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

Stovertown

www.stovertownelca.com

VOL.17, No. 6

Pastor-Al Laese-740-541-2823

June 24, 2025

SUMMER.

SUMMER in the Northern Hemisphere is usually defined as the period between the summer solstice (year's longest day), June 21 or 22 and the autumnal equinox, (day and night equal in length), September 22 or 23....Britannica

SIX WAYS TO STRENGTH YOUR DEVOTIONAL TIME IN THE

SUMMER.....Kirstyn Mayden

www.kirstynmayden.com

Choose your favorite time and place to spend with god. Read: Psalm 1:2

Be creative – Read Colossians 3:23

Keep a Gratitude List- Read Psalm 136:3

Meditate on One or Two Scriptures for Encouragement

Form a Consistent Schedule – Read Mark 1:35-37

Give yourself Grace

BIBLE VERSES RELATING TO SUMMER.

Genesis 8:22: "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease"

Psalm 74:17: It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter.

Mark 13:28: Now learn this lesson from the fig tree; As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out you know that summer is near.

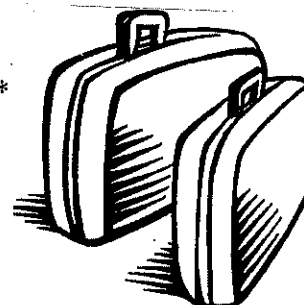
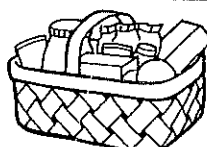
PRAYER FOR SUMMETIME

By Marquette.edu/Faith at [Marquette/](http://Marquette.edu/)

Loving God, creator of all time and places, we thank you for the gift of summertime, the days of light, warmth, and leisure. Thank you for the beauty that surrounds us everywhere we look; the multicolored flowers, the deep blue of the sky, the tranquil surface of lakes, the laughter of children at play, people strolling in parks, families gathered around picnic tables and the more time to spend with family and friends.

As we open our eyes and ears to the landscape of nature and people, open our hearts to receive all as gifts. Give us that insight to see you as the Divine Artist. Help us to realize and appreciate that you are laboring to keep all in existence. Warm our souls with the awareness of your presence.

Let all the gifts we enjoy this summer deepen our awareness of your love so that we may share this with others and enjoy a summertime of re-creation.



Vacations

The list of activities to enjoy in the summer is endless.

Make your own list and enjoy a safe, fun-filled, meaningful, and relaxing summer spent with those who you love.

Summertime can also be a time of renewal:

He Renews our Strength by Grits to Grace from the Farmhouse Porch

For busy citizens of the twenty-first century, it's easy to become overcommitted, overworked, over-stressed, and overwhelmed. If we choose, we can connect 24/7, sparing just enough time to a few hours' sleep each night. What we need is time to renew and recharge, but where can we find the time? We can—and should—find it with God.

If you're feeling chronically tired or discouraged, it's time to rearrange your schedule, turn off the TV, power down the phone, and spend quiet time with your Creator. He knows what you need, and He wants you to experience His peace and His love. He's ready, willing, and perfectly able to renew your strength and help you prioritize the items on your to-do-list if you ask Him. In fact, He's ready to hear your prayers right now. Please don't make Him wait.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

-2 Corinthians 6:17

"THE LIVING WORD", OUTDOOR DRAMA IN CAMBRIDGE.

Is having a special churches night on July 18th. If you would like to go with a group from the church (with special attendance fees), please sign the sheet in the narthex or see Steve Wolfe.

WELCA NEWS.

WELCA will be have Pizza and Bingo for their meeting at 6PM on July 8th. The location to be announced.

WELCA BASEMENT SALE will be held August 1st & 2nd. It would be helpful if you could bring your items for sale the week of July 27th.

WELCA PACK LWR KITS will be on September 9 at 2:00PM.

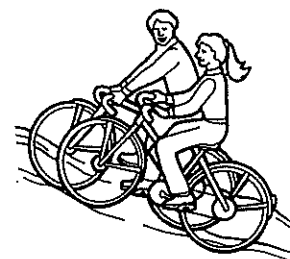
PRODUCE GIVE-A-WAY.

Will be held on Tuesday, July 15 at 9AM. Volunteers need to arrive by 8:00AM.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY.

Birthdays: July 11—Delores Wolfe
12---Joe Pletcher
13---Shirley Kessler
16---Denny Tompkins
21---Kathy Jenkins

Anniversaries: July 10—Pastor & Andrea Laese
25---Joe & Joy Pletcher
31---Robert Lee & Renee Deitrick



St John's Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes - APPROVED
May 1, 2025

Council Vice President, Bob Pletcher, opened the meeting at 8:07 pm. Members present: Nate Atkins, Tom Gibson, Pastor Al Laese, Joe Pletcher, Linda Showers, Gary Williams and Steve Wolfe. Bob confirmed a quorum.

Devotion Bob Pletcher shared "With Our Own Eyes"- I John – we saw His Glory & heard His voice.

Linda Showers read the unapproved minutes from the April meeting from *The Word*. Addition: Witness Chr., Linda Showers, reported that the Annual Volunteer Sign-up would be posted and announced the Sunday after Easter – 4/27. [Approved as amended: N. Atkins/G. Williams].

Motion: To publish only approved minutes in The Word going forward. [Approved: L. Showers/J. Pletcher]

PASTOR'S REPORT – April 2025 - 4 Sunday worship services & Sunday School plus Maundy Thursday, Good Friday; and Sunrise Service; 1 Church Council meeting; 3 Adult Bible Study sessions (6-8 in attendance each time); 1 private communion; 3 Cluster meetings; 201 miles. Bob Pletcher will attend the Synod Meeting with Pr. Laese at the Columbus Zoo. [Accept: N. Atkins/J. Pletcher].

TREASURER'S REPORT—reviewed by council [Accept: J. Pletcher/G. Williams].

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CEMETARY – Motion: table discussion of the proposed new plots until Cemetery Secretary, Billy Thomas, returned [N. Atkins/G. Williams]

EDUCATION – no Report

FINANCE – Finance Chr., Joe Pletcher, reported receiving a notice for a "License renewal to operate as a nonprofit/Certificate of Continued Existence." **Motion:** To pay the \$25 license fee for a 5 yr. license [L. Showers/N. Atkins]

PRAYER CO. – Chr. Steve Wolfe confirmed The Cruise-In date of October 11, 2025

PRODUCE – Produce Chr., Gary Williams, read Produce Market Report: Tuesday, 4/15/25 - 112 households served (including over 250 individuals) - 4 counties/11 zip codes; 17 volunteers – thank you all volunteers!

PROPERTY – Property Chr., Nate Atkins, reported that the elevator has passed inspection by the elevator company.

WITNESS/EVANGELISM – The Annual Volunteer Opportunities Signup was posted and announced, Sunday 4/27/25 – also in *The Word* & weekly emails

OLD BUSINESS [none]

NEW BUSINESS

Steve Wolfe shared that there were congregation members with youth who would benefit from a church camp scholarship. Council welcomes applications to the existing Camp Scholarship Fund Process.

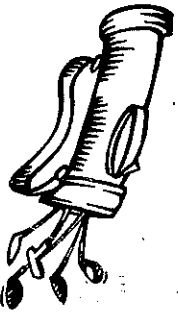
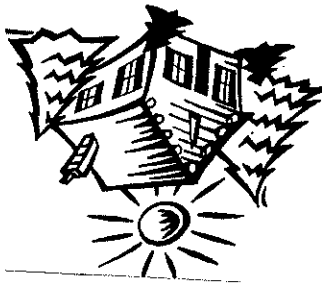
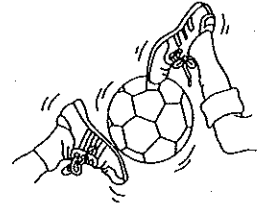
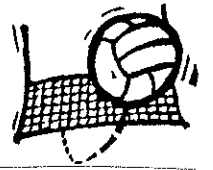
Motion to Adjourn – 9:28 pm [N. Atkins/T. Gibson]

Meeting followed by The Lord's Prayer

L. Showers - for Council Secretary, Frank Dietz

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Church 740-697-0202	Pastor Al 740-541-2823	1	2	3 Council 8PM	4	5
6 Holy Communion Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection	7	8 WELCA 6PM	9	10	11	12
13 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM	14	15 Produce Give-a-Way	16	17	18	19
20 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM	28	29	30	31	Vicky Thomas Church secretary 740-674-6814 (C) 740-252-1890	



"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".

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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

24 JUN 2025 PM 6 L

COLUMBUS OH 430

