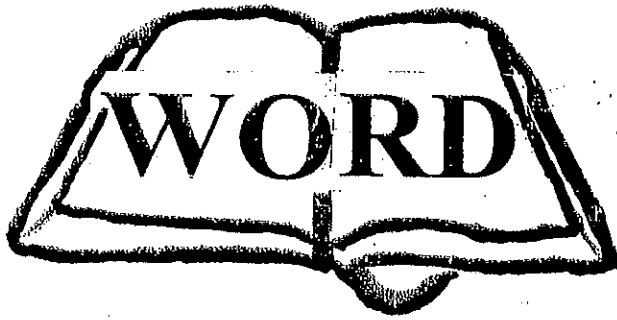


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The "Good News" and "Happenings" of
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Stovertown

VOL.18, No. 5

Pastor-Al Laese-740-541-2823

May 24, 2026

FATHER'S DAY....

SUNDAY, JUNE 21ST.....

Make his day special.

Father's Day is celebrated on the third Sunday of June (also the beginning of Summer) to honor our fathers and father-figures for their nurturing roles and contributions to family life. Established by Sonora Smart Dodd in 1910 and made a federal holiday in 1972, the day focuses on appreciation, family time and celebrating with gifts or activities.

The idea of fatherhood has changed . It has become a day that celebrates what dad likes to do, fishing, golfing, etc. It focuses on the larger roles that dads play with their children

This change is partly due to the way society has evolved. There are no longer huge armies of workers toiling away in industrial factories, while women spend hours hand-stitching and hand - washing the family's clothes. The modern role of father has changed that mothers and fathers are partners, each taking more responsibility within family life.

So lets celebrate our fathers on Father's Day but ultimately remember our Heavenly Father. Father's Day serves as a moment to honor our earthly dads while reflecting on the Perfect, unconditional love of our Heavenly Father. Scripture presents God as the ideal father-compassionate, patient, and protective-who offers a model for earthly fatherhood. While earthly

fathers may fall short, God provides the standard for nurturing, character-building, and enduring love.

Hear are a few Scriptures Reding reflecting on Fathers:

- Proverbs 22:6 (training children)
- Ephesians 6:4 (nurturing with kindness)
- Proverbs 20:7 (leading with integrity)
- 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12
- Deuteronomy 5:16

A1 Overview

A FATHER'S DAY POEM

Ellen Bailey Poems

A Dad is a person
who is loving and kind,
and often he knows
what you have on your mind

He's someone who listens,
suggests, and defends.A dad can be one
of your very best friends!

He's proud of your triumphs,
but when things go wrong,
A dad can be patient
and helpful and strong

In all that you do,
a dad's love plays a part
There's always a place for him
deep in your heart.

And each year that passes, you're even more glad,
More grateful and proud
just to call him your dad!

Thank you, Dad
for listening and caring for giving and sharing,
but, especially, for just being you.

ACT OF KINDNESS FROM OUR PRAYER COMPANY.....

A note from Karen Showers.

My neighbor, Mike has been without water into his home for almost a year. He had a water leak that he was unaware of and the bill was close to \$1,600.00. He couldn't pay it, so his water was turned off last May. He informed me of this last November. Long story short we were unable to get the bill dismissed after many phone calls, and his landlord paid the bill. He still didn't have the funds to lay a new water line. I talked with Steve Wolfe, coordinator of the PRAYER COMPANY, to see if we could help in some way. Steve was able to respond with \$250.00. Mike was very reluctant to take the money, but I finally convinced him to do so. On Wednesday, April 15th, his water was TURNED BACK ON, after he got the water permit, and dug his yard up by hand, laid the water line and had the line inspected by the health department. He was so very happy and relieved!!! He kept telling me thank you over and over and wanted me to tell the church folks how much he appreciated this gift. Thanks to the PRAYER COMPANY we were able to help a neighbor in need. This makes my heart happy

PASTOR'S RESIGNATION.....

On May 14th, 2026, Pastor Al turned in his resignation to our Vice President, Robert Pletcher. Pastor Al chose to make it effective at the end of

May or after the second Sunday of June.

At a special council meeting following church on May 17, Nate Atkins moved to make the resignation effective after the second Sunday in June, June 14th. Bill Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

A CHANCE TO REALLY BE INVOLVED IN THE MINISTRY OF OUR CHURCH.....

At the May 7th 2026 Council meeting, the St. John's Stovertown Council approved a recommendation from the Ad Hoc Transition Team to "contract one or more individuals to participate in either the LWL (Lay Worship Leader) Program of SAM (Synod Authorized Minister) Program of the Southern Ohio Synod." **Council is seeking individuals who will prayerfully consider this opportunity.** The SAM Program includes a 2 year training course, while the LWL involves 1 year training course. Both programs meet one weekend a month (for 8 months-August to May- excluding December and January-Zoom meeting Friday evening; in person Saturday). More information (cost, qualifications, etc) can be found at: Leadership Academy | Southern Ohio Synod
<https://southernohiosynod.org/lay/leaders/leadership-academy/>

In addition (in the approved recommendation): "In return for officially agreeing to serve as a lay minister at St. John's Lutheran Church Stovertown for an agreed-in-time period, the church would pay for the candidate's tuition, mileage for monthly classes, and meals when attending classes and other expenses accrued such as textbooks." **Members of the congregation may also contribute to a scholarship fund for any St. John's Stovertown SAM or LWL Program participants. Please contact Linda Showers (lsshowe@gmail.com/309.531,8896 if you are interested in the SAM or LWL Programs OR if you wish to contribute to the scholarship fund for these programs.**

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 9, 2026

Council vice president Bob Pletcher opened the meeting at 7:15 PM. Members present were Joe Pletcher, Billy Thomas, Nate Atkins, Brian Miller, Carol Cramer, Pastor Al., and Steve Wolfe

Pastor Al led devotions with a reading of Peter's introduction of the Lord to a group of suffering people.

The minutes of the March council meeting was read by Steve Wolfe. They were approved by a motion from Billy Thomas and Joe Pletcher.

Pastor Al's report for the month of March 2026: 5 Sunday worship services and Sunday school, 4 Lenten Bible studies, 1 church council meeting, 3 cluster meetings, and the Bishop's Convocation. 288 miles submitted. Pastor Al will be off May 3rd to attend a Church anniversary/dedication in Dillsboro Indiana. Pastor Shannon will be contacted to see if he would be available to lead worship that day. Pastor Al also reported there would be no senate assembly meeting this summer. Following the reading of the Pastor's report, Bob Pletcher initiated a discussion of the church paying for Pastor Al's mileage and a 2-night hotel stay for his upcoming Indiana trip. A motion to do same was made by Steve Wolfe and Joe Pletcher. The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 1.

No treasurer report received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PRAYER COMPANY-Financial aid was provided to a local resident, to help get his water bill caught up and his water turned back on, after being off for approx. 1 year. Financial assistance was also provided to a local family, that experienced an un-expected loss of a family member.

Finance-the endowment investment has been steady since the beginning of the year.

Property- Mock Wood Working has been considered for a possible hand railing, to improve mobility safety in the pulpit, and a new part for the mower was needed (cost approx. 400\$)

OLD BUSSINESS

2 thank you cards was received from church members regarding the recent wage increases.

NEW BUSSINESS

A motion was made to increase Walt Atkin's hourly wage to 15\$ an hour. It was approved on a motion from Billy Thomas and Carol Cramer

Church security was discussed.

A portion of the new cemetery has been pinned and mapped.

Potential youth church camp interest was discussed.

Brian Miller passed out a repot from the Transition Team for members to review about Lay Worship Leader Training.

Nate Atkins and Billy Thomas motioned to adjourn at 9:00 PM.

All Prayed the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully, Steve Wolfe, who is pinch hitting for a much-missed Frank Dietz.

COLUMBUS OH 430

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RETURN

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE**

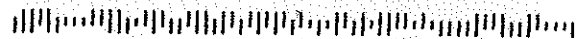
Birthdays:

- June 3—Steve Wolfe
- 10---Bryan Cramer
- 15---Brian Miller
- 21---Emily Dietz

PRODUCE-GIVE-A-WAY.....

Will be held on Tuesday, June 16 at 9:00AM.
Volunteers will be needed and appreciated. You
will need to arrive by 8AM

HAPPINESS.....



Do not look back on happiness
or dream of it in the future.
You are only sure of today;
do not let yourself be cheated out of it.

-Henry Ward Becher

The best vitamin
to be a happy person is B1.
Anonymous

**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".**