



# The Eagle

www.stjohnsgc.org

August 2020

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

Dear Disciples of Jesus,

As we continue to slog through this pandemic, the unrest across our country, and the unknown of the future, I thought it might be wise to turn to Scripture.

I don't know about you, but I cringe when I hear someone say in response to all that's going on, "Well, God is in control." It's a false and harmful idea to think that the troubles and sorrows of this world are somehow orchestrated by God, so that all that seems so bad is somehow what God intended.

Scripture tells us that many things that happen in our world are NOT God's will. God grieves with us. Remember Jesus weeping at the grave of Lazarus. And again when he looked over Jerusalem and realized that the people he loved were headed to destruction – unimaginable suffering. And the very world itself – once God created it, he set it free to pursue it's destiny. That's why we have earthquakes and hurricanes and drought, and destructive uncontrollable fires – and disease!

Ecclesiastes 9:11 says *"I saw that under the sun, the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to the skillful, but time and chance happen to them all."*

God doesn't micromanage the world, as some suppose. But Scripture also tells us in Romans 8:28 that, *"Everything works for good to those who love God and are called according to his purpose."* God is able to make all events – even tragic ones – fit into his purpose to bless his children. It DOES NOT mean that everything that happens, happens for the best – that simply is not true. What is true is that God can *use* every event – for our ultimate blessing, given that we love God. This may be hard to wrap our minds around, but it's true. A lot of the mysteries in this life will be cleared up on the other side of this life.

Psalm 73 is a wonderful reflection on understanding the meaning of trouble. David had been taught that if people forsake God and live wicked lives, trouble would surely come. They will get what they deserve. But when tragedies occurred that he couldn't explain, he became disillusioned. He saw his wicked neighbor having a wonderful life of health and prosperity. He on the other hand had lived for God and yet his life was full of troubles. He was disappointed with God and his faith began to slip away. His steps nearly slipped and he almost yielded to despair – he almost gave up on God.

The story is told that one day the devil put all his tools on display. They were a terrible bunch – hatred, envy, deceit, lying, avarice, hypocrisy. And lying apart from the rest was a well-worn, but harmless-looking tool. "This tool", the devil said, "is more useful to me than all the others. It is discouragement. I can pry open and get inside a heart with discouragement when I can't get near a person with the other tools. Once I get inside, I can pry that person away from his God. It is badly worn because I use it on almost everyone, since so few people know it belongs to me." Have you been discouraged during this time? Ever prayed and wondered if God could hear you?

But then the psalmist went to church – for him, the Temple – and there his perspective was changed, because there he met God, and that made all the difference. What is the holy place where you meet God? It is there that you will find peace – peace in the midst of the chaos, peace in the midst of the pain, peace in the midst of your problems. Because you will discover, as the psalmist did, that *"God is always with you, holding your right hand, guiding you with His counsel, and then being received into his glory."*

Stay close to God during these crazy times, and you will see that He is close to you.

*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, Richard Werner; Sheila Boneske.

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

**The deadline for the SEPTEMBER Eagle  
is August 10th.**

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



**WORSHIP TIMES:**  
**Saturday at 6pm**  
**Sunday at 8am, 9:30am, 11am**  
**Contemporary-Sunday at 11am**  
**(Social Distancing will be practiced and face coverings are recommended.)**

**DRIVE-THRU COMMUNION continues to be held  
on Sunday mornings from 12:15pm to 1:00pm.**



**Holy  
Baptism**

Congratulations are extended to William and Amand Kredel whose daughter, Kenzleigh Mae was baptized on July 18th.

Congratulations to Mr. Brayden Harlor who was baptized on July 19th.

## **MEMORIAL GIFTS RECEIVED THROUGH JULY 12, 2020**

### **Memorial Fund**

Given in memory of **Jim Rich** by Susan Koehler.  
Given in memory of **Ada Weygandt** by Ike & Shelah Stage; Debbie Freece; Dorothy Cannon; Carol Bausch & Jackie White; and Fran & Graham Harold.  
Given in memory of **Jenny Ames** by Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Braden.

### **Organ and Renovations Debt Reduction**

Given in memory of **Jim Rich** by Dellno & Betty Lewis; and Ron & Neva Warren.  
Given in memory of **Joyce Althoff** by Warren Althoff.  
Given in memory of **Jenny Ames** by Ron & Neva Warren; Jim & Carol Rorick; and Carl & Nancy Kinman.  
Given in memory of **Ada Weygandt** by Dellno & Betty Lewis; Jim & Carol Rorick.





**WE ARE**  
THE HANDS AND FEET  
**OF JESUS**

**NALC DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

Outreach, Benevolence, Missions—whatever you want to call it, your weekly offerings support many ministries to individuals, the community, and the global community.

NALC DISASTER ASSISTANCE provides supplies for areas in times of need. Perhaps you have filled a flood bucket in the past few years—those were requested by the NALC Disaster Assistance. This organization is headed by Mary Bates, and their warehouse is located in Caldwell, Ohio. We will focus

on fulfilling some of their requests over the next few months.

**NALC DISASTER RESPONSE NEEDS** UPDATED 1/2018

**BABY CARE KIT**

- TWO lightweight cotton t-shirts
- TWO long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers
- TWO receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- FOUR cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- ONE jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- TWO pairs of socks
- ONE hand towel, any color
- TWO or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrap
- TWO diaper pins or large safety pins



**SCHOOL KIT**

- ONE cloth bag or backpack
- FOUR notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, no loose-leaf paper
- ONE blunt scissors
- ONE ruler
- ONE pencil sharpener
- SIX new pencils
- ONE eraser,
- PLUS: -----
- TWELVE sheets assorted construction paper &
- ONE box of 16 or 24 crayons for elementary
- OR ONE Calculator for high school (LABEL Handle)



**FLOOD BUCKET**

- ONE 5 gallon bucket with lid
- TWO large trash bags
- Comet or scouring cleanser
- PineSol or liquid floor cleaner
- Scrub brush
- Dust Mask (N-95 recommended)
- Rubber gloves
- Broom
- Rakes, shovels, hoes – debris removal tools



**QUILTS & BLANKETS**

ANY Size Quilt or Blanket including fabric printed with religious, patriotic, & military symbols.



**HEALTHCARE KIT**

- ONE bath towel
- ONE wash cloth
- TWO bars of soap, in original wrapping
- ONE toothbrush
- ONE pack of dental floss
- ONE tube of toothpaste (two if sample size)
- ONE comb
- ONE deodorant



**NEW and USED BIBLES**



**GIFTCARDS**

HOME DEPOT  
LOWE'S  
WALMART  
TARGET



**PLEASE BRING INDIVIDUAL ITEMS OR COMPLETED KITS TO ST. JOHN'S.**

**AUGUST SCHOOL SUPPLIES OR COMPLETED KITS**

**SEPTEMBER HEALTH CARE ITEMS**

**OCTOBER QUILTS AND BLANKETS**

**NOVEMBER BABY CARE ITEMS**

**DECEMBER GIFT CARDS TO HOME DEPOT, LOWE'S, WALMART, OR TARGET**

**JANUARY FLOOD BUCKET ITEMS**

**NEW AND USED BIBLES ACCEPTED ANY-TIME.**

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING OTHERS IN THEIR TIME OF NEED!**

Send MATERIAL & GIFTCARD Donations to:  
NALC Disaster Warehouse  
810 Main Street  
Caldwell, OH 43724

Mary Bates  
NALC Disaster Response Coordinator  
DisasterResponse@theNALC.org  
740-509-1132

Send MONETARY Donations to:  
NALC Disaster Response  
2299 Palmer Drive, Suite 220  
New Brighton, MN 55112-2202

# YOUTH NEWS

**CONNEX!** (Wiktionary: connex(Verb) To connect; to become joined or united.) Youth Groups are officially over but we would still like to connex with you! Middle School CONNEX starts at 7pm on Wednesday nights. Text Gary at 614-620-2659 for the Zoom Id Number and Password. High School CONNEX starts at 7pm on Thursday nights. Text Laurie at 614-620-2669 for the Zoom Id Number and Password. It's informal and fun! **Please note that we will be taking August 5 –6 off.**



**SUMMER FAMILY FAITH BOX:** We created a box of devotions, hands-on activities, family fun, and faith sharing that a family can do at their own leisure and pace. You can even get a box to give to your neighbor! We are praying for your family and your time together! The August box has been delivered. We hope families enjoy the August box!

**Confirmation begins the weekend of August 22-23.** If you plan on your upcoming 7th grade son or daughter joining the catechism program, please get your email address to Gary Pecuch at [gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org). Gary sends out weekly emails to parents during the school year keeping them updated on confirmation news.

**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](mailto:gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org). We are also placing orders for physical cards the first Tuesday of the month. *Thanks for your support!*

**2020-2021 St. John's Youth Ministry ADULT leadership team is forming.** Due to CoVid, we don't have starting dates on the calendar, but we are moving ahead with recruiting the 2020-2021 adult leadership team. If you'd like to join the Adventure Club, Faith Trek, Explorers, and/or Energizers Team for the 2020-2021 school year, please talk to Laurie, Gary, or Diana, or text Laurie at 614-620-2669 or Diana at 614-271-5775.

**INK JET CARTRIDGE RECYLCING AND CELL PHONE RECYLING has been discontinued.** Please look at recycling these items at other locations. We know that STAPLES in Grove City will take both ink jet cartridges and cell phones. *Thank you!*

## NOTES OF THANKS:



Rita Murray wants everyone to know how much she appreciates and loves the special notes and pictures she has received from you all. She wants you to know that God loves you and that He's got this! She is lonely and missing everyone, but is very busy making more crosses and hearts for when we get back together again.

Paula Ames sends her thanks to everyone for cards and prayers during her illness and the death of her daughter, Jenny. She is appreciative of the on-line services provided by the pastors with a special thanks to all the musicians.

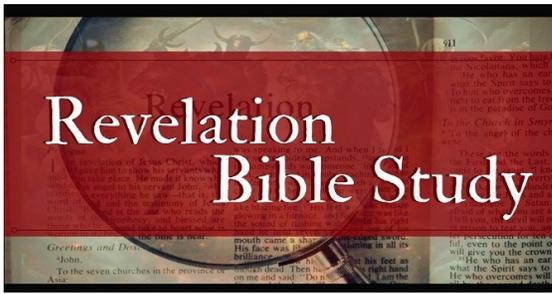
## WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

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.





**A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION** begins on August 2 in the Chapel class. With all that is going on in the world today many wonder if this relates to the book of Revelation. In this study we will look at the content of this book and find that it is a book of encouragement, hope and promise for Christians. This is God's Revelation to us His church. Join us for this exciting adventure. Face coverings and social distancing will be practiced during this time.



### **BLOOD DRIVE – AUGUST 18, 2020**

Imagine if someone you love needed a blood type that was missing from hospital shelves. Without more blood donors now, hospitals may not have the blood needed to save lives. There aren't enough people donating blood to help people in need. Do you know someone who has never donated before? Please encourage them to make an appointment

Blood is a perishable product that can only come from volunteer blood donors. With someone in the U.S. needing blood every two seconds, blood products must be constantly replenished, according to the Red Cross.

St. John's will be hosting the Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the Family Life Center. You can register online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), using sponsor code StJohnsGC or call 1-800-RedCross (733-2767). Call Bonnie Swanson at 614-562-8002 if you have any questions.

Save time with RapidPass. Complete your pre-donation reading and health history at [RedCross.org/RapidPass](http://RedCross.org/RapidPass).



Although our Mexico Mission trip has been cancelled for 2020, we are grateful for your continued support as we prepare for next year's reunion. Feel free to stop by the hallway outside the Youth Office to pray for the children on the photo wall. Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Mexico, particularly the most vulnerable, the beautiful children of the orphanages. May God envelop them with

His love and care and make His presence known to each through the stirrings of His Spirit. Amen. Please check out the **Genesis Diez Ministries'** site to see pictures of the precious children and to observe the many ways our partners in the Mexico Mission serve the people of Baja year round.

¡Gloria a Dios!



## 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.

Sarah Circle  
Contact Vi Davis  
614-875-2605

Elizabeth Circle  
Contact Debbie Abbitt  
614-326-9253



**OWLS EVENT – AUGUST 21, 2020**—You have an open invitation to join a group of Older Wiser Lutherans (OWLS) on the third Friday of each month to share fellowship and an interesting program. We're hoping to host our usual carry in lunch when Covid-19 allows us but not this month. You are guaranteed to laugh a lot, make new friends and catch up with your wiser friends!! No age requirement! Bring a friend and come see what a bunch of OWLS look like in a friendly setting.

CARES is a word that we often use to show we are concerned or solicitous or have thought or regard. But do you know how the Jackson Township Fire Department uses CARES? They use it when referring to the newly named Community Paramedic, Greg Tussing. The Community Assistance Referrals and Education Services began in December 2018. Greg, a firefighter-paramedic, was assigned to serve as the Community Paramedic.

What can the Community Paramedic do for you? Through their collaboration with many community resources, they can help connect you with a variety of services. A few of the most common services they can help with are: basic medical evaluations and collaboration with your physician, fall prevention, nutrition services and cleaning and home repair. Referrals to CARES come from a variety of places: recently released from hospital or a rehab facility or even a friend or neighbor concerned about an individual. Come and hear more. It's a fabulous program! You will be impressed! Guaranteed.

We would love to meet for lunch but we cannot at this time. But watch the weekly News Notes for updates in August. Maybe we will break bread together soon.

Reservations are a must for this meeting. Please use the salmon insert to make your reservation or call the church office. If you make a reservation and your plans change (even the morning of the event) please call either Bonnie Swanson (614-562-8002) or the church office (614-875-2314). Invite a friend! Hope to see you there!

## **BEACONS and QUILTERS NEWS**



It is not certain when the Beacons and Quilters will start meeting again. Since most of the group are older, we need to be extra careful and take minimal risks.

School supplies are on sale. The Beacons can always use your donation of Crayola crayons for the Christmas bags for needy children. A good sale price is \$.50 to \$.65 for a box of 24 Crayola crayons. Larger boxes of crayons do not fit in the bags. We can always use small plush toys such as Beanie Babies, ballpoint pens, pencils and sturdy combs to add to the bags if you find a good deal on them. We make and fill 100 Christmas bags. Thank you for thinking about Christmas giving in August.

In the fall, we will start to cut and sew the Christmas bags. We can use any children's Christmas material you have or see at the store and just can't resist buying for us.

Please donate used clothing to the Grove City Methodist Church Purple Door Free Store or Volunteers of America. Both have easy drop-off procedures that should take about 5 minutes.

When we starting meeting again, the Quilters meet every Tuesday from 9am to 2pm in rooms 103-104. Come and stay as you are able and want. We don't punch a timecard. The Beacons meet with the Quilters on the third Tuesday to cut stamps, and help with projects. Bring a sack lunch. All materials are provided. At the Beacons' meeting, we take offerings for the food pantries and for the Beacons' general fund.

*Galatians 6:2 Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

*"Sunday after church, a mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, 'Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt.' Needless to say, the mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said 'Be not afraid, they comforter is coming.'"*



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

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 10  
Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297

DATED MATERIALS

August 2020

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!**

Saturdays at 6pm

Sunday Traditional at 8am, 9:30am, 11am

Sunday Contemporary at 11am

and online at

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

We will practice social distancing and recommend all wear a face covering in the building

*The Eagle*

August 2020