

JULY 26



ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

2026

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church! **Today is the 9th Sunday after Pentecost.** We are delighted to have you worship with us. All who have come to worship are heartily welcomed. Let us joyfully open our hearts to God and one another. If you'd like to connect with us, share a prayer request, or learn more about St. John, please complete a yellow communication card located on the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate.

PRAYER REQUESTS

When we pray for each other, we demonstrate Christ's love for each of us

For **Larry West**, who is in The Springs at Wyandot Trail in Lancaster, not doing well
For **Kaitlyn**, 19-year-old granddaughter of retired teacher Gail Murray, friend of Peggy, severe health issues
For **Willie Moore**, we praise God for his recent successful stent procedure
For **Jonathan Ripley**, 26-year-old grandson of Roger & Jerrie, cancerous brain tumor was removed last Monday
For **Gary Mason**, husband of Sue Mason, having more tests over the next few weeks
For **Janet Robertson**, friend of church members, having additional breast cancer surgery
For **Diane Farley Holbrook**, cousin of Sally Acton, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
For **Sandy Mohler**, neighbor of Don & Neva, recently diagnosed with cancer, started chemo treatment
For **Laura Winkler**, a St. John visitor, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
For **Kyle Jackson**, nephew of Deb Canini, still in a lot of pain with his thyroid condition
For **Jenna McGuire**, grandniece of Don & Neva Hornbeck, started breast cancer treatment
For **Megan Schmitz**, a former student of Sally Acton, recovering from brain surgery and now treatments
For **Eddie Ewing**, a local gospel singer who sings at our church gospel sings, for his upcoming treatments
For **Linda Leist**, who is at home and on hospice care
For **Scott Arnett**, son-in-law of Jonette Christy, his cancer treatments completed, on chemo pills
For **Karma Wisecarver**, daughter of Lee & Peggy Smith, doing another new treatment in her cancer journey
Continued prayers for **Donna Canini, Charlotte Meyer, Jim Fogle, Jon & Linda Leist, and Linda Miller**

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS



Monica Long	July 27
Joe Wolf	July 28
Brian Fowler	July 31
Deb Canini	August 2

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU! We all face challenges from time to time... whether it be a health issue, loss of a loved one, family difficulties, financial hardship, anxiety or fears. Please don't hesitate to reach out and ask for prayers or for support. We're all here to help in any way, or just to simply listen. Please feel free to reach out to Amy to let her know how she can help (614-208-3719....amyblytle@gmail.com). If you have a prayer request, Sue Mason will send an email to all members (614-260-1107...susiemase3@hotmail.com).



THE INSIDE STORY BY SALLY ACTON



Today's Closing Hymn, "O Living Bread from Heaven", was written in German by Johann Rist in 1651 and later translated by Catherine Winkworth in 1858. The phrase "living bread from heaven" originates from John 6:51, where Jesus tells the crowd that he is the living bread who gives eternal life through his flesh. Jesus explains that while manna kept people alive temporarily, he is the true bread sent from God to give permanent spiritual life.

Today, we hear Solomon pray for wisdom, an invitation for us to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's Gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!



The **Altar Flower** chart is in the Narthex where you may sign up to place flowers on the altar. Flowers are \$35. You may leave the money in the envelope under the chart for Linda Leist. Please be sure to indicate if the flowers are for a special occasion, and let Don Hornbeck know if you would like it posted in the Bulletin.



Please place your food donation for the **Food Pantry** in the shopping cart. **The Food Pantry is in need of canned meats.** Thank you, everything is appreciated. **NOTE:** items in our grocery cart that members donate are given to Lutheran Social Services in Lancaster. This is different from the quarterly donation from our MEF that is given to the Bloom-Carroll Pantry Mission.



We rejoice in celebrating the baptism of **Graham James Henderson**, the youngest son of Tom and Taylor Henderson, who was baptized during last Sunday's worship service. Graham was wonderfully content throughout the service and never made a peep during the entire ceremony!

In the waters of Holy Baptism, Graham was welcomed into God's family and received the promises of God's unfailing love and grace. We give thanks for this special milestone in his faith journey and pray that God will continue to bless and guide him as he grows in faith, surrounded by the love and support of his family and our church community.

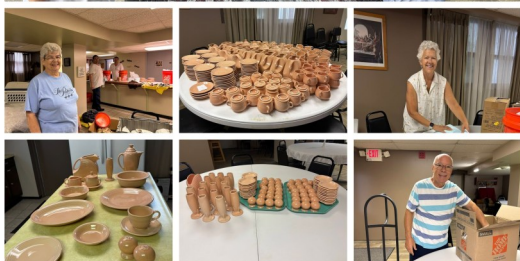


Fiesta Dinnerware Sale Completed

The sale of the Fiesta dinnerware stored in the church basement for many years has been completed. On July 18, buyers from Illinois purchased the entire collection for **\$2,850**.

The proceeds from the sale have been designated to help fund needed kitchen repairs.

A sincere thank you to **Neva, Monica, Diana, Don, Linda, and Sue** for their many hours of work sorting, inventorying, pricing, advertising, and assisting the buyers during pickup. Your time and dedication made this successful project possible!



A SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JULY 19, 2026

ATTENDEES: Sally Acton, Deb Canini, Jerry Canini, Jonette Christy, Mike Drodofsky, Alan Fisher, Briana Hart, Diana Johnson, Jon Leist, Amy Lytle, Sue Mason, Charlotte Meyer - ABSENT: Neil Jarvis

Alan opened the meeting with a prayer; MINUTES of previous meeting were approved as presented. He reviewed current FINANCIALS which were in good standing.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Lithopolis Honeyfest – 9/12 (Sat) – after discussion, Sue made a motion, seconded by Jon, motion carried to purchase 750 pens at \$499+shipping; these red pens will include our logo, email address & worship service time; pens will be distributed at future events to increase community awareness of our church
- Amy reported that she is waiting for her results from her SAM classes
- Jon will compile his “to-do” list for members to help with projects around the church; will be a continuing feature in the Weekly Update
- 1st Communion Classes – 6 children (2nd grade & up) are ready for these classes; to be held during Sunday School hour; tentatively scheduled for the fall
- Parking Lot Repair – Jerry & Jon reported the cost to repair parking lot is projected to be approx. \$9,000 – this includes filling cracks, seal, lined, level area by shed & increase # of handicap spots. After discussion, Diana made a motion, seconded by Briana, motion carried for Jerry to move forward to coordinate with a company for a formal proposal
- Leaking Roof – Alan reported that Durable Slate inspected the roof; they identified 20 shingles that need replaced or repaired at an estimated \$1,345 – council approved moving forward; estimated time that Durable Slate can make these repairs is 6-8 weeks; dent in the gutter still needs repaired
- Bell Ringer – Alan & Jon are still looking for a team of members who would ring our church bell at the beginning of our services
- Kitchen Improvements – thanks to Peggy, Jon & Deb for shopping for 2 new sinks & faucets for our kitchen; Jerry is working on ideas for new countertops; cupboards also need replaced, as they are falling apart and cannot be repaired





- Sale of Fiesta Dinnerware (dishes & accessories) – buyer from Illinois purchased all of the Fiesta Dinnerware on 7/18/26 for \$2,850 – funds were deposited into the CIF and earmarked for kitchen repair costs; thanks to Neva, Monica, Linda, Diana, Don & Sue who helped sort, inventory, and assist the buyers at pick-up time
- Council will continue to monitor suggestions made at the May 31st Brainstorming Session for possible action

NEW BUSINESS:

- Zoom Events – Amy and Don Hornbeck demonstrated how an online Zoom event would work; this could be used by council members who need to call into a council meeting or by church members in the event of bad weather; more instructions will be provided to members soon; fee is \$169.90 per year; after discussion, Jerry made a motion, seconded by Jonette, motion carried to move forward with this initiative
- Weekly Sermon Summary – Amy reported that she will post a summary of her weekly sermon on our website; members who could not attend in person or if they would like to read a summary, will be able to access this info
- Capital Improvements Fundraisers – our church and its equipment are very old, therefore, we will continue to have expenses for repairs/replacements; Amy will make an announcement this Sunday for members to start thinking about ideas for fundraising
- 5th Sunday (August 30th) – we will have a church picnic after the service; outside if weather permits

PENDING ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS:

- Vanguard is requesting that we update our administrative documents; Neva Hornbeck has agreed to be added to the MEF account (ALAN & MIKE)
- Bibles for Sunday School – in progress (JONETTE)
- Lutheran Social Services – grocery cart – designate 2 items monthly for members' contribution (COUNCIL)
- 2 administrators for online church directory (UCD) and church email account (SUE working with DON & AMY)
- Narthex Carpet Replacement – options need to be researched (JON)
- Church signage into Lithopolis - Alan checking w/village for placement & size requirements (ALAN)
- Church Mission Statement-council to compile, then members to vote w/approval (COUNCIL)
- 175th Anniversary / 2030 – “goal tree” (COUNCIL)

WISH LIST:

- Light up cross on top of church

With no further business, the meeting was closed with council members reciting the Lord's Prayer.