

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – May 24, 2026

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are presented to the glory of God in memory of Richard Crouse on his birthday on May 28<sup>th</sup> and in memory of Dave Wilbarger, Sr., given by Dave & Toni Wilbarger. Flowers are also given in memory of Jim Hecklinger on his birthday on May 19<sup>th</sup>, given by Sandy Hecklinger, and in honor of Matt & Jessica Miller's 21<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary on May 26<sup>th</sup>, given by Matt Miller.

### **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

5-17-26: 8:00 am: 34 10:30 am: 60 Online: 42 Total: 136

**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](mailto:office@firststjohn.com)\*\****

### **CALENDAR FOR MAY 24 – MAY 30**

<b>Today</b>	9:00 am	- WORSHIP SERVICE / Communion
<b>Monday</b>	9:00 am	- Memorial Day Service
		- Memorial Day / Church Office Closed
<b>Tuesday</b>		- Church Office Closed (due to floors being stripped & waxed)

**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](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. 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.

**HOLY BAPTISM** this morning is for Ella Mae Whitney born November 21, 2020. She is the daughter of Courtney Whitney. Her sponsors are Nate Whitney, Mia Antonelli, and Luke & Skylar Whitney. 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).

**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*

**MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE**: Join us on **Monday, May 25<sup>th</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 at 9:00 am. Veterans and the Veterans Auxiliary will be conducting the service.

**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.

**ELDERS NEEDED:** Members are needed to run for the elders committee. Six positions will need to be filled this fall. Please consider being a candidate for this committee. If you have any questions, please call Kevin Ruedy at 419-350-9991.

**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.

**DAVE WINSLOW MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLE:** Save the date for the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Dave Winslow Memorial Golf Scramble on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will need all hands-on deck as we plan and would love to have as many people involved as possible! The first planning meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 pm in the church lounge. If interested, contact the church office at 419-691-7222 or email [office@firststjohn.com](mailto:office@firststjohn.com) Help us have a great time with the children of our church and community!

**MID-DAY CONCERT:** The first mid-day concert held at First St. John Lutheran Church will be on **Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>** 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 14<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 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](mailto:office@firststjohn.com) by Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.

**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](http://www.Pierstorf.org)

**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.

**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.

**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.