

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – September 7<sup>th</sup>

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are presented to the glory of God in memory of Marcia Henninger on their 9<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, given by her husband, Darold; and in honor of Darold Henninger, given by Joan Probasco.

### **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

8-31-25: 9:00 am: 77 Online: 10 Total: 87

### **OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED:**

Betty Anderson – St. Vincent Hospital

Mary Ellen Miller – Kingston Perrysburg

**PRAYER CHAIN CRITICAL/NEW:** Betty Anderson, Peggy Burke, Family of Lola Crouse, Norman Eck, Family of James Fox, Diane Gerkenmeyer, Mary Ellen Miller, Paige Smith, Susan Smith, Rita Riegler, Tiffany, Levi Wallace, Joyce Yard.

**\*\*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 will be included in the monthly newsletter. If you have any additions or changes to the prayer chain, please email [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com)\*\***

### **CALENDAR FOR SEP 7 – SEPT 13**

<b>Today</b>	8:00 am	- Early Worship Service/Baptism/Communion
	10:30 am	- Late Worship Service/Rally Day/ Day School Singers
	11:30 am	- JAM Sunday School Reception in lounge (after 2 <sup>nd</sup> service)
<b>Monday</b>	6:30 pm	- Altar Guild Meeting (lounge)
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:00 pm	- Choir Practice
<b>Saturday</b>	11:30 am	- Rebecca Circle (lounge)

**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!

**FOR YOUR SECURITY,** please make sure to secure any valuables and lock your car. Unfortunately, as a property with heavy foot and car traffic, unlocked vehicles can be an easy target. Lock it up, keep it safe!

**LIVESTREAM SERVICE WEEKLY** Did you know that you can watch a livestream of our 10:30 am Sunday Service? You can find it by visiting [www.firststjohn.com/LIVE](http://www.firststjohn.com/LIVE), or by using the Online Worship link in the middle of the home page or the top navigation ('Worship' then 'Online Worship') on any page.

**HOLY BAPTISM** this morning during 8 am service is for Reed Kenneth Hodges born May 1, 2024. He is the son of Benjamin and Jamie (Rossler) Hodges. His sponsors are Andrew Hodges, and Laura Pyle. Please help us congratulate the family! (A reminder to recycle the baptism inserts in the bins located at the front and back of the church at the conclusion of the service).

**WELCOME DAY SCHOOL FAMILIES!** We extend a special warm welcome to the family and friends of the Day School who are joining us today during the 10:30 am service. We are happy to hear the sweet singing voices of the children. If your child brought their backpack for blessing, please place it at the front of the church. There is a nursery that is not manned during the service (our regular nursery service begins next week) available for those who need a quiet place, and a changing table in the women's restroom downstairs. Activity bags donated by the Sunday School board are available in the back of the church. Thank you for joining us today!

**RALLY DAY** Today marks our annual RALLY DAY, which kicks off a new season of our two-service schedule and also the start of our Sunday and Day School year. There will be light reception hosted in the lounge immediately after 2<sup>nd</sup> service where we will also provide information for those interested in our JAM Sunday School. All families with children aged 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend.

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS** Children and youth are encouraged to bring their school backpacks with them and place them at the front of the church during the 10:30 am service today, September 7<sup>th</sup>. During the service, pastor will bless all the backpacks and the children who will carry them during the new school year. We will install our teachers from the Day School and Sunday School at the 2<sup>nd</sup> service as well.

**WELCOME BACK CHANCEL CHOIR!** The choir is off to a great start! If you have ever considered joining the choir this is a great time to check it out! The next practice will be on Wednesday, September 10th at 6pm. Our new choir director, Jo-Anne Chrysochoos is eager to meet you and hopes you will join her! Come make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the James Fox family. James Fox passed away last weekend. Friends may visit at Walker Funeral Home on Navarre Ave in Oregon on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from noon to 2pm, with a funeral service to follow at 2 pm. A private (family only) burial will take place in the church cemetery.

**SUMMER NURSERY** our nursery downstairs is available for anyone who would like to utilize it during the service but is not manned during the summer months. There is a diaper changing station in the women's restroom. We will resume nursery coverage in September.

**HOMEBOUND COMMUNION** If you or a loved one would like a homebound communion visit, please call the church office. Bob Haar is temporarily communing the homebound at their request, and he will call you to set up an appointment.

**JAM SUNDAY SCHOOL** J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) Sunday School will kick off for the year next Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am in the JAM room in the church basement. All children ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend each week and learn about Jesus! We plan weekly fun activities and events throughout the year! Stay for the info session today and light refreshments after 2<sup>nd</sup> service!

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** begins on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at 9:15 a.m. in the Lounge. We will explore the Old Testament. Please join us every Sunday for coffee, and donuts and good biblical conversation and learning.

**GREAT AMERICAN BIBLE QUIZ** Get ready! The third annual Great American Bible Quiz will happen on Sunday, September 14, at 9:15 a.m. in the Lounge. Prizes for first and second place. Test your Old Testament knowledge and join us.

**MONTHLY MINISTRY** Our monthly ministry outreach for September will be our very own, **First St John Day School scholarship fund!** FSJ Lutheran Day School & Child Care Center is a ministry of First St. John Lutheran Church. In cooperation with the congregation and community families, we strive to prepare our students for the academic, social, intellectual, and spiritual challenges they will face as they grow and mature. We recognize that it is a responsibility and a privilege to be entrusted by God and our school families to help guide and develop the character of each student. We believe that each child was born with a unique gift from God and that his/her needs should be met at his/her level of development. The scholarship fund helps those in need of assistance with school costs. *To support this effort, please place your check in the yellow envelopes in the pews and place it in the offering plate, or mail it to the church office at 2471 Seaman St, Toledo, OH 43605. You can also drop off a donation to Jennifer in the church office.*

**CHAPEL COMMUNION** will resume every second Sunday of the month starting Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm.

**CATECHISM CLASS** It is time to organize a new Catechism Class. Pastor Rayl is inviting parents of kids in fifth through seventh grades to meet with him in the catechism classroom on either Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, at 11:45 AM in room 204 and on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM in room 204, to talk about the possibilities for the class schedule. Please send your RSVP or questions to Pastor Rayl at email, [pastor1@firststjohn.com](mailto:pastor1@firststjohn.com) or text, 567-395-0143. Hope to see you there.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** We will start meeting again on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am in the church lounge. The bible study for the year will be discussed and chosen at the first meeting. All are invited!

**DARTBALL** Dartball season is almost upon us. Teams meet every other Monday night starting on September 29<sup>th</sup> in the church gym. On Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> we will have a dartball practice up in Founders Hall (gym) before the season starts at 7 pm, so come check it out! (For more information call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409. It is easy, fun and fellowship. No experience required. Join us.

**JULY FINANCE UPDATE** For the month of July (4 Sundays), the total income was \$34,693 and total expenses were \$32,076. This is a surplus of \$2,617 for the month. Year to date, FSJ has a **deficit of \$5,143** through the first seven months of the year. This is a great improvement over last month in stewardship; thank-you FSJ family. On another keynote, FSJ renovation loan is under \$70,000 (\$67,098). We continue to pay down the principle balance each month which in turn reduces the interest payment amount.  
~ *Bill Neslon, Treasurer*

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY HELPERS NEEDED** We are currently seeking 1-3 people to serve once every 6 weeks in our Personal Needs Pantry. The pantry takes place on Wednesday mornings with a time commitment of 9am-11am. For more information, please contact Jennifer Hess in the office. 419-691-7222.

**SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER** is now available for pick up in the back of the church and on the table in the lounge. All digital copies have been emailed to those who requested that method. Hard copies were mailed out this week.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who sent cards and memorials and attended the funeral and visitation for our mom, Lola. Thanks also for your prayers and condolences. We deeply appreciate your support over these last nine month with the passing of Dave and Arlene Wilbarger and Dick and Lola Crouse.

~ *The Crouse and Wilbarger families*

**PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY** September's focus item is adult & children's shampoo (no conditioner by 2 in 1's ok). Reminder: Items should last the individual for a month, so please, no travel or hotel sizes. You can deposit items in either the bright green bin in the lounge or the left pull-out drawer next to the Feed Your Neighbor bins in the Narthex under the main bulletin board. We also continue to have a high need for paper products (toilet paper, tissues, and paper towels) and laundry detergent.

**ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP NEEDED:** Flowers on Sundays beautify the sanctuary and are dedicated to the glory of God. You can assist by signing up and using this as an opportunity to honor/remember a loved one. The flower sign up book is in the Narthex, \$15/vase, or call the church office. There are also weekly opportunities to honor or remember a loved one by donating the cost of messengers (\$10) homebound outreach (\$10) and chancel lighting (\$15).

**FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST (DATE CHANGE)** the next Fellowship Breakfast will now be held on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am at the American Table restaurant on Wheeling Street in Oregon. **Please note the date change.** Afterwards, we will reconvene in Founder's Hall (gym) to set up for the spaghetti dinner and drive thru.

**BEST OF THE BEST COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER** WELCA and the Day School are teaming up to bring back an old classic! We are putting together a "Best of the Best Family Recipe Cookbook". The proceeds will benefit both groups. Please go through your favorite recipes and share a few of your best for the book. You can either turn them into Chris Hunsaker, or the church or school office, or email them to [fsjdayschool@firststjohn.com](mailto:fsjdayschool@firststjohn.com). There is also a box at the back of the church to place your recipes. Be sure to include your name and the category that they would belong in. We can't wait to assemble the best recipes from our church family and our community.

**HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL & CANDY CRAWL** The Day School is planning a Halloween Carnival fundraiser for the preschool and Sunday School families. We need your help! We would love for church members to sponsor a table in the gym for the event. The tables will need to be decorated with a theme similar to a trunk-or-treat with candy for approximately 100 children. Feel free to get into the spirit and dress up! (Nothing too scary please) A small easy activity for the kids is a bonus! The event will run from 11:30 am-4pm. There will also be a bake sale during the event. If you are interested please complete a form and return it to the box at the back of the church, the church office or email it to [fsjdayschool@firststjohn.com](mailto:fsjdayschool@firststjohn.com). Following the Day School event, the church Sunday School team will participate in the annual community wide Candy Crawl event that takes place from 4-6pm in the front church parking lot. Pack a car full of the kids and bring them on by!

**MISSION SUNDAY** It is time once again for Mission Sunday. Next month on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, please bring items for the Personal Needs Pantry, and non-perishable food items for Feed Your Neighbor (no glass jars please). Let's fill up the grocery carts like we did last year! God's Love; Our Hands.

**SPAGHETTI DINNER** The women of WELCA will be hosting a Spaghetti dinner on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> from 4-6:30 pm. We will start selling tickets on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> during both services. Tickets will be \$10 for adults, and \$8 for children aged 5 or older. Children under 5 years old will be free. We will serve Spaghetti, salad, garlic toast, and a cookie or brownie. Dinners will be available for dine in or carryout. Carryout orders will be picked up in the lounge. The proceeds from this fundraiser will help fund the maintenance of our church.

**WELCA** The next WELCA meeting will take place on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the lounge. All women of the church are welcome to attend!

**REBECCA CIRCLE** will meet next on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 am (please note date change from normal time due to Labor Day holiday).

**HANNAH CIRCLE** will meet next on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Debbie Smith's home (please note the location change).

**BELL CHOIR** Our fabulous Bell Choir is looking for people to join us starting Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> in the church at 5:30 pm. We will give you instructions on how to hold and ring the bell. Come and give it a try! Contact Cheri Sergent for any questions at (419) 410-3572.

**CEMETERY CLEAN UP** Fall clean-up of the cemetery will be done on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. *Please* remove any decorative items from the gravestones that you wish to keep BEFORE the October 11<sup>th</sup> deadline, so they are not taken down during the fall clean-up day.