

# NEWS NOTES

August 20, 2023

## St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

(614) 875-2314 | [www.stjohnsgc.org](http://www.stjohnsgc.org) | [secretary@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsgc.org)

Senior Pastor Seth Jersild | (217)-255-2118 | [sjersild@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:sjersild@stjohnsgc.org)

Associate Pastor Patti Morlock | (740)-405-1548 | [pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org)



Mark Meuser, Director of Music Ministry

Nick Grossman & David Shrum, Contemporary Worship Leaders

Susan Locey, Director of Celebration Ringers

### ☞ SERVING TODAY ☞

#### **Communion Assistants**

4:00pm: Barb Hill

8:15am: Ann Jones

11:00am: Wayne and Carla Beavers  
Lisa Stallard

#### **Altar Guild**

Linda Vozel, Dee Harlor

Lynne Ehrlich

#### **Readers**

4:00pm: Nannette Shea

8:15am: Gary Smith

11:00am: Warren Grody

#### **Ushers**

11:00am: Dan Yeater, Blake Lang,  
Tom Lang, Larry Sutton

#### **Acolytes:**

8:15am: Cordelia Wanner  
Jaylynn Jermann

11:00am: Riley Millet  
Wesley Millet

#### **Greeters**

4:00pm: Mary Campbell

8:15am: MD: Judy Graessle

RD: Mel and Carol Penrod

11:00am MD: Lynda Berry  
RD: Lois Moore

Lessons: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28.

### **DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:**

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** In honor of Brooklyn Michelle Cress on her birthday. Given by her grandparents, Becky & Larry Link.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** In memory of Jack Lyday on his birthday. Given by Richard & Evelyn Lyday & Debbie & Chuck Manofsky.

**LECTERN FLOWERS:** In honor of Pam on her birthday, and in memory of Reverend Virgil Wittenberg on the anniversary of his marriage to Janet. Given by Paul and Pam Wittenberg.

**PULPIT FLOWERS:** In memory of my husband Richard Werner. Given by Joan Werner.

**PULPIT FLOWERS AND BULLETINS:** In memory of husband and father, David Mauch. Given by Mary Lou Mauch and Amy Shaw.

**BULLETINS:** In memory of the birthday of David L. Gusa. Given by Frank and Jean Gusa.

### **☞ PERSONAL NEWS ☞**

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:** Please pray for the members who are or were recently in the hospital: Amy O'Day, Karen Sheldon.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family and friends of Chuck Conkle, who passed away on August 10, 2023, to the family and friends of Carol Krieger, who passed away on August 14, 2023, to the family and friends of Phyllis Herbert. Who passed away on August 17, 2023. All who grieve are in our thoughts and prayers.

**“THANK YOU** to our church family for the lovely cards and wishes of good health for my upcoming surgery. It is so wonderful to receive supportive words of encouragement from the congregation. Thank you for your concern and continued support. God bless,”  
~ Averil MacKenzie.

### **☞ TODAY'S NEWS ☞**



#### **Missions' Back to School Bash** **Silent Auction** **Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Do you have a new or hand-made or collectible item you would like to donate to the Silent Auction? We would LOVE to take it off your hands! Proceeds benefit Short-term Missions 2024.

Please contact Diana by Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>!  
dimbrock@stjohnsgc.org      (614)271-5775

**ONE DAY – THREE GREAT EVENTS!** On August 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:45am, we will combine our three Sunday worship services into one grand outdoor worship event. Bring lawn chairs and dress causal as we gather by our shelter house to praise God under His clear blue sky. Note that the 4pm worship service will be held as usual Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, but please join us on Sunday for the picnic and other activities!

The **Church Picnic** will be here before you know it! We have set aside Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> for this time of fellowship. We will gather in the shelter house (weather permitting) immediately following the **Outdoor Worship Service**. Everything will be provided for the picnic; however, we will be collecting a 'free will offering' to help offset the cost. All donations will be greatly appreciated! Please bring a dessert to share. This year, we will incorporate into the church picnic all of the fun activities from the **Back to School Bash** that benefit the short-term mission trips! There will be a silent auction with many exciting items to choose from. Please save the date and plan to spend the afternoon with us. You will be glad you did!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!** We are currently looking for Sunday school teachers for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Below are 5 great reasons why you should consider teaching. If you feel this is something you would be interested in, please let Tim Allman know. You can email him at [tim.allman110@gmail.com](mailto:tim.allman110@gmail.com), call at 614-519-7927, or mark the salmon sheet and Tim will get in touch with you.

*But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."  
(Luke 18:16 NIV)*

**Top reasons to teach Sunday School:**

- 1) Teachers help kids to learn church is a fun, safe place.
- 2) Children develop relationships with other trusted Christian adults. How great to be one of them!
- 3) Teachers help kids connect with other Christian kids.
- 4) They reinforce lessons kids learn at home.
- 5) You help provide a safe place for kids to practice having faith discussions outside of the home.

**Please consider giving 1 hour of your time on Sunday mornings to help make a difference in the lives of our children. You will be glad you did!**

**SUBMITTING A NEWS NOTES ARTICLE?** Articles are due by 9am each **Wednesday**. Please send your article via email, [secretary@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsgc.org), or drop it in the church office secure slot.

**YOUTH MINISTER SURVEY RESULTS:** Thanks to all of you who filled out the youth minister survey! Below are the final results, with highest values at the top. As we embark on our search for a new youth minister to work with our 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade students, this will provide our interview team (and candidates) with a helpful snapshot of our congregation's priorities. The survey listed 19 qualities/qualifications with "0" being a valid response. The answers below reflect average scores.

Faith Nurture (e.g. Bible studies)	15.66	Small Groups Formation	9.60
Education (Teaching)	13.57	Administrative Ability	8.22
Relational Ministry	11.28	Recruitment and Training of Adults	6.91
Outreach to Inactive or Unchurched Youth	11.14	Has College Degree	6.75
Lutheran	10.71	Large Group Events	6.70
Young Adult Ministry (post high school)	10.06	Musical Ability	5.55
Service Projects and Mission Trips	9.95	Camping	3.75
Ministry to Young Children (elementary)	9.64	Athletics	3.48
		Drama	3.14
		Male	1.36
		Female	1.18

**CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION 2023-24:** It's almost time to begin our 2023-24 year of confirmation class at St. John's! If your child is entering 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade this fall, we encourage you to enroll him/her in our confirmation program. It's a wonderful opportunity for young people to wrestle with their faith, grow in Christ, serve in his name, and establish strong ties of friendship within God's Church.

All potential confirmation students and at least one of their parents/guardians are encouraged to attend an orientation meeting on **Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**. We will meet in the main sanctuary after late worship, at **12:15 p.m.**

At the orientation, we'll go over the confirmation requirements and answer any questions you may have. At the end of the orientation, you can decide whether you can make the commitment this year.

If you cannot come to the orientation on August 27<sup>th</sup>, but are interested in confirmation for your child, please call Pastor Seth Jersild at 217-255-2118 or at church (217-469-7422) today. The first regular confirmation class is scheduled for **Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m.**

If you know of any children outside our congregation who might be interested in confirmation instruction, please let their parents/guardians know they are very welcome to take part in our program. See you in church!

**CHANCEL CHOIR AND CELEBRATION RINGERS RESUME PRACTICE THIS FALL!**  
**New Members Welcome!**

**The Chancel Choir** will be returning to traditional worship after its summer break. Their first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 to 9pm in the Sanctuary. We cordially invite anyone who is interested in singing to attend this rehearsal.

Singing in the Chancel Choir is a great opportunity to serve. Whether you are an experienced singer or just a beginner, you will find the choir to be a welcoming group whose purpose is to praise God in song. Anyone interested can simply come to the first rehearsal or e-mail Choir Director Mark Meuser at [mmeuser@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:mmeuser@stjohnsgc.org) if you have additional questions.

**The Women's Chorale** will start its fall rehearsals on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> as well. We will meet at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.

**The Men's Chorale** will meet on Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30am in the choir room.

**The Celebration Ringers** are looking forward to a new year of ringing for worship. If you are interested in enhancing worship with us, contact Susan Locey at 614-208-8215 or by email at [sea.low6011@gmail.com](mailto:sea.low6011@gmail.com). Rehearsals begin September 14 at 6:15pm.

**ARTS IN THE ALLEY PARADE:** We are pleased to announce that once again St. John's will be participating in the Arts in the Alley Parade that takes place on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. **We are in need of people to walk in the parade and pass out candy.** If you are interested in participating, please mark the salmon insert. We are getting new T-shirts this year for volunteers, so don't forget to mark your size as well!



Not participating in the parade, but would like a new **St. John's T-shirt**? You can order one for yourself. We'll let you know about ordering and pricing as soon as the information becomes available.

**We are also in need of candy donations.** As you can imagine, it takes a lot of candy to make it through the parade! Please consider representing St. John's in this fun community event. You can contact Diane Sexton or Nick Grossman with any questions you may have. Diane can be reached at [dsexton@stjohnsgc.org](mailto:dsexton@stjohnsgc.org) or 678-572-0308. Nick can be reached at [ngrossman12@gmail.com](mailto:ngrossman12@gmail.com) or 614-560-3724. Thanks!

**You can drop off candy any time before the event. We will be placing bins wherever you pick up your Sunday Bulletin.**

**OFFICE HOURS** are Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm. Please keep in mind the building may be locked at any time outside of normal office hours.

## ☞ YOUTH NEWS ☞

**BACKPACK BLESSING is today!** During the Children's Sermon, pastors will say a special blessing over you, your backpacks, and your school year! If you forgot your backpack, no worries. Please come up for your blessing during the Children's Sermon.

A big round of applause to Ellen Previts who made the buttons for the backpacks.  
*Thanks Ellen!*

**When I think about the last 40 years,  
there's a song that comes to mind ...  
to God be the glory, great things He had done!**

I started in my first ministry position as a youth director at Grace Lutheran in Fremont, Ohio, in August of 1983.

Gary and I married in 1986. I've worked in various ministries and jobs, always with youth. Thirty-two of those years, I've been at St. John's in both part-time and full-time positions. God has been so good, blessing me with a devoted husband and a beautiful faith web of children, youth, and friends. I am ever thankful for the gift of each of you. I hope that you know how much I cherish you. As you've probably heard by now, I'm

being led by God to move from my full-time position to a part-time position at St. John's, serving families and working with pre-K through 6th grade, effective the first of September. I look forward to being able to spend more time with Gary, my Dad, in my Bible, and going on little adventures. And, as always, I'm looking forward to another year of being with my St. John's family.



*Laurie*









## STEWARDSHIP

**Attendance**      August 13      -      **165 + Saturday Night + Contemporary**

<b>July 2023</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Operating	\$52,960	\$ 498,588	\$ 59,428	\$437,873
Benevolence	\$ 4,327	\$ 49,767	\$ 20,718	\$ 48,447
Accessibility Project	\$ 4,597	\$1,214,611	\$184,051	\$446,490

### How to give to St. John's:

-  + Place your offering in the collection basket during worship services.
-  + Mail your offering to the church – 3220 Columbus St., Grove City, OH 43123.
-  + St. John's website – [www.stjohnsgc.org](http://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.
-  + Through your financial institution – they will send a check directly to the church on your behalf.
-  + Through the Vanco Mobile 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.
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**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.

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

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Adult Faith Discussion, FH Rm 001 / Matthew, Steve Johnston, Chapel / 2 Peter, Rick Butsko, Rms 301 and 303.

***NO YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL LABOR DAY WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>***

**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 2-3 years old, Rm 003 / 4-5 years old, 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.

**SELAH ROOM:** Rm 101, a quiet place available every Sunday from 8:30am to 12:30pm.

## ☪ CALENDAR ☪

### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 20**

#### **BACKPACK BLESSINGS**

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)  
9:30am Sunday School  
10:00am Small Group (Lib)  
11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)  
11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)  
5:30pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

### **MONDAY, AUGUST 21**

12:00pm Lunchtime AA (102)  
6:30pm Puppets (FLC)  
7:00pm Council (103-4)  
7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)

### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 22**

9:00am Quilters (103-4)  
7:00pm Boy Scouts (SH [FLC])  
7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (103-4)

### **(WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23)**

### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 24**

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)  
9:00am Eagle Mailing Team  
9:30am Small Group (101)  
2:00pm Small Group (101)

### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 25**

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

### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 26**

4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)  
7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (FH)

### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 27**

9:30am Sunday School  
10:00am Small Group (Lib)  
10:45am Outdoor Worship (SH [FLC])  
12:00pm Church Picnic, Silent Auction  
(SH, FLC, Kit)  
5:30pm Adult Basketball (FLC)  
5:30pm Saddles N Such 4-H (FH)

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP,  
CHURCH PICNIC, AND  
BACK TO SCHOOL BASH  
AUGUST 27**

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND  
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL  
OFFICE CLOSED  
SEPTEMBER 4**

**RALLY DAY  
SEPTEMBER 10**

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