

JUNE 7



ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

2026

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church! **Today is Second 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 **Donna Canini**, as she prepares for her upcoming heart valve procedure scheduled for June 18

For **Jenna McGuire**, grandniece of Don & Neva Hornbeck, starting 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

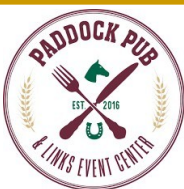
For **Kyle Jackson**, nephew of Deb Canini, diagnosed with Thyroiditis, on steroid medication

For **Scott Arnett**, son-in-law of Jonette Christy, as he finished up his six-week course of cancer treatments

For **Karma Wisecarver**, daughter of Lee & Peggy Smith, is doing another new treatment in her cancer journey

Continued prayers for **Charlotte Meyer, Jim Fogle, Jon & Linda Leist, and Linda Miller**

If you have a prayer request, please reach out to Sue Mason, who will email our church members. She can be reached at: 614-260-1107 or at susiemase3@hotmail.com.



Guys & Gals Lunch Bunch will dine at the **Paddock Pub** on Tuesday, **June 9**, located at 1005 Richardson Rd, Groveport . Please RSVP to Charlotte Meyer, if possible.

Today, immediately after church in the Narthex, there will be a celebration for Canal Winchester HS graduate **Anna Bartos**. Wishing you success, happiness, and adventure as you begin your next chapter.



UPCOMING

BIRTHDAYS



Nancy Mintel	June 3
Robin Gile	June 6
Nick & Kayla Stepp	June 8
Jill Snyder	June 9

OFFICE HOURS Amy will be in the church office on Wednesday, **June 10 and June 24**, from **10 am - 2 pm**. Feel free to stop by to chat - this is a great opportunity to share ideas for enhancing worship, serving our neighbors, or just talking in general. Appointment not needed.



THE INSIDE STORY BY SALLY ACTON



Today's Opening Hymn, "**Morning Has Broken**", is a Christian hymn with lyrics by Eleanor Farjeon, first published in 1931. It gained global popularity through Cat Stevens's 1971 recording, which set the lyrics to the traditional Scottish Gaelic tune "Buinessan". The song celebrates the freshness of dawn and the beauty of creation, drawing inspiration from the Genesis creation story.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY	Anna Bartos grad celeb.
June 13	Gospel Sing here
June 21	Father's Day "donuts"
June 28	Council Meeting

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.



CALLING ALL SHOPPERS! Did you know that Kroger has a **Community Rewards Program**? They will send monies to St John every time you shop at any of their stores. Instructions for signing up are in a blue folder on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary. Please consider enrolling in this easy way to earn money for our church while doing your grocery shopping!



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

We extend our sincere thanks to the members of our church choir for their inspiring music this past Sunday and throughout the season. As they take a break for the summer months, we wish them a wonderful summer and eagerly anticipate their return after Labor Day.

NOTES FROM CONGREGATIONAL BRAINSTORMING SESSION - MAY 31

CONGREGATIONAL BRAINSTORMING SESSION (led by ALAN FISHER)

Problem: no one seems to know where St John is – even delivery people. We need to increase awareness of St. John in the community.

Suggestions/Comments:

JON LEIST – get Lithopolis Village Council to approve new signage coming into and out of the village. Social media replaces Sunday drives. Boost media posts; cost is reasonable.

DON HORNBECK – Google maps uses "S" instead of "South" – and Canal Winchester instead of Lithopolis for our address.



NOTES FROM CONGREGATIONAL BRAINSTORMING SESSION - CONTINUED

JON LEIST – the cross on top of the church needs fixed; CHUCK WOLCOTT suggested that we add a light to it

TIM ACTON – Quarterly Gospel Sings are now in its 3rd year. Please publicize future concerts on your social media to increase attendance, as well as bring awareness to our church.

AMY LYTLE – Members should post comments about St. John on your social media page. Also provide info to Briana Hart so she can post it on our St. John Facebook page; also inform Sue Mason so she can share with members.

BRIANA HART – Would like to see us revive our chicken noodle dinner – show we are open, welcoming – will attract younger people.

AMY LYTLE – Synod Awareness Program – Amy will give information to Sue to email to members.

SUE MASON – Honeyfest is held in September – great time to spotlight our church. Our parking lot is always full during that time; possibly set up a tent and pass out bottled water, pens & flyers. NEIL JARVIS commented that many people dislike having their car touched; consensus was to not put flyers on windshields; maybe do a wrap with a QR code on the bottles instead of a flyer.

SALLY ACTON – when they sang at a Jacksontown church in the past years, she saw that they provided a breakfast one Saturday a month and they received a large amount of accumulative donations that allowed them to update their church. Again, a very good example of how to bring awareness to the community.

AMY LYTLE – suggested we post on the Lithopolis Facebook page, a thank you to the community for supporting our Memorial Day Bake Sale...another way to keep our name out there on social media. Sue Mason will draft something to Briana Hart who will finalize and post.

RYAN HART – if we “boost” our St John Facebook page, cost is \$140 for 30 days – be sure to include pictures of children – possibly do the “boost” close to the Honeyfest date.

SUGGESTION was made to change the outdoor sign more often. JON LEIST has always handled this, but his plate is full and he could use some help. Jon would oversee and help other members who would make the sign changes. SUE MASON suggested we have a sign-up sheet for members to handle this (either for the month or the quarter).

JON LEIST – asked for help installing a new Fire Exit light and basement light transformer for fluorescent lighting – he could also use help with outside flowers.

.... Thank you to Amy Lytle for taking notes today.

It was a great session! Great food and great fellowship – and now...we need to consider the above items!
by Sue Mason, Council Secretary



INFORMATION ABOUT THE SYNOD'S CO:LAB PROGRAM (INCREASING VISIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY)

At our 5th Sunday potluck and brainstorming session, Amy mentioned that our Synod offers a program designed to help congregations increase visibility in the community. Here is the information from the Synod website. For those of you in a time crunch, here are highlights about the program from their website:

Co:Lab is the Southern Ohio Synod's program to equip congregation leaders and their communities of faith to build relationships, deepen faith, grow community, and identify and respond to God's call for their congregation. It is designed for Congregations who are excited about God's presence within their communities and are interested in trying new ministry experiments, but struggle with knowing how or where to start.

If St. John decides to participate, we will need 3-5 individuals to commit to six monthly meetings. We will be in a cohort of other churches; the meetings will take place at these churches throughout the synod. Between the meetings, there will be an additional 2-4 hours/month of work with the people of St. John. The initial cost is \$250, and at the completion of the program, the Synod will give us a \$500 grant to support the programs and/or initiatives that we develop as a result of our participation in Co:Lab.

This could be an excellent resource for helping us fulfil our desire to serve our community effectively, capitalizing on the gifts and resources with which God has graced our congregation.

