



The Eagle

www.stjohnsgc.org

June 2020

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

Dear Disciples of Jesus,

With our church being shut down for 10 weeks now, we are worshiping in a whole new way – virtually. You've seen our services on our web site as well as on Facebook. We are learning to worship in a whole new way. And just as we have a whole variety of in-person worshippers, it doesn't change much in our virtual world. See if you can recognize yourself in any of these... (you know who you are). Were you the family that attended church regularly but no matter how hard you tried, you were never on time. All heck breaks loose in your home on Sunday mornings, with everything conspiring to keep you late. The chaos and stress of trying to get out of the house on time means that you're fighting in the car as you careen into the parking lot of the sanctuary. Somehow, virtual church has changed none of this dynamic. You're still running around getting ready and the family isn't seated until the end of the opening hymn. Several members are fighting as they leap over the sofa to grab a final seat.

Do you and your spouse run downstairs into virtual church on Sunday wearing your pajamas, while your adorable children are dressed in their finest duds. Week after week they put on their best, as you fail to brush your hair or otherwise get presentable in time for the service.

Sure, our congregation's virtual service has Dr. John playing the organ, or, there is other musical accompaniment and a bit of a choir, but nothing like what you can provide at home as you belt out the hymn with particular gusto. Perhaps you're in a very talented singing family that can break into four-part harmony. Perhaps you're in a mixed family, where some of you can sing and some of you can't, and some of you get angry at the others for singing alto and leading you astray on a particular hymn. Maybe none of you can carry a tune and you sound like a bunch of seals. Whatever you're doing, just remember my grandfather's advice to us when we'd go to church with him: "Sing loud, and off key!"

One thing about virtual church is that you can attend easily from anywhere. I've dropped in on the congregations of various friends and family members. Facebook Live prompts you to announce that you're attending, and many visitors love to announce precisely where they're joining you from. As you let your presence be known in the comments section, a whole host of people greet you with gusto.

At St. John's, there is a ton of standing, and sitting, during worship. We're always on the move, standing for the opening, sitting for the lessons – standing again for the Gospel, and on it goes. But when you're home alone, some people just camp out on the couch. Constantly getting up and down from a big, cushy couch is more difficult than a hard pew.

Some people close that laptop the moment the benediction has been said. Others stay through the postlude. Still others stay to chat afterward in the comments. "Miss our friends! Hope everyone is having fun!" There are the folks who get there early to mingle. And the jokesters in general who issue such helpful remarks as "It's go time!" when the service starts.

Every church needs an usher, and these times are no different. Coronavirus ushers are the folks who mute everyone who forgets to mute themselves, clean up the aforementioned comments, and provide links to service bulletins for late arriving visitors from Fargo.

One of the best family traditions is creative ways mothers and fathers discipline children while in church. My oldest sister was an expert at the "dig her fingernails into my arm while continuing to smile and sing" trick. Even with no one watching behind you, virtual church requires careful discipline of the children to keep everyone on track without being so loud as to miss an important point from the sermon or distract from the hymn-singing. So, which one are you? Or are you a combination of them? Waiting in patience for the day we are back together again.

Looking Forward in Faith, Pastor Patti

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Seth Jersild, Senior Pastor sjersild@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314 217-255-2118
Patricia A. Morlock, Assoc. Pastor pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314 740-405-1548
Dirk Ahlgrim, Sat. Night Organist	614-875-2314
Tim Allman, Sunday School Superintendent	614-875-2314
Elaine Bennett, Dir. of Lay Ministries elaine.bennett@stjohnsgc.org	614-446-0148
Michael Esposito, Business Manager mesposito@stjohnsgc.org	614- 875-2256
Karl Eiginger, Children's Choir Director	614-875-2314
Nick Grossman, Contemporary Worship Leader	614-875-2314
Diana Imbrock, Youth Director grades 7-12 dimbrock@stjohnsgc.org	614-271-5775
Doug Jones, Custodian	614-875-2314
Susan Abbott Locey, Bell Choir Director	614-208-8215
Janice Miller, Recorder jmiller@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Gary Pecuch, Youth Min. Coord./Confirmation gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org	614-620-2659
Laurie Pecuch, Youth Director grades K-12 lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org	614-620-2669
John Schuder, Minister of Music jfs4wd@sbcglobal.net	614-254-3310
David Shrum, Contemporary Music Leader	614-875-2314
Karen Whyte, Librarian barnowl@iwaynet.net	614-878-9392

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Officers: Neva Warren, President; Kevin Stenson, Vice President; Melissa Butsko, Secretary; Dan Yeater, Treasurer.

Members-At-Large: Debbie Abbitt, Fred Previts, Aaron Clark, Cindy Henricksen, Warren Althoff, Jeff Dardinger, Richard Werner; Sheila Boneske.

Church Office hours are Monday through Friday,
8am to 4pm.

**The deadline for the JULY Eagle
is June 10th.**

Email announcements & articles to
sj@stjohnsgc.org or leave a handwritten copy in
the church office.

***DRIVE-THRU COMMUNION
continues to be held on Sun-
day mornings from 10:30am
to 11:30am until we are able
to meet again.***



OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:

Ruth Ross whose sister, Beth Aemisegger died on April 24th.

Joe Abbruzzese and family on the recent deaths of Joe's brother, Robert on March 11th, and his father, Ralph, on April 18th.

Jack David Miller and family on the recent deaths of his grandmother and aunt.

Rhonda Maynard whose father, Robert Lee Maynard, died on May 10th.

All who mourn are in our prayers.

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

Outreach, Benevolence, Missions—whatever you want to call it, your weekly offerings support many ministries to individuals, the community, and the global community. One of these funds is called the Good Samaritan Fund, and has been a part of our outreach for many, many years. Primarily, this fund is for the purpose of assisting individuals and families in need both within the St. John's family and the greater community. Needs are met at the discretion of the pastors and may include help with food, housing, utility bills, transportation, etc. Recently, we asked you, the congregation, to give to this fund so that we might help those who have needs related to the Coronavirus pandemic. You have responded mightily, giving over \$9,000.00 in just a few weeks. This has enabled us to reach out to 20 individuals and families so far, and we will continue to fill needs as they are identified. We thank you for your kind hearts and love for your neighbors!



Thanks to our college age students who from the very beginning volunteered to grocery shop and run errands for our senior members. You have been the hands and feet of Jesus in the flesh!



Graduation 2020

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES!

Trevor Allmon – grandson of Marilyn Weisenburger
from the University of Cincinnati with a degree in Mechanical Engineering

Zach Dougherty – son of Karen and Kevin Stenerson
from OSU with a Bachelor's in Pharmacy Science

Kalvin Koethke – son of Caroline Koethke
from OSU with a degree in Biology

Bekah Morlock – daughter of Pastors Jeff and Patti Morlock
from Ohio Dominican University with a Master's in Business Administration

Mikey Morris – son of Paul and Nikki Morris
from Capital University with a Bachelor of Arts in Music
and a minor in Psychology

Alyssa Stenerson - daughter of Jeff and Tammy Stenerson
with a Master's of Arts in International Education and Globalization from the
University of Bath, England

Jacob Stuckert – son of Karla Stuckert
Suma Cum Laude from Capital University with a BA in Music and Spanish

Aaron Uhrin – son of John and Jennifer Uhrin
from Muskingum University with a BS in Engineering Science

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING SENIORS

who have worked diligently and have successfully made it through this challenging year!
Come on Sunday, June 7th, as we honor them (and other students) during drive through
communion from 10:30 to 11:30am. Join in the celebration and send them off with
prayers, blessings, and good wishes!!!

Bailey Bennett
Garhett Koethke

Kaelyn Canter
Abby Kozman
Kaitlyn Price
Mahala Wanner

Arica Dougherty
Susannah Mitchell
Claudia Shade
Owen Wells

Luci Evans
Julia Patterson
Lillie Tulloch

YOUTH NEWS

CONNEX: Youth Groups are officially over for this school year, but we would still like to connex (check in and connect) with you! Text Gary for the CONNEX time and Zoom Id Number for middle school. His number is 614-620-2659. Text Laurie for the CONNEX time and Zoom Id Number for high school. Her number is 614-620-2669. It's informal and fun!

Wiktionary. **connex**(Verb) To connect; to fasten together. **connex**(Verb) To connect; to become joined or united.

Celebrating Students! We would like to honor and celebrate our students here at St. John's! Our students have worked hard, risen to the occasion of virtual learning, and been remarkable! There will be special drive through the church parking lot for students on Sunday, June 7th, 10:30am—11:30am. Students will remain in cars and be greeted by an adult. After driving through our celebration line, feel free to continue in your car to drive through communion. If you would still like to write a note to a student or **RSVP that your student will be at the drive through**, please contact Megin Cress or Laurie Pecuch.



FAMILY FAITH BOXES! A letter was mailed home in May to parents about Family Faith Boxes. If you did not RSVP but would still like to receive a box in June, please contact Laurie Pecuch at lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org or Diana Imbrock at dimbrock@stjohnsgc.org. We are putting together a box of devotions, hands-on activities, family fun, and faith sharing that the family can do at their own leisure and pace. You can even get a box for your neighbor! Boxes will be hand delivered to your home the first week in June. We are looking forward to this new adventure for families!

Confirmation begins in August of a student's 7th grade year. If you plan on your son or daughter joining the catechism program, please get your email address to Gary Pecuch. He has some "save-the-date" information for you. His email is gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org.

Thank you for connecting to the Kroger Community Rewards Program. If you haven't done so, you still can! Go to <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>. Our code number is EY530.



SCRIP GIFT CARD: Talk to Pam Wittenberg or Gary Pecuch on how to order on-line and/or put more monies on an existing SCRIP card. Please let us know if you order on-line, as we need to release your order, by emailing Gary at gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org. We are back to placing orders for physical cards the first Tuesday of the month. Drop off your check and order form at church. Cards are back to us within the week. We will deliver your cards to you in June.

Use AmazonSmile and they will give back .05% of your order to St. John's! AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. When you use AmazonSmile, the church will receive .05% of what you order on selected Amazon items. Start shopping at smile.amazon.com and link up to St. John's. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you will be prompted to select a charitable organization from a list of eligible organizations. We are listed as: **St Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church**. Contact Gary at gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org if you need assistance in linking your Amazon orders to St. John's. *Thank you!*



SUPPORT SUMMER MISSION TRIPS
JUNE 9, 2020
4PM-9PM
AT RAISING CANE'S ON
STRINGTOWN ROAD.
MENTION THE FUNDRAISER AND ST.
JOHN'S WILL RECEIVE 15% BACK FROM
YOUR ORDER



MEXICO MUSINGS



In the middle of a dusty soccer field, with mountains on either side of us, I threw a football to Willie. His four-year-old eyes sparkled, and with a big grin, he gave me a thumbs-up every time I caught the ball.

Willie lives in an orphanage in Tijuana called The Refuge. Only two weeks before, he had been living at the Tijuana dump. He came to the refuge with six other members of his family. Willie and his five-year-sister, Jackie, were assigned to be my special friends for the week.

One of my favorite memories of Willie was the day we went to the beach with the other amigos and niños. Willie timidly came to where the water met the beach. By the end of the afternoon, he was running in the waves. His laughter reached the heavens. By the time we got on the old bus, he fell asleep on the seat, covered with sand. He was covered like a sugared doughnut, a carefree boy, no longer in the dump, but embraced by God's love.

My favorite memory of Jackie was her sitting in my lap after beach day. The entire camp was watching an outdoor movie under a Milky Way sky. Jackie curled up in a little ball on my lap to watch the movie and soon she was sound asleep. When the movie was over, one of the Genesis staff came to pick her up and carried her over the dusty hills to her sleeping mat. Embraced in love, she was safe.

Not speaking much Spanish, I could talk to my niños in English and actually be praying over them. I prayed over Jackie after she saw a garbage can at camp and was excited to see what she'd find in it. She came from the dump, but my prayer was she'd know the treasure of God's love. I prayed over Willie the last morning we were together. The children had risen early to go back to the orphanage. With him in my arms, resting his head on my shoulder, I prayed for the Lord to bless him with safety and courage.

Thank you for your continual support and prayers for the Mexico Mission trip. I was blessed beyond measure to spend time with the children from The Refuge and the St. John's Mexico Mission family.

Laurie Pecuch

Psalm 47:1 Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.



Dearest Fellow Missionaries of St. John's,
It is with a heavy heart and many tears that I write this...
Due to the Covid 19 virus, we are cancelling our Mexico Missions this summer. The cross country flights, crossing the border into another country, and the fact that Mexico is behind us in the outbreak were three of the many factors Genesis and I took into account before making this decision. However, we will continue to fundraise, as possible, and pray so that we will be ready for a sweet reunion next year!
Please continue to hold Mexico, Genesis, and the Refuge Orphanage up in daily prayer.
Thank you for your continued support.
Blessings and miracles continue to abound!
Gloria a Dios!
diana



WOMEN'S SUMMER BIBLE STUDY - Sally Weisenberger will be leading a "Summer Sisters" Bible Study every Wednesday starting at 10:00 am using Zoom, which is a free website that can be downloaded to your computer, tablet or smart phone. First class will be on June 3rd and will go through August 26th. This year we will be focusing on "THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT." Email Sally at sunshine885518@gmail.com and let me know your name and email address so I can email your lessons to you and give you access to the Zoom meetings You can call me at home phone (614) 871-2463 (and leave a message) with any questions you may have. Thank you and hope to see you there. 🙏😊🌸

NOTES OF THANKS:



I would like to thank everyone for all the nice cards I have received and for your prayers. God bless all of you." -*Mary Fail*.

"Greetings to all the Resurrection people of St. John's. The photo of the church on Easter is just a joy! Thanks for (posting/printing) that and for Janet Wittenberg bringing communion to my home." -*Elaine Hamann*

Thank you to St. John's family for the books, cards, food, movies, visits, and prayers during David's long convalesce from his ankle surgeries. We especially appreciated the loan of the church's adaptive equipment. We are truly grateful for all of the caring and concern. - *David and Linda Chenault*

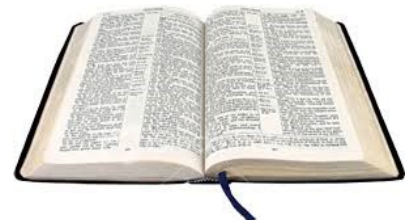
LAY READERS WILL BE NEEDED FROM JULY THROUGH DECEMBER.

Please sign up on the lists in the north entrance
(when we are able to meet again).

Be sure to include your contact number.

Thank you for serving in this ministry at St John's.

Contact Jo Dimond if you have any questions (614)270-3291.



GOD BLESS THEM ALL

God bless the dad who cares for his family,
From the time he bounces a child upon his knee;
To the time he watches a son get his degree,
Or walks a daughter down the aisle, proud as he
can be; To the time a touch of silver colors his hair,
As long as he lives, showing that he cares,
God bless them all, be they young or old,
May they receive Heaven's rewards a thousandfold!

Ada Weygandt

FATHER'S DAY

Whether we call him Father or Dad by name,
To us he'll always be the same,
The one we depend on to make things right,
The one who's special to us day and night;
A man of faith, he obeys his father above,
Striving to live a life of kindness and love.
Sometimes weak, sometimes strong,
Whether he's short or tall,
Each family thinks their dad's the best of all.
Whether he's with us still, or gone to his rest above,
He'll always be the man we remember and love.

-Ada Weygandt

Elizabeth Circle
Contact Debbie Abbitt
614-326-9253



Sarah Circle
Contact Vi Davis
614-875-2605

WOMEN OF THE NALC

Here's a spiritual growth goal: join a Circle of friends. Joining our Circles is an easy way to make new friends and grow spiritually. Both Circles have evening meeting times. Contact the leaders listed above for information.

*Prayer Shawl
Ministry*



WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Please keep knitting and crocheting, and praying from home! For information call Glenda Allman at 614-352-5955 or Diana Imbrock at 614-271-5775.

DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE BLESSED BY RECEIVING A PRAYER SHAWL?

Please call Nancy Kinman at 614-875-8155.



The Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors have been following the direction of our governor and our pastors by staying home these past few months. We hope and pray that we will be able to come back to church and our friends soon, but until then we hope you stay safe and healthy.

IF THE CHURCH IS OPEN: The OWLS will meet on June 19 and our speaker will be Mayor Ike Stage to give us an update on Grove City. There are a lot of projects in the works and now is your opportunity to come and hear about them.

Please arrive around 11:15 am so we can start our meeting promptly at 11:30 am. Bring a covered dish to share – fried chicken, meatloaf and drinks will be provided. Hope to see you there!!

Reservations are a must for this meeting. Please Bonnie Swanson (614-562-8002) to make a reservation or inquire about the event.

BEACONS and QUILTERS NEWS



The chief objective of the Beacons and Quilters is Christian action through love and concern. We try to help the less fortunate by showing God's love and our understanding of their situations. Our main focus is to make quilts for our Christmas sale and to give to Franklin County Children's Services. In the fall, we make and fill 100 Christmas bags for the children whose families use the food pantries. Our on-going projects are collecting card fronts for The Cancer Thrift Store and collecting used stamps for crafts at two military hospitals. At the end of the year, we donate most of our treasury to food pantries and various church ministries.

Choices, the shelter for victims of domestic violence, has many top needs. Usually, the victims of domestic violence and their children and sometimes pets, leave their homes with few of their necessities. They leave quickly and quietly. Sometimes, they leave in the middle of the night. They cannot manage boxes, bags or luggage. One of top needs of Choices is disposable infant and toddler diapers. Please place your donations in the Beacons-Quilters cabinet in the Link.

You have blessed Choices with frequent anonymous donations of many, many diapers from St. John's members and friends. Your generosity is a blessing to the mothers experiencing many concerns and worries. Thank you for caring.

If you have decorative or heavy furniture and you do not have the means to transport it to a collection site, consider the non-profit charity, Furniture Bank. They will come and pick up your donation. The Furniture Bank gives furniture to the needy to help furnish an apartment or house into a home. Their number is 614-272-9544. Their address is 118 South Yale Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43222. Furniture needs to be free of pet hair.

The Beacons and Quilters welcome visitors. When we are able to meet again, the Quilters will meet every Tuesday from 9am to 2pm in rooms 103-104. The times are very flexible suggestions. We come and go as we wish for as long or short as our energy and interest last. Come at any time and stay as long or short as you wish. The Beacons will meet with the Quilters on the third Tuesday to trim cancelled stamps and help with projects. You may sew on a machine, learn to hand quilt, cut squares, arrange the squares, tie knots or pin a hem. We always need someone to sort the donated fabric. All materials are provided. We bring a packed lunch. At the Beacons' meeting, we take offerings to help support the food pantries and our general fund.

Lord, give me the Christian love and understanding to not judge others. Amen

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614-875-2314

DATED MATERIALS

June 2020

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