

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

DATED MATERIALS

OCTOBER 2026

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ORGANIZATION

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Permit No. 10
Grove City, Ohio 43123-3297



The Eagle

OCTOBER 2026

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Traditional

Saturdays at 4pm

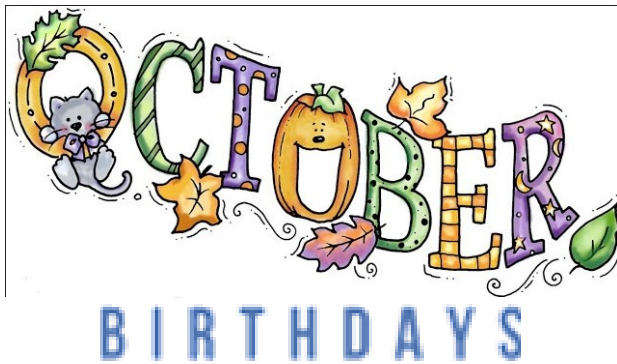
Sundays at 8:15 & 11am

Contemporary

Sundays at 11am

www.stjohnsgc.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDS.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
4 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School Hour 9:30am Contemporary Worship 11am Traditional Worship 11am Adult Basketball 5pm	5 BSF Leaders 9:30am Property Team 10am Lunchtime AA 12pm Irish Music Rehearsal 4pm Elizabeth Circle 6:30pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	6 RAISE RIGHT OR-DERS DUE Men's Prayer Group 7am Quilters 9:30am Boy Scouts #392 7pm SW Historical Soc. 7pm	7 BSF 9:30am Small Group 1pm IQA Bible Study 6pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm Design for Living AA 7pm Energizers & Explorers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	8 Promise Keepers 8am Bulletin Team 3pm Children's Choir 5pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm SEOMD Executive Council 6pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (@Reynoldsburg)	9 Small Group 9:30am Private Event 2pm Men's Chorale 3pm AA 8pm	10 EAGLE DEADLINE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD KICK-OFF Prayer Shawl Ministry 9am Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
11 OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD KICK-OFF Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School Hour 9:30am Children's Church 10:45am Contemporary Worship 11am Traditional Worship 11am Private Event 3pm Adult Basketball 5pm	12 BSF Leaders 9:30am Lunchtime AA 12pm Irish Music Rehearsal 4pm Small Group 6pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm Finance Team 7pm	13 Men's Prayer Group 7am Quilters 9:30am OWLS Planning 11:30am Fat Quarter Quilt Guild 5:45pm Praise Band Rehearsal 6:30pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	14 BSF 9:30am Small Group 1pm IQA Bible Study 6pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm Design for Living AA 7pm Energizers & Explorers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	15 Promise Keepers 8am Small Group 1pm Bulletin Team 3pm Children's Choir 5pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (Obetz)	16 Small Group 9:30am OWLS 11:30am Private Event 2pm Men's Chorale 3pm AA 8pm	17 Traditional Worship and Pastoral Installation 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
18 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School Hour 9:30am Contemporary Worship 11am Traditional Worship 11am LEGO Club 12pm Adult Basketball 5pm	19 BSF Leaders 9:30am Lunchtime AA 12pm Irish Music Rehearsal 4pm Council 6:30pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm	20 Men's Prayer Group 7am Quilters 9:30am Red Cross Blood Drive 12pm Private Event 5pm Friends of the Library 6pm Blue Ribbon 4-H 6:30pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	21 BSF 9:30am Small Group 1pm Private Event 5pm IQA Bible Study 6pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm Design for Living AA 7pm Energizers & Explorers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	22 Promise Keepers 8am Eagle Mailing Team 9am Bulletin Team 3pm Children's Choir 5pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm Dartball 8pm (Christ)	23 Small Group 9:30am Private Event 2pm Men's Chorale 3pm AA 8pm	24 Trunk or Treat 10am Columbus Miniature Society 12:30pm Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm
25 Traditional Worship 8:15am Sunday School Hour 9:30am Children's Church 10:45am Contemporary Worship 11am Traditional Worship 11am Adult Basketball 5pm	26 BSF Leaders 9:30am Lunchtime AA 12pm Irish Music Rehearsal 4pm Small Group 6pm Puppets 6:30pm Daily Reprieve AA 7pm Respect Life 7pm Sarah Circle 7pm	27 Men's Prayer Group 7am Quilters 9:30am Private Event 5pm Boy Scouts #392 7pm	28 BSF 9:30am Small Group 1pm Private Event 5pm IQA Bible Study 6pm Women's Chorale 6:30pm Design for Living AA 7pm Energizers & Explorers 7pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm	29 Promise Keepers 8am Small Group 1pm Bulletin Team 3pm Children's Choir 5pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek 5:45pm Celebration Ringers 6:15pm	30 Small Group 9:30am Private Event 2pm Men's Chorale 3pm AA 8pm	31 Traditional Worship 4pm Serenity Seekers AA 7pm



WRAPPED IN 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.

*Prayer Shawl
Ministry*



**Join us for the next meeting on
Saturday, October 10
at 9am in Room 103-4.**

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 and are held in Room 103-4. Contact the leaders listed for more information.

Elizabeth Circle
Contact
Amy Shaw
614-496-2890

Monday, October 5 at 6:30pm

Sarah Circle
Contact
Diane Carducci
614-871-7588

Monday, October 26 at 7pm

CHILDREN'S CHURCH meets every other Sunday in room 103-4 during the Contemporary Worship sermon time. Children enjoy a creative lesson with Jenn Czaplicki, Kate Shrum, Erin Wahl, or Christina Allman. They do an awesome job sharing about Jesus and His great love!

WEEKLY YOUTH EMAILS – Parents, if you are not receiving weekly emails from Kelsey Bacon (new youth director!), please email her at kbacon@stjohnsgc.org to get added to the list.

UPCOMING SERVICE PROJECTS:

Teens will be receiving an interest form soon to sign up for various projects, but make sure to put these dates on your calendar!

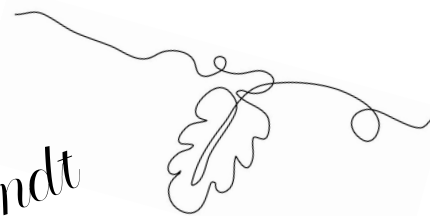
October 11	Operation Christmas Child Kick-off
November 15	Veterans' Luncheon
November 22	Chili Cook-off and Dessert Auction
December 6	Family Bike Assembly

Goodbye to Summer

The sun plays a game of hide-n-seek
As Autumn leaves are stripped from the trees
And send Summer's dress swirling in the breeze.
Where are you hurrying to, pretty leaves, pretty leaves?
Thank you, God, for the season's beauties,
And for all the wonders of Nature's mysteries.



Poems by *Ada Weygandt*



He Is Always Near
Spring, Summer, Winter and Fall,
Throughout the ages God's spirit calls,
Showering his blessings from above.
Hope refreshes like a soft, gentle rain,
Like a benediction thru each day's refrain,
And we find the Lord is near wherever we go,
Thru all life's highs and lows.



Relationships are important to us at St. John's!

We want to surround our children and youth with lots of faith-filled relationships between all age groups so that they might know the love of Jesus and stay connected with the church. If you'd like to know how you can make a difference in a young person's life, connect with Kelsey Bacon, Youth and Family Ministry Director.



RaiseRight™

Simply the right way to fundraise

See Pam Wittenberg on how your gift cards can raise monies at no extra cost to you!

**ORDERS ARE PLACED
THE FIRST TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH.**

kroger community rewards



Connect your KROGER card with the COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM.

Go to <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>.

Our organization number is EY530.

Shop at Kroger and a percentage comes back to the youth at St. John's!

St. John's Youth Ministry Team

Kelsey Bacon

**Youth & Family Ministries
Director**
614-592-7930
kbacon@stjohnsgc.org

Christina Allman

Kids Ministry Coordinator
614-519-8092
callman@stjohnsgc.org

Donna Westerfeld

Teen Ministry Coordinator
614-815-4696
dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org

YOUTH MINISTRY FALL CALENDAR



Don't forget to add these events
for kids and teens to your
calendar! We've got lots going
on this fall!

PRINTED COPIES AVAILABLE IN THE LOBBY

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
ACCESS THE CALENDAR



Adventure Club and Faith Trek meet weekly on Thursdays, starting on October 1st, 5:45pm - 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 grades. Each group enjoys gym time, a meal with friends, arts and crafts, and an active Bible lesson. Talk to Christina about joining us! **We do not meet on October 29th (Trick or Treat night in GC).**

Explorers and Energizers for grades 7—8 and 9—12 meet weekly on Wednesdays, starting on September 30th 7—8:30pm. Interested in being on the adult leadership team? Please connect with Teen Coordinator Donna Westerfeld, dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org. Wednesday nights are a great night to connect with others, make friends, and grow in faith.

HIGH SCHOOL BONFIRE on October 17th! We are all attending Pastor Dennis' installation together at 4pm, then heading to Hilliard to Kelsey's house for pizza and a bonfire. Please text Donna if you need a ride; we may take the church van if we need it.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR starts at 5pm in the Chapel on Thursday nights with Kate Shrum. Children attending Adventure Club will be escorted there after choir practice. Kate's love and enthusiasm for Jesus is contagious!

LEGO CLUB will meet on Sunday, October 18th and November 8th, 12-2pm! They start with pizza in the FLC. It's creative, fun, and a great time with friends! Parents are welcome to join!

A PARENTING GROUP meets every Sunday, 9:30-10:30am in Room 103-4, with Amy Wanner. Stop by and join the conversation. It's a great place to be encouraged and feel supported.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, all ages from 9:30am—10:30am. Our Sunday School Superintendent is Tim Allman. See Tim for questions about Sunday School. If you don't know Tim, we'd be happy to introduce you to him! He's a great guy!

We need

VOLUNTEERS

TO HELP WITH

TRUNK or TREAT!

Help make our Trunk or Treat
a fun and safe event for our community!



TRUNK OR TREAT

 **OCTOBER 24TH**

 **10:00 – 11:30 AM**

**FAMILY
FRIENDLY!**

WAYS YOU CAN HELP:



**DECORATE
A TRUNK**



**DONATE
CANDY**



**HELP WITH
GAMES**



**SET-UP &
CLEAN-UP**

CONTACT *Megan Grossman* IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP!

Thank you for being the hands and heart of our church!

October Mexico Update

It's happening!!! Mexico Missions will again be sharing the love of Jesus with the orphaned children of Tijuana! **Dates are set for July 9-19, 2027.** If you or your group would like to be a part of this mission through time, special gifts, prayer, or participation, Diana would LOVE to meet with you to answer any questions and share stories! God has richly blessed Rancho Genesis and St. John's when we've worked together to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Thank you so much as you continue to support the Mexico Mission through your prayers and our fundraisers. Check out the Genesis Diez newsletters on the mission board in the link or visit www.genesisdiez.org to see the exciting changes happening at the ranch!



Prayer:

Dearest Abba,

Thank you for calling people to be a part of Your mission for the world. Help us to listen and respond to Your Spirit's nudges on our hearts. You are soooooo good! All the time! We give You all the glory, honor, and praise for You alone are worthy. Amen.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It's October St. John's has partnered with Samaritan's Purse to send the Gospel to the ends of the earth through gift-filled shoe boxes! Please consider filling a shoe box with items such as school supplies, toothbrush with a holder, quality pens, flashlights with batteries, new short-sleeved shirts (with no writing on them). Avoid lotions, war related items, soap, and items that can melt. Also, please include a \$10 donation to cover the cost of shipping the box. If you are not able to pack your own box, we will have a donation tub for items in the Link starting on October 11. Monetary donations are also accepted!

Build your shoe box online for just \$30. You can bless children around the world without leaving home! Go to St. John's goal page and choose to build your online box:
<https://sampur.se/3TeYFqq>

Include a \$10 donation to cover the shipping costs and drop off your filled shoebox in the Link before **November 10.**



Please contact Justin, Beth, Brayden, or Addy Gottshall with any questions 740-360-2752.

That all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no other. 1 Kings 8:60





Please think about donating your leftover Halloween candy to the Quilters for the Christmas bags. If you need some leftover candy to donate, you can usually find good bargains early the next day after Beggars' Night. We make 100 bags for the children at the Grove City Methodist Food Pantry. It takes two tables full of candy to fill the Christmas bags. The bags hold crayons, pencils, pens, sturdy combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, a small ball, stuffed toys, and most importantly, **candy**. If you wish, feel free to make a healthy substitution for the candy. **We still need** a few pink erasers, toothbrushes, and glue sticks. You do not need to donate 100 items. We accept any number of items that will fit in our 10" X 10" bags. Place your Christmas bag donations in the Quilters' cabinet in the Link. We will fill the bags on December 1, 2026, starting at 9:30am. Thank you to the many who have already given donations to the children. Thank you for caring.

Our canceled stamps collection is almost empty... because we mailed them off to the rehab headquarters in Dunn Loring, Virginia last month. The stamps weighed 8lbs 2oz at a cost of \$18.30. Now we need to start our next box load with your canceled stamps. We need your cancelled stamps. Just tear off the corners with the stamps, place them in small plastic bag or envelope and drop off in the Quilters' cabinet in the Link. We send the stamps in every two years. Thanks.

The Quilters were given six quilt tops of various sizes but mostly full size or larger. The tops are ready for your batting, backing, and finishing. They are available for anyone to finish. Come by any Tuesday to see them and pick out your favorite to do. The finished quilt may be for your personal use or donated for a charity. We are offering them as we are a small group with arthritic hands and it would take us forever to finish all of them.

Please come and visit our small group. We will help you if you have an interest in learning the different aspects of quilting. We have empty chairs and sewing machines just waiting for your willing spirit. If you do not want to do quilting, another activity is preparing canceled stamps for the veteran hospitals' hand rehab activities. You may, also, just come and sit with us and help keep us company. We enjoy visitors-we get to show off our handiwork.

The Quilters usually meet every Tuesday in rooms 103-4 from 9:30am-1:30pm or thereabouts as we come and go as we please. All materials are provided.

With your caring for the children and your donations for the Christmas bags, we can continue to help the children who need our compassion and understanding.

MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN AS OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Memorial Fund

Given in memory of **Jim Braskett** by Suzie Long

Given in memory of **Kristen Millet** by Bruce and Karen Whyte

Given in memory of **Marilyn Martin** by Lulu Grove

Given in memory of **William McNicol** by Beth Katterhenrich; and Jackie Rutan

Given in memory of **Howard Linder** by Richard and Shelah Stage; Larry and Dorothy Link; Wilma Phillips; Jo Anne and Julie Keller; and William Graul

Youth Memorial Fund

Given in memory of **Averil MacKenzie** by Fred Vanorder

OWLS Fund

Given in memory of **Howard Linder** by Susan Koehler; and Cheryl Thompson

OWLS EVENT – OCTOBER 16, 2026

Ronald McDonald House is well known in and around the Columbus area for many reasons. Your family might have been a guest at one time or maybe a friend, family member, or church family. It might be well known but what exactly do you know? The Older Wiser LutheranS (OWLS) hope you will join your friends to hear the latest about the House from one of their most popular guides. Mike Amfah has been leading guided tours for over ten years and he has an interesting program ready to share with us. Did you know their story began in Philadelphia in 1974 when Philadelphia Eagles tight-end Fred Hill's daughter, Kim, and her leukemia diagnosis inspired the Hill family to advocate for a place to support families while their children received care at nearby hospitals? Fred collaborated with co-founder Dr. Audrey Evans to bring that vision to life. And now, Ronald McDonald House offers 1,032 programs in 62 countries and regions, all advocating for families to ensure the best health outcomes for children.

The OWLS will provide fried chicken and meat loaf for our potluck lunch but we ask you to bring a covered dish and join your friends for a delicious lunch and a wonderful program. Please plan to arrive around 11:15am so we can open the meeting at 11:30am. Use the salmon sheet 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.

Just in case you don't know --- OWLS are Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors but everyone is welcome! Hope to see you there!



VOLUNTEERS FOR TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Thinking about a way to help with “behind the scenes” during Worship? Do you have 20 minutes to spare once a month? Would you like to help beautify the Altar once every 6 weeks? If so, join the awesome members of the Altar Guild. Training is provided. Speaking from someone who has been a member of the Altar Guild for more than 20 years, you appreciate the Worship Service even more. Please consider joining us!! Have questions, call Betty Lewis 614-272-6696 or Karen Grossman 614-578-3198.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

Would you consider helping to care for the littlest of God's children on some Sunday mornings?

We would love the nursery to be open each week from 9:15–12:15 to make St. John's a welcoming place for young families. We need a rotation of volunteers to pull this off, with two adults in the nursery each Sunday.

- Serve every week or in a rotation
- Serve the whole 3 hours or in shifts

Contact Megan Grossman (mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org) if interested!



OCTOBER QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

The next Quarterly
Congregational Meeting will be
**Sunday, October 25,
2026, at 9:15am**
after the early service
in the Sanctuary.
After the conclusion of the meeting, Sunday
school classes can meet.

PROPERTY TEAM MEMBERS meet the first Monday of the month at 10:00am.

If you have questions or concerns, please share
them with a member of the team or put a note in
the Property Team mailbox by the church office.

SAVE THE DATE

Dear Veterans,

In honor of your sacrifice and service to our
country, you and a guest are invited to the 13th
Annual St. John's Veterans Luncheon.
This event will take place in the Family Life Center
on Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 12:45pm in honor
of Veterans Day!

Please mark the salmon sheet in your bulletin or call
614-875-2314 prior to October 25 to RSVP.



Honoring All Veterans on Veterans Day

*We thank you for
your service and
sacrifices. We are
forever grateful!*

you're invited to join us for:

Pastor Dennis Di Mauro's Installation & Reception

Saturday October 17th, 2026 at 4pm

Reception with warm German
appetizers and a charcuterie table
to follow the service.

RSVP by October 3rd to Megan Grossman at
mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org or on your salmon insert
with number of people attending.

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Patricia A. Morlock, Pastor pmorlock@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314 740-405-1548
Christina Allman Kids Ministry Coordinator, callman@stjohnsgc.org	614-519-8092
Tim Allman Sunday School Superintendent	614-875-2314
Kelsey Bacon Youth and Family Ministry Director kbacon@stjohnsgc.org	614-592-7930
Jerry Funk Facilities Manager, jfunk@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Megan Grossman Lay Ministry Director, mgrossman@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Nick Grossman Contemporary Worship Leader	614-875-2314
Susan Locey, Bell Choir Director	614-208-8215
Mark Meuser Director of Music, mmeuser@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
Kathryn Mullins Office Administrator, kmullins@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314
David Shrum Contemporary Music Leader	614-875-2314
Kate Shrum Children's Choir Director	614-875-2314
Donna Westerfeld Teen Ministry Coordinator dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org	614-815-4696
Jamie Wise Recorder, jwise@stjohnsgc.org	614-875-2314

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Officers: Dr. Scott Hirth, Council President; David Clark, Vice President; Rachel Katterhenrich, Secretary; Teresa Orahoad, Treasurer.

Members-At-Large: Cindy Gonsowski, Dennis Imbrock, Abby Johnston, Susan Previts, David Stallard, Bonnie Swanson, Amy Wanner.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to

the family and friends of **Howard Linder**,
who passed away on September 3, 2026.

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

JOIN US FOR WEEKLY WORSHIP

Traditional Worship:

Saturdays at 4:00pm
Sundays at 8:15am & 11:00am

Contemporary Worship: Sundays at 11:00am

Join us each week during the Sunday School Hour!

We would like to welcome all children ages 2 and
up who are not already attending to join us
during the Sunday School Hour from
9:30-10:30am each Sunday.

Parents are encouraged to join one of our adult
classes. There's even one that focuses on
parenting related topics.

If you have any questions, please see Tim Allman
or a member of the youth staff.

We look forward to seeing you!!

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



**The article deadline for the NOVEMBER
Eagle is OCTOBER 10TH.**

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



The Eagle

October 2026

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3220 Columbus St., Grove City, Ohio
www.stjohnsgc.org 614-875-2314

Letter from the Pastor

Acts 4:31 – *“And when they had prayed,
the place in which they were gathered together was shaken,
and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.”*

Over the years, I've learned that the reason we can't see what the Holy Spirit is doing in the world is because we don't have “faith eyes” to recognize His mighty works. Influenced by our secular world, we often dismiss the truth that our Lord is a God of miracles. And we persist in doing this, even though the Bible describes countless examples of how He has intervened in human history, and how He guides the world day after day through his fatherly providence.

The question we all need to ponder is: Do we really believe that the Holy Spirit is active in the world? Or do we dismiss every perceived miracle as a mere coincidence? In times when unexplainable events happen, I ask my parishioners to use their logic and ask themselves whether what they have seen is a co-incidence or a *God-incidence*? Because sometimes it is more likely that God was behind an event than that it was merely a coincidence.

Take the verse above from Acts chapter 4. Peter, John and other leaders of the Church have just been released from jail, and as they are praying together in thanksgiving to God, they feel a violent shaking in the place (perhaps the upper room) they are in. Quite honestly, the apostles could have dismissed the entire event as the result of an earthquake. Peter might have said, “oh it's nothing, we have these kinds of tremors all the time in Jerusalem!” But instead, Peter and the apostles had “faith eyes” to understand what was really going on. They knew that God had actually worked through sinful men to release them from jail, and now He was filling them with his Holy Spirit which would allow them to speak the word of God *with boldness*! Think about the number of souls that were saved in those days through the powerful action of almighty God working through the apostles!

Now I know Grove City isn't Jerusalem, but Coco and I have perceived the same power of the Holy Spirit throughout the call process. From your gracious welcome at our June visit, to the overwhelming call committee, council and congregational votes, it appears that more is going on here than just a pastor changing jobs. I think a “God-incidence” is happening, and I believe that God is sending his Holy Spirit upon us to allow us to speak the Word of God *with boldness* – think of the souls He will save through us right here in Grove City!

And so I want to thank each of you for your confidence in me and your warm welcome. And I also want to thank you for your faithfulness. I was very impressed with the breadth of ministry available at St. John's and the dedication with which each of you serve God's Church. Needless to say, I am really looking forward to my first service on Saturday, October 3 and watching where the Holy Spirit leads us to make more and better disciples in the years to come!

Blessings,

Pastor Dennis