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The "Good News" and "Happenings" of
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Stovertown

www.stovertownelca.com

VOL.17, No. 3

Pastor-Al Laese-740-541-2823

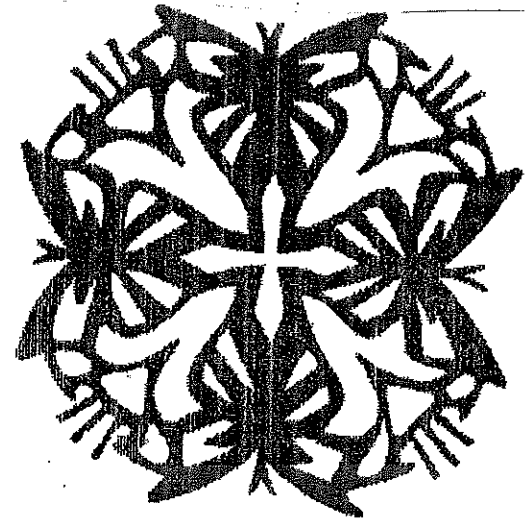
March 24, 2025

**HE IS NOT HERE;
HE HAS RISEN!**

Luke 24:6



SEASON OF
EASTER

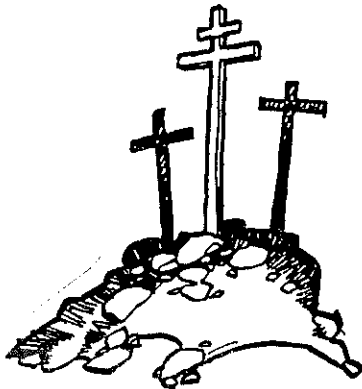
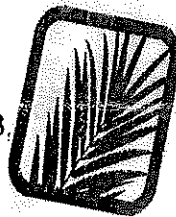


E a s t e r

**CELEBRATIONS OF LENTEN SEASON
AND THE EASTER SEASON:**

We will continue to observe the Lenten Season
until April 13th.

HOLY WEEK -will begin on Sunday April 13.
PALM SUNDAY.



MAUNDY THURSDAY will be celebrated on
Thursday, April 17th. with Holy Communion.
We will celebrate Maundy Thursday with a
service at 7:00PM.

GOOD FRIDAY will be celebrated on Friday,
April 18th with a service at 7:00PM.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE will be celebrated
on Easter Sunday, April 20th at 7:00AM with a
service and breakfast to follow. If you plan to
attend please sign the sheets in the narthex as to
how many will be attending and what you would
like to bring. You are asked to bring your own
eggs, already scrambled. Meat will be provided.

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP with Holy
Communion, will be held at 10:00AM following
Sunday School at 9:00AM.

"THE GLORY OF THE EASTER STORY"

In the glorious Easter Story
A troubled world can find
Blessed reassurance
And enduring peace of mind...
For though we grow discouraged
In this world we're living in,

There is comfort just in knowing
 God has triumphed over sin...
 For our Savior's Resurrection
 Was God's way of telling men
 That in Christ we are eternal
 And in Him we live again...
 And to know life is unending
 And God's love is endless, too
 Makes our daily tasks and burdens
 So much easier to do...
 For the blessed Easter Story
 Of Christ the living Lord.
 Makes our earthly sorrow nothing
 When compared with this reward.

And

**THE JOY OF EASTER WAS BORN OF
 GOOD FRIDAY'S SORROW**

By Helen Steiner Rice

Who said the "darkness of the night"
 would never turn to day,
 Who said the "winter's bleakness"
 would never pass away.
 Who said the fog would never lift
 and let the sunshine through,
 Who said the skies now overcast
 would nevermore be blue—
 Why should we ever entertain
 these thoughts so dark and grim
 And let the brightness of our mind
 grow cynical and dim
 When we know beyond all questioning
 that winter turns to spring
 And on the notes of sorrow
 new songs are made to sing—
 For no one sheds a teardrop
 or suffers loss in vain,
 For God is always there to turn
 our losses into gain,
 And every burden born Today
 and every present sorrow
 Are but God's happy harbingers
 of joyous, bright Tomorrow.

EASTER PRAYER. Author Unknown

May the glory and the promise of this joyous
 time of year, bring peace and happiness to you
 and those you hold most dear.

And may Christ, Our Risen Savior, always be
 there by your side to bless you most abundantly
 and be your loving guide.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Lenten Bible Studies will continue on Fridays at
 2:00PM at the church.

Council will now (April 3) begin meeting at
 8:00PM instead of 7:00PM. until November.

Pancake Breakfast -the last breakfast until the
 Fall will be held on Sunday, March 30 at 8:30AM

Produce Give-A-Way will be held on Tuesday,
 April 15, at 9M. Volunteers are needed and
 appreciated. You need to arrive by 8AM.

WELCA will meet on Tuesday, April 8th at
 2:00PM at the church. Leslie Williams will be
 hostess and topic leader.

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
 FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL.**

Birthdays:

- April 5---Cale Miller
- 10-Vicky Thomas
- 22-Mary Jean Cassady
- April 22---Don Wickham
- 23---Jessie Fabiny
- 27---Robert Lee Deitrick
- 30---Shannon Davis

Anniversaries: April 13---Denny & Stacy
 Tompkins

St John's Lutheran Church
Church Council Minutes
March 6 2025

Council vice president Robert Pletcher called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. Council members present were Nathan Atkins, Joe Pletcher, Gary Williams, Steve Wolfe, Frank Dietz, and Pastor Al Laese.

Frank Dietz led devotions.

The minutes of the February 2025 council meeting were presented by council secretary Frank Dietz. They were approved on a motion from Gary Williams and Nathan Atkins.

Pastor Al Laese gave an update on Bill Thomas health. Pastor's report for the month of February 2025: 4 Sunday worship services and Sunday School, 4 cluster meetings(one at Stovertown), church council meeting, private communion, one other visit, 2 funeral home visits for former Roseville members, Bishop Robert Kelly funeral Saturday March 1, and 162 miles driven. The Synod Assembly will begin on Friday June 6, registration before the end of March is \$295 per person. Pastor's report approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Gary Williams.

The treasurer's report was presented and reviewed. After a discussion of the changes that have been made the report was approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Steve Wolfe 4 to 1.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property – Due to the astronomically high price of over \$3000 to replace the elevator service room door, the original door has been meticulously redesigned and repaired to the property committee chairman's specifications and high standards. The new Exmark zero turn mower has been delivered to the mowing crew.

Produce Market – 12 volunteers braved the 9 degree starting temperature on February 18. 6,918 pounds of product was distributed to 86 households. Leslie Williams shared cookies. Don Parmiter built a small fire that warmed hands and burnt gloves. The 36 gallons of milk that was leftover was taken to Eastside Community Ministry.

OLD BUSINESS 7:35 P.M.

Council member Steve Wolfe met with the planners of the Veterans Memorial committee Bob Foster and Paul Pride about the proposed monument. The committee has figured \$20,000 can be secured for the construction of the monument on church property. It will become church property to display and maintain.

Frank Dietz and Nathan Atkins motioned to adjourn at 8:01 P.M.

All prayed The Lord's Prayer.

Frank Dietz - council secretary

Linda Showers has devotions for the April council meeting.

Minutes of the Women of the ELCA

March 11, 2025

The women of the ELCA met at the church. Seven members were present.

President Kathy Jenkins welcomed everyone and wished us "the luck of the Irish." She opened the meeting with a prayer.

There was no secretary's report.

Treasurer's report: **Checking - \$454.97**
 Savings - \$3913.69

Kathy gave a review of WELCA activities since our last meeting in October of 2024:

- November – Grateful for Our Church Family luncheon and the Thankoffering service
- December – Christmas potluck and gift exchange
- February – LOVE meeting

She thanked all who contributed and participated in the activities with a special thank you to Susan West and the Mission Growth committee for their hard work on the LOVE meeting.

Committee Reports

Mission Growth: No report

Mission Community: Kathy said she will have the sign-up sheet for the Easter Sunrise Breakfast in the narthex by the first Sunday in April. Please sign-up to bring needed items and help us get a count of the number who will be attending.

Mission Action: No report

Old / New Business

-the quilt drawing was once again postponed; we will draw the winner for the quilt at the April meeting. Anyone with raffle tickets, **please** turn them in by the first of April if you want them included in the drawing

-we have begun to think about the May Mother/Daughter/Friends Potluck. If you have an idea for the program/theme, please let Kathy Jenkins know

Topic

Janet Novaria had the topic. We took a quiz on Lent and were given a Lenten word search. She had us each read a Bible verse. She read a Lenten devotion and then provided materials needed to paint rocks with words and pictures that reflected our faith and the Lenten season encouraging us to be creative and have fun.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Showers, Secretary

The next WELCA meeting is April 8th at the church at 2PM. Leslie Williams is hostess and topic leader.

NEED AN EXAMINATION?

The discipline of the Lenten season offers the opportunity to reflect on our style of living, and the values that are revealed by our lifestyle. Often there is a difference between what we believe in our hearts and minds, and the values that control our daily living. The Lenten Season is a time to evaluate whether what we say we believe really shows up in the values we live by.

WE live such a busy hectic life style, that often the connection between faith and practice gets broken, or at the least they get separated from one another. People who have lived thru a crisis in their lives will report that their approach to life is different afterward, what is important to them has changed, and they now use their time and energy differently. The first step in the struggle to live our faith is to identify the obstacles that get in the way and make it difficult to practice the faith and values that we confess.

If obstacles were obvious it would be easier to identify and overcome them, but often they come with attractive disguises that mislead and confuse us. In the congregation this can be very subtle, there are many programs and activities that could be undertaken, but only a limited amount of time, energy, and money. It is so easy to be misled into doing a 'good' program that is not what is necessary given the present situation and needs.

THE LENTEN SEASON IS A TIME TO THINK ABOUT FAITH AND LIFE!

IS MY FAITH SHOWING IN HOW I LIVE?

THINK ABOUT IT!

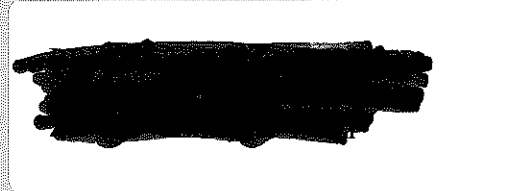
Pastor Al

April 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | |
|---|---------------------------|-----------|-----|---|-----------------------------|-----|---|
| Church 740-697-0202 | Pastor Al 740-541-2823 | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| Holy Communion Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection | | WELCA 2PM | | | Lenten Bible Studies-2PM | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | |
| Worship-10AM SCS-9AM Palm Sunday | | | | MAUNDY THURSDAY SER. 7PM | GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7PM | | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | |
| Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection EASTER SUNDAY Sunrise-7AM Breakfast | | | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| Worship-10AM SCS-9AM | | | | Vicky Thomas Secretary 740-674-6814 740-252-1890(C) cabininthearchard@yahoo.com | | | |



RETURN
TO: ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH,
STOVERTOWN
P.O. BOX 361
PHILO, OH 43771



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**MISSION STATEMENT FOR ST. JOHN'S, LUTHERAN CHURCH,
OF STOVERTOWN**

"We, the members of St. John's Lutheran Church of Stovertown, being children of God, would like to invite all to share in the good news of Jesus Christ. As witnesses of God's love and forgiveness we reach out to you".