

ANNOUNCEMENTS – May 17, 2026

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the glory of God in honor of Vanessa Miller for her 15th birthday on May 18th, given by family; also in honor of Addison Weber's 6th birthday, given by Omi & Boppa Bell.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

5-10-26: 8:00 am: 34 10:30 am: 75 Online: 22 Total: 131

PRAYER CHAIN CRITICAL/NEW: Family of Adelaide Miller (infant daughter of Alex & Ally (Church) Miller, Jill Cousino, Sue Goorman, Karyl Antoine, Vickie Berrier, Pam Chronberger, Family of Deborah Kidwell, Family of Karen Bless

****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****

CALENDAR FOR MAY 17 – MAY 23

Today	8:00 am	- EARLY WORSHIP SERVICE / Communion
	9:15 am	- Adult Bible Study in lounge / JAM Sunday School
	10:30 am	- LATE WORSHIP SERVICE
	11:45 am	- Catechism
Monday	4:00 pm	- WELCA Meeting at The Old Bag of Nails
Tuesday	6:30 pm	- Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	- Council Meeting

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!

LIVESTREAM SERVICE: You can find the 10:30 am service at 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. We want to see you on the video recording. For those who sit in the back pews on the left side, please consider moving up a few rows. Currently, the video slide placement blocks that section. Please help us make the church pews look filled on Sundays. Thanks.

WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY to the family of Adelaide Florence Miller.

JAM SUNDAY SCHOOL: TODAY is the last day for JAM Sunday School. Please mark your calendars for VBS coming soon on July 20th-23rd.

SUMMER WORSHIP TIME CHANGE: Our summer worship schedule changes to one service at 9:00 am starting Sunday, May 24th. Please mark your calendars!

FSJ APRIL FINANCES: For the month of April, total operating income was \$36,881 with expenses at \$33,746. This leaves a positive outcome of \$3,135 for the month; with a YTD deficit of \$18,041. One comment to note is to remind the congregation that all Easter contributions were in April + special funds provided an \$8,100 check for lawn mowing the cemetery for the rest of the year. Without these two events, the operating fund would have had an overall deficit for the month. Thank you church family for all of your stewardship to our Lord & church. Bill Nelson – Treasurer

PORTALS OF PRAYER: The new Portals of Prayer devotional booklets for April through June are available. Please pick up a copy in the lounge or at the back of the church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Join us **Saturday, May 23rd** as we honor our veterans in the cemetery by placing American flags in front of their gravestones at 10:00 am. Help is needed as we have over 100 flags to place. Please call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 with any questions. Thanks.

DAVE WINSLOW SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS: The winners of the 2025-2026 Winslow Scholarship are Gradon Goa and Natalie Miller. Gradon will be attending the University of Toledo to major in engineering with a focus on aerospace engineering. Natalie will be attending the University of Toledo to major in health sciences on a pre-physical therapy track. They will be highlighted in the near future in the Press and also on graduation Sunday on June 14th. Congratulations Gradon and Natalie!

DAVE WINSLOW MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLE: Save the date for the 25th Annual Dave Winslow Memorial Golf Scramble on Saturday, August 1st at Eagles Landing with a shotgun start at 8am. The cost will be \$85 or \$340 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.

TIME TO START PLANNING VBS! VBS 2026 will be "*Rainforest Falls – Exploring the Nature of God.*" The dates are July 20th – 23rd. We will need all hands-on deck as we plan and would love to have as many people involved as possible! If interested, contact the church office at 419-691-7222 or email office@firststjohn.com. Help us have a great time with the children of our church and community!

WELCA: Next meeting will be on **Monday, May 18th** at 4:00 pm at The Old Bag of Nails.

WELCA will be running a plant sale fundraiser with Knitz Greenhouse. All you have to do is at the time of paying for your plant purchase(s) just tell the cashier this order is towards the First St. John Church fundraiser. It's simple and WELCA appreciates all of your support on this fundraiser as it helps us support the many-many charities and church donations that we fund. The last day of the fundraiser is **Friday, May 22nd**. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Chris Hunsaker at 419-376-7363.

MID-DAY CONCERT: The first mid-day concert held at First St. John Lutheran Church will be on **Tuesday, June 2nd** at 1:00 pm. Dr. Anthony Pattin will perform a solo piano recital. The program features music by the "3 B's of classical music". Other concert favorites will be featured as well as unusual titles. The concert is free and open to the public. Please make plans to attend.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY: We will publicly acknowledge all our graduates from high school and college at our worship service on Sunday, June 14th. Please plan on having your graduate attend this service as all graduates will be recognized. If you know of a graduate, please complete the form located in the bulletin and drop it in the offering plate, mail it to the church office, or email the page to office@firststjohn.com by Monday, June 8th.

THE PIERSTORF COLLEGE FUND: The Pierstorf College Fund is a one-of-a-kind financial aid program designed to support Lutheran students in Ohio pursuing a higher education. This program offers interest-free loans to full-time students enrolled in a four-year undergraduate program at any accredited college or university.

Maximum Loan: \$4,000 for the 2026-2027 school year.

Eligibility: Open to all Lutherans living in Ohio, whether they are new or returning students.

Application: No family income information is required, and the program strives to offer loans to every eligible Lutheran student. For more information and to apply, visit www.Pierstorf.org

THANK YOU FSJ: I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support of Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation. Your donation of \$48 for Family and Youth will have a truly transformative impact. We could not do this important work without you. Thank you for your unwavering belief in our mission and for your commitment to doing good. We simply could not fulfill our purpose without dedicated people like you!

~Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION: If you or a loved one would like a homebound communion visit, please call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409. Bob is communing the homebound upon request, and he will return your call to set up an appointment.

DAY SCHOOL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY: The 2026/2027 school year will be the Day School's 50TH anniversary! So many children have passed through our doors, and I hope that we have successfully planted the seeds of God's love in those little hearts. On **Sunday, September 13th** the church and the Day School will be hosting a celebration at Oak Shade Grove. It will include an outdoor church service, BBQ, family activities and competitions and a free concert featuring Yancy, a nationally known children's Christian singer/songwriter. This event will be for church members, alumni, neighboring church parishioners and the community. The Day School will be organizing volunteers for this amazing event. Mark your calendar and get ready to praise God in celebration of 50 years of this amazing ministry.

REGISTRATION FOR DAY SCHOOL: Registration for the 2026-2027 Day School program has begun. The Registration Fee is waived for active members of the church, but you must still complete the Registration Form to reserve a spot for your child. The children must be at least 3 years old and potty trained. Our classes are from 9:00am - noon, with extended care available from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. We will also be having our Summer Child Care program for children ages 3-10 years old. The Day School will host summer camps each week with a different theme. Both children needing childcare and children looking for fun activities will be welcome.

CHURCH LIBRARY: We have recently added some new titles to the church library. They are located on the long tables in the lounge. Our library uses a card checkout system, please remember to sign out your selections. If you have any questions or comments, contact Emily Kruse at 419-654-2842.

EPHESIANS BIBLE STUDY meeting **TODAY** at 9:15 am in the lounge. Pastor Rayl is leading this study on Paul's letter to the Ephesians. Coffee and donuts are provided. Please join us after early service or before late service for this most interesting study.

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY donation item for May is men's and women's deodorant. Items can be deposited in the green bin in the lounge or the pull-out drawer in the Narthex or drop them off at the office during the week.

MONTHLY MINISTRY: This month's monthly ministry focus is the Helping Hands of St. Louis. Helping Hands of St. Louis has served more than 1.5 million meals to people in need. Special envelopes will be in the pews if you would like to donate to support this ministry. Please make your check out to First St. John and write "Helping Hands of St. Louis" on the memo line, then place it in the offering plate or mail to the church. Thank you!

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).

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR: Lutheran Social Services continues to need non-perishable food items-canned vegetables, canned fruits, shelf stable/powdered milk (no expired foods or items in glass jars). LSS Food Pantry relies on the generosity of local congregations to keep their pantry stocked, your donations are always appreciated! Collection bins are located in the Narthex and Lounge. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause. Remember, many local families find it hard to put food on the table during these difficult times. Always remember to support the Feed Your Neighbor ministry.