

NEWS NOTES

February 27, 2022

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

(614) 875-2314 www.stjohnsgc.org email sj@stjohnsgc.org

Senior Pastor Seth Jersild (217)-255-2118 ~ sjersild@stjohnsgc.org

Associate Pastor Patti Morlock (740)-405-1548 ~ pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org



Mark Meuser, Director of Music Ministry

Nick Grossman & David Shrum, Contemporary Worship Leaders

Susan Abbott Locey, Director of Celebration Ringers

SERVING TODAY

Communion Assistants:

4:00pm Barb Hill

8:15am: Linda Wagner

11:00am: Christine Hank,
Bonnie Swanson,
Karen Jersild

Altar Guild

Lisa and David Stallard,
Betty Lewis, Lynne Ehrlich

Readers:

4:00pm: Ann Jones

8:15am: Glenda Allman

11:00am: Sheryl Fraley

Acolytes:

8:15am: Brayden Gottshall,
Corban Allman

11:00am: Dylan Allman

Greeters:

4:00pm Mary Campbell

8:15am: Mel and Carol Penrod

11:00am M/D: Carol Rich
N/D: Bonnie Swanson

Lessons Today: Exodus 34:29-35; 2nd Corinthians 3:12--4:2; Luke 9:28-43a.

DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS: In celebration of our daughter Lainey's 8th birthday. Given by her mom and dad, Erica and Morgan Von Lohr.

LECTERN FLOWERS: In memory of Craig A. Sonnen. Given by his family, Connie Sonnen and children.

PULPIT FLOWERS AND BULLETINS: In honor of my son Paul Wittenberg's birthday. Given by Janet Wittenberg.

✧ PERSONAL NOTES ✧

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family and friends of Chuck Bent, who died Monday, February 21, 2022. All who grieve are in our prayers.

BAPTIZED TODAY: Congratulations to David and Kate Shrum on the baptism of their son, James Henrich Shrum, on Sunday, February 27th, 2022, during the 11:00am contemporary service.

NOTES OF THANKS: "Dear St. John's: Thank you for the gift card for the Kentucky tornados. I am scheduling volunteers and continue to send lots of help to the families. Your prayers and support are so deeply appreciated! God Bless," ~ Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response Coordinator.

"Thank you to all who contributed during the annual coat collection. Hundreds of winter coats, hats, blankets, and other winter clothing for the mission in Franklinton were delivered on Sunday nights before their Sunday evening service. This winter had its ups and downs and some very, very cold days and nights. Many people were kept warm because of your donations. Blessings were abundant through your gifts! Again, thank you again with the wonderful response to our appeal. Every year, our members prove very generous. Blessings," ~ Bruce and Karen Whyte.

"Thank you so much to everyone and God bless! Just want to thank my church people for the gift I was sent. Love ya all." Ruth Emmelhainz.

HAPPY RETIREMENT! Grove City Police Chief Rick Butsko is retiring after more than 29 years of service to the citizens of Grove City. There will be an open house to celebrate his retirement on **Thursday, March 3, at the 3 Brothers Diner**, 3090 Southwest Blvd, from 4 -7 p.m. This is informal, stop by at any time. We hope to see you there!

☞ TODAY'S NEWS ☞

ATTENTION ALL THRIVENT MEMBERS! If you are a Thrivent member or have signed up for any Thrivent products since 2014, **please join us for the Thrivent members Luncheon after the 11am services TODAY, February 27th!** Thrivent members can apply for action grants to benefit ministries of St. John's.

COUNCIL INSTALLATION: We will be holding a brief service of installation for this year's St. John's church council members at the **11am traditional worship service on Sunday, February 27th**. We are so thankful for their commitment to the life and ministry of St. John's! Please pray them as they begin a new year of service.

Aaron Clark, Council President
Paul Wittenberg, Vice President
Karen Bentley, Secretary
Kathy Myers, Treasurer

Members at Large: Warren Althoff, Wayne Beavers, Shirley Blake, Dave Clark,
Doug Cress, Michael Grimm, Sky Singleton, Gary Smith

Welcome

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY STARTS MARCH 6TH! Pastor Seth will begin a six-week Sunday night discussion of the Book of Daniel on **Sunday, March 6th**. Class will meet each Sunday night in **room 103-4 from 6:30-8:00pm** through Palm Sunday. No prior Bible Study experience is assumed. Snacks and drinks will be provided each week. Come and join the discussion and fellowship!



ANNUAL COAT DRIVE - FINAL DAYS: Spring is very close with warmer temperatures surely coming soon, so we will be closing our collection on **Saturday, March 5th**.



OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY CONCERT – We will be hosting the Otterbein University Choir under the direction of Dr. Gayle Walker on **Wednesday, March 9**. They will present a 40-minute concert at **6:30pm in the sanctuary as that evening's Lenten service**. Plan now to make this memorable event part of your Lenten journey!



CLEAN THE CLOSETS: HELPERS NEEDED At 10am on Wednesday March 23rd we'll be cleaning out some closets to make room for technology equipment. Please let Pastor Seth know if you will be able to be there for any amount of time that day: sjersild@stjohnsgc.org. He will appreciate the help!

SOUP SUPPERS COMING THIS LENTEN SEASON! Please plan to join us on Wednesday evenings, **starting March 9th** for a soup and bread dinner prior to the Lenten Worship Services. We will begin serving at **5:45pm in the Family Life Center**. The worship services will begin at 6:30pm in the sanctuary. This is a great opportunity for fellowship, food, and reflection. If you or your group (Circles, Choirs, Sunday School Class, Small Group, etc.) would like to provide soup and bread one week, please mark the salmon sheet and we will follow up with you to schedule a date. Thanks!



FLOWER CHART, 2022: Altar flowers beautify our worship service each week and are a wonderful way to remember or honor loved ones. We presently have openings for March and April. Reserve your dedication date on the Altar flowers chart in the North Entrance. Please contact Lesa Corbin at (614) 530-4984 for more information.

FACE COVERINGS OPTIONAL: As of February 20th, The St. John's church council has instituted a "face coverings optional" policy for all church activities. In the weeks before Easter, we will also be returning to communion at the altar rail, and to passing the offering plates. Thank you, St. John's church family, for your continued patience and support for each other as we carefully transition back to our normal practices.

SUBMITTING A NEWS NOTES ARTICLE? Please email secretary@stjohnsgc.org, or drop off your article in the secure slot of the church office, by 9am the Wednesday before the weekend issue. Articles for next weekend are **due by March 2nd**.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Philippians, Pastor Seth, FH Rm 101 / Mark, Steve Johnston, Chapel / 2 Peter, Rick Butsko, Rms 301, 303.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: Ages 2-3, Rm 003 / Ages 4-5, Pre-K and Kindergarten, Rm 009 / Grades 1 and 2, Rm 204 / Grades 3 and 4, Rm 307 / Grades 5 and 6, Rm 306 / Grades 7 and 8, Rms 302 and 304 / High School, Rm 311.

YOUTH NEWS

SOUPER BOWL 2022!



Due to generous contributions of the congregation, we were able to raise a new grand total of \$2,170.08. This will go a long way to feeding those in need. I'd like to thank those who helped in collecting these gifts; Alice Starr, Jaxon Starr, Ben Previts, Ellen Previts, Jaylynn Jermann, Cordelia Wanner, Bella Castle, Matthew Johnston-Kline, Jeremy Butsko, Lauren Wahl, and Truman Allman. Again, thank you so much for your generosity. God bless you. *Blake Lang*

SCRIP GIFT CARDS: Place your order by the first Tuesday of the month (*that's this Tuesday, March 1st*) and within the week receive gift cards that you can use at hundreds of retail stores and restaurants. Order forms are on the youth office door. Contact Gary Pecuch at gpecuch@stjohnsgc.org with questions. Be sure to talk to Pam Wittenberg about other ways you can receive SCRIP.



CONNECT groups will not meet this Thursday, March 3. We hope you'll take the time to worship with us at the Ash Wednesday services at noon or 6:30pm on March 2. CONNECT will resume the following week, March 10! Contact Laurie Pecuch or Diana Imbrock for more details.

FAITH AND PURPOSE with Gary and Laurie! The next session is scheduled for next Sunday, March 6th, starting at 9:30am in the FLC. We will be focusing on self-awareness, understanding yourself and your son or daughter. The sessions are designed for 7th through 12th grade students to attend with their parents/grandparents. The sessions are also ideal for parents with elementary and intermediate grade school children. Other adults will like this session, too!

AMAZONSMILE: You can shop on smile.amazon.com the same way you shop on amazon.com. To ensure you are supporting "St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church" as our AmazonSmile charity, use the following link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-4421604>



Bookmark this link, so all eligible shopping will benefit St. John's Youth Ministries! If you have any questions, just ask Gary Pecuch. Thank you for supporting the children and youth at St. John's!

STEWARDSHIP

Attendance: February 20 – 253

<u>January 2022</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Operating	\$57,536	\$57,536	\$59,417	\$59,417
Benevolence	\$ 3,916	\$ 3,916	\$ 1,784	\$ 1,784

**WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL AND GENEROUS GIVING
TO ST. JOHN'S MINISTRIES!**

A SECURE DROP SLOT is located under the staff mailboxes in the hallway near the secretary's office. If you are dropping off a monetary gift or papers with confidential information, please put it through the slot to help ensure security.

How to give to St. John's:

1. During worship services.
2. Mail your offering to the church – 3220 Columbus St., Grove City, Ohio 43123.
3. Through your financial institution – they will send a check directly to the church on your behalf.
4. St. John's website – www.stjohnsgc.org – online giving is available through Vanco Services, and we have partnered with them for more than 20 years. It is secure and safe.
5. Through the Vanco Mobile (formerly GivePlus) app available from Apple or Google – again a partnership between the church and Vanco Services. Set up a profile one time, and set up a recurring gift, or give when you want to. Once your profile is set up, giving is a one-touch process.

☞ LENT AND EASTER CALENDAR ☛

MARCH 2—APRIL 6 at 12 noon and 6:30pm

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HOLY WEEK, APRIL 10—17

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Easter Lily order forms will be available at all entrances starting on March 6th.

☞ CALENDAR ☞

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 9:30am Sunday School
 9:30am Men's Chorale Reh. (Choir Rm)
 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
 12:00pm Thrivent Luncheon (FLC, Kit)
 3:00pm Prayers and Pins (*off-site*)
 6:00pm Saddles n Such 4-H (FLC)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9:30am BSF Leaders
 12:00pm Lunchtime AA (FH)
 6:00pm Puppet Rehearsal (FLC)
 6:30pm Sarah Circle (103-4)
 7:00pm Respect Life (101-2)
 7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

SCRIP ORDER DEADLINE

9:00am Quilters (103-4)
 11:30am OWLS Planning (102)
 7:00pm SW Historical Society (103-4)
 7:00pm BSA Troop 392 (FLC)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

9:30am BSF
 12:00pm Ash Wednesday Service (Sanc)
 1:00pm Small Group (101)
 6:30pm Ash Wed. Evening Service (Sanc)
 7:15pm Chancel Choir Reh. (Sanc)

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
 1:00pm Small Group (101)
 2:30pm HS Acting Class (FLC)
 6:15pm Celebration Ringers Reh. (Sanc)
 8:00pm Dartball (away)

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

10:30am Bulletin Team (Lib)
 8:30pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

4:00pm Traditional Service (Sanc)
 7:00pm A.A Serenity Seekers (FH)

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 9:30am Sunday School
 9:30am Faith and Purpose (FLC)
 9:30am Men's Chorale Reh. (Choir Rm)
 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
 3:00pm Prayers and Pins (*off-site*)
 6:30pm Bible Study (103-4)
 6:30pm GLOW (FLC, 3rd Flr)

DAILY AND WEEKLY UPDATES ARE POSTED
 ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGES.
 BE SURE TO CHECK THEM OUT!

FEBRUARY 27, 2022
TRANSFIGURATION
OF OUR LORD



God's holiness comes near to us in Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 9:28-43a	Jesus is transfigured
Monday	Exodus 34:29-35	The shining face of Moses
Tuesday	1 John 1:5-10	God is light
Wednesday	Psalms 51:1-17	A prayer for forgiveness
Thursday	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	God's new agreement
Friday	1 Peter 1:13-16	A call to holy living
Saturday	Psalms 99	Our Lord is king
Sunday	Luke 4:1-13	The temptation of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" **Luke 9:35 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, help us to see in your awesome might the power to love and heal us through all you have created in the name of the Chosen One, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Holy God, we thank you for your love and power that provides us with this food today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of power and love bless you today and always through Christ our Lord.



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FEBRUARY 27, 2022

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Shine, Jesus Shine



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Jesus' disciples were frightened by a cloud that surrounded them. When have you felt scared?
- Can you imagine feeling weak in the knees to be in the presence of God's glory and power? Explain.

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 9:28-43a.

We modern-world types can have difficulty with the extraordinary—miraculous—events of the Bible, like the transfiguration of Jesus. It is a scene so different from our daily life experiences. There is a sense of awe and holiness in the mountain-top moment of Jesus with frightened disciples, Moses, Elijah, and a cloud out of which comes a heavenly voice. Jesus is announced as the one who is God's unique Son, the Chosen One of God. In Jesus, God's presence has come near. Holiness seems far from us, but in the Bible, God's holiness is meant to come close, even touch our daily lives. Therefore, it is no accident that after the transfiguration, Jesus immediately descends from the mountain-top experience to touch people's lives where they are, in need of healing and hope. Jesus shows compassion for a father in agony over his only child's illness. God's holiness seen in Jesus makes the extraordinary ordinary. This makes our normal, everyday lives, like those of Peter, James, and John, something quite unexpected and extraordinary.

Discuss: How does God make your life extraordinary?

Pray: **Holy and Almighty God, help us to overcome our fears of your presence so that we can be people of healing and hope through Jesus Christ, your Son, the Chosen One. Amen**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you touch another person's life with a sense of God's holiness through a prayer or a blessing?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Transfiguration Sunday is the last Sunday before Lent begins. We begin to transition to a more somber season in the church year. A common ritual is to bury or hide the "Alleluia" on this day. During Lent, the word Alleluia is not said or sung again until Easter. Write the word Alleluia on several sheets of paper and decorate them. Place them in a box or hide them different places until Easter. Before hiding the Alleluias, pray: **Dear Lord, as we bury the Alleluias, help us to prepare our hearts and minds to focus on Jesus' journey to the cross. Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org