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

Stovertown

www.stovertownelca.com

VOL.17, No. 4

Pastor-Al Laese-740-541-2823

April 24, 2025

PATIENT/PATIENCE

The will or ability to endure without complaint.

-“Love never stops being **patient**,, never stops believing, never stops hoping, never gives up”.

1 Corinthians 13:7

-Finishing is better than starting, **Patience** is better than Pride.

Ecclesiastes 7:8

-Rest in the Lord, and wait **patiently** for him.

Psalms 37:7

-Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily set us, and let us run with **patience** the race that is set before, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

Hebrews 12:1-2

A PRAYER FOR PEACE AND PATIENCE.....

By Helen Steiner Rice

God, teach me to be **patient**, teach me to go slow.

Teach me how to wait on You when my way I do not know.

Teach me sweet forbearance, when things do not go right.

So I remain unruffled when others grow uptight

Teach me how to quiet my racing, rising heart,

So I might hear the answer You are trying to impart

Teach me to let go, dear God, and pray

undisturbed until

My heart is filled with inner peace and I learn to know Your will.

NEED A LONGER TEMPER?

By Fruit of the Spirit by Marcia Horak

Can we really be **patient** with everyone? With a screaming and kicking two-year old? With ear-bud-plugged teens who can't look up from their phones? With a husband who throws dirty clothes on the floor as if you were a maid? With the coworkers who schmoozes the boss? With the sister who won't take her turn cleaning for your elderly parents? We all could be **patient** if it weren't for people!

We have no problems being **patient** with those who don't irritate or inconvenience us. But God says everyone. Of course, this is not possible without God's Spirit as our helper. He enables us to control our natural (sinful) impulses and obey what God wants. In the verses following 1 Thessalonians 5:14, He tells us how to have **patience** with everyone' don't repay evil with evil; seek what is good; rejoice always; pray always; and give thanks in everything, for these things are God's will for us.

The word **patience** means "long-tempered" or "long-suffering." It is part of God's nature and He wants to develop it in us, too. But it takes **patience** to develop **patience**- it's a process. Colossians 1:11 is part of a prayer where Paul asks God to strengthen believers "with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and **patience**: joyously". Do you need a longer temper? Ask God for His strength to help you become long-tempered with everyone.

God gives us **patience**, but another example and teacher of **patience** is OUR MOTHERS. We think of and remember our Mothers everyday, but on **Sunday, May 11, MOTHERS' DAY**, let us make this day special for her.

WHAT IS A MOTHER?

By Helen Steiner Rice

It takes a Mother's LOVE

To make a house a home,
A place to be remembered,

No matter where we roam...

It takes a Mother's **PATIENCE**

To bring a child up right,
And her **COURAGE** and her **CHEERFULNESS**

To make a dark day bright...

It takes a Mother's **THOUGHTFULNESS**

To mend the heart's deep "hurts"
And her **SKILL** and her **ENDURANCE**

To mind little socks and shirts...

It takes a Mother's **KINDNESS**

To forgive us when we err,
To sympathize in trouble..

It takes a Mother's **WISDOM**

To recognize our needs
And to give us reassurance
By her **CONFIDENCE** and **TRUST**

To guide us through the pitfalls
Of selfishness and lust...

And that is why in all this world

There could not be another
Who could fulfill God's purpose
As completely as a **MOTHER!**

PRODUCE GIVE-A-WAY

The monthly Produce Market continues to do well. In March we served 110 households with the help of 15 volunteers. We could not do this project without our reliable, loyal, hardworking & faithful volunteers! They are to be commended for their commitment!

The volunteers have once again decided to collect jars of peanut butter, (any size) & boxes of macaroni & cheese to add to the distribution of food in June. We will set up a table in the choir loft and you can place your donations there. If you would rather give a monetary donation, please designate "For Produce Market" on your offering envelopes

Our community is watching us do God's work.

At the March market, a gentleman pulls in the parking lot just as we were about to leave as we had given out all the food given to us by Mid-Ohio Food Collective. My heart sank as I was going to have to tell him that we had run out of

food. He walks up to me and says, "I just want to say thank you for continuing to do this give-a-way." There is a real need, His name is Jeff Rhoades and he lives close by and has witnessed the market several times. He then handed me a \$100.00 bill to help with the market. As we help those in our communities around us others are watching us serve our Lord. God's work thru our hands.

FYI-Federal funding reduction are driving uncertainty for local food banks as another U.S. Department of Agriculture cut recently stripped the Mid-Ohio Food Collective of nearly 700,000 pounds of food. Matt Habash, the CEO of Mid-Ohio Food Collective said that while MOFC is losing assistance, demand for food banks is at an all time high. State cuts have also been made. If you would like to donate to Mid-Ohio Food Collective, send your donation to:
P.O. 182883, Columbus, Ohio 43218-2883.

-Karen Showers, Produce Coordinator

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

Council will meet on Thursday, May 1, at 8PM.

Mother/Daughter/Friends Banquet will be held on Monday, May 12, at 6PM at the church. Drinks provided, Karen Showers will provide the topic.

Produce Give-A-Way will be held on Tuesday, May 20 at 9AM. Volunteers are needed and appreciated

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

Birthdays: May 7- Megan Cramer
9-Robert Pletcher
May 12- Jamey Brassfield
14-Margie Tysinger
25-Frank Dietz

St John's Lutheran Church
Church Council Minutes
April 3, 2025

Council vice president Robert Pletcher called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. Council members present were Nathan Atkins, Tom Gibson, Linda Showers, Bill Thomas, Gary Williams, Steve Wolfe, Joe Pletcher, Frank Dietz, and Pastor Al Laese.

Linda Showers led devotions based on conviction versus condemnation.

The minutes of the March 2025 meeting were presented by council secretary Frank Dietz. After verifying that the new Veterans Memorial was not a motion, the minutes were approved on a motion from Gary Williams and Nathan Atkins.

Pastor's report for the month of March: attended the Southern Ohio Synod bishop's annual convocation March 17, attended funeral of Bishop Robert Kelley, 4 cluster meetings one of which was in Adamsville, church council meeting, 5 Sunday worship service and Sunday School, Ash Wednesday service, 4 adult Bible study, a private communion, 2 hospital visits, 2 other visits, and 530 miles submitted. Pastor Laese will be taking off May 4 to do a funeral in Pennsylvania. Pastor will find an ordained clergy member for the Sunday communion service. Pastor's report was approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Tom Gibson.

COMMITTEE REPORTS 8:21 P.M,

Finance – The produce market fund will be added to the treasurer's report.

Property – suggestions and insight about a solution to the water ponding at the driveway entrance is requested.

Produce – 15 volunteers distributed 6,556 pounds of products. Even with the delivery truck being ½ hour late the distribution started at 9 and was over by 10:15. There was no leftovers. Leslie Williams, Linda Showers, and Karen Showers will attend a zoom meeting April 3 to learn the new computer system.

PRAYER – trying to find ways to assist a local resident who is struggling financially.

Memorial – The committee can secure the funds, they just need a place to construct the monument. It will be the church's stone. Nighttime flag illumination is no longer a requirement. Approval process will need council approval and congregational approval.

Worship and Music – thanks to Joy Pletcher for musical assistance for the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.

NEW BUSINESS 9:02 P.M.

The graveyard superintendent informed council that more gravesites are needed. An 80 foot extension between the existing graveyard and the church parking lot has been marked out for inspection.

Frank Dietz and Bill Thomas motioned to adjourn at 9:10 P.M.

All prayed The Lord's Prayer.

Frank Dietz - council secretary

Minutes of the Women of the ELCA

April 8, 2025

The women of the ELCA met at the church. Seven members were present. President Kathy Jenkins welcomed everyone and greeted them with "April showers bring May flowers." She thanked Leslie Williams for hosting the meeting and having the topic. We had a moment of silence for those affected by the recent flooding. After prayer we helped ourselves to Leslie's delicious cranberry salad and sugar cookies.

The secretary's report was not read.

Treasurer's report: Checking - \$529.97
 Savings - \$3913. 69

The next meeting will be June 10th at the church at 2PM. Karen Showers will be hostess and topic leader.

Treasurer Leslie asked us to be thinking of a local charity that we could donate the bucket money to.

Committee Reports

Mission Growth: No report

Mission Community: the committee has begun work on the Mother/Daughter/Friends Potluck which will be May 12th at 6PM. The theme for the night will be Angels.

Karen Showers will present a program on angels. There will also be music.

Mission Action: a list of needed items for the personal care kits and school kits will be in the The Word and future bulletins sometime this summer.

Old / New Business

- the drawing for a quilt was held; Vince and Linda Showers won. Congratulations! Thank you to all who bought a raffle ticket. The monies will be used to continue our quilting project.
- the basement sale will be August 1st and 2nd. It would be helpful if you could bring your items for the sale the week of July 27th.

Topic

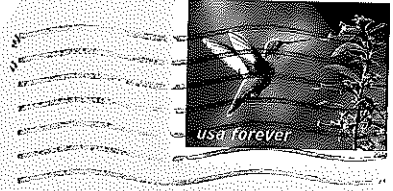
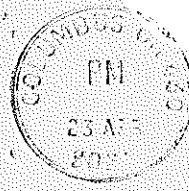
Leslie Williams had an interesting topic on caring for others. The topic consisted of readings, scripture, and sending Easter cards. Leslie talked about ten ways we can care for those around us:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1) listen actively | 2) offer support | 3) show appreciation |
| 4) be present | 5) remember the little things | 6) be an encourager |
| 7) show empathy | 8) be patient | 9) show affection |
| | | 10) be honest |

Respectfully submitted, Susan Showers, secretary

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pastor Al 740-541-2823	Church- 740-697-0202		Vicky Thomas Secretary 740-674-6814 (Cell-740-252-1890) cabinintheorchard@yahoo.com	1 Council 8PM	2	3
Holy Communion Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection	4 5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM MOTHER'S DAY!	12 Mother/Daughter Friend's Banquet 6PM	13	14	15	16	17
18 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection	19	20 Produce Give-a-way	21	22	23	24
25 Worship-10AM SCS-9AM	26	27	28	29	30	31



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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Anniversaries:

May 6-Leslie & Gary Williams

A BIG THANK YOU. 4370135384 R012

Thanks to everyone for all the prayers cards, messages, and support this past few weeks. God has truly blessed me with a loving and caring family, church family and friends. It meant so much to me and I appreciate you all. God Bless!!

-Janet Novaria

Thank you for all the cards that I have been receiving over the past months.

-Ida Lane

ANNUAL ST. JOHN'S VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY SIGN-UP.....

Have you been wanting to help with a particular area of the church and didn't know how to inquire? The Annual St. John's Volunteer Opportunities Sign-up is here! Use your unique gifts in the ministries of St. John's, Stovertown, try something new, or just continue serving in ways you already do. If there is a new area you

would like to help with, please sign up in the Narhex or talk to a Council Member.

||||| Opportunities are available in Worship, Property, WELCA, Education, The Cruise-In, **OR** tell us something you thought of that you would like to do.

ARTICLE FROM PASTOR AL.

CAN WE STOP, SMELL, AND ENJOY THE SPRING FLOWERS AND THE NEW AROMAS OF THE SEASON? I certainly wish that we together can experience a resurrection in ourselves. As we enjoy Nature's splendid display of color and NEEW LIFE! It is the season of new life and the Eater Season lessons will call us to celebrate that new life in our ministry! We are witnesses of God's amazing Love and Forgiveness, we have experienced it and have that great story to tell.

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY OF JESUS AND HIS LOVE!

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".