

ANNOUNCEMENTS – September 20, 2026

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the glory of God in honor of Connor Cousino on his 6th birthday, given by Sandy Cousino.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

9-13-26: 8:00 am: 20 10:30 am: 214 Online: (no video) Total: 234

PRAYER CHAIN CRITICAL/NEW: Elaine Cutcher, Ally (Church) Miller, Stephanie Paul, Randy Bless, Family of Eric Dickey, Jim Guido, Bobb Vergiels, Janet Morrison

*****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 SEPT 20 – SEPT 26

<u>Today</u>	8:00 am	- Early Worship Service
	9:15 am	- J.A.M. Sunday School
	9:15 am	- Adult Sunday School
	10:30 am	- Late Worship Service / Communion
<u>Monday</u>	5:30 pm	- Bell Choir
	6:30 pm	- WELCA meeting (lounge)
<u>Wednesday</u>	6:00 pm	- Choir Rehearsal
<u>Thursday</u>	11:00 am	- Bible Study (lounge)
<u>Saturday</u>	8:00 am	- Applebee's Fundraiser

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.

JAM SUNDAY SCHOOL: J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) Sunday School will meet **TODAY** at 9:15 am in the JAM room in the church basement. All children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to attend each week and learn about Jesus! We plan weekly fun activities and events throughout the year!

APPLEBEES'S FUNDRAISER: On **Saturday, September 26th**, the Day School will be hosting a Flapjack fundraiser at Applebee's in Northwood from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. Come join us and let the First St. John staff and Applebee's serve you a hearty breakfast of 3 pancakes (all-you-can-eat!), 2 slices of bacon and your choice of beverage (coffee, soda, tea, orange juice or milk). Tickets are \$10 per person (adult and child) and can be purchased in the Day School office, church office or on the Day School website. We appreciate your support.

SPAGHETTI DINNER: The women of WELCA will be hosting a Spaghetti dinner on **Saturday, October 3rd** from 4-6:00 pm. 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. Please see Chris Hunsaker or Sue Ann Rogers with any questions.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL begins **TODAY** at 9:15 am in the Lounge. Please join us every Sunday for coffee, and donuts and good biblical conversation and learning.

FSJ AUGUST FINANCES: *For the month of August, total income was \$25,340 & the expenses were \$29,921 for a deficit of \$4,581. The YTD deficit is now at \$39,716. Our budget expenses are at 63%, which is 3.0% under estimation, but our stewardship is at 44% compared to budget. Please review your church stewardship as we move forward into the fall months. Don't forget your RMD which can be used for charity without being taxed. Bill Nelson - Treasurer*

CHOIR: Our church choir is looking for new members! If you have a heart for worship and enjoy singing, we'd love to have you join us. No matter your experience, there is a place for you in our choir family. Music is a powerful ministry, and your voice can make a difference. If you're interested, please see Jo-Anne after today's service or email at chrysochoosjoanne@gmail.com. Come worship, serve, and make a joyful noise with us. We look forward to singing with you!

DARTBALL: The dartball season will begin in late September. We need players. Both men and women are invited to play. We will have dartball practice on **Monday, September 21st** at 6:30 pm in Founders Hall. No tryouts. Just come and have fun. The season starts on Monday, September 28th. We play every other Monday. Call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409 for more information.

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

BELL CHOIR will practice on **Monday, September 21st** at 5:30 pm. Contact Cheri Sergent for any questions at (419) 410-3572.

WELCA: The next WELCA meeting will take place on **Monday, September 21st** at 6:30pm in the lounge. All women of the church are welcome to attend!

REBECCA CIRCLE will not be meeting in October. The next meeting will be on **Saturday, November 7th**.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet on **Tuesday, October 6th** at 11:00 am in the lounge.

MIRIAM CIRCLE will meet on **Wednesday, October 7th** at 10:00 am in the lounge.

SOUND BOARD: Help is needed to run the sound board. If you would like to volunteer, please call the church office at 419-691-7222 or send email to office@firststjohn.com Thanks!

CHAPEL COMMUNION will resume every second Sunday of the month.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: We will start meeting again on **Thursday, September 24th** at 11:00 am in the church lounge.

CATECHISM CLASS: Classes will begin on **Sunday, October 4th** (Please note date change). If you have a child in fifth through seventh grades, please contact Pastor Rayl. Please email any questions to Pastor Rayl at pastor1@firststjohn.com or text 567-395-0143.

CANDY CRAWL: Once again, we will host a stop for the local Candy Crawl that will happen Sunday, October 18th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. The Candy Crawl is a community-wide event where we will pass out candy in a drive-thru format in the front church parking lot. It has been a big hit the last few years. We will need bags of candy to make this a successful event. Please place candy donations in the lounge or bring them to the church office during the week. Thanks for your help!

TRUNK OR TREAT: Trunk or Treat is **Sunday, October 25th** from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. This is a great outreach

opportunity, so please help by registering your car or donating bags of candy. Any questions contact the church office at 419-691-7222.

CANDY DONATIONS are needed for the two upcoming Halloween events for the Sunday School. Please take donations down to the JAM area on Sunday or drop off in the lounge or church office no later than October 16th. Thanks!

LOST & FOUND: A small black KJV Bible was found and turned into the church office. Please stop by the office to claim.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Once again we will be collecting boxes for the Operation Christmas Child program. You can fill an empty shoebox of your own, or pick up one in the church basement. Fill the box with items for kids around the world. Also, pick up a label and indicate the gender and age of the child your shoebox is intended for. No candy, liquids, war-related items, breakable items, toothpaste or bar soap is accepted this year. You can return your filled box during worship services, or drop off in the lounge or church office. Please consider also donating \$10 to cover the cost of shipping. The final day to drop off a filled box is Sunday, November 22nd after the 10:30 AM service. See Deb Ladd with any questions!

MONTHLY MINISTRY: The 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 Jessica in the church office.

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY donation item for September is Adult & Baby Shampoo. 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.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST: Please join us for the next fellowship breakfast on **Saturday, October 3rd** at 8:30 am. We will again meet at Bob Evans on Navarre Avenue and afterwards we will reconvene at church in Founders Hall to set up for the spaghetti dinner. Please join us!

CEMETERY CLEAN UP: Fall clean-up of the cemetery will be done on **Saturday, October 17th**. Please remove any decorative items from the gravestones that you wish to keep BEFORE the October 17th deadline, so they are not taken down during the fall clean-up day.

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.