

ANNOUNCEMENTS – March 31st

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the glory of God. Please see the Easter flower insert in today's bulletin for more details.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

3-24-24: 8:00 am: 48 10:30 am: 131 Online: 42 Total: 221
JAM Sunday School: 12 Adult Sunday School: 4

Maundy Thursday: 11:00 am: 22 7:00pm: 73
Good Friday: 12:00pm: 54

OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED:

Connie Singlar, St. Charles Hospital

PRAYER CHAIN CRITICAL/NEW: Kevin Abbey, Bill Bartley, Peggy Burke, Ann Dudics, Duke, Martha Everett, Carol Haar, Family of Pearl Hager, Jim Harrell, Sue Knudsen, Rebecca Kohn, Fred Kruse, Laura Grace, Marc LeDuc, Helen, Rick & Judy Lepiarz, Janet Mooney, Baby Nathan, Teresa Nye, Logan Roberts, Tim Schmidlin, Sandra, Skylar, Connie Singlar, Jerry Smith, Greg Wagner, Steve Welling, Arlene Wilbarger, Dave Wilbarger Sr.

To better manage the prayer chain, only critical and new requests will be printed in the weekly announcements. All ongoing requests will be posted in the lounge, and narthex (lobby), and be included in the monthly newsletter. If you have any additions or changes to the prayer chain, please email office@firststjohn.com

CALENDAR FOR MAR 31 – APR 6

Today	8:00 am	- Early Service / Holy Communion
	9:15 am	- JAM Sunday School (basement classrooms)
	10:30 am	- Late Service / Holy Communion
Monday	9:30 am	- CHURCH AND DAY SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED
	6:30 pm	- Altar Guild Meeting
		<i>Limited office hours the remainder of the week Tues-Fri 9am-noon</i>
Tuesday	11:00 am	- Ruth Circle
Wednesday	9:30 am	- Miriam Circle
	6:30 pm	- Hannah Circle
Saturday	8:00 am	- Fellowship Breakfast @ Woodville Diner
	11:30 am	- Rebecca Circle

HAPPY EASTER! WELCOME TO FIRST ST. JOHN: If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest book, located in the Narthex (lobby).

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Please remember to silence your cell phone before church begins. Thanks!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL will not meet today due to Easter, but please join us next Sunday at 9:15am for Sunday School in the lounge. We will study the gospel using the three Cs- Context, Character, and Conclusions. Please join us for coffee, tea, donuts, and Bible study. Questions? See Bob Haar.

J.A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL there is no Sunday School today, but JAM Sunday School meets every Sunday at 9:15 am in the JAM area (basement of the church). Please join us next week! Check out our coming family bowling event further down in the announcements.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST the next Fellowship Breakfast will be held on Saturday, April 6th at 8:30 am at Woodville Diner. Please join us for food and fellowship! We always have room for more!

EXCUSE OUR MESS! This past week we undertook a project to repair the water line to the cemetery. Please note that some of the parking in the rear of the church will be unavailable. We hope to complete the construction as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience!

MONTHLY MINISTRY for the month of March is the Luther Home of Mercy, an organization that works with those who have developmental disabilities. If you want to help, place your check or cash in the yellow envelopes from the pew caddies and place them in the offering plate.

FAMILY BOWLING NIGHT: Families of JAM (Jesus And Me Sunday School) children and their families are invited to join in for a fun evening of bowling at Interstate Lanes in Rossford on Sunday, April 28th from 4:00–6:00 pm. Food, drinks, bowling and shoes will be taken care of for all JAM families! Please RSVP to Stacy Donley (stacydonley16@gmail.com) or 419-349-8659.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS The church office will be closed on Monday, April 1st and re-open with limited hours for the remainder of the week due to Jennifer being on vacation. The hours will be 9am-noon on Tuesday, April 2nd through Friday, April 6th. If anything urgent arises, please get a hold of Pastor Rayl at 567-395-0143. The office and the Day School will reopen with regular hours on Monday, April 8th.

ANNUAL CARD PARTY! The annual Card Party and Luncheon will be held on **Tuesday, May 14th** at noon in our gym (elevator available). The cost will be \$15 this year and includes a wonderful lunch with homemade desserts. Door prizes and raffle prizes are available. Even if you don't play cards, you can come and play board games or just hang out with your friends from First St. John. For reservations, call either the church office (419-691-7222) or Jane Schuetz (419-691-5506).

DONATIONS FOR CARD PARTY: We need donations for our card party raffle. Raffle prizes should have values of at least \$25 (gift certificates, gift baskets, flower arrangements, etc.) Door prizes can be something you make or that you can ask a business to donate. These are worth about \$5 to \$10, like gift certificates, dish towels, small items from stores like Bath & Body Works, etc. Boxes are in the lounge and Narthex (lobby) for your donations of both types of prizes. Thank you!

CARE CLOSET DONATIONS NEEDED! Accidents happen, and at our FSJ Day School we want to make sure all our kids have something extra to wear just in case! How can you help? Consider donating new or unused underwear for boys or girls, new or gently used pants/leggings/sweatpants, socks, or croc style shoes (any kids size) for boys or girls and help keep our care closet stocked for the school year. Items can be dropped off in the bin in the lounge under the white table, or in the church office. See Jennifer in the church office for more details!

CIRCLE NEWS: Consider joining one of our many Women's circles at First St John. These women's groups meet to fellowship and study the Bible once a month. Open to all! For more information on all the ways for women of the church to connect with WELCA, please pick up a yellow Women of the ELCA book in the lounge or narthex (lobby).

RUTH CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, April 2nd at 11:00 am in the lounge. If interested in joining, contact Esther Bell at 419-350-0745.

MIRIAM CIRCLE will meet on Wednesday, April 3rd at 9:30 am in the lounge. If interested in joining, contact Joanne Henningsen at 419-836-9650.

HANNAH CIRCLE will meet on Wednesday, April 3rd at 6:30 pm in the lounge. If interested in joining, please contact Debbie Smith at 419-344-1691.

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet on Saturday, April 6th at 11:30 am in the lounge. If interested in joining please contact Emily Kruse at 419-836-5473.

QUILTING NEWS: The Quilters finished up this past Monday for the year and did an amazing job! They were able to complete 124 quilts that will be donated to various charities! Great job ladies!

LAST DAY FOR WINSLOW SCHOLARSHIP: This scholarship is for high school seniors who are members of First St. John and will attend college for the 2024/2025 school year. Applications are in the church office M-F 9:30am-4pm, or you can request a copy by email. Turn in your completed application to the church office by Sunday, March 31st to be considered. This can be given to Mike Winslow, Pastor, or slid under the door of the church office. Money is supplied from proceeds of the Winslow Memorial Golf outing held each summer, along with donations from church members.

2024 WELCA ROSTER BOOKS are now available in the lounge on the long white table. This contains a list of the women's ministries that are active in our church. It is not too late to join a group either! All women who attend First St John are welcome! Join a group today!

FSJ MUD HENS NIGHT It's time to play ball! The Toledo Mud Hens minor league baseball team is inviting area churches to their "Faith and Family" night at 5/3 Field on Sunday, June 30th. Please call the church office and indicate how many tickets you will need or see Bob Haar. More details coming soon! It would be great if we could get a big group to attend from First St. John and support the Mud Hens!

FSJ DAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT HAS BEGUN! We are now fully rolling with registration for the 2024-2025 school year. We had an amazing turnout for our Open House last Thursday evening, and classes are starting to fill up and we are looking forward to many new faces. We are also getting ready for our new summer program. This year we are offering a day camp with an extended care option. Whether you need summer childcare, or have kids looking for something to do, our summer program may fit the bill. We are accepting kids aged 3-10. If interested in enrolling for next school year, or for the summer please visit the Day School website (firststjohndayschool.org) or contact Andrea Buckley, 419-691-6480.

CHURCH LIBRARY REFRESH! Did you know we have a 'free-to-you' resource of Christian reading material in our church lounge? This includes fiction, non-fiction, devotionals, and even movies. We currently are in the process of refreshing our library located in the church lounge. We have a wealth of books available for you to borrow and we have recently added some new titles! Our library uses a card checkout system, and the instructions for borrowing are located on the shelf, along with the new titles available for ease of viewing. Once you sign a book out, we just ask that you return it within one month (or preferably two weeks) so others may enjoy it as well. Over the next few months, we will continue to add new titles and organize the library. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to Emily Kruse (419-654-2842).

SAVE THE DATE FOR MOVIE NIGHT! The next movie night will be held on **Sunday, May 5th**. We will offer a "Cinco de Mayo" themed menu, with ground beef tacos, chips and salsa, melted cheese/queso, along with our other usual snacks. The movie will be "The Case for Christ", based on a true story out of the Chicago area about an investigative reporter who does not believe in Christianity and is trying to disprove the Bible and teachings; the twist is that his wife just became a born-again Christian, so not only is his reputation on the line, but also his marriage. What he concludes may surprise you! Please mark your calendars and consider joining us! A free will donation will be taken for this movie to cover expenses. This will be a good time with our church family & friends, please invite everyone you can. It is also good for our catechism kids and young adults!

DISCOUNT CARD FUNDRAISER: The FSJ Day School is still selling discount cards. For \$20 you will enjoy discounts at many different local businesses for an entire year. The card will pay for itself after just a few uses. A list of the area businesses that are on the card is located on the wall in front of the church office. Buy one today from either the Church or Day School office. They make great gifts. Please consider supporting this Day School fundraising effort!

NEW PORTALS OF PRAYER The April-June copies of Portals of Prayer are now available in the Narthex (lobby), in the caddy on the wall outside the church, and in the lounge for pick-up. You can also pick up during the week at the church office, or request a copy be mailed to you at the church office at 419-691-7222 (office@firststjohn.com)

WE ARE HIRING! We are searching for a Facility Maintenance Manager. The primary function will be to perform the custodial duties and light maintenance work in the church/educational building, along with assisting the trustees in being present for outsourced inspections and repairs. For more information, please contact Pastor Rayl (pastor1@firststjohn.com) or contact the church office (419-691-7222).

RAISE MONEY FOR OUR CHURCH BY SHOPPING: By creating an account with Kroger and linking your card to our church's code, your purchases automatically begin accumulating rewards every time you use your card (excluding some purchases). Visit the website at www.krogercommunityrewards.com to sign up. First create an account, then under your profile select an organization to be your designated community reward recipient. You'll need your e-mail address and your Kroger Plus Card number (located on the back of the card). Once your account is set up, select First St. John Lutheran Church by using our designated number: #83476. From November through January, we had 20 households signed up and the church earned **\$93.33**. Thank you for your support!