

ANNOUNCEMENTS – July 5, 2026

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Carolyn Schwierking on her birthday on July 4th, given by Eme Kovessi.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

6-28-26: 9:00 am: 79 Online: 50 Total: 129

PRAYER CHAIN CRITICAL/NEW: Carlene Trost, B.J. King, Bill Nelson, John, Family of Jerry Nissen, Family of Jill Cousino, Sue Goorman

****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 JUL 5 – JUL 11

Today	9:00 am	- WORSHIP SERVICE/ Communion
Tuesday	6:00 pm	- VBS Planning Meeting
Saturday	8:30 am	- Fellowship Breakfast at American Table
	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!

LIVESTREAM SERVICE: You can find the 9:00 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.

SHARE-A-RIDE TO CHURCH MINISTRY: The Share-a-Ride to Church Ministry is a simple volunteer program in which church members provide occasional rides to worship services and church events for people who otherwise could not attend due to lack of transportation. The ministry is intended to: Help members and visitors attend church regularly, support elderly, disabled, or temporarily unable-to-drive individuals, and encourage fellowship and caring within the congregation. Volunteer drivers serve as they are available, usually no more than once or twice a month, and rides are coordinated informally through the church office. The ministry reflects the church's commitment to Christian care, hospitality, and helping neighbors stay connected to the life of the congregation.

If you feel God is telling you to volunteer to drive someone or you are in need of a ride, please let Bob Kinsey (734-716-2365) or Jessica Miller (419-691-7222) know, so we can arrange it.

MAY FINANCES: For the month of May, 2026 FSJ income was \$31,991; the expenses were \$38,678 for a monthly deficit of \$6,687. For YTD, FSJ operating fund is at a deficit of \$24,729! Largest expense was in maintenance (\$5,800) for educational building floor cleaning/waxing & brick grouting on the church outside wall (altar guild area). Please remember to continue your stewardship to the church when you go on vacation during these summer months. Thank-you, Bill Nelson - Treasurer

PORTALS OF PRAYER: The new Portals of Prayer devotional booklets for July through September 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.

REBECCA CIRCLE: Next meeting will be held on **Saturday, July 11th** at 11:30 am in the lounge.

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY: Please save your plastic grocery bags and any “Kroger” style-grocery pick up bags for the personal needs pantry. Bags can be deposited in the green bin in the lounge or drop them off at the office during the week. Thanks!

MID-DAY CONCERT: The next mid-day concert will be on **Tuesday, July 28th** at 1:00 pm. Baritone and a FSJ favorite, Bradley Baker will present the final concert of the summer. An internationally acclaimed Opera and Musical Theatre performer, he will present a diverse selection of audience favorites; hymns, gospel, spirituals, love songs and more. A prominent feature of this program will be a segment of his highly acclaimed “painting with Bradley” presentation. He is a well-known Artist/Performer, as well as a teacher of students striving to be performing artists. He is a soloist and choir member at Trinity Episcopal Church in downtown Toledo. He will be assisted by Dr. Tony.

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 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.

VBS PLANNING MEETING: 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! The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 7th** at 6:00 pm in the church lounge. 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!

VBS DECORATING will take place on **Friday, July 17th** during the day (time TBD), **Saturday July 18th** from 10:00-1:00 pm, and **Sunday, July 19th** after church to decorate the sanctuary. All are invited to help. Please plan to join us and we will put you to work! Thanks!

RAINFOREST FALLS VBS registration is now up and running. You can register your child, aged 3 years to 5th grade, online on our website: <https://www.myvbs.org/2026-fsj-rainforest-falls-vbs>. You can also sign up to volunteer as well. We are in need of Crew leaders to help lead groups of children around during the various activities. This is a great way for teens to get service/volunteer hours if needed. VBS is **July 20th-23rd** with a free light dinner hosted at 5:15pm and VBS starting at 6pm-8:30pm each night. It is sure to be a great time for all so make sure to invite all the kids in your life to join us!

VBS AMAZON WISHLIST: Please help us gather items needed for our upcoming Vacation Bible School in July! It takes a lot to feed and also provide snacks and crafts, so any help is appreciated! We have created an online Amazon Wishlist of items needed. The link to the Amazon wishlist is: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/T97BIGLNQ1B8?ref =wl_share
Any items purchased will be sent directly to the church. Thanks!

BORROWING TABLES & CHAIRS: To borrow tables and chairs for summer events, please call the church office to reserve them at 419-691-7222. Remember, tables and chairs in the gym are not to be removed from the building; instead, the tables and chairs in the parsonage garage are available. Thank you.

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 July is **body lotion, at least 8 oz size**. 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: The ministry outreach for July will be the **Lutheran Disaster Response** which shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. Special green envelopes will be in the pews for you to donate.

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.

NEW DVDS IN LIBRARY: True Christmas Story and Jesus of Nazareth, both available to check out on loan.