

NEWS NOTES

October 3-4, 2026

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Pastor Dennis Di Mauro | ddimauro@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

11:00am: Lynda Berry

Readers

4:00pm: Lisa Dubos

8:15am: Teresa Orahood

11:00am: Karrie Clark

Ushers

4:00pm: Steve Henry, Michael Gibboney

8:15am: Steve Marcum, Butch Myers,
David Sweeley

11:00am: David Clark, Dennis Imbrock,
Tom Lang, Larry Sutton

Acolytes

8:15am: Ben Previts

11:00am: Emma Grossman, Davy Clark

Altar Guild

Dellno and Betty Lewis

Sarah Schmitz, Donna Linder

Communion Assistants

4:00pm: Lisa Dubos

8:15am: Rita Orahood, Barb Hill

11:00am: Ike Stage, Brenda Schultz, Dan
Yeater

Lessons Today

Isaiah 5:1-7; Philipians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46.

DEDICATIONS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS: For God's many blessings. Given by Larry and Becky Link.

PULPIT and LECTERN FLOWERS: In celebration of our 62nd wedding anniversary. Given by Charlie and Pam Brown.

BULLETINS: Given by Ike and Shelah Stage.

✧ PERSONAL NEWS ✧

HOLY BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND: Congratulations to **Martin and Shelby Gitomer** on the baptism of their daughter, **Hazel**, on Sunday, October 4 in the 11:00am combined worship service. Please keep Hazel in your prayers as she begins her baptismal journey with the Lord.

THANK YOU

Thank you, Megan Grossman, and all who assisted you for the lovely **Ladies Tea Party**. There was faith, fun, love, laughter, and fellowship. Many blessings! Thank you, Christina Allman, for your “one-on-one” guidance. You are a blessing to St. John’s church. ~ Shelia Holcomb.

✧ TODAY’S NEWS ✧

PASTOR DENNIS DI MAURO’S INSTALLATION & RECEPTION: You’re invited to join us as we celebrate the **Installation of Pastor Dennis Di Mauro** on **Saturday, October 17 at 4:00 p.m.** Following the service, we’ll gather for a reception featuring **warm German-inspired appetizers and a charcuterie table**. We hope you’ll join us for this special day as we officially welcome Pastor Dennis!

RSVPs by October 3 to **Megan Grossman** or indicate the **number of people attending on your salmon sheet**.

THE QUARTERLY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: will follow the **8:15am worship service** on **Sunday, October 25, 2026**. Please plan to attend.

EAGLE DEADLINE is this coming **Saturday**. Please submit your article by noon on **October 10th**.

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.

MONDAY EVENING EXERCISE CLASS will no longer be meeting. Thank you for all of those who participated in the class throughout the year!

WRAPPED IN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will hold its next meetings on **Saturday, October 10th at 9am 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.

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

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. Please remove them from their sleeves, cases, or boxes prior to donation.

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.

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 11:15 am so we can open the meeting at 11:30 am. 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 LutheranS** but everyone is welcome! Hope to see you there!

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 Pam Wittenberg on how you can order physical cards and/or order e-gift cards and how to re-load your cards online. Raise Right gives a percentage for each card ordered back to St. John's. Monies raised help to offset the costs of the children and youth programming that is not covered by the church budget. *Thanks for your support!*



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE will be held on **Tuesday, October 20** in the Family Life Center from 12pm to 6pm.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2776) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: StJohnsGC.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: It's October and 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 11th. 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/4fALHza> Include a \$10 donation to cover the shipping costs and drop off your filled shoebox in the Link before **November 10th**. Please contact Justin, Beth, Brayden, or Addy Gottshall with any questions at 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 ~*



VETERANS LUNCHEON - 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.

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.

☿ YOUTH NEWS ☿

Make sure you're receiving the Weekly Email! Every week, Kelsey sends an email with youth ministry updates for all ages. If you are not currently receiving those, please email her at kbacon@stjohnsgc.org to get added to the list.

Weekday ministries have begun!

WEDNESDAYS: Explorers, Energizers, & IQA

This weekly teen ministry is a time of faith-building and connection. Explorers is for 7th & 8th grade, and Energizers and IQA are for 9th-12th grade.

- IQA (high school Bible study) meets weekly from 6-7pm in Rooms 103-4.
- Explorers (middle school) and Energizers (high school) meet weekly from 7-8:30pm, starting in the Family Life Center. Make sure to check in in the lobby when you get here!
- Dinner is not provided, but there will be snacks!
- The teens will gather all together for games at the beginning, then split for devotion time. This is a great opportunity to connect with others, make friends, and deepen faith.
- Questions? Contact Teen Ministry Coordinator Donna Westerfeld (dwesterfeld@stjohnsgc.org)

THURSDAYS: Adventure Club and Faith Trek

This weekly kids ministry is all about faith, fun, and fellowship, and is for kids ages 4 through 6th grade!

- 5:45-7:15pm every Thursday, doors open at 5:30pm
- Adventure Club is for ages 4 through 4th grade, and Faith Trek is for 5th & 6th grade
- All kids and volunteers must check-in in the lobby to receive your nametag, then head to the Family Life Center.
- Dinner is provided; please consider bringing a \$4 donation each week to help cover costs.
- Each group enjoys gym time, a meal with friends, arts and crafts, and an active learning Bible lesson with lots of teen and adult volunteers who love to serve your kids.
- Questions? Contact Kids Ministry Coordinator Christina Allman (callman@stjohnsgc.org)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR meets every Thursday from 5-5:30pm in the Chapel.

- For kids preschool-6th grade
- Contact Kate Shrum (614-266-0226) if you would like your child to participate!

High School Bonfire on October 17th

- We will attend Pastor Dennis' installation together at 4pm, then head to Kelsey's house in Hilliard for pizza & a bonfire!
- Please let Donna or Kelsey know if you can attend, and if you need a ride.

Service project sign ups – check your email!

- Parents and teens, you received a form in the weekly youth email to sign up for service projects. Make sure to fill that out so we know what projects you want to participate in this year.

Operation Christmas Child Box Build for teens on Wednesday, October 7th

- Teens, if you want to participate in Operation Christmas Child this year, be sure to come to Explorers/Energizers on the 7th to join in on the box build!

STEWARDSHIP

ATTENDANCE Sunday, September 27 - 271

**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.



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! ❤️

☞ CALENDAR ☞

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 9:30am Sunday School Hour
11:00am Combined Worship (Sanc)
 5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

9:30am BSF Leaders
 10:00am Property Team (204)
 12:00pm Lunchtime AA (SH, FH)
 4:00pm Irish Music Rehearsal (FLC)
 6:30pm Elizabeth Circle (103-4)
 6:30pm Puppets (FLC)
 7:00pm Daily Reprieve AA (FH)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

RAISE RIGHT ORDERS DUE

7:00am Men's Prayer Group (Café)
 9:30am Quilters (103-4)
 6:00pm Girl Scouts #6679 (FH)
 7:00pm Boy Scouts #392 (SH, FLC)
 7:00pm SW Historical Society (103-4)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:30am BSF
 1:00pm Small Group (102)
 6:00pm IQA Bible Study (103-4)
 6:30pm Women's Chorale (Sanc)
 7:00pm Design for Living AA (FH)
 7:00pm Explorers & Energizers
 7:30pm Chancel Choir (Sanc)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:00am Promise Keepers (103-4)
 3:00pm Bulletin Team (Lib)
 5:00pm Children's Choir (Chapel)
 5:45pm Adventure Club & Faith Trek
 6:00pm SEOMD Executive Council (Lib)
 6:15pm Celebration Ringers (Sanc)
 8:00pm Dartball (@Reynoldsburg)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

9:30am Small Group (103-4)
 2:00pm Private Event (101)
 3:00pm Men's Chorale (Choir Rm)
 8:00pm AA (FH)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

NOVEMBER EAGLE ARTICLES DUE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD KICK-OFF

9:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (103-4)
 4:00pm Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 7:00pm AA Serenity Seekers (SH)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD KICK-OFF

8:15am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 9:30am Sunday School Hour
 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanc)
 11:00am Contemporary Worship (FLC)
 3:00pm Private Event (SH)
 5:00pm Adult Basketball (FLC)

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, Rms 301, 303.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: 2 years old-Pre-K, Rm 003 / Kindergarten-Grade 2, Rm 009 / Grades 3-4, Rm 307 / Grades 5-6, Rm 303 / Grades 7-8, Confirmation Room, 304 / Grades 9-12, High School Room, 311.

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