

NEWS NOTES

August 29-30, 2026

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Pastor Patti Morlock | (740) 405-1548 | pmorlock@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

10:45am: Nick Althoff, Jaxon Starr, Alice Starr, Camden Musick

Altar Guild

Bill and Linda Diehl

Readers

4:00pm: Ann Jones

10:45am: Davy Clark, Emma Grossman

Communion Assistants

4:00pm: David Sweeley

10:45am: Ben Previts, Finley Lovell, Eva Counts, Addy Samuels

Ushers

4:00pm: Steve Henry, Michael Gibboney

10:45am: Cordelia Wanner, Lukas Althoff

Lessons Saturday:

Jeremiah 15:15-21; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28.

Lessons Sunday:

1 Peter 1:3-9; Philippians 4:4-13; John 16:16-33.

DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

BULLETINS: Given by Rhonda Maynard.

✠ PERSONAL NEWS ✠

SARAH CIRCLE THANKS YOU: We are so happy! Our Health Kit goal was met and exceeded by 25, with a total of 75 kits! God has truly inspired us. Thank you all!

NOTES OF THANKS: Thank you Carol Penrod. The nice things you do are always appreciated. You will be blessed! ~ Shelia Holcomb.

☞ TODAY'S NEWS ☞

On August 30th at 10:45am, we will combine our three Sunday worship services into one grand outdoor youth-led worship event!

Bring lawn chairs and dress casually 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 29th. We encourage everyone to join us on Sunday for the picnic!

HELLO ST. JOHNS FAMILY! My name is Kelsey Bacon, and I am thrilled to join the staff as the Director of Youth and Family Ministry. I live in Hilliard with my husband Alex and our two kids Theo (2 1/2) and Lila (11 months). I grew up here in Columbus and have many years of experience serving and leading in youth and family ministry. I am very passionate about bringing the gospel to kids and teens. I love the ministry of discipling students, walking alongside parents through every stage, and raising up the next generation of the Church to be the hands and feet of Jesus. I am also passionate about books, crochet, homemade sourdough, and people! I am so excited to get to know the community here. I would love to connect with you in the lobby, over coffee, or at your favorite spot in Grove City, as I'm getting to know the area. Please feel free to email me at kbacon@stjohnsgc.org.

ATTENTION SINGERS: ST. JOHN'S CHOIRS NEED MEMBERS: Members of the congregation are warmly invited to join one of St. John's choirs. No previous choir experience is necessary. There are three choral groups that serve at the Sunday morning worship services. The groups alternate between the two traditional services.

The Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesday in the Sanctuary from 7:30-9:00pm.

The Women's Chorale rehearses on Wednesday in the Sanctuary from 6:30-7:25pm.

The Men's Chorale rehearses on Sunday morning in the Choir Room 9:30-10:30am.

Practices will begin Wednesday, September 2. Interested singers can just show up to practice. If you have been looking for a fun way to serve the church and praise God, this is a wonderful opportunity. The choirs are directed by Mark Meuser. If you have questions, please feel free to contact him by e-mail at mmeuser@stjohnsgc.org.

THE CELEBRATION RINGERS will begin a new season in September. We are always looking for new ringers! If you are interested in giving it a try, you can call or text Susan Locey at 614-208-8215.

OFFICE CLOSED ON LABOR DAY, Monday, September 7. No Youth Sunday School on Sunday, September 6.

MONDAY EXERCISE CLASS will not be held on Labor Day, Monday, September 7th.

ATTENTION LADIES OF ALL AGES!! Charlotte and Pam will be hosting a **Fascinator Hat Clip Craft Class**. Join us on **Thursday, September 17 from 6-7:30pm in room 102**. Please bring a headband, hair clip, or hair comb, as well as any items you wish to include on your hat. Fun items include flowers, ribbons, feathers, butterflies, bring whatever you can! Crafting supplies including glue guns would also be helpful. We will share it all!! We will help you make a beautiful fascinator hat clip to wear for the Ladies Tea Party on September 26.

WOMEN'S TEA PARTY-ROOTED IN CHRIST! Ladies of **all ages** are invited to join us for our **Women's Tea Party on Saturday, September 26, from 10:00am-1:00pm!** This year's theme is "**Rooted in Christ**," inspired by the reminder that when our lives are rooted in Him, our faith can continue to grow and flourish.

Come enjoy a morning of **fellowship, a light lunch, encouraging speakers, fun games and activities**, and time to connect with women of all generations. Whether you come with a friend, daughter, mother, grandmother, or on your own, **there is a place for you at the table**.

We hope you'll join us as we slow down, enjoy one another's company, and encourage each other to stay **rooted and growing in Christ**. Invite a friend—we'd love to have you!



Register online through CH Meetings, or sign up with number attending on your Salmon Sheet.

GOD'S LOVE UNIVERSITY: GLU is a group of volunteers that communicate with our college-attending students once a month for the school year. As a volunteer, you are asked to send an encouraging card to them once a month. We are looking for volunteers to connect with a student for the 2026-2027 school year. Please let us know if you are interested in being involved. It's a great way to show college students that they are loved by St. John's! If you have questions, please reach out to Gloria Biggs by email gloria.biggs@gmail.com or phone 614-266-6157, or Suzie Brace at 614-313-1314.

PEACE PUPPETS ARE ABOUT TO RESUME... What are we? We are **Puppets Excited About Christian Evangelism** and we need you! We help at events during year to spread God's love in a different way. Can you read? Do you want a service project that will make you laugh while teaching others? We might be the fit for YOU.. Stop by Monday nights at 6:30 in the FLC starting back on September 14th! See you then or text Jen Mitchell 614-774-6720.

DARTBALL IS BACK! All are welcome! Boys and girls, ladies and gentlemen, young and old. Dartball is easy to play. It is baseball played with darts that are thrown at a diamond shaped board with targets. St John's plays other area churches **every Thursday night from September 3rd until mid-March**. Become part of one of St John's oldest ministries! We have been playing for over 80 years. Join the fun! Contact Dwight H. at 614-323-6330 or maxfliddh@yahoo.com.

OWLS EVENT – SEPTEMBER 18, 2026: 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 \$19.99 (menu price or whatever the menu price is at that time) which includes the salad bar, but it does not include your drink or pie. You can also choose from their lunch and dinner menu.

We encourage everyone to meet in the new North Entrance no later than 11:15am. If you are able and willing to drive and take passengers, it would be greatly appreciated. **Please sign up using the salmon sheet.** We need to leave at 11:30am for our 12:00pm reservation. If you sign up and need to cancel, please call the church or Bonnie Swanson (614-562-8002). Hope to see you there!

PRAYER REQUESTS: Submit your prayer requests on the back of this week’s salmon sheet. You may also contact the church office by phone at 614-875-2314 or by email at secretary@stjohnsgc.org. Requests are updated on a weekly basis and should be turned in by Monday mornings.

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

Donna's phone number was listed incorrectly in the Fall parent mailing. Please note the correct number is 614-815-4696. Thank you!

RALLY DAY AND BIBLE SUNDAY: Rally Day will take place on September 13th during the Sunday School Hour. Age 2 years old through 6th grade will meet in the FLC. 7th and 8th grades will have confirmation orientation starting in the sanctuary. This year, Rally Day will also be **Bible Sunday!!** The following groups will receive an age-appropriate Bible as a gift from the congregation during the worship services: students starting pre-school, incoming 3rd graders, and our 7th graders going into confirmation. If you have a child in one of these groups, please plan on attending worship September 13th. **REMINDER: No Youth Sunday School September 6th.**

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION: For returning 8th graders (2nd year students) and incoming 7th graders (1st year students), we will have confirmation orientation on Sunday, September 13th (Rally Day for our younger students) from 9:30-10:30am starting in the Sanctuary and concluding in the Confirmation Room (304). We will send more information out as the date approaches, but if you have any questions reach out to Christina Allman or Kelsey Bacon, kbacon@stjohnsgc.org.

WE NEED MORE HANDS ON THURSDAY NIGHTS with Adventure Club and Faith Trek. If you're able and willing, we need teachers and teacher aides, so please reach out to Christina. Both meet on Thursday nights, 5:45pm - 7:15pm. Adult and teen leader training will be on September 24th, 5:45pm - 7:15pm.

Adventure Club and Faith Trek start the following week, October 1st. They meet weekly, 5:45 - 7:15pm. The greeter's table opens at 5:30pm. Suggested donation for the evening meal is \$4. Adventure Club is for ages 4 through 4th grade. Faith Trek is for 5th and 6th grade. Each group enjoys gym time, a meal with friends, arts and crafts, and an active learning Bible lesson. We have lots of teen and adult leaders who love spending the night with the children. Parents and grandparents are welcome to join us. We also love our faith-webbing adult friends. Talk to Christina about joining us!

Explorers and Energizers for grades 7—8 and 9—12 will start on September 30th, 7—8:30pm. Interested in being on the adult leadership team? Please connect with Donna Westerfeld at dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org. Wednesday nights are a great night to connect with others, make friends, and grow in faith. Training for Adult Leaders is Wednesday, September 23rd, 7pm—8:30pm.

IQA Bible Study! Join Donna for a deeper look into His Word starting September 30th on Wednesdays, 6pm-7pm IN PERSON prior to Energizers! This is a new night and no longer on Zoom. Meet us in Room 103-4. You'll love the IQA (Inquiries, Questions, Answers) format and discussion!

CHILDREN’S CHOIR meets every Thursday at 5pm. Contact Kate Shrum if you would like your child to participate!

STEWARDSHIP

ATTENDANCE Sunday, August 23 - 269

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

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 – 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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WOMEN'S TEA PARTY



ROOTED IN *Christ*



SEPTEMBER 26TH

• 10-1 •

Let your roots grow down into Christ,
and let your lives be built on him.

Then your faith will grow strong in the truth
you were taught, and you will overflow
with thankfulness.

— COLOSSIANS 2:7 (NLT) —



ABIDE
IN HIS LOVE
— AND —
BEAR FRUIT



☞ CALENDAR ☞

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

9:30am Sunday School Hour

10:45am Combined Outdoor Worship (SH)

12:00pm Church Picnic (FLC)

5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

12:00pm Lunchtime AA (SH, FH)

6:00pm Exercise Class (103-4)

7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

RAISE RIGHT ORDERS DUE

7:00am Men's Prayer Group (Café)

9:30am Quilters (103-4)

11:00am OWLS Planning Meeting (102)

7:00pm Boy Scouts #392 (SH, FLC)

7:00pm SW Historical Society (103-4)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

9:00am BSF Leader Workshop (FLC, 101-4, FH)

1:00pm Small Group (102)

6:30pm Women's Chorale (Sanc)

7:00pm Design for Living AA (FH)

7:30pm Chancel Choir (Sanc)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)

1:00pm Small Group (Café)

3:00pm Bulletin Team (Lib)

5:00pm Children's Choir (Chapel)

6:15pm Celebration Ringers (Sanc)

8:00pm Dartball

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

9:30am Small Group (103-4)

2:00pm Private Event (101)

3:00pm Men's Chorale (Choir Rm)

8:30pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)

7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (SH)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)

9:30am Sunday School Hour

NO YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)

11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)

5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

LABOR DAY, OFFICE CLOSED

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR: 9:30-10:30am every Sunday

Men's Chorale Rehearsal, Choir Room.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Adult Faith Discussion, FH Rm 001 / Gospel of Mark, Steve Johnston, Chapel / 2 Peter, Rick Butsko, Rm 102 / Parenting Topics, Amy Wanner, Rm 103-4.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: 2-4 years old, Rm 003 / age 5 & Kindergarten-Grade 2, Rm 310 / Grades 3-4, Rm 307 / Grades 5-6, Rm 303 / Grades 7-8, Confirmation Rm, 304 / Grades 9-12, High School Rm, 311.

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