

the



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

Stovertown

www.stovertownelca.com

VOL. 15 No. 7

Pastor-Al Laese-740-541-2823

July 24, 2023

CHURCH



elcome!

-A building for public and Christian worship

and/or

-A body or organization of religious believers

THE BLESSING OF MY LOCAL CHURCH.....

Daily Inspiration of Blessings
Carolyn Larsen

If you've ever read stories or seen movies about the brave people who settled in the American Wild West you know that the settlers traveled in wagon trains.

You may also have a visual image from movies or television shows of how they circled the wagons when they camped for protection and safety. They knew that here is safety in numbers and it's important to have a community around you.

Have you ever thought of your local church as a wagon train circle for your protection? Your church family can serve as your community, friends with whom you can share your deepest needs and grandest joys. They also, as brothers and sisters in the faith, should protect you from slipping into sinful habits by holding you accountable and challenging you to grow deeper in the faith.

When you accepted Christ you were adopted into God's family. Your local church is your personal branch of that family. Celebrate with a weekly family reunion!

Churchgoers are like coals in a fire. When they cling together they keep the flame aglow, when they separate they die out.

Billy Graham

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:4-5

Encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Hebrews 3:13

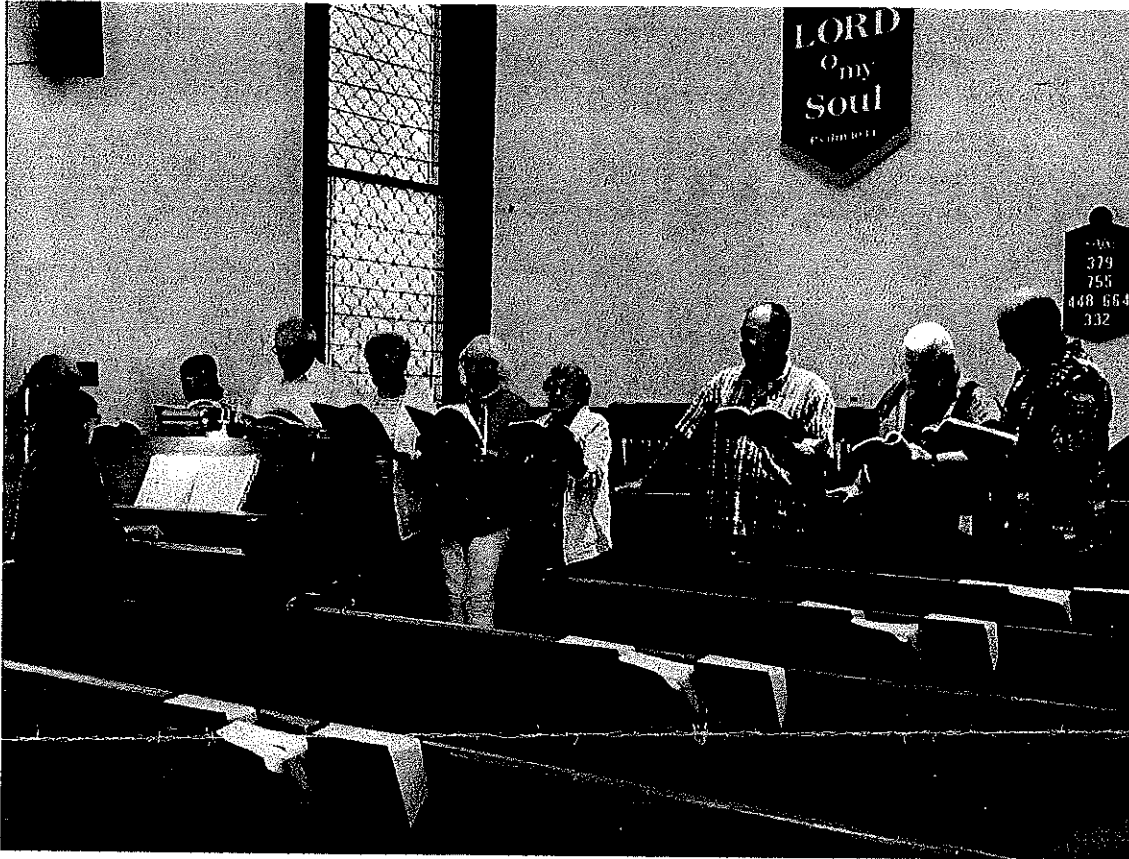
Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you are the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

Dear Father, it's so easy to criticize things at my church – the music style, the pastor, the Board members. But, when someone needs help or support, my church circles around to support them. Father, help me to be on the supporting side and not the criticizing side. Thank you for my church. Amen

Why the Church? [Billy Graham]

Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. Ps 100:2



“The word *church* is an English translation of the Greek word, *ecclesia*, which means “the called-out ones,” or an assembly of people. The word as applied to Christian society was first used by Jesus Himself when He told Peter, “Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” [Matt 16:18]

Thus Jesus Himself founded the church. He is the great cornerstone upon which the church is built. He is the foundation of all Christian experience, and the church is founded upon Him. The church belongs to Him and to Him alone. He has promised to live with, and in, all those who are members of His church. Here is an organization unlike anything else the world has ever known: God Himself living with, and in, ordinary men and women who are members of His church.

We do not go to church to hear a sermon. We go to church to worship God and to serve Him in the fellowship of other Christians...in the church we find our place of service. We are saved to serve. The happy Christian is the serving Christian.”

**St John's Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Minutes
July 6, 2023**

Bill Thomas opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M. Members present were Joe Pletcher, Robert Pletcher, Steve Wolfe, Gary Williams, Frank Dietz, Nathan Atkins, and Pastor Albert Laese.

Bill Thomas led devotions from Galatians 1, the heartbeat of a church.

Council secretary Frank Dietz presented the minutes of the June 2023 meeting. They were approved of a motion from Nathan Atkins and Robert Pletcher.

The May and June treasurer's reports were presented. After some short discussion they were approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Steve Wolfe.

Pastor's report for the month of June 2023: 4 Sunday worship services and Sunday School, 4 cluster meetings, 1 homevisit, 1 private communion, phone conversation with Larry Wheeler, synod assembly, and 210 miles submitted. Pastor's report approved on a motion from Robert Pletcher and Gary Williams.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Produce Give-Away – 18 volunteers distributed 6,862 pounds of food in the rain. \$250 worth of spaghetti's and mac and cheese from Thrivent were passed out thanks to Susan and Brian Miller. There were 6 new families. Leftover food was taken to the Salvation Army.

Property – The elevator has been repaired, it is waiting on inspection. Nathan Atkins informed the council of a need to rent a manlift to make repairs to the bell tower and for powerwashing of the church. Robert Pletcher and Frank Dietz motioned for the property committee to rent the lift. The motion was approved by council. Repaving versus Resealing of the parking lot was discussed, more discussion to follow.

Social Ministry – There was a house fire in Cannelville - if someone has information please see a council member.

Worship and Music – Church members have expressed interest in having the offering brought forward to the altar after the creed. This will begin the following Sunday.

NEW BUSINESS

Vince and Linda Shower's application for membership was approved on a motion from Nathan Atkins and Frank Dietz.

There will be a reception for Delores Wolfe's 87th birthday on Sunday July 16, 2023 after worship service.

Frank Dietz motioned to adjourn at 8:44 P.M.
All prayed The Lord's Prayer

Frank Dietz, council secretary

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5						
6	7					
7	8					
8	9					
9	10					
10	11					
11	12					
12	13					
13	14	15				
14	15	16				
15	16	17				
16	17	18				
17	18	19				
18	19	20				
19	20	21				
20	21	22				
21	22	23				
22	23	24				
23	24	25				
24	25	26				
25	26	27				
26	27	28				
27	28	29				
28	29	30				
29	30	31				
30	31					

Church
740-697-0202

Pastor Al
740-541-2823

Holy Communion
SCS-9AM
Worship-10AM
WELCA change collection

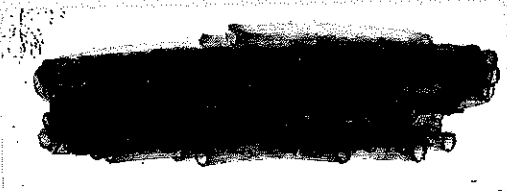
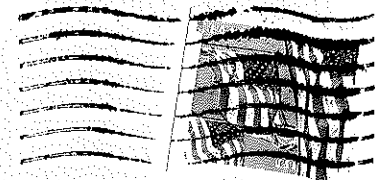
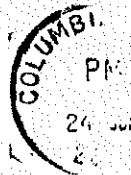
SCS-9AM
Worship-10AM

Mid-Ohio Food
Give-A-Way

SCS-9AM
Worship-10AM
WELCA Change collection

SCS-9AM
Worship-10AM

Vicky Thomas
Secretary
740-674-6814
cabinntheorchar@aol.com



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

MID-OHIO FOOD GIVE-A-WAY

Will take place on Tuesday, August 15 from 9AM-11AM. Volunteers need to arrive before 8AM

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Thank you to Susan & Brian Miller for applying to Thrivent Financial, two times, for funds to apply to the Produce Market. (If you have money invested in Thrivent, a Lutheran financial investment company, you can apply for scholarships to help with a charitable project. All you have to do is apply, then be approved & after the project is completed, write a report of the activity.) They received two, \$250.00 scholarships, and were able to purchase more macaroni & cheese and Spaghettios that we gave out in June. Overall, in May & June, the congregation & Thrivent, gave out approximately \$1,000.00 worth of these items, plus peanut butter. In July we gave out 568 individual fruit cups & applesauce cups from these funds. This is all in addition to the produce brought by Mid-Ohio Food Collective. Thank you once again to the St. John's congregation for your generosity, & Susan & Brian for taking the time to do the applications process, in providing all these food items.

Our next planned supplement for the market is for September. Colgate Palmolive has donated 130 bottles of Palmolive dish soap & 130 bottles of Fabulosa, which is a multi-purpose cleaner. We would like to add rolls of paper towels & boxes of tissues to this collection. You may donate the actual item or donate money & we will purchase the items for you. Just mark your envelopes accordingly.

This market has been well received in the community & the need is there. Our volunteers have graciously given of their time & talents to make this a successful project each month, God Bless those Warm Hearts & Helping Hands.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST.....

- Birthdays:** August 8---Caleb Brassfield
21--Karen Showers
23--Dave Swingle
27--Lindsay Cramer

Anniversaries: August 15---Jamey & Larry Brassfield

WELCOME.....
We wish to welcome into our family of God Vince and Linda Showers. Welcome!!!!

ANNUAL CAR SHOW.....

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 7.** More details will follow or see Steve Wolfe.

CONGRATULATIONS.....

-To Megan and Jimmy Hartmeyer (daughter of Bryan & Carol Cramer) on the birth of their second son, Grayson James, born on July 12. (Grandparents Bryan & Carol and Aunt Lindsey Cramer.)
