

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
3220 Columbus Street
Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297
614/875-2314

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ORGANIZATION
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Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297

DATED MATERIALS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

JOIN US FOR WEEKLY WORSHIP

Traditional Service: Saturdays at 6:00pm, Sundays at 8:15am & 11am

Contemporary Service: Sundays at 10:45am

Sunday School: Sundays at 9:30am

SEPTEMBER 2016

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Donald R. Allman, Senior Pastor allman@stjohnsgc.org	871-0060
Scott Ness, Associate Pastor sness@stjohnsgc.org	483-1046
Ray A. Rosenthal, Visitation Pastor rayarose@yahoo.com	991-0906
Elaine Bennett, Dir. of Lay Ministries elaine.bennett@stjohnsgc.org	539-0148
Julia Bolton, Organist	465-7512
Patty Eggleton, Secretary peggleton@stjohnsgc.org	875-2314
Michael Esposito, Business Manager mesposito@stjohnsgc.org	875-2256
Diana Imbrock, Youth Director grades 9-12 dimbrock@stjohnsgc.org	271-5775
Doug Jones, Custodian	539-9839
Susan Abbott Locey, Bell Choir Director	208-8215
Janice Miller, Recorder jmiller@stjohnsgc.org	875-2314
Parish Nurses: JoAnne Keller Kim Easterday	875-8255
Gary Pecuch, Youth Ministry Coord./Confirmation gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org	875-4867
Laurie Pecuch, Youth Director grades K-8 lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org	620-2669
Deb Reeves, Stephen Ministry	277-0567
John Schuder, Minister of Music jfs4wd@sbcglobal.net	254-3310
Nancy Shockley, Youth Director grades 9-12 nshockley@stjohnsgc.org	205-6925
Karen Whyte, Librarian barnowl@iwaynet.net	878-9392

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Officers: David Dye, President; Teresa Orahoad, Vice President; Beth Katterhenrich, Secretary; Kathy Wilkins, Treasurer.

Members-At-Large: Joel Baughman, Aaron Clark, Tom Lang, Tammy LeValley, Jody Shockley, Kevin Stenerson and Neva Warren.



Congratulations to Brady & Heather Stewart who were married here on 08/13/2016.
May God bless your new life together.



Congratulations to Morgan & Erica von Lohr on the baptism of their daughter, Lily, 07/24/16 at the 11:00am Traditional Service.

Congratulations to Mike & Stacey Pence on the baptism of their daughter, Riley, 08/14/2016 at the 11:00am Traditional Service.

Congratulations to Kyler & Amanda Denbow on the baptism of their son, Jonah, 08/14/2016 at the 10:45am Contemporary Service.



Our Christian sympathy is extended to the friends and family of Jim & Carol Rorick on the passing of Jim's mother, Pat Rorick who passed away July 29, 2016.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the friends and family of Phyllis Schweyer who passed away July 29, 2016.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the friends and family of Tom Journell who passed away August 8, 2016.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the friends and family of Brenda Dardinger and Jeff Dardinger on the passing of Brenda's brother, Clifford Hurt who passed away August 13, 2016.



- **THE SEFCHICK FAMILY** would like to thank Pastor Ray for assistance with Alberta's service. We would also like to thank everyone for their prayers in our time of sorrow.
- **A BIG "THANK YOU"** to Beth Swanson, Howard Linder, Carl and Nancy Kinman, and Jan Rosenthal for helping serve 83 families at the LSS Food Pantry on Tuesday 12th. We took 124 items, thanks for donating. It was greatly appreciated.
- **THE RODGERS FAMILY** would like to thank St. John's for the gift card that was given to them during this past holiday season. It was very much appreciated.
- **Stuffed With Love!** Thank you so much to everyone who donated stuffed animals throughout the past month! So far 360 are ready to be sent, but the total number collected should be around 500 STUFFED ANIMALS! Half of the animals will be sent to our sister church in Mexico, but since we have collected so many the rest will be given to the Bed Brigade and delivered with beds in central Ohio. Thank you again for making this project an amazing success!

- **DORIS LEIBROCK** writes Thank you Pastor Ray for visiting my son, Ron Leibrock in the hospital last week.
- **PASTOR BRIAN MCGEE** writes: Pastor Donald Allman & Church family, WOW! What a wonderful blessing it was to worship together at my ordination. I am overwhelmed with gratitude in my heart for each of you. Thank you for coming to celebrate with me. And I thank you for the blessing of your monetary gift. I truly appreciate your generosity. May the Lord Jesus bless you with his presence and lead you with his Holy Spirit. I send all my love to you!
- **PASTOR DON WRITES:** "I give thanks to God for your generous hearts. The special appeal has produced gifts for our continued ministry. We have received in the special envelopes \$16,450.10 for the Current Fund and \$4,810.00 for the Building and Maintenance Fund as of August 7, 2016. Others have increased their regular giving. This blessing will sustain us through the summer. Thank you for your commitment to keeping our ministry strong."



WOMEN OF THE NALC

Here's a spiritual growth goal: join a Circle of friends. Elizabeth Circle meets the first Monday each month. Sarah Circle meets the fourth Monday each month. Joining our Circles is an easy way to make new friends and grow spiritually. Contact Nancy Miller at 277-8542, or Karen Grossman at 871-1024, for more information.

September Circle Meetings

Elizabeth Circle (**see below**)
September 12 @ 6:00pm

Sarah Circle room 103-4
September 26 @ 7pm



Elizabeth Circle Fall Kickoff Activity

Date: Monday, September 12

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Sherry Nighbert's Home

2601 Yates Avenue Grove City

Activity: Potluck (please bring a covered dish or dessert)

*****ALL ARE WELCOME!*****



Brought to you monthly by
Laurie Pecuch
You can make a difference

Adults needed for YOUTH MINISTRIES!

Fall will be here before we know it! If you're an adult, ages 18 through 99+, and would like to be involved in any of the youth ministries for this upcoming school year, please talk to us! There are lots of way to be involved: Adventure Club, Faith Trek, Explorers, Energizers, IQA bible studies, Sunday School small group leaders, Retreats, Service Projects, Learning Events, Catechism Advances, Sunday Doughnuts, College Grant Fund, New Driver's Blessing and more. Contact Laurie in the youth office and she will connect you with the right people. Phone: 614-875-2314 or lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org.

You can make a huge difference in the life of a youth. Prayerfully consider being a part of the St. John's Youth Ministry Team!



YOUTH GROUP

Join the 2016-2017 St. John's Youth Ministry ADULT leadership team!

Training for Explorers and Energizers will be Wednesday, Sept. 21st, starting at 7pm. Groups start the following Wednesday on Sept. 28th.

Our youth ministry goals are for each youth to have the opportunity...

- to be surrounded in a web of faith.
- to have a biblical self-esteem.
- to have a working knowledge of the Word of God.
- to develop a meaningful prayer life.
- to be involved in meaningful service projects.
- to develop faith/leadership skills.
- to have a vision for the future.

Training for Adventure Club and Faith Trek will be Thursday, Sept. 22nd, starting at 5:45pm. Groups start the following Thursday on Sept. 29th.

You can make a difference in the life of a student this school year by volunteering to help with Adventure Club, Faith Trek, Explorers, or Energizers. Adults are needed to faith web with students, prepare meals, serve meals, greet students, clean up after meals, play games in the gym with students, lead crafts and bible studies, be encouraging faith witnesses, and just love the stuffing out of youth! **Make a difference; join us!**

If you would like to know more about how you get involved, please talk to Laurie, Nancy, or Diana. Church office number is 875-2314 or email Laurie at lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org.



Starting in September, the deadline for placing SCRIP orders will be the FIRST TUESDAY of the month. Order forms are on the youth office door, the link area, and on the bulletin board in the basement. Every time you order a gift card (to give away or to use yourself), a percentage goes into a special account to help send youth to summer camps. We keep track of the accounts and you can personally help raise monies to offset your child, grandchild, niece or nephew's cost of camp. If you have any questions about SCRIP, please talk to Gary or Laurie Pecuch.

Sometimes we like to share numbers (truth be told even if only one went on a summer trip through the youth department, we would consider it a worthwhile experience) but, since you asked, here are the number of children, youth, and adults who went on a summer trip in 2016... We sent 20 to the Leadership Academy at Heartland Center (plus we had 12 wonderful visitors throughout the week). At the Adventure Camp and Upper Camp weekend we had a total of 133. The Summer Service Trip had 20 serving souls. Transformation Zone sent five to serve in the Columbus and Marysville area. Eleven went to Family Camp at Camp Luther. **That gives us a total of 201 children, youth, and adults who experienced a summer trip. Thanks be to God!**



See You at the Pole 2016

A generation seeking Him! Psalm 24:3-6

Now is the time to pray to our Heavenly Father
for His good and perfect guidance.

On September 28th at 7:00 a.m., students at the local high schools will be gathering around the flag pole in front of their schools to pray for their schools, friends, families, churches, and communities.

Please join them as you are able to lift up today's needs and concerns.

The entire week, September 25th through October 1st,
has been designated *Global Week of Student Prayer*.

Find new and unique ways, places, and times to pray
throughout this week.

Make Jesus' light shine in this darkened world!



MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN AS OF AUGUST 7, 2016



Memorial Fund

Given in memory of **Lucille "Pat" Rorick** by Shirley Barnes; Donna Mosher; Shirley Blake; Deanna Cardenas; James and Suzanne Norris; Charles and Marlene Siefert; Bill and Sona Moore; Greg and Verna Schifer and family; Mickey and Susan Kent and family; Dennis Siefert Family; Linda Rife; and Lawrence Patzer.

Organ Fund and Refurbishing Fund

Given in honor of the 50th anniversary of **Pastor Ray Rosenthal's ordination** by Bethel Lutheran Church, Russell, Kentucky.

Given in memory of **Lucille "Pat" Rorick** by Beth Katterhenrich; Richard Stage; Wilma Phillips; Alice Katterhenrich; Carl and Nancy Kinman; Barry and Nancy Fisher; Suzie Long; Richard Rush; and Dellno and Betty Lewis.

Given in memory of **Helen Jane Poston** by Beth Katterhenrich; David and Mary Lou Mauch; and Averil MacKenzie.

Given by Paul and Pam Wittenberg; Bill Gehring; and Averil MacKenzie.

Thrivent Choice Dollars designated by Betty Lewis.

Given in memory of **Ardeth Distelhorst** by Beth Katterhenrich.

Given in memory of **Richard Davis** by Dick and Judy Mayhew.

Given in memory of **Phyllis Schweyer** by Alice Katterhenrich.

Current Fund

Given in memory of **Phillip Girbert** by his wife, Lois Girbert.

Building and Maintenance Fund

Given in appreciation of the use of the building by the Homeschool Group.

Given in memory of **Lucille "Pat" Rorick** by Jo Anne Keller.

Bed Brigade Fund

Given in memory of **Ardeth Distelhorst** by Harold and Rachel Stout; and Shirley Fino.

Thank you for following us this far on our church's journey of Spiritual Adoption! Our babies, symbolically conceived at the beginning of February, are in their third and final trimester now. All you moms and dads and other family

members remember how long it seemed before the newest member of the family was ready to meet the world; but in God's own good timing, he or she made his appearance. God often works in the dark, helping us to get ready for the next stage in His plan, and every day of waiting is important.



The Scriptures tell us not to grow weary in well-doing (Galatians 6:10), for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we don't give up. Many in the pro-life movement have been working for decades to protect innocent life, but abortion on demand is still the law of the land. We wish this fight was won, but we don't want to give up. Please take a moment to pray with us:

Dear Father, thank you for the gift of life that only You could give. We pray for all unborn children as they grow, that You would protect them as You get them ready for the next part of their lives. We pray for their mothers and fathers, for their grandparents and all who love them. Give their families peace and joy in the preparation, and help them through their difficulties. We pray for the leaders of our country, that they would make wise and life-affirming decisions, and for all who work with You to defend children, the disabled, the elderly and any in need of protection. Thank You, dear Father, for the grace, forgiveness and love You extend to all who ask. In Jesus' name, Amen.

-- Your Respect Life Committee

- Create an environment that is conducive to doing [homework](#) starting at a young age. Children need a consistent work space in their bedroom or another part of the home that is quiet, without distractions, and promotes study.
- Schedule ample time for homework; build this time into choices about participation in after school activities.
- Establish a household rule that the [TV and other electronic distractions](#) stay off during homework time.
- Supervise computer and Internet use.
- By high school, it's not uncommon for teachers to ask students to submit homework electronically and perform other tasks on a computer. If your child doesn't have access to a computer or the Internet at home, work with teachers and school administration to develop appropriate accommodations.
- Be available to answer questions and offer assistance, but never do your child's homework for him or her.
- Take steps to help alleviate eye fatigue, neck fatigue and brain fatigue while studying. It may be helpful to close the books for a few minutes, stretch, and take a break periodically when it will not be too disruptive.
- If your child is struggling with a particular subject, speak with your child's teacher for recommendations on how you or another person can help your child at home or at school. If you have concerns about the assignments your child is receiving, talk with his or her teacher.
- If your child is having difficulty focusing on or completing homework, discuss this with your child's teacher, school counselor, or health care provider.
- For general homework problems that cannot be worked out with the teacher, a tutor may be considered.
- Some children need help organizing their homework. Checklists, timers, and parental supervision can help overcome homework problems.
- Some children may need help remembering their assignments. Work with your child and his or her teacher to develop an appropriate way to keep track of his or her assignments--such as an assignment notebook.
- Establish a good sleep routine. Insufficient sleep is associated with lower academic achievement in middle school, high school and college, as well as higher rates of absenteeism and tardiness. The optimal amount of sleep for most adolescents (13 to 18 years of age) is in the range of 8 to 10 hours per night.

Arts in the Alley and Pizza!

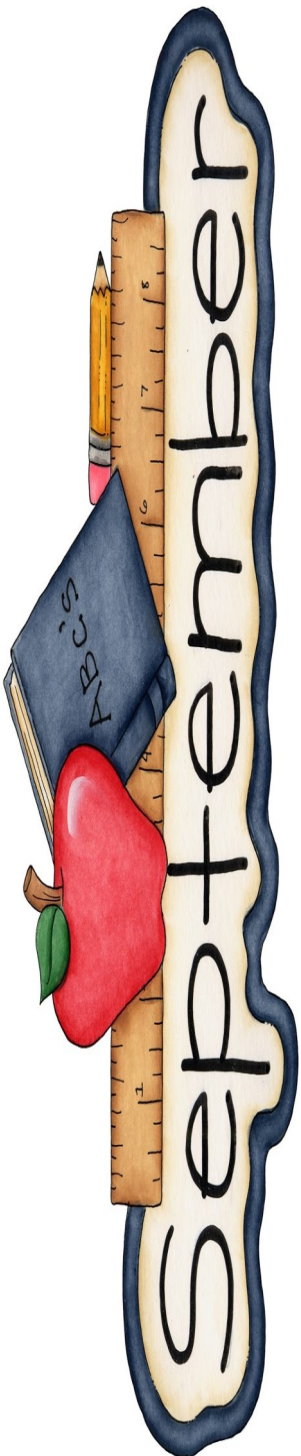


What a winning combination! The **St. John's Short-term Mission Teams** are again teaming up with Donatos to provide warm pizza, as well as cold drinks and yummy cookies and chips at **Arts in the Alley**, Saturday and Sunday, September 17th and 18th. Please plan on stopping by our booth to break bread with us! Watch for new booth location details in the bulletin News Notes.



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Promise Keepers 7:00am Cele. Ringers 6:30pm	2 Bulletin Team 9:30am AA 8:30pm	3 Traditional Worship 6:00pm A.A. Serenity Seekers 7:00pm
7 BSF Prayer Warriors 10:30am Women's Chorale 6pm Small Group 6:30 Chancel Choir 7pm	8 Promise Keepers 7:00am Cele. Ringers 6:30pm	9 Bulletin Team 9:30am AA 8:30pm	10 Eagle deadline Prayer Shawl Min. 9am Traditional Worship 6:00pm A.A. Serenity Seekers 7:00pm
14 BSF Prayer Warriors 10:30am Lions Club 5pm Women's Chorale 6pm Small Group 6:30 Chancel Choir 7pm	15 Promise Keepers 7:00am Card Ministry 9:30am Cele. Ringers 6:30pm	16 Bulletin Team 9:30am OWLS 11:30am A.A. 8:30pm	17 Polka Service 6:00pm A.A. Serenity Seekers 7:00pm
21 BSF Prayer Warriors 10:30am Women's Chorale 6pm Small Group 6:30 Chancel Choir 7pm Training Exp & Eng 7pm	22 Promise Keepers 7:00am Cherub Choir 5:15pm Training Adv Clb/Fth Trk 5:45pm Cele. Ringers 6:30pm	23 Bulletin Team 9:30am AA 8:30pm	24 Trad Worship 6pm A.A. Serenity Seekers 7pm
28 BSF Prayer Warriors 10:30am BSA Unit Mtg 6pm Women's Chorale 6pm Youth Choir 6pm Small Group 6:30 Chancel Choir 7pm Explores/Energizers 7pm	29 Promise Keepers 7:00am Cherub Choir 5:15pm Adv Clb/Fth Trk 5:45pm Cele. Ringers 6:30	30 Bulletin Team 9:30am AA 8:30pm	

2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
4 Trad Worship 8:15 & 11am Sunday School 9:30am Men's Chorale 9:45 Contemporary Worship 10:45am GSA 1826 12:30pm BSA 392 Leaders 5pm Adult Basketball 5pm	5 Labor Day Offices Closed	6 Script Deadline Quilters 9am OWLS Planning 12:30pm O.A. 6:30pm BSA 392 7pm Cub Scouts 7pm SW Historical Soc 7pm Healing Words Al-Anon 7:30pm
11 Trad Worship 8:15 & 11am Sunday School 9:30am Youth Fall Mtg 9:30am Men's Chorale 9:45am Contemporary Worship 10:45am GSA 1826 12:30pm BSA 392 Leaders 5pm Adult Basketball 5pm IQA 6pm	12 BSF Leaders First Place 4 Health 1pm Finance Team 7pm	13 Quilters 9am Fat Quarters Guild 5pm O.A. 6:30pm BSA 392 7pm Cub Scouts 7pm Healing Words Al-Anon 7:30pm
18 Trad Worship 8:15 & 11am Sunday School 9:30am Youth Fall Mtg 9:30am Health Screening 9:30am Men's Chorale 9:45am Contemporary Worship 10:45am GSA 1826 12:30pm BSA 392 Leaders 5pm Adult Basketball 5pm IQA 6pm	19 BSF Leaders First Place 4 Health 1pm Altar Guild 6:30pm Council 7pm Respect Life 7pm	20 Beacons & Quilters 9am OA 6:30pm MOPS 6:30 pm BSA 392 7pm Cub Scouts 7pm Healing Words Al-Anon 7:30pm
25 Conf. Blessing Trad Worship 8:15 & 11am Sunday School 9:30am Youth Fall Mtg 9:30am Men's Chorale 9:45am Contemporary Worship 10:45am GSA 1826 12:30pm BSA 392 Leaders 5pm Adult Basketball 5pm IQA 6pm	26 BSF Leaders First Place 4 Health 1pm Sarah Circle 7pm	27 Quilters 9am OA 6:30pm Bed Brigade 7pm BSA 392 7pm Cub Scouts 7pm Healing Words Al-Anon 7:30pm

MEXICO MISSIONS

I am thankful to be a part of this Mexico Mission Family. I have just completed my eighth year loving our children from the La Roca community. The day the niños arrive and come off the bus is a celebration! The child I had last year, Valeria, was the youngest of the group and afraid to be in a new environment. It took all week to get a good connection with her. This year, we were sitting on the picnic tables waiting for the niños to put their things away in their tents and Valeria came running up to sit with me. She asked if I would be her amiga again this year. My heart melted that she remembered me and wanted to come back to camp to see me again. She was paired with a different amiga this year and I was paired with a new niña to build a relationship with. One of our team members asked us to remember all of the niños from the past and to lift them up in prayer. I now have been paired with 11 niños as part of my family. I thank God that He has chosen me to serve and be served on this Mexico Mission Team. I also thank the people of St. John's for their prayers and support that make this all possible. Psalms 33:13-15 "From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all mankind; from His dwelling place He watches all who live on earth – He who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do."

Your servant, Kim Easterday
¡Gloria a Dios!

It was Monday afternoon and the kids from La Roca had arrived at the camp. I couldn't wait to see who I knew from previous years. It was a family reunion. I sat down to lunch and started to catch up. "Do you remember me?" a little girl said. Her name is Ana. She said, "You were my amiga two years ago." "Of course I remember you! I am so glad you are here!" I replied. She was all grown up. It tugged at my heart that the kids remember us and feel loved by us enough that they come back and remember our names. Together we loved each other and shared the word of the Lord and didn't worry about anything.

The week was powerful! Thank you for your continued support.
¡Gloria a Dios! Linda Cash and the Mexico Mission Family
Philippians 1:3 "I thank my God every time I remember you."

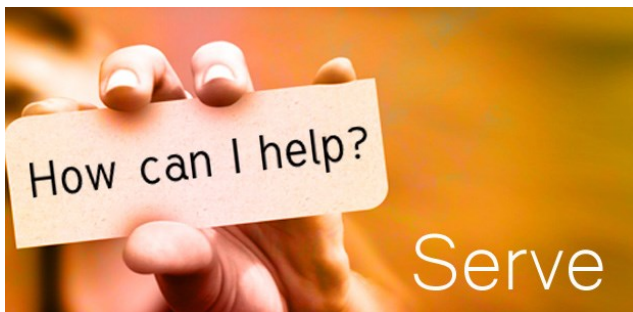


Operation Christmas Child!!!

Our kickoff date is officially October 9th, and we will be collecting boxes up until November 6th. Operation Christmas Child is an organization run worldwide by Samaritan's Purse. The project involves filling shoeboxes with items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, washcloths, toys, school supplies, and other items to send to a child in a poverty stricken country around the world. We ask that you avoid sending lotions, war related items, and items that can melt. Also, we ask that you include a \$7 donation to cover the cost of shipping in your box. If you don't want to make your own box, we'll have a donation tub for items in the link starting on October 23rd

(i.e. if you see a sale, or just want to purchase a bunch of school supplies, we will put these items in boxes for you), and monetary donations are also accepted. Even just praying can make a difference! Also starting October 9th the church will have boxes and labels for them available for your use. Thank you so much for your support! Contact Eli Wanner if you have any questions.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY begins September 6th at 9:30 am. Our gathering together will begin a study of **"The Beatitudes"**. You can know true happiness with God. By knowing one word! It's a word you've heard and read a thousand times. Jesus said it. In fact, He built the Beatitudes around it. You can rest in one word that reveals the new quality, a new measure of life that can be yours when you give your life completely to Him. Join us on Tuesday morning by indicating on the salmon sheet in Sat/Sun bulletin or contacting the church office. Books need to be ordered and handed out prior to our first class.



Where should we begin...there are many ministries here at St. John's..

Adult Discipleship—Small groups, Women's Retreats, Women's Circles, Prayer Intercessory. **Education Network**—Sunday School team, VBS, Adult Education. **Evangelism Network**—Fun Nights, New members/Shepherds, Arts in the Alley. **Fellowship Network**—Dartball, Softball, OWLS, Women's Fellowship, Camp Events, Church Picnic, Christmas Caroling. **Member Caregiving Network**—Hospital Visitation,

Prayer Chain, Homebound Communion, Grief Ministry, Bereavement Ministry, First Place 4 Health, Adopt-a-Family. **Outreach Network**—Peace Puppet Ministry, Family Fun Nights, MOPS, Visitor Connection Team. **Property Care Network**—Gardening Angels, Repair Team, Cemetery Maintenance, Church Sign. **Service Ministry Network**—Faith Mission, CROP walk, Bed Brigade, Red Cross Blood Drive, Food Drives, Bike Project, Souper Bowl Sunday, Operation Christmas Child, Alaska Mission, Mexico Mission, ACTS, Summer Service Trip. **Worship Network**—Praise Band, Flower Chart, Altar Team, Communion Assistants, Celebration Ringers, Banner Ministry, Greeters, Lay Readers, Nursery, Acolytes. **Youth Ministry Networks**—SCRIP, Work Camp, Summer Service Trip, Christmas Caroling, Donut Fundraiser, Bike Project, Soda Machine Fundraiser, Souper Bowl Sunday, Adventure Club/Upper Camp, Faith Trek, Explorers, Energizers, Bible Study, Youth Retreats, Faith Celebration, Faith Skills, Transformation Zone.

As you can see, there are many opportunities for you here at St. John's.

Find what you like and jump in and help!! You will be blessed by serving!!!

For more information see Elaine Bennett. (elaine.bennett@stjohnsgc.org)

A colorful board game titled "BACK-TO-SCHOOL" is displayed. The board is purple with a black border. It features a grid of 18 squares arranged in 6 rows and 3 columns. The first three rows contain illustrations of school supplies: a red apple on a green book (1), a yellow pencil sharpener (8), a yellow pencil case (9), a yellow paperclip (4), a black book (5), a blue and yellow pencil case (6), a blue and pink pencil case (7), a red protractor (2), and a green pencil case (3). The last three rows contain mathematical symbols: a multiplication sign (X), a zero (0), a division sign (÷), a minus sign (-), a plus sign (+), and an equals sign (=). The board is surrounded by a decorative border of colorful crayons.

We need a bit more to fill the bags for the children. We would appreciate boxes of 24 Crayola crayons, sturdy combs and hair picks. Please place your donation in the Beacons' cabinet in the link. We thank you for your interest and concern. Speaking of Christmas bag donations, remember to save and donate your ever-popular, leftover Halloween candy to the Beacons. We use leftover Halloween candy to add a little bit of happiness to our bags. Also, we are in need of Christmas material or brightly

The fall quarterly meeting of the Lutheran Social Services Auxiliaries will be Saturday, September 17, 2016 at Trinity Lutheran Church at 404 S. 3rd St. in Columbus at 11:30 AM. Call Linda Chenault at 614-871-3209 if you would like a ride.

The Beacons are collecting Campbell soup labels, Prego labels, Campbell products and Box Tops for Education for the Oesterlen Home in Springfield. We are collecting used stamps for the Wounded Soldier program in Virginia. We give card fronts to the G.C. Cancer Thrift Store.

The Quilters meet every Tuesday from 9am to 2pm in rooms 103-104. The Beacons meet with the Quilters on the third Tuesday to sort and bag clothes, cut and sort labels and stamps, and help with projects. Bring a sack lunch. All materials are provided. At the Beacons' meeting, we take monetary offerings for the food pantries and for the Beacons' general fund.

The Beacons and Quilters make it easy for you to get involved in helping others



OLDER WISER LUTHERANS (OWLS)

OWLS UPCOMING EVENT –

SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

Everyone in Grove City knows there is a bright, shiny new building downtown! It has been so exciting to watch the new library being built. AND it's almost ready to open its doors on September 26th. However, the OWLS are not only wiser but very special and so we will be visiting the library on Friday September 16th for a private guided tour (1:00 pm) hosted by Janet Shailer before the grand opening. We will do our best to transport or coordinate rides from the church to the library if needed. Hope you make plans to join us for this very exciting day in Grove City!! Invite your neighbors and friends!!

We will meet at the church at 11:30 for a brief meeting and lunch. **NO FRIED CHICKEN!!** We will be enjoying a boxed lunch catered by L.A. Catering. Drinks will be provided. Reservations for this meeting are very important to make sure everyone has a lunch. If you don't make a reservation, you won't have a lunch with your name on it! You may choose either ½ ham with Swiss cheese (ham and Swiss with tomato and lettuce served on a brioche bun or roasted chicken stuffed pita (oven-roasted chicken with homemade hummus, tomatoes and mixed greens). Also included is hand cut fruit salad, potato salad and a cookie. Cost is \$6.50@. **IMPORTANT:** You will be obligated for the cost of your meal if you make a reservation but don't attend and do not cancel by **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH**.

Please use the Sunday bulletin salmon insert to sign up or call the church office. **Invite a friend!** We don't have an age requirement – just be young at heart and love to share Christian fellowship with others.



CALLING ALL OWLS!

INVITATION TO JOIN THE OWLS

Have you retired recently? Are you looking for a club, group, etc. to get involved in to share your love of God? The Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors at St. John's would like to invite all members to join the fun and share the Christian fellowship at our monthly meetings. An OWL might be a little older in age but we are very young at heart. There isn't an age requirement but you must be old enough to enjoy the friendship and fellowship of others from St. John's. We are a very active group that meets the

third Friday of every month for either a potluck lunch at the church or an outing to visit different interests around the area.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE BLESSED BY RECEIVING A PRAYER SHAWL? Please call Nancy Kinman at 875-8155. **WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** will hold its next monthly meeting on **Saturday, Sept. 10 in Rooms 103 & 104 from 9:00am-11:00am.** Everyone is welcome. Bring your knitting/crochet materials and any completed shawls to be blessed with prayer. We would be happy to teach anyone interested to knit or crochet. Please join us! For more information call Glenda Allman at 871-0060 or Diana Imbrock at 871-3854.



St. John's Military Card Ministry

Please send cards to our military friends, especially when there is a birthday or holiday. Continue to keep them in your prayers. These are the current names and addresses. **Please help us keep our list updated with any change in address, rank, new recruits and discharges. Contact the church office at 614-875-2314.**



LTC Paul Allmon
PSC 704
Box 3025
APO AP 96338-0011
(Birthday—April 7th)

LTC Russell Ames
603 Hemphill Circle
Fayetteville, NC 28303
(Birthday—Oct 21st)

PFC Henricksen, Troy
232d Med BN A Co. Class #65-16
3820 Williams Way
JBSA Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234
(Birthday-Sept 1st)

Mark Brandt
leaving for Middle east
in August. Waiting for
address.
(Birthday—March 3rd)

SPC Aaron Waller
1101 Sundrops Pl SE
Albuquerque, NM 87116
(Birthday—Feb 10th)



Join Us For Our Annual Polka Service Saturday, September 17th At 6:00PM

Having trouble asking a friend to attend a worship service with you? Then invite them to our annual polka service. Our polka service consists of the same basic worship celebrated in the Lutheran tradition, but utilizes a unique mode of music. The folk music has been arranged and adapted with hymn lyrics in English. These old melodies make a joyous, inspirational worship service with unique music and orchestration presented in a manner of dignity and enhances the solemnity of the service. **See you and your friends Saturday September 17th toe tapping to the "PA Polka".**



KAREN YEATER is collecting Altoid and other metal candy tins for craft items. Please remember to place your small candy tins in the link, box marked Karen Yeater.

The **deadline for the October Eagle is September 10th.** Email announcements & articles to sj@stjohnsgc.org or leave a handwritten copy in the church office.



The Eagle

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
3220 Columbus St., Grove City, Ohio
614/875-2314*

September, 2016

www.stjohnsgc.org

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The wilderness is a real place. It exists in scripture. And in our lives.

Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness. The Israelites wandered the wilderness for 40 years. John the baptizer lived there. On purpose. Elijah walked through it. Peter experienced it after the cock crowed the 3rd time. Judas found out that 30 pieces of silver get you a one way ticket to the wilderness.

We experience wilderness times too. The loss of a job. The ending of a relationship. Betrayal of a friend. Illness and disease. Melancholy times of regret and missed opportunities. Struggles with our identity. We all wander through the wilderness.

The Good News is that God does not let us wander alone. We are not orphaned!

The call story of Moses provides a clear example of God's presence, even in the wilderness. Exodus 3 and following is the story of God calling Moses through a burning bush in order to raise him up to be the Savior of Israel from the chains of slavery in Egypt. I encourage you to pull out your bible and read along as I walk you through the Holy Ground Model that helps us to better see God's hand in the midst of our times of struggle and need. There are 6 elements to the Holy Ground Model:

1. **Wandering in the Wilderness. (Exodus 3:1)** For Moses, this was after he witnessed the abuse of the Israelites, killed an Egyptian guard, and fled to Midian. Moses was lost. When was a time that you were lost?
2. **Burning Bush. (Ex 3:2)** God speaks to Moses. For us, sometimes this is obvious and sometimes it is subtle. How has the Lord gotten your attention in the past?
3. **Turning Aside. (Ex 3:3)** Moses stops and draws near to figure out what God is saying. For us, we often look to three areas for this: Secular insights; Religious Insights; and Personal Insights. When was a time that you were able to discern what God was saying to you as you drew wisdom from these three spheres?
4. **Shoe Removal. (Ex 3:5)** Our response to a Word from the Lord is an act of worship. Maybe this is a prayer or a return to church after an absence or with new found vigor. Our response to God's Word always involves an act of worship as returns credit where it is due—the Lord. When was a time that Worship meant something different for you? What was the context of this newness?
5. **Called to Serve. (Ex 3:7-10)** As God speaks to us, there is always an element of mission. As God sent Jesus, so now He sends you and me. To what is God calling you? More importantly, to Whom is God calling you? When was a time in your life when you sensed God was sending you to be an aide and advocate for someone else?
6. **Preparing for Problems. (Ex 3:11 and beyond)** You notice that Moses doesn't meet his new calling with joy but with excuses and complaints. Moses complains over and over again and at every turn, the Lord rebuttals with a word of Presence, Identity, and Promise. Moses' complaints are: Who am I? (3:11) Who are You? (3:13) What if they don't believe me? (4:1) I can't do this because I can't speak (4:10) Send someone else! (4:13) Why Me?!? (5:22) I encourage you to read these complaints in light of your own life. And, pay special attention to God's response—which is always the next time that God speaks.

I share this simple Holy Ground Model as a way to encourage each of us, as disciples, to draw upon the Word of God to inform how the Lord is still at work in our lives.... even as we wander in the wilderness.

Pastor Scott