

NEWS NOTES

August 31 - September 1, 2024

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

(614) 875-2314 | www.stjohnsgc.org | secretary@stjohnsgc.org

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

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

Intern Dale Stanley | dstanley@stjohnsgc.org



Mark Meuser, Director of Music Ministry

Nick Grossman and David Shrum, Contemporary Worship Leaders

Susan Locey, Director of Celebration Ringers

☞ SERVING TODAY ☞

Greeters

4:00pm: Mary Campbell

8:15am: Armand Arabian

11:00am MD: Bonnie Swanson

ND: Linda Diehl

Ushers

8:15am: Steve Marcum, David

Sweeley, Hunter Thompson

11:00am: Bill Diehl, George Gonsowski,

Dennis Imbrock, Tom Lang

Acolytes

8:15am: Colton Thompson, Ben Previts

11:00am: Layla Greer, Riley Millet

Altar Guild

Dellno and Betty Lewis, Judy Graessle

Readers

4:00pm: Chris Jenkins

8:15am: Gary Smith

11:00am: Bonnie Swanson

Communion Assistants

4:00pm: Bill Woodgeard

8:15am: Linda Wagner, Teresa Orahood

11:00am: Ron Nighbert, Dan Yeater, Lisa
Stallard

DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS: In memory of Rev. Virgil and Mrs. Janet Wittenberg's anniversary and in honor of Pam Wittenberg's birthday. Flowers given by the Paul Wittenberg family.

PULPIT FLOWERS: In memory of my daughter, Rosemary Anderson. Given by her mother Susie Long.

BULLETINS: To the Glory of God and in honor of the birthday of Paul E. Katterhenrich. Given by Beth Katterhenrich.

Lessons Today: Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-23.

PERSONAL NEWS

The St John's community would like to congratulate **Bruce and Karen Whyte** on celebrating their 50th Wedding anniversary on August 24th, 2024. May God continue to bless their marriage in the years to come.

TODAY'S NEWS

WELCOME, GUEST PREACHERS! From now through the fall, former pastors of St. John's will be here to share God's Word and help us celebrate our 175th anniversary. All pastors will preach during the traditional services, unless stated otherwise.



Sept. 1st – Pastor Terry Morgan (not preaching)
Sept. 22nd – Pastor Karen Caspersen (James)
Oct. 13th – Pastor Tari Stage Harvey
Oct. 27th – Pastor Amy Little – General Secretary, NALC

GERMAN HERITAGE SERVICES: SEPTEMBER 7-8. Did you know that St. John's offered regular German language worship services (alongside English services) all the way into the late 1930s? On the weekend of September 7-8, as part of our 175th Anniversary Celebration, we will be lifting up St. John's German heritage by altering our traditional worship services to closely follow the order of Luther's Mass. We'll also be singing German hymns and hearing a little bit (*nur ein kleines bisschen*) of German spoken in our worship services that weekend. Come and enjoy a special weekend of worship and praise! You'll experience first-hand the small but very interesting differences between Luther's original order of worship and the one we typically follow today.

MINISTRY BRAINSTORMING MEETINGS: Two brainstorming meetings are going to be held at **6:30pm** on the Sunday evenings of **September 29 and October 6**. We will meet in rooms 103-4. All members of St. John's are invited to attend **one or both** meetings as possible. Our Long Range Ministry Planning Team is forming a three year plan for ministry at St. John's for 2025-2027 and they would appreciate your input! Come, join the discussion and share your ideas!

THE VETERAN'S LUNCHEON PLANNING COMMITTEE will be having a meeting at **10am on Saturday, September 14th in the Library.**

DARTBALL SEASON STARTS SOON! Join us for fun, fellowship and some friendly competition with other local churches. No experience necessary. All men and women are welcome. We play every Thursday through March. Contact Dwight for more info, 614-323-6330, maxfliddh@yahoo.com.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION 2024-25: It's almost time to begin our 2024-25 year of confirmation class at St. John's! If your child is entering 7th or 8th 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.



If you were not able to come to either orientation session, but are interested in confirmation for your child, please call Pastor Seth Jersild at 217-255-2118 or at church (614-875-2314) today. The first regular confirmation class is scheduled for **Sunday, September 8th, 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!

LIFT UP YOUR VOICE! As part of the 175th Anniversary Celebration, St. John's is planning to form a Reformation Choir. Its purpose is to sing at the Reformation Service on October 27. That service will be a combined service involving contemporary and traditional worship and will take place at 11:00 am.

The Reformation Choir plans to sing Randall Thompson's *Alleluia*, a beautiful and inspiring work. The choir will be made up of Chancel Choir members and additional volunteers from both the contemporary and traditional services. The plan is for the Reformation Choir to learn the *Alleluia* during the first twenty minutes of Chancel Choir practices beginning on **September 4 at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary**. After twenty minutes, the Reformation choir members may leave, and the Chancel Choir will continue practicing for its other fall services.



This is a wonderful opportunity for singers from both contemporary and traditional worship services to join their voices in praising God and celebrating the church's anniversary. It does involve a commitment of time in September and October, but it is less than a full-time commitment to the choir. Interested singers may contact Mark Meuser, Music Director, at mmeuser@stjohnsgc.org or in person after a service.

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION TEAM: On the first Sunday of each month this team comes to receive a Holy Communion kit. The distribution of home communion is an extension of the Lord's Supper and is for those who are unable to be present at the celebration of the congregation. We bring to them the same bread of life and the same cup of blessing so that they may be strengthened through their participation in the body of Christ. Let us be mindful and grateful for this ministry.

PEACE PUPPETS IS BACK SEPTEMBER 9th, but we need YOU. Help tell stories that



make people laugh and learn at same time. If not sure about whole year, come try while we prep for Trunk or Treat and see how it feels. No experience necessary! If more comfortable with props than speaking, we can still use you. Mondays at 6:30pm starting September 9th in the FLC. Contact Jen Mitchell 614-774-6720 jenmitchel@aol.com for more information. *PS-it counts as service hours! :)*

ARTS IN THE ALLEY: It's that time of year again! The Arts in the Alley parade is Saturday, September 21st at 9:30am. The parade is

always a great opportunity to represent St. John's in our community. This year will be extra special as we highlight our 175th anniversary. We would love to have our best turn out yet. If you would like to walk with us this year, please sign up on the salmon sheet or contact Nick Grossman at 614-560-3724 or ngrossman12@gmail.com.



MISSIONS SILENT AUCTION – NEW IN 2024: Due to rising health permit costs, Mexico Mission has decided not to run a pizza booth in Arts in the Alley. Instead... we are moving our Back to School Bash silent auction to Arts in the Alley weekend! We will have the items set up in the North Entrance where we can welcome the community in to see our beautiful church and the annual quilt show in the FLC.

Please note change in time: Bidding will be open after the parade on Saturday and close at 4:00pm on Sunday. You can pick up and pay for your items Sunday afternoon from 4:00-6:00pm. Please stop by and bid on items to support the Mexico Mission Family.



Have something to donate? Please drop it off in the Youth Office on Sunday, September 15th, or in the Church Office 8-4 on September 16-19th and fill out the description paper. **Due to limited space, we are only accepting new or homemade goods, and gift cards and gift baskets.** Thank you!

WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will hold its next meetings on **Saturday, September 14th at 9am and on Tuesday, September 24th at 6pm in Rooms 103-4.** Everyone is welcome. Bring your knitting/crochet materials and any completed shawls to be blessed with prayer. Anyone can learn to knit or crochet with our help! For more info call Glenda at 614-352-5955 or Diana at 614-271-5775.

CALLING ALL RINGERS! The Celebration Ringers will begin the Fall season on **September 12 at 6:15pm.** If you would like to join the bell choir, call Susan Locey at 614-208-8215. We rehearse on Thursday evenings and play during worship once a month. Private lessons to give it a try!

OWLS EVENT – SEPTEMBER 20, 2024: If you would ask almost any OWL (Older Wiser LutheranS) to name one of their favorite meetings of the year, I am pretty sure most of them would say “Der Dutchman! Of course!”. What’s not to like about a restaurant that is located in a beautiful country setting and the bounty of a country kitchen? They serve generous portions of hearty, home-style Amish Kitchen Cooking. They might not be as good as our Lutheran cooks, but we think they are pretty good. Their bakery is full of pastries, cakes, cookies, breads and their legendary pies that are baked every day. And if you have any money left over, their gift shop is very inviting.

For the past couple of years, we have enjoyed a wonderful lunch catching up with those we don’t get to see often so once again we will skip the program and enjoy our friends and conversation! We are so pleased to be able to get together and enjoy our time together. God has blessed each of us by leading us to St. John’s and offering us the Christian fellowship that is priceless. You can order from the menu which includes their buffet for \$18.49 but it does not include your drink, dessert or tip. Another choice is their soup and salad bar for \$13.99 And, of course, you can choose from their lunch and dinner menu which includes homemade white bread or wheat dinner rolls.



Our reservation is for 12pm. We will meet in the new lobby at 11am to match up riders with drivers. For those who need a ride, I know they appreciate our drivers! We will depart for the restaurant no later than 11:15am. We have reserved a private room. If you are driving separately you should plan to arrive between 11:45am and 12pm. If you are able and willing to drive, it would be appreciated! Please make your reservation using the salmon sheet – including if you are able to drive, need a ride or if you are meeting the group at the restaurant. Hope to see you there! Just in case you don’t know --- OWLS are Older Wiser LutheranS but everyone is welcome!

SAINT JOHN’S TIME CAPSULE OPENING: Sunday, September 29, Noon. When St. John’s completed construction of the Parish House (often referred to as the Education Wing) in 1956, a time capsule was enclosed in one of the wall blocks. As part of our 175th anniversary, we’re going to have a public opening of the time capsule on Sunday, **September 29th at noon**, after our late worship services. Come enjoy a fun walk down memory lane, and see what memorabilia our forefathers and foremothers at St. John’s left in the time capsule sixty-eight years ago!

ST. JOHN’S GOT TALENT TO RETURN IN OCTOBER: Due to the enthusiastic response to last year’s program, *St. John’s Got Talent* will again feature the various talents of the members of the church. We encourage members to share their talents at this program. Possible talents could include music, dance, reading, humor, or gymnastics. If you are interested, please contact Mark Meuser, Music Director, or Nick Grossman, Contemporary Service Leader, by September 21.

Assisting Opportunities
IN
**TRADITIONAL
WORSHIP**

LAY READERS are needed for the 8:15 and 11 am traditional worship services. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish Entrance. Contact Jo Dimond if you have any questions 614-270-3291. Thank you for serving in this ministry.

BULLETIN DEDICATIONS: Consider submitting a Bulletin Dedication in honor or in memory of loved ones, and to celebrate an event, milestone, birthday, or anniversary. Bulletin Dedications are only \$20.00. Reserve your preferred weekend date on the Bulletins Sign Up sheet on the Parish Entrance bulletin board. Please direct questions to Barb Armentrout at 614-875-2985.

GREETERS NEEDED for both Sunday morning traditional services. Volunteers for 4pm and 8:15am services are encouraged to sign up on the Greeter's chart posted on the Parish bulletin board. We kindly request the 11:00am volunteers to contact Linda Diehl at 614-906-1408.

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP: Our worship services each week are beautified with wonderful music, smiling faces, and flowers. Making a flower dedication for the Altar, Pulpit, and Lectern is a wonderful way to remember or honor loved ones. Reserve your date on the Altar Flowers Chart in the Parish Entrance. Please direct questions to Lesa Corbin at 614-530-4984.



SUBSTITUTES NEEDED FOR MEALS ON WHEELS ROUTES: Every Friday St. John's is responsible for delivering Meals on Wheels to our Grove City Community. Each route takes at 1 ½ - 2 hours depending on the number of meals to deliver. Our recipients appreciate our dedication in making sure they get their meals. Substitutes are needed to cover a route for our regular drivers when they are ill, on vacation, etc. You may only be called a few times during the year, but it is very important to making sure that our routes are covered. For more information, please mark the salmon sheet in the bulletin or call Megan Grossman, Lay Ministry Director, 614-905-2629 or Betty Lewis, 614-272-6696. Looking forward to hearing from you.

LOST AND FOUND: Please check the Lost & Found bin located in the North Entrance if you have lost or found any items in the church. For small items, such as rings, earrings, or headphones, please check with the office Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm. Eyeglasses may be donated after several weeks.

USED EYEGLASSES are being collected for donation to Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers located throughout the world. The used glasses are repaired and distributed to those in need in developing countries. You can donate your used eyeglasses in the drop boxes in the second-floor hallway just outside of the library.

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

SEE A MAINTENANCE CONCERN WITHIN OUR BUILDING? Please fill out a “Church Maintenance Request” form and return it to the church office. Forms are available throughout the building, in the church office, and on the door of the Facilities Manager’s and Intern’s office, room #205.

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS should be turned in by Monday morning. Fill out the prayer request section on the salmon sheet or contact the church office at 614-875-2314. You may also email your prayer request to secretary@stjohnsgc.org. Requests are updated on a weekly basis.

☞ YOUTH NEWS ☞

ADVENTURE CLUB and FAITH TREK TRAINING FOR ADULTS AND TEEN LEADERS is Thursday, September 26th, starting at 5:45pm. Contact Laurie at lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org for more details. Adventure Club and Faith Trek will start the following week, October 3rd. They meet on Thursdays from 5:45pm – 7:15pm. A free will offering is collected for the meal.

EXPLORERS and ENERGIZERS TRAINING FOR ADULTS is Wednesday, September 25th, starting at 7pm. Contact Gini at grogers@stjohnsgc.org for more details. Explorers and Energizers will start the following week, October 2nd. They meet on Wednesdays from 7pm – 8:30pm.

RAISE RIGHT gift card orders are placed on the first Tuesday of every month. You can use these cards personally and they also make great gifts. Talk to Laurie Pecuch or email her at lpecuch@stjohnsgc.org about how you can order physical cards. Did you know that you can also order e-gift cards and re-load your cards on-line? Talk to Pam Wittenberg about how easy it is to place orders on-line. With each gift card purchase, a percentage comes back to us and helps off-set the costs for children and youth ministries not covered by the budget. *Thanks for your support!*

☞ STEWARDSHIP ☞

Attendance August 25 - 223

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



☞ CALENDAR ☞

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
9:30am Adult Sunday School
11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
11:00am Contemporary Worship (Sanc)
12:00pm Long Range Ministry (103-4)
5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

**OFFICE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF
LABOR DAY**

12:00pm Lunchtime AA (102)
7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

RAISE RIGHT ORDERS DUE

9:30am Quilters (103-4)
11:30am OWLS Planning (102)
5:00pm Private Event (FLC)
7:00pm Boy Scouts #392 (SH [FLC])
7:00pm SW Historical Society (103-4)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

1:30pm Small Group (102)
6:30pm Women's Chorale (Sanc)
7:30pm Reformation Choir (Sanc)
7:50pm Chancel Choir (Sanc)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
2:00pm Small Group (101)
3:00pm After School Acting Class (FLC)
5:00pm Children's Choir (Chapel)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

10:30am Bulletin Team (Lib)
6:00pm Private Event (FLC)
8:30pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

11:00am **Womens Tea Party**
4:00pm **GERMAN HERITAGE**
Worship (Sanc)
7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (SH [103-4])

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

8:15am **GERMAN HERITAGE**
Worship (Sanc)
9:30pm Men's Chorale (Sanc)
9:30am **RALLY DAY (Overflow, SH)**
10:30am Small Group
11:00am **GERMAN HERITAGE**
Worship (Sanc)
11:00am Contemporary Worship (Sanc)
5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

THERE WILL BE NO YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL
on Labor Day weekend, Sunday, September 1, 2024.

OFFICE HOURS are Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm.

DAILY AND WEEKLY UPDATES ARE POSTED ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA:

Website: www.stjohnsgc.org | Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsgrovecity/>

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Adult Faith Discussion, FH Rm 001 / 1 John, Steve Johnston, Chapel / 2 Peter, Rick Butsko, Rm 301.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: 2-4 years old, Rm 003 / ages 5 to 1st Grade, Rm 009 / Grades 2 through 4, Rm 307 / Grades 5 and 6, Rm 303 / Grades 7 through 12, High School Room 311.

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