



First St. John Journal



Volume 23, Issue 10

October, 2010

How can I keep my faith active and alive from Sunday to Sunday?" a woman asked me a few weeks ago. That's a really good question; and I am impressed with this woman's desire to keep her faithwalk alive every day.

H. George Anderson, a Lutheran pastor, picked up on something Martin Luther said: that we should every day remind ourselves of our Baptism. Pastor Anderson said, "Baptism is not a ten minute ceremony that happens to babies. It takes a lifetime to complete. Martin Luther called Baptism 'the daily garment which the Christian is to wear all the time.' That is, the pattern of our Christian life comes from the continuous arc of Baptism: being brought low, washed, and then raised up. Every day is a new experience of that cycle-- recognizing our sins, remembering we are Baptized as children of God, and then being invigorated by the assurance of forgiveness.

"In Baptism we discover our relationship with God is not based on what we do, but what God in Christ has done. The ground of our relationship with God is mercy and forgiveness rather than justice. So each day we need to remind ourselves of God's mercy and forgiveness."

That's good advice. Each day in the morning (or at night, or both times) remind yourself that you have sinned, strive to do better, that Jesus Christ died for your sins, and that through Christ you are a forgiven sinner and an eternal child of God.

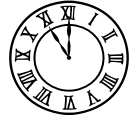
That is a great way to start (or end) each day. See you at worship!

—Pastor Blohm

BOARD OF MINISTRIES MEETING

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 12th at 5:30 pm in the lounge.

TURN BACK YOUR CLOCKS!



Daylight savings time ends November 7th. Turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 6th.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Our October meeting will be Monday, October 4th at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there.



IF YOU "FLY SOUTH" FOR THE WINTER

If you plan to leave northwest Ohio for the winter and you receive your newsletter by regular "snail" mail, please notify the church office of your temporary address and when it takes effect. This way, you will continue to receive your newsletter throughout the winter, and the church will not be have to pay a fee for returned newsletters.

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

Remember to donate food items to Feed Your Neighbor. Place your donations in the bins in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) and the lounge (near the double doors). Thanks.

COMMITMENT, SACRIFICE, & GENEROSITY

Join us Saturday, October 23rd from 10:00 am to noon for a chance to learn all about the many ways (some you may have never heard of!) to be committed to Jesus' work in the world. Learn about Operation Christmas Child, making layettes (and what a layette is!), and many more projects that First St. John is involved in to help a hurting world. Brunch is included. Hope to see you there!



2011 BUDGET MEETING

The Finance Committee will hold its annual budget meeting in early October (watch the bulletins for specific time). Staff and department heads are encouraged to attend. Please call Jim Sommers at 419-691-7719 to set up an appointment to meet and discuss your concerns. Let the committee know your needs for the 2011 budget year and also any cost-saving ideas you have. Thanks.

MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Our next gathering is Saturday, October 2nd at 8:00 am at Bob Evans on Navarre Ave. Call Bob Haar at 419-360-7510 to let him know if you are planning to attend so he can arrange for enough seating. Also let him know if you need transportation. Thanks!

ELDERS FOR OCTOBER

	<u>7:45 am</u>	<u>10:15 am</u>
3rd	Eric Johnson Linda Kusian	Linda Erdmann (Volunteer)
10th	Darold Henninger Jim Swanson	Mike Winslow Gene Schacht
17th	Joanne Henningsen Bill Nelson	Lynn Folk Dick Haar
24th	Linda Erdmann (Volunteer)	Eric Johnson Linda Kusian
31st	Mike Winslow Gene Schacht	Darold Henninger Jim Swanson



ALL SAINTS DAY — REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES...

On Sunday, November 7th, we'll observe All Saints Day. During our worship services that day, we'll read the names of our church family who have passed away during the last year (since the first Sunday in November of 2009).

We'll already have the names of church members and former members who died from November 1, 2009 to November 1, 2010. If the person you want to be remembered either was not a member or was a member who passed away prior to November 2009, please call the church office or sign the book in the Narthex so their names will be read. Thank you.

MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS CHANGES



Greg & Janine Contat
(and Jay Swanson)
5323 Genoa Rd.
Perrysburg, OH 43551

Floyd Hagedorn
2958 Morin Point East
Erie, MI 48133

Rose Molnar (ZIP CODE CORRECTION)
6 Norman Way NW
Rome, GA 30165

Sue Ann Rogers
320 S. Coy Rd. #1
Oregon, OH 43616

ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

To keep our office records up-to-date, if your name, address or phone number changes, please notify the office by faxing (419-691-7220), or mailing this form to: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605. Or email us: firststjohn@sbcglobal.net

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ Phone _____



TRUNK OR TREAT!



Join us on Sunday, October 24 from 3—5:00 pm for Trunk or Treat in the parking lot across from church. There will be fellowship, a costume contest, games and door prizes!

What is Trunk or Treat?

A safe, fun-filled family night out for children through 6th grade. Children and families will walk around to cars and be greeted by FSJ volunteers with their trunks open handing out candy. Cars will be decorated, and volunteers will wear costumes. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and for us to embrace our new students plus their families in both the Sunday School and the Dayschool. To pull off this event we will need lots of volunteers.

Potential Volunteer Options

- Car volunteers- hand out candy- decorate car and wear costumes, you could also have a game set up at your car
- Registration and welcome guest volunteers
- Donations of candy, pumpkins, hay, cornstalks and other decorations
- Security and traffic directors
- Face painting
- Judges

If you are interested in volunteering please see Mary Darling-Gilson. A table will be at church with more information.



LIBRARY NEWS

The following books have been donated to the church library.

Lutheran Home Society: **A HISTORY OF COMPASSION** donated by Pastor Lubuhn. A sketch of 150 years of the Lutheran Homes. What a great ministry this has been.

HOW TO FIND GOD, a form of the Bible helping you find God. Compiled by Tyndale Publishing.

THE NEW BELIEVERS BIBLE When you ask "where do I go from here," this is the translation for you.

WHEN THE VOW BREAKS by Joseph Kniskern. For Christians facing divorce, recovery, & survival.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Births

None of which we are aware.

Baptisms

9-11-10 *Amyia Abrianna Aponte*, born July 3, 2008 to Tomas and Carrie Aponte. Sponsors are Terrence Gary and Sharon Jackson-Gary.

Marriages

None.

Deaths

9-8-10 Gene Groll

Transfers to/from First St. John

None

JAM FEST (SUNDAY SCHOOL) NEWS

Jam Fest on Sunday, September 12th was a huge success! We had over 40 children attend and were excited to welcome many of the Dayschool students. You could tell by the smiles on the children's faces that they really enjoyed Andrew the Magician. Everyone also enjoyed having refreshments and meeting their new JAM teachers in our newly remodeled JAM room. Check out their pictures in the JAM reception area and you will agree that this event was a success!

Thanks to everyone for all the hard work they did in planning the JAM-fest. If you haven't checked out our new JAM room and reception area, please stop down in the church basement and take a look!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



We are again participating in the Operation Christmas Child program which helps give Christmas gifts to needy children throughout the world. Empty, but decoratively wrapped, shoeboxes will soon be in the lounge and the Narthex. Pick one or more boxes and a list of suggested items you can fill the boxes with. Once filled, return the shoeboxes to the church office. The final date for turning in the boxes will be sometime in early November. Thank you.



MEMORIALS



ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of **Elisabeth Hecklinger** by Gene Hagedorn.

In memory of **Gene Groll** by Edith Schuffenecker, Marilyn Cashen.

ELEVATOR FUND

In memory of **George Meyers** by Bonnie Varga.

In memory of **George Fielding** by The Varga Family.

In memory of **Elisabeth Hecklinger** by Verlene & Edward Schweizer Family.

In memory of **Gene Groll** by Verlene & Edward Schweizer Family.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES

In memory of **Elisabeth Hecklinger** by Bob & Sherrie Haar.

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Naomi Zimmerman** by Paul & Vivian Kuhlman.

In memory of **Elisabeth Hecklinger** by Paul & Vivian Kuhlman.

In honor of **Jane & Chuck Neal's** 50th wedding anniversary by Paul & Vivian Kuhlman.

In memory of **Gene Groll** by Bill & Cathy Caldwell, M/M Kevin Ruedy.

AIR CONDITIONING FUND

In memory of **Gene Groll** by Ruth Cummerow, Ralph & Ethel Mae Vogtsberger.

150TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

In honor of **Floyd Koester's** birthday by Carol & Kevin Abbey.

ALTAR GUILD

In memory of **Gene Groll** by Red Rice, Terry & Jane Schuetz.

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Elisabeth Hecklinger** by Triple Segl LTD, Katharine Carr, Barbara Carr, Joe & Barb

Links, Jane & Michael Shaink, M/M A. John White, Jerry & Elinor Ehram, Mary & Terry Breymaier, Rudy & Myra Hirzel, Ada Kreger, Jean DeWitt, Victor Kissoff, Jim & Betty Lou Miller, Dan & Joyce Martin, LaVonda Thiez, Abigail Hecklinger Gerber, Jim Harrell, Donna Koester, Chuck & Rosalie Engelman, Robert & Alva Hirzel, Ken & Joyce Villhauer, Bill Fischhaber, Deb & Bill Rowland, Bill & Cathy Caldwell, Al & Sherrie Fischhaber, Jim & Dianne Schumaker George & Elaine Ackerman, Betty Kadlick, Phyllis Coontz, Linda Kusian, Marvin & Carol Keller, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Marcia & Donald Shaink, Doug & Terri Viers, Floyd Koester, Jim & Kim Cousino. In memory of **Gene Groll** by Dan, Joyce, Jean & Patrick Martin, Nancy Gallaher, Ken & Joyce Villhauer, Norm Schumaker, Ken & Janet Romstadt, Florence Clark and sons, Hank & Joanne Schumaker, Ray & Wilma Dippman, Pastor & Mrs. Gerald Labuhn, Lowell & Diane Hartman, Chuck & Jane Neal, Ted & Debbie Stelmcszak, Gary & Penny DeWitt, George & Elaine Ackerman, Tom & LuAnn Schuffenecker, Bill & JoAnn Flanagan, Jim & Joan Sigurdson, Mike & Elsie Dippman, Don & Karen Hess and family, Murel Kontak and kids, Norman & Phyllis Schuffenecker, Jerry & Ginny Nissen, Berle Chesher, George Taylor, Robert Taylor, Jim & Kim Cousino, Rob McEowen, Chuck Bell and family, Ted Hagedorn and family, Tim & Tina Frank and family, Helen Sallee, Jean DeWitt, Jim Harrell, Phyllis Coontz, Elaine Gladieux.

CHOIR

In memory of **Gene Groll** by Ron & Joanne Koch, John & Grace Heninger.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

In memory of **Gene Groll** by Gene & Ruth Price.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

OCTOBER 20th

MILITARY ADDRESSES

The names and addresses of members, family, and friends of First St. John who serve in the military are below. You can send cards or packages, and remember to pray for them, too!

TSgt Kevin Fouty
2412 1st Ave. N.
Great Falls, MT 59401

SGT Nick Grady
2711B Chow Circle
Kailua, HI 96734

Chief Petty Officer Cynthia Henderson
521 Pine Forest Trail
Orange Park, FL 32073

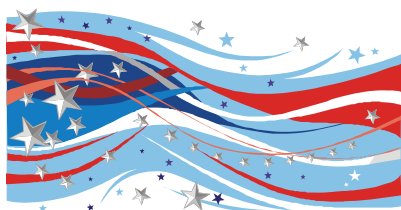
Chief Petty Officer Marc Le Duc
78382 Dukewood Trail
Yula, FL 32097

2LT Michael R. Pavley
104th Transportation Co.
Shindand AB
APO AE 09382

Matthew Phillips
2611 10th Ave. S Suite 2
Box 263
Great Falls, MT 59405

Captain Lindsey Rowland
HHC-210BSB 2BCT-10th Mountain
COS Hammer
APO AE 09309

Grant Rowland
BP 493 Kaolack
Senegal, W. Africa



Chicken & Ham Dinner Tickets



If you are new to First St. John or have never attended the Chicken & Ham Dinner, put us on your calendar for Saturday, November 6th. Delicious meals are served from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. This is a great community event; it's not just for members. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. They'll be glad you did!!!

Tickets are available from the church office or from circle members during the entire month of October, or you can call Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506. You can buy tickets after the services both in the lounge and in the Narthex on October 24th and 31st.

Ticket Prices

Adults	\$8.50
Children (3-12 yrs)	\$4.00
Children (under 3)	Free (ticket still needed)

Needed: Craft and Bake Sale Items

We need items to be sold in the Craft and Bake Sale that will be held during the Chicken and Ham Dinner on November 6th. If you can help or if you are interested in having your own craft table, please contact Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506 or Louise Sommers at 419-691-7719.

CHURCH E-MAIL

If you haven't changed your email contacts yet, please change the church's email to:
office@firststjohn.com Thanks!



HATS, MITTENS, SOCKS, AND BOOTS NEEDED

WELCA will collect hats, mittens, socks, and boots for local children during October. Due to inclement weather, children need these items as early as November. Hat and mitten sizes 0-5 will go to the Toledo Day Nursery, and sizes 6-Adult will go to Riverside School. We also will collect toddler and preschool size socks and boots for the Toledo Day Nursery. You can place your donations in the specially marked boxes in the Narthex and/or in the lounge. Thank you so much for your help.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY— SCHEDULE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY APPOINTMENT

Universal Church Directories will be taking family photos in October for the new church directory. If you have a computer, you may begin scheduling your appointment on-line. Picture dates are October 11, 12, 27, 28, 29 and 30th. Follow the instructions below to schedule on-line. If you do not have a computer, please call Lynn Folk at 419-691-3410 to schedule.

ONLINE SCHEDULING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FAMILY APPOINTMENT

- Go to the Universal Church Directories website (www.ucdir.com)
- Click on the sunburst icon
- Enter your church code: OH1131
- Enter your church password: first
- Click on the Enter button
- Click on the desired photography date
- Click the Reserve Time button beside the desired appointment time
- Enter the appropriate information in all required fields (indicated by a red asterisk)
- Enter your email address if you desire a confirmation email
- Click the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the appointment time in your family's name
- Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your family's photography appointment

Contact Lynn Folk at 419-691-3410 to change or cancel your photography appointment, or to schedule.

PRAYER CHAIN LIST

(As of September 28, 2010)

Crisis Prayer List

For those who need prayers in urgent matters such as surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Will be moved to "Chronic Prayer List" after the 1st month unless we're contacted about special circumstances:

**Donald Curtis
Mary Farkas
Pat Fejes
Family of Gene Groll
Monica Moszkowicz
Ruth Ziethlow**

Chronic Prayer List

For those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles, recovery and/or personal situations. Will be moved off the list after 3 months unless we're contacted about special/continuing circumstances:

**Laura & Randy Bless
Mary Brymer
Family of Joe Chaney
Richard & Marjorie Counterman
Tiffany Cox
Jackie Curtis
Family of Jeff Dreier
Norm Dreier
Kris Ensign
Bernie Erdmann
Jerry Gears
Family of Elisabeth Hecklinger
Don Higley
Ben Howe
Russ Hunsaker
Families of Lake Twp. Tornado Victims
Veva Larson
George "Skip" McCullough
Sam Mousa
Pat O' Connor
Charlie Ohlsson
Howard Peace
Barb Phillips
Julia Rhoades
Janet Roberts
Fred Saelzler
Terry Leighton Schwan
Jacquelyn Seger
Gwen Tober
Candy Webster**

Please check the list and let any prayer chain contact-listed below-know if anyone can be moved off the list.

Lynn Folk 419-691-3410 hpyhmker@sbcglobal.net
Donna Koehn 419-693-5030
Ada Kreger 419-693-1549
Gloria Ross 419-836-7166

RENEW STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

October 3, NOON: Alzheimer's Walk at Toledo Zoo. If you want to help donate or walk please let Mary know ASAP.

October 24, 3PM-5PM: Trunk or Treat in the parking lot across from the church. Come out for some fellowship, a costume contest, games and door prizes!

What is Trunk or Treat?

A safe, fun-filled family night out for children through 6th grade. Children and families will walk around to cars and be greeted by FSJ volunteers with their trunks open handing out candy. Cars will be decorated, and volunteers will wear costumes. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and for us to embrace our new students plus their families in both the Sunday School and the Dayschool. To pull off this event we will need lots of volunteers.

Potential Volunteer Options

- Car volunteers- hand out candy- decorate car and wear costumes, you could also have a game set up at your car
- Registration and welcome guest volunteers
- Donations of candy, pumpkins, hay, cornstalks and other decorations
- Security and traffic directors
- Face painting
- Judges

If you are interested in volunteering please see Mary. There will be a table set up at church with more information.

Matthew 5:16

¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before men and women, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

Oct. 10th, 24th, and 31st at 9AM—Sunday School Breakfast provided! *Note:* We will not have Sunday School Oct. 3rd because of our participation in the Alzheimer's Walk OR on Oct. 17 because Mary will be out of town at a Student Ministry conference!

Take Time

Most of you reading this newsletter are starting another year of Junior High, High School, or college...or have and or know children who have started school. It is a busy time. Students are juggling schoolwork, outside activities, church, and in some cases, work as well. Parents are busy with work, taking care of the home, as well as being involved in their children's lives. It is hectic and stressful, and just getting from one day to the next can be a challenge.

Today, I have a very special word for all the young adults getting back into school, for the teachers, as well as for the parents and anyone else affected by the back to school season:

1 Chronicles 16:11 - Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

It is my prayer that we all seek the Lord as is stated in 1 Chronicles 16:11. It can be hard and sometimes not so easy to find the time, but we all need a few minutes a day alone with the Lord to refuel or RENEW our bodies.

So be encouraged, and take a few minutes a day— whether you are talking with the Lord, reading a devotional or the Bible. Know that this action will greatly challenge and add to your life.

And remember— You are loved!

Mary Darling-Gilson

Renew Student Ministry Director

MESSAGE FROM THE ALTAR GUILD

Remember to order flowers to be displayed on the altar on Sundays. The flower sign-up book is in the Narthex under the large bulletin board. Flowers can be donated to honor a birthday, anniversary, etc. or in loving memory of someone close to you. Flowers are only \$15 per vase. There are plenty of spots to fill for most of the upcoming Sundays in 2010. Proceeds from flower sales go directly to the Altar Guild to help fund their operating expenses. Thanks.

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

The meeting was opened by Pastor who gave the devotion. Keith Mullen ran the meeting since Bill Caldwell was working out of town. The minutes for May were read. Jim Sommers motioned to accept them and Mike Winslow seconded. Motion passed. Minutes for August were read. Dave Warnke motioned to accept them Larry Paul seconded them. Motion passed. The treasurer's report was also accepted from May and Aug.

Treasurer's Report-Lisa Anderson gave the report. There has been a YTD shortfall of \$35,000 against expenses. August was slightly ahead of expenses mainly due to the 29th service. Next Sunday, Jim and Lisa will give a summary of giving over the last few months. Our current fund needs help to meet monthly expenses. Dave Warnke motioned and Dick Haar seconded to accept the report. Motion passed.

Board of Ed.-Julie Gallaher talked about rally day's success. About 45 kids attended rally day. Thirty-three showed up the following Sunday. There is a desire for a young adult class, and it is being worked on. There is a theme for every week of Sunday School for the teachers to follow. The Sunday School board is very appreciative of their new area. There may be a need for another table and chairs for a set of kindergartners during Sunday School.

Elders Report-No report

Property Mgt-Bees nest has been taken care of. Windows in gym may need a few repairs for the screens. Fire suppression needs to be done for insurance purposes and will cost around \$2000. Gary motioned to have it taken care of, and Bernie Erdmann seconded it. Motion passed. Chris Hunsaker offered monies from WELCA to help pay for it. All deeds have been recorded for the new pieces of property the church has acquired. The water in the restrooms needs to be worked on for temperature control, so new valves will be installed. Eaves will be cleaned out.

Finance Report-Jim Sommers mentioned the committee will put together the budget for 2011. He asked for submissions from the various committees. They will meet in October to start putting it together. They will need to think about maintaining a budget

that will meet the church's expenses. Jim discussed copyright laws and will renew the CCL license. It will be around \$300 for copyright permissions. The church participates in the Kroger rewards program. Every year people need to recharge it to keep a percentages of the purchases going to First St. John. Everyone has to do their own card online.

Youth Report-Mary Darling-Gilson handed out a sheet about the RENEW student ministry goals. She also had her schedule for the youth through June of next year. Mary asked for adult volunteers to help with the Trunk or Treat event on Oct 24.

Dayschool Report-Barb Shellhammer gave the report for the school. School is going well. They will have a feast in November. She also gave the dates for the Christmas programs. She was very happy with the August 29th service. She feels that parents and children will grow in their faith as long as we keep reaching out to them and feeding them. Barb is now using the bookkeeping system for her budget.

Pastor's Report-Pastor had 2 transfers pending into our church. Mary Darling-Gilson is teaching 7th grade catechism. Pastor is teaching 8th grade. Marc Miller is director of Evangelical Mission, and he would like to come and talk about this at our church. He will be here on October 17th to talk about the synod and stewardship.

Old Business-The bereavement committee has asked to be reimbursed for expenses. They used to have their own checking account, and they have elected to do away with the checking account in exchange for a credit card. Jim has offered that possibility. A motion was made by Gary Henningsen and seconded by Mike Winslow. The motion passed.

New Business-No new business

Joanne Henningsen motioned to adjourn the meeting; Bernie Erdmann seconded it and the motion passed. The meeting ended by saying the Lord's Prayer together.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Habegger
Recording Secretary

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2010
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Chicken & Ham Dinner

PLEASE MARK WHERE YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP

Return to the church office, offering plate, or Jane Schuetz.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

PIES _____

SHEET DESSERT _____

LAYERED CAKE _____

KITCHEN _____

DINING ROOM _____

CLEAN UP AFTERWARD _____

Can you believe it? The Annual Chicken and Ham Dinner date is fast approaching and we need ALL TEENS AND ADULTS TO HELP MAKE THIS A SUCCESS!!! This is a congregational effort of men, women and young people (PLEASE, NO HELPERS UNDER AGE 12). If you're fairly new to First St. John, this is a great way to meet people.

So-----won't you please say yes and volunteer and make the Dinner a success again this year???