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

Stovertown

www.stovertownelca.com

VOL.16, No. 5

Pastor-Al Laese-740-541-2823

May 24, 2024

ENCOURAGEMENT.....

The act of giving hope, confidence, emboldening, heartening, fostering, helping and giving support to someone.

The Gift of Encouragement

From Grits to Grace, Devotions from the Farmhouse Porch

But encourage each other daily, while it is still called today, so that none of you is hardened by sin's deception
Hebrews 3:15

Whether we realize it or not, all of us need encouragement. The world can be a difficult place, a place where we encounter the inevitable disappointments that are woven into the fabric of everyday life. So we all need boosters who are ready, willing and able to cheer us on when times get tough.

God's word teaches that we must treat others as we ourselves wish to be treated. Since we desire encouragements for ourselves we should be quick to share it with others

Whom will you encourage today? How many times will you share a smile or a kind word, or a pat on the back? You'll probably have many opportunities to share the gift of encouragement. When you seize those opportunities, others will be blessed and you'll be blessed, too. But not necessarily in that order.

Discouraged people don't need critics. They hurt enough already. They don't need more guilt or piled-on distress. They need encouragement. They need a refuge, a willing, caring, available someone.

Charles Swindoll

THE HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD

Sam Walters Foss 1858-1911

There are hermit souls that live withdrawn
In the place of their self-content;
There are souls like stars, that dwell apart,
In a fellowless firmament;
There are pioneer souls that blaze their paths
Where highways never ran-
But let me live by the side of the road
And be a friend to man.

Let me live in my house by the side of the road-
It's here the race of men go by
They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong,
Wise, foolish-so am I;
Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat
Or burl the cynic's ban?
Let me live in my house by the side of the road
And be a friend to man.

Excerpts from POWER PRAYERS TO START YOUR DAY

Donna K. Maltese

Each and every day make it a point to encourage your friends through prayer, comfort, service, listening, and blessings. But most of all, love them.

Tap into the power of encouragement and love from the greatest resource at our disposal, our greatest Friend- our one and only Savior, Jesus Christ . He will never leave us nor forsake us (see Hebrew 13:5) How can He when He lives within our hearts?

"But my mouth would encourage you;
Comfort from my lips would bring you relief."

Job 16:5

Christ in me

FATHER'S DAY.....

June 16. . .Make his day special.

DAD'S DAY

Unknown

Call him "Father" on his day
Call him "Dad" or call him "Pops"
But I'll venture this to say
If he's yours he's really "tops"
Give him hankies, socks, and ties,
Give him shirts and sweaters, too.
But I'll bet some fishin' flies
Would be welcomed most from you!

Maybe this is Father's Day
But I think I would define
Every day as Father's Day
For those whose Dads are just like
Mine!

**CONGRATULATION TO ALL
GRADUATES!!!!!!!**

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS.....

Homebound communion available:

Call Pastor Al 740-541-2823 or the Church 740-697-0202 (to leave a message) if you are homebound and would like to receive monthly communion.

Anyone interested in training to offer homebound communion when Pastor Al is unavailable, please e-mail lsshowe@gmail.com.

Seeking your input RE Good Friday and Mid-Week Lenten Services.....

A suggestion has been made to the Church Council to hold a Good Friday Service again. Council seeks your input/preference on a 2025 Good Friday Service and, if you would like to hold Wednesday Lenten Services in 2025. Please provide your feedback to a Council member before the next meeting on June 6.

WELCA NEWS.....

WELCA will meet on June 11, at 2:00PM at the church. Andrea Laese will be topic leader, and hostess will be Susan Showers.

PRODUCE GIVE-A-WAY.....

Will be held on Tuesday, June 18 from 9-11AM. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.

**BIRTHDAYS FOR THE MONTH OF
JUNE.....**

- Birthdays:** June 10-Bryan Cramer
- 15-Brian Miller
- 21-Emily Dietz
- 28-Janet Slack
- 30-Dakota Brassfield

NOTE: I am using an old church calendar for my birthdays and anniversaries, so not everyone is on the calendar. If you wish to have your name added to the list of anniversaries and birthdays, please contact the Parish Secretary-740-674-6814 or e-mail, cabinintheorchard@yahoo.com.

St John's Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2024

Council Vice President, Bob Pletcher, opened the meeting at 8:05 pm. Members present: Pastor Al Lease, Tom Gibson, Joe Pletcher, Linda Showers, and Gary Williams. Bob confirmed a quorum.

Gary Williams offered a devotion from Ps 16:11: *You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

Joe Pletcher read the minutes from the April meeting from *The Word* [Approved: G. Williams/J. Pletcher]

PASTOR'S REPORT - April 2024 - 4 Sunday worship services & Sunday School; 1 Church Council meeting; 4 Cluster meetings (one at Brookside); 2 phone contacts; 221 miles. St. John's will host the Cluster Meeting on Wednesday, 8/14/24 @ 10 am. The Synod Meeting will be held 5/31 – 6/1/24. [Approved: G. Williams/T. Gibson]

TREASURER'S REPORT – reviewed by council [Approved: L. Showers/G. Williams]

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE – Finance Chr., Joe Pletcher, requested clarification on when funds were drawn from the endowment; Motion to present the Treasurer's Report for Audit [Approved: G. Williams/J. Pletcher]

EDUCATION – No Report

PRODUCE – Produce Chr., Gary Williams, reported that the Produce Market on 4/16/24 served 101 households, including 5 new families; 14 volunteers were involved and 7604 lbs of food were distributed; a few leftovers went to The Salvation Army; more volunteers are needed.

PROPERTY – Motion to purchase stone/gravel for the refresh on the cemetery road; Nate Atkins will install [L. Showers/G. Williams]

EVANGELISM – new handout & directory in process

OLD BUSINESS

Congregational feedback on the [4/4/24] member request to hold a Good Friday Service & Lenten Services in 2025 will continue until the May Council meeting.

Motion to Adjourn - 8:57 pm [T. Gibson/G. Williams]

Meeting followed by The Lord's Prayer

L. Showers - for Council Secretary, Frank Dietz

I have been chosen to be a Volunteer Guardian for the June 13th Honor Flight.

Honor Flight is a National organization with a local base in Columbus Ohio.

According to their website "Honor Flight Columbus is a nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring America's veterans with a trip to Washington DC to visit their service and war memorials. These trips are free of charge to any qualified veteran. We strive to help veterans share their stories with future generations, as well as celebrate their service to our country with a proper homecoming that many of them never received. With the conclusion of the 2023 flight season, we have successfully flown 128 missions that totaled over 9,300 veterans. Our organization is funded entirely by donations from various businesses, foundations, school organizations, and other grateful Americans."

Each Guardian must go through training. Guardians and Veterans meet for the first time about two weeks prior to their trip as the Guardian is required to deliver the Veteran's shirt prior to the trip. Guardians must pay their own way or have sponsorship and the cost for each Veteran is covered by Honor Flight Sponsorships.

I follow Honor Flight Columbus on Facebook. Watching homecoming videos is amazing and for some Veterans it is described as the Homecoming they never had. You just stop, listen, and shed a few tears while watching.

Honor Flight invites all who want to attend- to the Homecoming at John Glen International Airport June 13 starting around 9 PM. The Homecoming usually takes about one hour. This is a great way to show your patriotic spirit and honor those who served. It is also a great history lesson for our children. I would love to see a few familiar faces when we land, not for me but for our Veterans.

I am so excited and honored to be part of Mission 133 sponsored by Dublin Honor Flight. I can't imagine the stories, the heroes and the emotions I will be part of.

Susan Miller

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Smiller009@ colubmus.rr.com



June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Pastor Al 740-541-2823	Church 740-697-0202				1
2 Holy Communion WELCA change Collection Worship-10AM SCS-9AM	3	4	5	Council 8PM	6	7
9 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM	10	11	12		13	14
16 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA Change Collection Father's Day	17	18	19		20	21
23 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM	24	25	26		27	28
30 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM						29
					Parish Secretary Vicky Thomas 740-674-6814 cabinintheorchard@yahoo.com	

"We, the members of St. John's Lutheran Church of Stovortown, 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 STOVORTOWN, OHIO

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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

