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# First St. John Journal

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Volume 38, Issue 5

May, 2025

The Easter story doesn't end on Easter Sunday; it just begins! That's why the church calendar speaks of the second, third, and fourth -- and continuing -- for seven Sundays of Easter. Because Easter isn't a day to celebrate and forget; it is a day that has changed everything. And we are its witnesses.

That's why Jesus told his followers that they must get out and deliver the good news. They must tell people, he said, to repent, and to accept the forgiveness that God is offering. And this means everybody. Easter touches *everybody in every way*, because all of us need to repent, all of us need to be forgiven by God, and all of us need the eternal life that the Easter event promises us. We never live through a day that we don't need Easter, because there's never a day that we don't need to be forgiven, don't need to repent, don't need to know that there is more to us and more to life than we have now. We need to know that we are eternal creatures, and that by God's grace and forgiveness we can enter into eternal life in Christ, in this life, and in the world to come.

Before Easter, the world was always saying *No*. It said No to life, to hope, to our best dreams. But on Easter, *God* said *Yes*. It is a YES that has now been ringing through our world for more than 2,000 years, and nothing has been able to stop it. War has tried, dictators have tried, hate and hell have tried, but God's YES in Easter keeps ringing out, clear and strong.

One of the great preachers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Dr. Roy L. Smith, loved to recall a story from some years earlier. He wrote out the story not long before his own death. Dr. Smith said that several years before, a Chicago art store displayed a prominent artist's portrayal of the Crucifixion. A businessman who was looking at the painting sensed that someone had come alongside. It was a boy, perhaps 10 or 11 years old, looking like he was quite at home on the street. The businessman touched him on the

shoulder. "Sonny," he said, "what does that picture mean?"

The boy didn't see the question as adults might, as a passing courtesy. He replied quickly, "Don'cha know? That there man is Jesus, and them others is Roman soldiers, and the woman that's crying, that's his mother. They killed him."

As the boy took one more look, the businessman started on his way. The boy went running after him. "Mister," he said, as he caught up with the man, "I forgot to tell yuh: He rose again."

That makes all the difference. And that's the difference you and I need to tell. We're the witnesses who are supposed to let the whole world know that something wonderful has happened; something eternally wonderful, for every single human being. We have no right to keep such good news to ourselves. We need to get the word out!

— Pastor Rayl

## **ANNUAL CARD PARTY**

The Card Party and Luncheon is back! Join us on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at noon. Tallies (admission) are \$15. For reservations, please call either the church office at 419-691-7222 or Jane Schuetz at 419-691-5506. The elevator will be available. We ask that you arrive by 11:30am if elevator access needed to avoid the noon car line for the Day School.

We need donations of door prizes and raffle prizes (\$5 to \$25 or more for raffle prizes), either something you make or that you can ask a business to donate. Boxes are in the lounge and the Narthex for placing your donations.

Everyone is welcome to join us for a fun day!

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

Please take a moment to silence your cell phone before the worship services begin. Thank you!

## ELDERS FOR MAY

4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8:00 am</b> Matt Miller Jim Cousino	<b>10:30 am</b> Kevin Ruedy Mike Winslow
11 <sup>th</sup>	Ted Hagedorn Jeff Smith	Dick Haar John Roth
18 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Gaskins Terry Ruedy	Bob Haar Sherrie Haar
25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9:00 am</b> Matt Miller Jim Cousino	

## WEEKLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

News

As a reminder, please try to submit all weekly bulletin announcements no later than **Wednesday** each week for the upcoming Sunday.



## CIRCLE NEWS

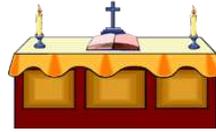
**REBECCA CIRCLE** will meet Saturday, May 3rd at 11:00 am.

**RUTH CIRCLE** will meet on Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 am in the lounge.

**MIRIAM CIRCLE** will meet on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 am in the lounge.

**HANNAH CIRCLE** had not reported a meeting at the time of this printing.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
**May 21<sup>st</sup>**



## ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Our next Altar Guild meeting will be on Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the lounge.



## PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY

May's focus item is men's and women's deodorant. *Please, no travel sizes* as products are supposed to last one month. You can deposit items in either the green bin in the lounge or the left pull-out bin in the Narthex under the main bulletin board. Thank you for your help. We are also have an urgent need for bars of soap and sanitary pads.

## SUMMER WORSHIP

Our summer worship schedule changes to one service at 9:00 am starting May 25<sup>th</sup> and running through September 1st.

## CHAPEL COMMUNION NOTICE

Our next Chapel Communion will be held on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm in our chapel which is located on the second floor of the educational building. All our welcome to come!

## MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Join us on Monday, May 26<sup>h</sup> for a brief Memorial Day Service of Remembrance. A Memorial Service honoring fallen veterans will take place outside in the back parking lot, near the cemetery, on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at approximately 8:30 a.m. Veterans and the Veterans Auxiliary will be conducting the service.



## ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

To keep current information for office records, 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 emailing us at: office@firststjohn.com

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMORIALS

### FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

In memory of Arlene Wilbarger by Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Wohlgamuth.

### CHOIR

In memory of Dave Luoma by Karen Rowley.



### TOLEDO MUD HENS NIGHT

It's time to play ball! Here are the details for the church group outing to the Toledo Mud Hens baseball game at Fifth Third Field in downtown Toledo. Tickets are \$14.00 a piece. The date is Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. with fireworks afterward. We have reserved 25 tickets. The Muddy Shuttle leaves at approximately 6:15 from the Starr Elementary parking lot. Cost is \$3.00 both ways. Parking downtown is \$10.00 and \$20.00. Remember Fifth Third Field is cashless. Only credit and debit cards are accepted for concessions. Reservations must be made by June 20<sup>th</sup>. Advance ticket money is due by July 20<sup>th</sup>. Make checks out to First St. John Lutheran Church and write Toledo Mud Hens tickets on the memo line. To reserve tickets please call the church office or Bob Haar at 419-250-9409. Remember we only have 25 tickets available. Thanks and see you at the game!!!!

### WINSLOW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The winner of the 2024-2025 Winslow Scholarship is Aubrey Hess! Aubrey has graced us with her beautiful voice in the church choir before and will be attending Ohio Northern University to major in Musical Theatre, with a minor in dance and social media marketing. Please join us in congratulating Aubrey! She will be highlighted in the near future in the Press and also on graduation Sunday in June.



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS

Vacation Bible School will be July 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:30 pm each night. We also will have dinner from 5:15-5:45 pm. Volunteers are needed for kitchen help, station leaders, and group leaders, as well as people to help set up and tear down. If you would like to help, please contact the church office or one of the JAM Sunday School teachers.



## FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Fellowship Breakfast will be Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30 am at the American Table on Wheeling St in Oregon. Please join us!

### MOVIE NIGHT

It is time for our next Movie Night on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>! The movie's name is "ORDINARY ANGELS" and it is about a 2-hour movie. This movie came out in 2024 & is based on a true story. The menu will be hot chicken sandwiches (with cheese slice on top), dill pickle slice, Costco cookies, popcorn, snacks, pop, & water. Light dinner will start @ 5:30 PM with the movie starting approx. 6:15PM. Please plan to join us and bring a comfy chair, it is a great fellowship for all!



### ORDERING ALTAR FLOWERS

If you'd like to place flowers on the altar in honor or memory of someone, the sign up sheets are in the red flower book in back of the church under the main bulletin board. You can sign up for the Sunday you choose. Flower vases are \$15 each; you can use an envelope out of the book for payment. Either place it in the small box on the wall next to the bulletin board, drop it in the offering plate, or mail it to the church office. Can't make it to in-person worship? You can call the church office to request a date for flowers, and Jennifer will sign up for you.

### MEMBER UPDATES

#### **Births**

4-18-25 Noelle Kathleen Dunaway, *born to James & Emily Dunaway*

#### **Baptisms**

4-6-25 Rashawn ("RJ") Amonté McGee, *born to Alexis Marie Reese, and Rashawn Amonté McGee.*

4-20-25 Gwendolyn Mae Vieira, *born to Alissa (Ladd) Vieira and Jason Vieira*

#### **Marriages**

None.

#### **Deaths**

4-23-25 Richard P. Crouse

4-24-25 Sue Ann Moszkowicz



### WELCA NEWS



Happy Mother's Day to all the Moms! The board met on Monday April 21<sup>st</sup> in the lounge. The board would like to thank everyone for the donations of candy. Such cute ideas everyone came up with, We made \$240.00, which will be split. \$120.00 will be given to the Personal Needs Pantry and \$120.00 to WELCA.

Don't forget to help the Card Party out by donating items for door prizes and raffle prizes. The committee does such a wonderful job each year putting this together.

Our next project the board is working on will be selling some of the electric roaster we have in the attic. This will take place in June. First we have to see how many still work, then have them brought down from the attic.. If you or someone you know would like one, let us know by June.

Our Spaghetti Dinner will be on October 4<sup>th</sup> from 4pm -7pm. More details will be in our September newsletter. Carry out or dine in this year. Some like to socialize and just relax having dinner.

Our next meeting will be May 19<sup>th</sup> in the lounge. All women of First St. John are welcome to join us.

— Sue Ann Rogers, President

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY June 15, 2025



We will publicly acknowledge all our graduates from high school and college at our worship service on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Please plan on having your graduate attend this service as all graduates will be recognized. If you know of a graduate, please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate, mail it to the church office, or fax this page to 419-691-7220 by Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

If you know of a graduate, please complete this form and drop it in the offering plate, mail to the church office, or fax this page to 419-691-7220 by Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF GRADUATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRADUATED FROM

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEGREE EARNED

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FUTURE PLANS (SCHOOL, WORK, ETC.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



### MAY'S MINISTRY OUTREACH

The May monthly ministry outreach is Helping Hands of St. Louis. Since 1982, Helping Hands of St. Louis has served more than 1.5 million meals to people in need. An average of 250 meals are now served each day, Monday through Friday, through the generosity of local community members and businesses and through the dedication of our volunteer teams. If you would like to help support their efforts, please deposit cash or a check made out to First St John Lutheran with "Helping Hands of St. Louis" in the memo line in the pink envelopes in the pews or place them in the offering plate.



## ***First St. John Lutheran Prayer Chain (as of 5/1/25)***

### **Crisis Prayer List**

*For those individuals who need our prayers in urgent matters such as upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals will be moved to the chronic list after one month unless a prayer chain contact is notified:*

Family of Nancy Bell  
Family of Derek Besgrove  
Peggy Burke  
Family of Dick Crouse  
Debra Henninger  
Family of Sue Moszkowicz  
Mary Ellen Miller  
Marilyn Ulrich  
Dave Wilbarger Sr.  
Jeff Wilbarger  
LeAnn Winslow

### **Ongoing Concerns Prayer List**

*For those individuals who need our prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles and recovery and/or personal situations. Individuals will be moved off after three months unless a prayer chain contact has been notified:*

Deb Ackerman  
Bennett  
Elizabeth Bland  
Karen Bless  
Amy Brumley  
Debbie Campbell  
Brenda Chambers  
Patrick Cleough  
Marjorie Counterman  
Olivia & Delaney Dawkins  
Doris  
Ann Dudics  
Duke  
Norman Eck  
Isaac Evans  
Brian Everett  
Janet Fern  
Joe Frobese  
Jody  
James Goorman  
Grace Harris Greenbank  
Bob Hecklinger  
Holly Henneman  
Gary Henningsen  
Katrin Howard  
Kathy Johnson  
Linda Joshi  
Kaitlyn  
Helen K.  
Sharon Kassay  
Cindy Knavel  
Tom Kohn  
Marc LeDuc  
Diana McGovern  
Bonnie Meier  
Patty Meyer

Deborah Miller  
Donna Miller  
Chad Milner  
Janet Mooney  
Mary Bell Moore  
Karen Morrison  
Logan Murphy  
Bill Nelson  
Teresa Nye  
Pam Pirolli  
Janet Quiroga  
John Ranchan  
Sherry Reamsnyder  
Steven Riegle  
Rhonda  
Sandra  
Laura Scherer  
Bill Shedron  
Mary Alice Sheehan  
Shelley Sherman  
Connie Singlar  
James Spenthoff  
Julie Swanson  
Tom Tedrow  
Joyce Trowbridge  
Terry Vogalsang  
Deb Dusseau Warnke  
Katelyn Weirich  
Steve Welling  
Jeff Wilbarger  
Jean Wilson  
John Yard  
Eileen Young  
Ruth Zasada  
Raetta Zeisler  
Bernie Zielinski

Check the list and let a prayer chain contact know if someone can be moved off the list.

### **Prayer Chain Contacts**

Carol Abbey 419-351-9795 or cabbeyrn@aol.com

Lynn Folk	419-309-7977
Donna Koehn	419-705-9560
Darlene Lorenzen	419-351-6293
Gloria Ross	419-836-7166

### **PRAYER CHAIN UPDATES**

We recently did a clean up of the prayer chain. Names that were given with no updates for quite awhile were removed. Please send an email to Jennifer in the church office if you need to have any names added back to the list, or need to add new names. By default, names on the crisis list with no update will be moved to ongoing after one month, and then removed from ongoing after 3 months.



## DAY SCHOOL NEWS

It is hard to believe that this is the last month of the school year. 2024/2025 has been a great year and we are so thankful that we were able to have entire year with full classes.

Beginning May 27<sup>th</sup> we look forward to our summer camp program. We had so much fun the last few summers this summer should prove to be another great experience for kids 3-10. Enrollment is also going well for the 2025/2026 school year. We look forward to welcoming back our returning students and meeting new families.

I would like to thank the church members for supporting the Day School. You are all part of our mission and I pray that we can continue to spread God's love to children for many years to come. the Day School office if you are interested.

— *Andrea Buckley*



### TUESDAY @ 1 P.M. CONCERT SERIES

The next Mid-day Concert ("Tuesday @ 1 P.M.") at First St. John Lutheran will take place on Tuesday, May 27 @ 1 P.M. at the church. The featured guest is pianist, Shanshan Li, student of Dr. Robert Satterlee in the master's degree program at B.G.S.U. She will play the English Suite #3 by Bach, Sonata in F#, Op.78 by Beethoven, and the F minor Fantaisie by Frederic Chopin. The recital is free and open to the public. Please make plans to attend!

### FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

We continue to collect for the Lutheran Social Services' Emergency Choice Pantry. As a reminder, they do not accept glass jars, but any canned or boxed non-perishables are welcome! Some major needs are canned meats (Tuna, Chicken, Spam), Canned Fruits or Vegetables, Canned Soups, or ravioli, Ramen, Crackers, Ketchup, mustard, Mayo and pasta. You can place any items in the grocery cart located in the Narthex or the pull out drawer, or tub in the lounge. Thanks for your generosity in helping our community!

## SUMMER DAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for our summer camp is filling up quickly! Camp runs from May 27<sup>th</sup> through August 1<sup>st</sup> and is for kids ages 3 through 10 (Must be potty trained). Camp is from 9:00 am to noon for preschool ages and 9:00 am to 3:00 pm for school age children. Extended care also is available from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm for \$6.25 per hour. Each week has a special focus:

- May 27-May 30: Camp Kaleidoscope
- June 2-6: Grow Your Green Thumb
- June 9-13: Bountiful Barnyards
- June 16-20: Culinary Curiosity
- June 22-27: Nature Pioneers
- June 30-July 3: Stars/Stripes/Celebrations
- July 7-11: Playpalooza Party
- July 14-18: Aqua Adventure
- July 21-July 25 Jingle Jubilee
- July 28-Aug 1: Clowning Around (preschool)  
A Star is Born (5+)

A one-time registration fee of \$50 is needed. Cost is \$95/week for children ages 3-5, and \$185/week for ages 5-10 (this does not include after care hours which is paid separately). The cost includes meals, fees, supplies, and activities.

Please call **Andrea Buckley** at 419-691-6480 with questions. Registration is available online at [firststjohndayschool.org](http://firststjohndayschool.org).

### DAVID WINSLOW MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



Save the date for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Dave Winslow Memorial Golf Scramble on Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at Eagles Landing with a shotgun start at 8am. The cost will be \$80 or \$320 for a foursome which includes a bucket of balls for practice, hot dog/drink at the turn and luncheon. Get your team signed up today! We are also in need of \$100 hole sponsors. This event each year helps to fund the Dave Winslow Scholarship. Call Mike Winslow at 419-691-8430 or the church office, 419-691-7222. *\*All proceeds go to the Winslow Scholarship*