

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

DATED MATERIALS

June 2023

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 10
Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297



The Eagle
June 2023

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Traditional


Saturdays at 4pm

Sundays at 8:15 & 11am

Contemporary

Sundays at 11am

www.stjohnsgc.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
4 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Men's Chorale Small Group 10am Traditional Worship 11am Contemporary Worship 11am Private Event 1:30pm Adult Basketball 5:30pm	5 Lunchtime AA 12pm Elizabeth Circle 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	6 RAISE RIGHT DUE Quilters 9am OWLS Planning Mtg. 11:30am SW Historical Soc. 7pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	7 Small Group 1pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	8 Promise Keepers 8am	9 Bulletin Team 10:30am AA 8:30pm	10 EAGLE DEADLINE Prayer Shawl Ministry 9am Girl Scouts #6300 10am Private Event 2pm Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
11 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Small Group 10am Traditional Worship 11am Contemporary Worship 11am Private Event 4pm Adult Basketball 5:30pm	12 Lunchtime AA 12pm HOTR Meeting 6:15pm Finance Team 7pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	13 Quilters 9am Girl Scouts #6679 6pm Fat Quarter Quilt Guild 6:15pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	14 Small Group 1pm Summer Fun 5:30pm	15 Promise Keepers 8am A Joyful Pause 9am Small Group 2pm A Joyful Pause 5:30pm	16 HIGH SCHOOL OVERNIGHTER Bulletin Team 10:30am OWLS 11:30am High School Overnighter 6pm AA 8:30pm	17 Private Event 12pm Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
18 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Small Group 10am Traditional Worship 11am Contemporary Worship 11am What Do You Think? 1:30pm Adult Basketball 5:30pm	19 Lunchtime AA 12pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	20 Quilters 9am Blue Ribbon 4-H 6:30pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	21 Small Group 1pm	22 Promise Keepers 8am Eagle Mailing Team 9am Red Cross Blood Drive 12pm	23 Bulletin Team 10:30am AA 8:30pm	24 Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
25 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School 9:30am Small Group 10am Traditional Worship 11am Contemporary Worship 11am What Do You Think? 1:30pm Adult Basketball 5:30pm Saddles n Such 4-H 5:30pm	26 Vacation Bible School (VBS) 9am Lunchtime AA 12pm Council 7pm Sarah Circle 7pm Respect Life 7pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	27 VBS 9am Quilters 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	28 VBS 9am Small Group 1pm Private Event 5:30pm	29 VBS 9am Promise Keepers 8am Small Group 2pm	30 Bulletin Team 10:30am Fast Food Fridays (off-site) 1pm AA 8:30pm	



VBS 2023: Mark your calendars!!!

Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God! Vacation Bible School is coming to St. John's **June 26th-29th from 9:00am to noon.**

All children ages 3 through 6th grade are welcome. Please note that all children must be potty trained in order to attend.

Online registration is now OPEN! Contact Christina Allman at 614-519-8092 or at christina.allman04@gmail.com if you want to volunteer or have any questions.

Keep an eye out for the snack donation boards coming soon to the Family Life Center and the Parish Entrance!!



Graduation 2023

*****Congratulations to our post-high graduates!**

Alex Cermak from Miami University with a Bachelor's of Science in Data Science and Statistics. She will be working as a Data Standard Analyst at Medpace in Cincinnati.

Hannah Morlock from Ohio Dominican University with a Bachelor's of Science in Chemistry with a minor in biology. She will take a year gaining clinical experience before entering a PhD program in medical research.

Kate Keil from Miami University with a Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science. She will be working as a Software Engineer for Bank of America in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Jackson Koethke from the Marine Corps ISO Training.

Kristina Myers from Heritage College of Medicine as a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. She will be starting her Pediatric Residency at Golisano Children's Hospital in Rochester, NY.

Melissa Myers from Ohio Northern University with a Bachelor's of Science in Mechanical Engineering. After graduation, she will be employed by General Motors in Detroit, Michigan as a Hardware Engineer.

Dylan Price from the Columbus Police Academy where he was 4th in his class. He is now a Columbus Policeman.

Daniel Rutan from Oakland University with a Master's Degree in Business Administration. This summer, he will be a pitching coach for the North Adams Steeplecats in Massachusetts. He will then pursue a collegiate baseball position for the fall.

Kelli Schultz from Ohio University with a degree in nursing.

Owen Yoakum from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor's of Science in Biochemistry with a minor in Philosophy.

*****Congratulations also to our graduating seniors who have worked diligently and have successfully finished strong!**

Aster Anderson

Jocelyn Canter

Michael Eberhard

Jaden Jackson

Aydin Shade

Emma Weaver

Andrew Baumgartner

RJ Castle

Sidney Frasher

Kailey Ann Mc Farland

Kaylie Tulloch

Aidan Wells

Brice Bodor

Rosalie Daniels

Shae Grimm

Sarah Mitchell

Aidan Wahl

Nick Zarbaugh





Advice gathered for our graduates from our church community May 7, 2023, con't.

DON'T ALLOW YOURSELF TO...

...complain, be deceived, get caught up in worldly matters, be a follower, be conformed to this world, give up on hope, give up, be led away from the truth, be used or manipulated, follow the crowd, be drawn away from the truth, feel sorry for yourself, get down – stay positive, or compromise who you are.

BE OPEN TO...

...new things, new ideas, wisdom and understanding, but not too open to new ideas, new ideas but don't be taken advantage of, His still calm voice, new opportunities, the Spirit's leading to the yet uncharted, learn from the past, wisdom and truth, new adventures, God's Word, new ideas, new opportunities and trying new things, pineapple on pizza, change, change – it's a part of life, and learning about yourself.

HOPE YOU ALWAYS...

...are peaceful, have joy, let your light shine, try, shine like the Son, thrive in life, love others, be still and know that He is Lord, take care of your spiritual and physical life, keep God in your heart, stand out from the crowd, try new things, are happy, follow your heart, stand firm in faith, smile and laugh, remember where you came from, remember your friends at St. John's, and have people who are your cheerleaders.

HOPE YOU DON'T...

...forget to encourage and lift up others, fall, have troubles in life, let negativity stop your thriving, forget Jesus, change – you're wonderful this way, quit – God is there to guide you, forget to pray, run out of ramen!, lock your keys in the car, or forget to eat and sleep whenever you can.

MY LAST PIECE OF ADVICE IS:

Be grounded and rooted in the Word.	Be happy.	Bowties are cool!
Don't give advice!	Keep Jesus in your heart.	Shine like the Son.
Fear God and dread not.	Walk with Jesus at all times.	Let Jesus drive.
Love the Lord.	Praise the Lord always.	Enjoy life!
Have God in your heart at all times.	Ask for God's blessings in all that you do.	
Spend time with Jesus and His people even when He feels far away.		
Focus on asking good questions and being a good friend.		
Join the military – it will help you pay for college.		
Look for opportunities to do good to others.		
Remember that Jesus and your St. John's family love you!		



The Great Nerf Battle was a huge success! Davy (4th grade) came to me (Laurie) a few months ago and said he wanted to have a nerf game at church that would raise monies for the accessibility project. Davy was so enthusiastic about his idea that I was soon onboard and agreed to help. Davy then asked a team of leaders to help him plan the event. Joining him were Lakota, Layla (both 7th graders), Finley (third grade), and Rowan (K). Davy led the first meeting, sharing his vision and rules for the game. Together they thought through all the details (devotions, snacks, what they would need, safety guidelines, how to set up the gym, who would do what, etc.) They quickly asked Christina Allman to be the head referee. And after several more meetings, a special trip to the Jones, practicing their roles, getting supplies together, and asking adults to help them ... the day of the event happened! Twenty-five children and youth came and Davy's vision for The Great Nerf Battle became reality! A big thanks to Davy, Lakota, Layla, Finley, and Rowan for raising over \$300 for the accessibility project and a fun afternoon of games, snacks, and devotion. Thanks to all the supportive parents who showed the day of the event and a big shout out to Christina Allman for being our referee. *To God be the glory!*



Graduation 2023

Advice gathered for our graduates from our church community May 7, 2023

DON'T BE AFRAID TO...

...give God the glory, learn, be yourself, stand up for yourself, try new things, glorify God and seek His counsel, stand up for what is right, dream and reach out to make them come true, stand on the Word of God, be brave, have fun, break away from all that shuts out the voice of the Lord, take a chance, reach out to anyone who needs you – if only a smile, show your faith in Jesus, ask for help when you need it, try new things, ask professors to have coffee, and try something new.

BE PREPARED TO...

...be wrong, be rejected by the world and received by Christ, defend yourself, grieve, go places beyond your wildest imagination, be surprised by God, find that others do not agree, go where His Spirit leads, face unexpected problems, face difficulties in life, praise God, have difficulties, go places beyond your hopes and dreams, study hard, read the directions, work hard through rough moments...it gets better!, have an adventure, and go where God leads you.

ALWAYS KEEP...

...a smile on your face, looking for new friends, your confidence in Christ, a positive outlook, strong in your faith, His promises in your heart, smiling, an open mind, Jesus as Lord of your life, your faith, praising and praying, a spare pair of socks in your car, on keeping on, God first, and church hopping until you find a solid community.

SUMMER YOUTH AND FAMILY



FAMILIES Join us for **A JOYFUL PAUSE!** Come for free play in the gym, arts and crafts, table games, a light meal, and fellowship! Times you can choose from are **9am to noon** and/or **5:30—8:30pm** on **Thursdays: June 15, and July 6, and August 10.** That's once a month and two times to choose from! Join us when you can! Leave when you have to! Families with older children are welcome to join us! And we love our faith webbing grandparents! All are welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors!

GRADES 5—8

SUMMER FUN!

You loved it so much last summer, this year we're offering three SUMMER FUN evenings! Come to any one of them that you can! We hope you can make all three! Each evening will be full of fun, faith, and friendship! Dinner included. Join us on **Wednesdays: June 14, July 5, and August 9, 5:30—8:30pm.**

FAITH IN ACTION

We will be putting our faith into action and making a difference. Serving is important and we need you to do it! Join us **July 10—13, Monday—Thursday, from 5:30—8:30pm.** Dinner included. We will have a variety of service experiences throughout the week. Come make a difference for Jesus' sake!

STUDENTS GOING INTO 8TH GRADE ARE welcome to join us for WHAT DO YOU THINK? and ST. JOHNSVILLE. And ALSO BE VBS TEEN LEADERS! See Grades 9—12 for more details.

GRADES 9—12+

OVERNIGHTER!

Yes, we did say it! We are having an overnight event (for St. John's members) on **Friday, June 16, starting at 6pm and going through Saturday, June 17, ending at 9:30am.** We know the overnight part is the best part, but we think you'll get a lot out of everything we have planned... don't miss out!

FAITH IN ACTION

You will find purpose, belonging, and even a sense of Christian identity when you serve and help others. Come serve with us **July 10—13 (Monday through Thursday) from 11am—3pm.** Lunch is included.

FAST FOOD FRIDAYS Throughout the summer, we will meet to catch up with each other. Come when you can. Leave when you have to. **Time will be 1—3pm. June 23, 30, July 7, 14, and August 4, 11, 18.** Mark your calendar. Places TBA.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

A place for us to share our thoughts on current and relevant topics that affect us all. **Sundays: June 18, June 25, July 9, and July 16, 1:30—3pm.**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TEEN LEADER TRAINING

VBS will be held in the morning of **June 26—29. Training will be Sunday, June 25, 9:30—10:30am.**

“ST. JOHNSVILLE”

Learn Christian finances while playing the game of “St. Johnsville”. **Sundays, 9:30—10:30am!**

☞ SUMMER HYMN SCHEDULE ☛

June 3 & 4

413 Holy, Holy, Holy
415 Father Most Holy
881 Let All Things Now Living

June 10 & 11

504 A Mighty Fortress
810 O Jesus, I Have Promised
661 Lift High the Cross

June 17 & 18

807 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
781 Children of the Heavenly Father
661 I Love to Tell the Story

June 24, 25

834 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
838 Beautiful Savior
732 Borne Cry

July 1 & 2

888 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies
731 Earth and All Stars
890 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

July 8 & 9

742 What a Friend We Have in Jesus
697 Just a Closer Walk with Thee
790 Day by Day

July 15 & 16

716 Be Thou My Vision
Through the Years and Through the Age
Onward Christian Soldiers

July 22 & 23

733 Great Is Thy Faithfulness
595 Jesus Loves Me
789 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

July 29 & 30

597 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
779 Amazing Grace
574 Here I Am, Lord

August 5 & 6

805 Lead on, O King Eternal
629 Abide with Me
O Love That Will not Let Me Go (LBW 325)

August 12 & 13

422 For All the Saints
785 When Peace Like a River
669 Rise Up, O Saints of God!

August 19 & 20

858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
I Come to the Garden
The Old Rugged Cross

August 26 & 27

619 I Know that My Redeemer Lives
336 Lamb of God
623 Rock of Ages

September 2 & 3

438 My Lord, What a Morning
325 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me
787 On Eagle's Wings

OUTDOORS WITH GOD

A poem by Ada Weygandt

On a summer day we make a circle
Around the lake,
In boats trailing silvery streams
In our wake,
Drifting past wildflowers, tall grasses,
An lilies on lush beds,
Dragonflies with transparent wings,
And spiders spinning silken threads.

At night, beneath a canopy of twinkling stars,
Watching lights shimmering on the
Lapping water,
We keep our voices low, and grow
Reflectful,
Sleepily enjoying the quiet as the
Harmony steals through.

Listening to bullfrogs croaking like
Foghorns along the shore,
We are at peace with God in the great
Outdoors.



The Quilters try to help the less fortunate by showing God's love and our understanding of their situations. Our main focus is to make



Quilters

quilts for our Christmas sale and give back the proceeds to various church ministries. We donate some of the unsold quilts to children's charities. During the last half of the year, we make 100 Christmas bags for the children whose families use the food pantries. We request the congregation to donate items to fill the bags. One of our other two on-going projects is collecting used greeting card fronts for The Cancer Thrift Store. The card fronts are recycled into beautiful gift tags and greeting cards that are sold in the Cancer Thrift Store. Our second on-going project is collecting, trimming, and mailing off used stamps to two military hospitals in Virginia for hand rehabilitation.

The Quilters welcome visitors. We are a small group for those uncomfortable in large groups. The Quilters meet every Tuesday from 9:30am to 1:30pm with a packed lunch break in rooms 103-104. The times are 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. You may sew on a machine, learn to hand quilt, cut squares, arrange already cut squares, tie knots or pin a hem or sit and visit with us. You may take fabric home to make a quilt to donate.

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

WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Join us for the next meetings on
Saturday, June 11, 2023 at 9am and
Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 7pm
in rooms 103-4.

*Prayer Shawl
Ministry*



We are happy to teach anyone interested how to knit or crochet.

For more information,
call Glenda Allman at 614-352-5955
or Diana Imbrock at 614-271-5775.

OWLS EVENT — JUNE 16, 2023



The Older Wiser LutheranS (OWLS) would like to invite you to make plans to join us for our June 16th meeting. Our speaker will be Rob Stroup.

Mr. Stroup is an author and historian in his spare time. He authored and published the pictorial tribute to the former Lockbourne/Rickenbacker Air Force Base in Columbus (released in 2008). He currently serves on the Grove City Historical and Cultural Commission and consults with the Village of Lockbourne on planning matters pertaining to the veteran's plaza. Rob serves vocationally as Business Administrator/Member Care Minister for the First Baptist Church of Grove City. He is a graduate of South-Western City Schools (1987) and resides here in Grove City in the Pinnacle Community.

For those who are interested in learning more about Rickenbacker, his book will be available for purchase. (\$10)

June 16th would be a great day to hear a very interesting speaker, enjoy a delicious lunch and get together with old and new friends. Mark your calendar now!

The OWLS will provide fried chicken for our potluck lunch, and we ask you bring a covered dish and join your friends for lunch and a wonderful program. Please plan to arrive around 11:15 am so we can open the meeting at 11:30 am. Use the salmon insert in Sunday's bulletin to make your reservation so the group can plan accordingly. You can also call the office or Bonnie Swanson at 614-562-8002.

Hope to see you there!

SUITCASE SUNDAY FOR MISSIONS – June 11th

Sunday, June 11th is our annual **Suitcase Sunday for Missions**. As you know, prices continue to rise and sending the arms and feet of Jesus around the world has become more expensive! To aid us in this effort, we are asking that you prayerfully consider helping us in one or more of many ways. Such as:



- ⇒ Pray, pray, and pray some more!
- ⇒ Purchase Walmart Gift Cards (*which can also benefit the Youth Program through Raise Right!*) that can be used to buy supplies and gifts for the children.
- ⇒ Drop some change, a dollar, or more, in the suitcase to offset the cost of the mission.
- ⇒ Consider helping to sponsor one of the missionaries through a check made out to St. John's Church with Mexico or General Missions in the memo line. These can be dropped in the suitcase on Suitcase Sunday or in the offering plate anytime!

Oh, yes, and pray, pray, pray!

**Thank you, thank you, thank you for helping us to share God's love
with our brothers and sisters in Christ!**

The Mexico Mission Family:

*Jill Althoff, Lukas Althoff, Evan Beachler, Emily Briggeman, Laura Carpenter,
Matt Carpenter, Kim Easterday, Matt Easterday, Ana Gantz, John Gantz,
Chelsea Hartzler, Dennis Imbrock, Diana Imbrock, Alec Stenerson,*

RESPECT LIFE HOSTS BOTTLES FOR LIFE

"I am come that they may have life, and may have it more abundantly." ~ John 10:10

Your St. John's Respect Life team loves this verse! We are so thankful that our Lord gives us life and seeks abundant life for every one of us. Sin militates against this abundant life and reveals itself in many ways: neglect and abuse of children, the elderly, and other vulnerable people; human trafficking; abortion; suicide; and addiction; among others. For many people, such struggles as mental illness and poverty make it difficult to reach this abundant life.

We seek to promote the life Christ has for us. Recent projects have included partnership with our local crisis pregnancy centers, support of an anti-human-trafficking initiative, and the distribution to many Grove City churches of pro-life literature that affirms the infinite worth of every expectant mom and every unborn child.



How can you help?

- Pray that vulnerable people are protected and God's gift of life is valued.
- Bring your Baby Bottle back on Father's Day, June 18, with a donation for the life-saving work of our local Pregnancy Decision Health Centers.
- Support teens and others in your faith web as they make critical decisions about their lives.
- Keep life issues foremost as you vote in upcoming elections, especially the possible referendum that would exclude parents from minors' health decisions.
- Sign up for newsletters from Ohio Right to Life, the Pregnancy Decision Health Centers, and other pro-life groups which would be grateful for your prayers.
- Join us! We meet on the fourth Monday of each month at St. John's at 7 p.m. to share ideas, pray together, and learn more about spreading God's love to others. We'd love to see you there!

MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN AS OF MAY 14, 2023

Memorial Fund

Given in memory of **Rita Lang** by Ron and Neva Warren.

Given in memory of **Janet Rosenthal** by Ike and Shelah Stage; Ron and Neva Warren; Ron and Sue Marks; Suzie Long; and Larry and Becky Link.

Given in memory of **Pastor Ray Rosenthal** by Ike and Shelah Stage;

Given in memory of **Joann Claggett** by Suzie Long.

Youth Memorial Fund

Given in memory of **Rita Lang** by Debbie Abbitt.

Given in memory of **Pastor Ray Rosenthal** by Beth Katterhenrich.

Current Fund

Given in honor of the **baptism of Marin Marie Smith** by Gary Rawson.

Given in honor of **Paul Offenburger's 101st birthday** by Andrea Offenburger.

Accessibility Project

Given in memory of **Rita Lang** by Erle and Judy Taylor.

Given in memory of **Joann Claggett** by Dellno and Betty Lewis; and Joann's small group.

Given in memory of **Michael Stephan** by Dellno and Betty Lewis.

Given in memory of **Vickie Lynn Akers-Polaski** by Debbie and Rick Boehm.

Given in memory of **Craig Sonnen** by Connie Sonnen.

Given in memory of **Janet Rosenthal** by Wilma Phillips; Keith and Jane Stenerson; Janice Howsmon; Joe and Carol Cosier, Rich and Beth Cisco, and Tim and Janis Bell; Bob and Chris Gray, Doug and Becky White, The Mays Family, and Lindsay; Beverly Caulkins; Elaine Glass; Miriam Simmons; Joan Frey and the Bunco Group; Mary Lou Mauch; Marilyn Weisenberger; Dellno and Betty Lewis; Richard Rush; Haughn Glen Book Club; Roy and Sheila Merwin; Darlene and Aaron Cove; Nancy Mellen; Marge Barnhart; Steven and Mary Frank; Kathy Mesenger; Kristina and Julie Angiulli; Phil and Karen Rohr; and Douglas and Renee Hopper.

Given in memory of **Pastor Ray and Jan Rosenthal** by Tim and Jill Althoff; Vi Davis; Robert and Bonnie Swanson; Doug and Karen Jackson; Barry and Nancy Fisher; Ken and Anne Butcher; Elizabeth Brown; Barbara McDaniels and family; Carole Kuhn; and Larry and Marilyn Peterson.

Given in memory of **Pastor Ray Rosenthal** by Wilma Phillips; John and Judy Lechner; Marilyn Weisenberger; Mary Lou Mauch; Ron and Neva Warren; Sheila Merwin; Marilyn Wright; The Mawhorr Family; Nancy Mellen; Beth Katterhenrich; Larry and Becky Link; JoAnne Keller; Richard Rush; Raymond and Karen Bentley; Barbara Armentrout; Elaine Glass; Howard and Nellie McCarley; Miriam Simmons; Pat Walters; Ruth Wiechman; Jim and Carol Rorick; Keith and Jane Stenerson; Phil and Karen Rohr; Suzie Long; Don and Glenda Allman; Janice Howsmon; Christopher and Tracy Meihls; Greg and Jody Hart; the White and Mays families; Erle and Judy Taylor; and Dellno and Betty Lewis.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL 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
Tim Allman Sunday School Superintendent	614-875-2314
Diane Sexton Director of Lay Ministries dsexton@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Michael Esposito Business Manager mesposito@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Nick Grossman Contemporary Worship Leader	614-875-2314
Diana Imbrock, Youth Director dimbrock@stjohnsgc.org	614-271-5775
Susan Locey Bell Choir Director	614-208-8215
Mark Meuser Director of Music Ministries mmeuser@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Janice Miller, Recorder jmiller@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Kathryn Mullins Office Administrator secretary@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Laurie Pecuch, Youth Director lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org	614-620-2669
David Shrum Contemporary Music Leader	614-875-2314
Karen Whyte, Librarian barnowl@iwaynet.net	614-878-9392

**The article deadline for the JULY Eagle is
JUNE 10TH.**

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

*Our Christian Sympathy
is extended to*

The family and friends of
Adda "Gertrude" Heffernan,
who passed away on April 19, 2023.

The family and friends of
Pastor Ray Rosenthal,
who passed away on April 26, 2023.

*All who grieve are in
our thoughts and prayers.*

*Congratulations
On Your Baptism*

Congratulations to Garrett and Courtney Contizano
on the baptism of their daughter,
Jennifer Jubilee, on May 7, 2023,
during the 11:00am contemporary service.

Congratulations to **Wanda Holycross**
for her baptism on May 13, 2023,
during the 4:00pm traditional service.

Congratulations to **Rachel Holycross**
for her baptism on May 13, 2023,
during the 4:00pm traditional service.

Congratulations to **Hannah Beard**
for her baptism on May 13, 2023,
during the 4:00pm traditional service.

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

JOIN US FOR WEEKLY WORSHIP
Traditional Service: Saturdays at 4:00pm,
Sundays at 8:15am & 11am
Contemporary Service: Sundays at 11am
Sunday School: for all ages every Sunday, 9:30am

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Officers: Aaron Clark, Council President; Paul Wittenberg Vice President, Karen Bentley, Secretary; Kathy Myers, Treasurer.

Members-At-Large: Warren Althoff, Shirley Blake, Dave Clark, Cindy Gonsowski, Karen Grossman, Tammy LeVally, Phil Pennington, Gary Smith.

That's all the man says. He doesn't make an effort to introduce himself or make further conversation. He seems proud of himself, as if he has done his Christian duty. On the way out of church, you're too flustered to tell your girlfriend what happened.

The next weekend, your girlfriend asks you if you'd like to come to her church with her again. You want to make her happy. But all you can think about is that group of people who were talking together, looking at you disapprovingly. You finally tell her what happened. She is so shocked and angry that she says she will take you to another church, where people know what scripture teaches about hospitality towards strangers.

The sad story speaks for itself. It's always going to be a stretch for believers, especially in this unforgiving world, to turn away from being clanging cymbals (1 Cor. 13), and to actually follow Jesus, and to reach out to people who don't know him. If Christians don't become something more than noisy gongs (1 Cor. 13), their congregations will keep dying. And, as Jesus warns:

It will be terrible for people who cause even one of my little followers to stumble. Those people would be better off thrown into the deepest part of the ocean with a heavy stone tied around their necks. [Matthew 18:6]

Our Lord has sacrificed everything for the little ones who do not know him yet. Sometimes he even works a series of quiet miracles to bring them to our beloved St. John's. Let's always reach out to strangers like Jesus did: with listening ears and endless grace.

In Christ,

Pastor Seth Jersild



"Lisa and I thank Pastor Seth, Pastor Patti, Pastor Marvin Draper, Mark Meuser, Wilma Phillips and the kitchen staff, Betty Lewis and the Altar Guild, the Office Staff, and the entire congregation that prayed, helped, worked, arranged, set up, cleaned up, comforted, hugged, and did everything they could to make the Memorial Service for Lisa's son so wonderful. We thank all of you for your continued support and prayers. We are so thankful for our Church Family. We will not be able to get through this without you." ~ Lisa and David Stallard

Elizabeth Circle
Contact
Sherry Nighbert
614-581-1436



*Women's
Ministry*
CONNECTING AND ENRICHING
WOMEN IN FAITH

Sarah Circle
Contact
Wilma Phillips
614-875-7931

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 more information.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

**St. John's will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive in the Family Life Center on
THURSDAY, JUNE 22 from 12pm to 6 pm.**

To schedule your appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS
or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: StJohnsGC.



The Eagle

June 2023

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

3220 Columbus St., Grove City, Ohio

www.stjohnsgc.org 614/875-2314

Letter from the Pastor

The following cautionary story illustrates one reason why so many mainline protestant churches are dying in America:

Imagine you are a young man sitting in the sanctuary of a mainline protestant church. Your girlfriend has brought you to worship.

You are 25-30 years old. Your family never went to church when you were growing up. This is a completely new world to you. Like most people, you've heard of Jesus. But you've never been exposed to more than "internet information" when it comes to religion. You didn't know what to expect. Most of the TV shows and movies you've watched have presented church people as being self-righteous and/or downright strange.

Today is the third time you've been to worship at your girlfriend's church. You're surprised by how much you've liked it. You've gotten something out of the sermons, and the music is nice. So far, everyone has been outwardly friendly and welcoming towards you. The pastor has introduced himself. He said that he's always available to meet with you and help you in any way he can. You know that he will give you the space you need. But now you are seriously thinking of giving him a call. You'd like to ask him some questions about church.

At first, this was like an alien world, with the stained glass windows, and the feeling that you had stepped outside of regular time. You quickly noticed, though, that the people here seem to draw a lot of strength from this experience. They want to be here, and their enthusiasm naturally made you tune in and listen carefully. Now, you're starting to think you could get used to this. It's a chance to step back from your normal life and reflect on your existence.

You like how, in his sermons, the pastor does not hold back from talking about darker subjects. He's not "preachy" in the way you expected. He talks about real pain and human brokenness. You can relate to what he says, because you've seen evil. You've had some painful experiences. And what you hear about Jesus, dying on the cross for the forgiveness of sins, is powerful. You're starting to see that Jesus really speaks to everyday life.

Today, when worship ends, you're sitting in the pew. Your girlfriend is ten feet away, talking with someone else. You notice a group of people standing in the aisle. Some of them are looking at you, as if they are talking about you. A man suddenly breaks off from the group and approaches you. You figure, he's going to introduce himself to you. But he doesn't. Instead, he says:

"You seem really comfortable wearing a hat in worship."

This does not compute. First, you ask yourself, am I wearing a hat? Yes. You wear your baseball cap so often that you didn't even notice you were wearing it. The second thing you think is: are you not supposed to wear a hat in worship? You certainly didn't mean to offend anybody!