there. Now AND not yet. Living for this world, but also into the next. God-with-us calls us into more – or Moher.

May your Easter show you the miracles of God's connections as we exist together on the edges of things.

Pastor John



- † Palm Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.
- † Maundy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.
- † Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.
- † Easter Sunday, April 5 @ 9:00 a.m. – Breakfast  
10:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Please join us in person or via zoom for these services.

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### **EASTER EGG HUNT APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:00 AM**

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can help with the Easter Egg Hunt. We need people for traffic control, helping with crafts, handing out snacks, setup and cleanup, and donations of cookies. There is also a basket in the narthex for donations of candy and eggs.

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### **EASTER BREAKFAST APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup> AT 9:00 AM**

All are welcome. Signup on the bulletin board if you would like to bring a dish to share.

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### **'FISH-EYES'**

Parkview Church in Miamisburg will host a special Palm Sunday evening of Christian theater through the staged production of *Fish-Eyes* on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the church (3713 Benner Road, Miamisburg). The performance is free and open to everyone.

## TORNADO SAFE SPACE PROCEDURES

As we enter the peak Tornado season in Ohio, we all must be reminded of the safest place to be when we're alerted of oncoming severe storm weather. Although Tornado's are generally associated with Spring Weather, the fact is in the State of Ohio, Tornadoes are actually possible any month of the year, though they are most prevalent March to October. When you are in or near St John's building, you might ask yourself – *where is the safest place to be if the tornado or severe thunderstorm sirens go off?*

It is important to avoid all areas close to windows, or any high supported roof room. These include the meeting house, sanctuary narthex, and the undercroft (because of the windows).

*The safest places to be in St. John's Lutheran Church during severe weather is to go into the Basement Sunday School Hallway, either downstairs restroom by the classrooms, or the western classrooms that DO NOT HAVE WINDOWS. This includes the nursery room, and the large classroom next door.*

We ask that all groups and organizations take some time to locate these areas and plan to order any/all participants to these areas should the severe weather sirens go off.

*Brian M Kent, Board of Trustees  
St John's Lutheran Church*



The 2026 Primary Election will be on Tuesday, May 5th.

St. John's is a polling location so there will be a lot of traffic in both the building and parking lot.

Please be especially cautious if you will be on the property on Tuesday from 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

## SPAGHETTI DINNER

St. John's will be holding a fundraising spaghetti dinner to support Helping Hands on Saturday, May 16, from 4-7 pm.

The menu will be spaghetti, sauce, meatballs, salad, breadsticks, dessert and drinks.

We need your help! People to serve, bus tables, and take payments are all needed. We also need your homemade desserts!

Most important – come and enjoy a spaghetti dinner on May 16!

Mark your calendar and watch for details in future bulletins and emails.

If you wish to help in any way, please contact Linda Kent, Cindy Kemper or Debbie Ball.

**BUON APPETITO!**

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## 17 QUART ROASTERS

There are 4 roasters that were used for the Chicken Noodle dinner, that are no longer needed.



If anyone is interested in 1, please contact the office.

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## NEW TAX BREAK FOR CHARITABLE CASH DONATIONS

There is a new tax law change that benefits those who do not itemize deductions on their tax return. Beginning this year, you can deduct cash donations to charities up to \$1,000 per single filer or \$2,000 per joint return when you do your taxes at the end of the year. This deduction is a credit subtracted from your taxable income, no need to itemize. If you would like credit for your cash donations and do not have a box of giving envelopes, call Judy Kuemmel (937-321-1198) or write your name on the envelope containing your cash donation. If you donate by check your name and address printed on the check will be used. A giving statement will be prepared for you at the end of the year showing your total donations. Why not maximize your generosity and get a tax credit too?

**Easter donations can still be made to Helping Hands.  
Please mark your donation "Helping Hands".**



February 21, 2026

To: St John's Lutheran Church

Miamisburg Helping Hands Food Pantry appreciates the generous donation of \$1464.19, Ck# 1477, for the people we serve in our pantry. We are able to offer 5 days of groceries to Miamisburg School district needing assistance.

In 2025, we served 2652 households and 8652 individuals! So far in 2025 we have served 360 households and 1193 individuals.

We are a choice pantry meaning our clients choose items from our inventory to provide for their family. On average clients receive 50-60 pounds of shelf items including a large variety of canned goods, peanut butter, canned meats and dry goods such as cereal, pasta, rice, beans and bakery items. The pantry also provides milk, eggs, meat and fresh produce.

The majority of our food comes from a central FoodBank, which serves approximately 100 agency pantries like ours. Helping Hands also purchases additional goods to supplement items not available from the Foodbank..

Generous donors like you help us provide this vital community need.

Wishes for a blessed holiday season!

Thank You,  
Pam Elking, Volunteer

## 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/u/kdSEte9ZyO>

### REMINDER

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

[www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org](http://www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org)

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

### 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.

**Budget Report for February 2026**



Income for February 2026:		\$8,243.19
<b>Expenses for February 2026:</b>		
Outreach	\$175.00	
Staff	\$7,214.01	
Facility Upkeep/Administration	\$1,127.56	
Property Insurance	\$472.00	
Utilities	\$1,622.25	
Committees	\$104.11	
		\$10,714.93
<b>February Budget Balance (Income - expenses):</b>		<b>(\$2,471.74)</b>
<b>Monthly Income Needed to Meet Budget:</b>		<b>\$10,016.00</b>
<b>YTD Income:</b>	<b>\$14,877.83</b>	
<b>YTD Expenses:</b>	<b>\$21,308.85</b>	
<b>YTD Balance:</b>	<b>(\$6,431.02)</b>	

Description of categories:

- Outreach:** Synod benevolence.
- Staff:** Pastor, supply pastor and staff 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.

- April 1 Brook Ñauta
- April 4 Kendall Ring
- April 6 Gary Naylor
- April 8 Brody Lamb
- April 10 Ken & Sandy Yeazel
- April 12 Ida Geary
- April 13 Amy Ñauta
- April 23 Garry & Nancy Andrews
- April 30 Tom & Barb Hoffman
- May 3 Delinda Pierce
- May 20 Seth Helter
- May 21 Kim Holtzman
- May 22 Debbie Humphrey
- May 28 Paul Settle
- May 29 Ursula Morris
- May 31 Cheryl Page
- June 11 Karen Settle
- June 22 Matthew Page
- June 23 Nancy Andresws
- June 29 Dan Reed
- June 30 Luke Helter
- Everett Morris

**CONGREGATIONAL CONTACTS**

Pastor John Czarnota      Pastor      920-642-3363

**Council Members**

Julie Helter	*President	937-232-3378
Everett Morris	*Vice President	937-760-1099
Linda Kent	*Church Treasurer	937-885-3529/937-572-7815
Judy Kuemmel	*Financial Secretary	937-321-1198
Brian Kent	*Recording Secretary	937-572-3025
Adam Wallace	Member	
Amy Ñauta	Youth Representative	

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

**Christian Education**

Beth Knight	Pre-k through 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	937-414-5212
Barb Hoffman		937-859-8871/937-231-6341
Brook Ñauta	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade through 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	513-217-0564/937-367-1473
Robin Skelding	Confirmation	937-748-5405

**Ministry Contacts**

Nancy McCabe	Prayer Chain	937-654-4972
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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 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**  
**Web: [www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org](http://www.stjohnsmiamisburg.org)**  
**Email: [secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsmiamisburg.org)**

## APRIL/MAY/JUNE

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|------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| • April 2  | 7:00 p.m.  | Maundy Thursday Service              |
|            | 7:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Leaders Meeting           |
| • April 3  | 7:00 p.m.  | Good Friday Service                  |
| • April 4  | 10:00 a.m. | Easter Egg Hunt                      |
| • April 5  | 9:00 a.m.  | Easter Breakfast                     |
| • April 12 | 6:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Troop #35159              |
| • April 14 | 6:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Troop #3330               |
| • April 18 | 12:00 noon | Area 56 Committee Meeting            |
|            | 2:00 p.m.  | Member Event                         |
| • April 19 | 6:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Troop #39996              |
| • April 26 | 6:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Troop #35159              |
| • April 28 | 6:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Troop #3330               |
| • May 3    | 2:15 p.m.  | Youth Visiting Kingston Nursing Home |
| • May 5    | 6:30 a.m.  | Primary Election Day                 |
| • May 7    | 7:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Leaders Meeting           |
| • May 10   | 6:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Troop #35159              |
| • May 12   | 6:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Troop #3330               |
| • May 16   | 12:00 noon | Area 56 Committee Meeting            |
|            | 5:00 p.m.  | Spaghetti Dinner                     |
| • May 17   | 12:00 noon | Member Event                         |
|            | 6:00 p.m.  | Girl Scout Troop #39996              |
| • June 5   | 2:00 p.m.  | TWIGS Event                          |
| • June 6   | 8:00 a.m.  | TWIGS Event                          |
| • June 7   | 2:15 p.m.  | Youth Visiting Kingston Nursing Home |
| • June 12  | 2:00 p.m.  | TWIGS Event                          |
| • June 13  | 8:00 a.m.  | TWIGS Event                          |
| • June 20  | 12:00 noon | Area 56 Assembly                     |

Sundays at 7:30 p.m. AA/Al Anon -- Mondays & Fridays at noon AA Group  
 Friday's at 6:30 p.m. thru May 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.*