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

VOL.18, No. 4

Pastor-Al Laese-740-541-2823

April 24, 2026

# MOTHER'S DAY

SUNDAY, MAY 10<sup>TH</sup>.....

Remember her on her special day

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M - O - T - H - E - R

By Howard Johnson



"M" is for the million things she gave me,  
"O" means only that she's growing old  
"T" is for the tears she shed to save me  
"H" is for her heart of purest gold  
"E" is for her eyes with love-light shining  
"R" means right, and right she'll always be  
Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER"  
A word that means the world to me.

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The word **Mother** evokes many loving thoughts and memories of love that are unique to us all.

**Mothers** were placed on this earth to help God show us his love.

There are many Bible verses about Mother:

-Proverbs 31:25-31:

Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come

She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue

She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness

Her children rise up and call her blessed, her husband also he praises her .

"Many women have done excellently but you surpass them all,"

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her of the fruit of her hands and let mercy work praise her in the gates.

- Colossians 3:12-15

- Timothy 1:3-5

- Psalm 113:9

- Leviticus 19:2-3

- I Corinthians 13:4-7

- Ephesians 5:12

- Proverbs 6:20-22

- Galatians 6:9

- Isaiah 40:28-31

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**'GOD'S MASTERPIECE'**

By Herbert Farnahm

God took the fragrance of a flower, the majesty of a tree,  
The gentleness of morning dew



The calm of a quiet sea,  
The beauty of the twilight hour  
The soul of a stary night  
The laughter of a rippling brook  
The grace of a bird in flight

Then God fashioned from these things  
A creation like no other  
And when his masterpiece was through  
He called it simply "Mother".

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**CELEBRATE YOUR MOTHER.....**

Our **MOTHER, DAUGHTER, FRIENDS BANQUET** will be held in the basement of the church on Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. It will be a potluck meal with a program by Duncan Falls

Branch Library Manager, and a singalong directed by Janet Slack. Plan to attend to hear an overview of the summer activities to be held at our local library for children and adults including a schedule for the popular bookmobile availability this season. Be sure to register when arriving to enter the drawing for prizes. This event is sponsored by the Women of the Evangelical Luther Church.

NOTE: WELCA will not meet the month of May.

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**OUR SYMPATHIES.....**

-To the family of Mary Jean Cassady who passed away on March 19, 2026. Her funeral was held at the church on March 25, 2026.

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**PANCAKE BREAKFASTS.....**

Have been postponed until the Fall.  
Watch "The Word" for the return date.

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**CAR SHOW ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING.....**

Will be held on Tuesday, May 19 at 7:00PM at the church.

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

Will be held on Tuesday, May 19, at 9:00AM. Volunteers are needed and appreciated. You will need to arrive by 8:00AM.

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

**Birthdays:**

- May 9---Robert Pletcher
- 12---Jamey Brassfield
- 25---Frank Dietz

**Anniversaries:**

- May 6---Gary & Leslie Williams

I am using old records when I print these birthdays and anniversaries, so if I am missing someone, I apologize. Please let me know of any additions or corrections.

\*\*\*\*\*

**HAPPINESS.....**

Thinking of Mother's Day, but really each and every day we can find people, events etc that make us happy.

Here are a few thoughts on **HAPPINESS:**

It is now how much we have  
But how much we enjoy,  
That makes happiness;

Charles Spurgeon

The best vitamin  
to be a happy person is B1.

Anonymous

**St John's Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
March 5, 2026**

Council vice president Robert Pletcher opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Members present were: Nathan Atkins, Carol Cramer, Frank Dietz, Brian Miller, Joe Pletcher, Bill Thomas, Steve Wolfe, Pastor Al Laese, and visitor Shannon Ramey.

Brian Miller led devotions with the theme of "I am good at falling down."

The minutes of the February council meeting were read by Joe Pletcher. They were approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Carol Cramer.

Pastor's report for the month of February 2026: 4 Sunday worship services and Sunday School, church council meeting, 3 cluster meetings, Bible study, finished and mailed the congregational annual report February 25, and miles 112 miles submitted. Pastor will attend the Bishop's annual Convocation on March 16. Pastor's report approved on a motion from Bill Thomas and Joe Pletcher.

Council reviewed the treasurer's report. After review and discussion the report was approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Bill Thomas.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Produce Committee – 186 people in 92 households were given 5,858 lbs of food by 15 volunteers. Produce Market czar Karen Showers has signed the contract with Mid-Ohio Food Banks to continue the produce giveaway another year. If approved by Mid-Ohio, the volunteers voted to cancel the January market due to VERY COLD temperatures. June and December will continue to be the "Extra Giving Months."

PRAYER COMMITTEE – The PRAYER CO is looking into helping a family with their water bill.

The committee reports were accepted by council on a motion from Frank Dietz and Steve Wolfe.

**OLD BUSINESS 7:22 P.M.**

Church employee wage review was discussed.

Bill Thomas motioned to increase the organist's compensation to \$75 per service effective immediately. Carol Cramer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by council by a vote of 5-0-1.

Bill Thomas motioned that the custodian's compensation be raised to \$50 per event. With no second to the motion, the motion died on the floor.

Brian Miller motioned that the custodian's compensation be raised to \$65 per event effectively immediately. Steve Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion was approved by council.

Carol Cramer motioned to adjust the church secretary's salary to \$600 per month effective immediately. Nathan Atkins seconded the motion. The motion was approved by council.

Brian Miller motioned to raise the treasurer's salary to \$230 per month. Steve Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion was approved by council.

NEW BUSINESS 4:45 P.M.

Pastor Laese may need assistance moving during worship service until he regains his strength. The Property committee will look into installing safety rails.

The April council meeting will be April 9, 2026 at 8:00 P.M.

Frank Dietz and Joe Pletcher motioned to adjourn.

All prayed the Lord's Prayer

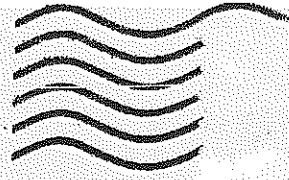
Frank Dietz - council secretary

# May 2026

| Sun  | Mon                                     | Tue  | Wed | Thu         | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|-----|-------------|-----|-----|
| Pastor Al<br>740-541-2823  | Church 740-697-0202                     |  |     |             |     |     |
| 3  | 4                                       | 5  | 6   | 7           | 8   | 9   |
| Holy Communion<br>Worship-10AM<br>SCS-9AM<br>WELCA change collection |   |  |     | Council 8PM |     |     |
| 10   | 11                                      | 12   | 13  | 14          | 15  | 16  |
| MOTHER'S DAY!!!!<br>Worship-10AM<br>SCS-9AM                          | Mother/Daughter/<br>Friends banquet 6PM |  |     |             |     |     |
| 17   | 18                                      | 19   | 20  | 21          | 22  | 23  |
| Worship-10AM<br>SCS-9AM<br>WELCA change collection                   |   | Produce Give-A-Way<br>9AM<br>Car Show Committee<br>7PM |     |             |     |     |
| 24   | 25                                      | 26   | 27  | 28          | 29  | 30  |
| Worship-10AM<br>SCS-9AM  |   |  |     |             |     |     |
| 31   |   |  |     |             |     |     |
| Worship-10AM<br>SCS-9AM  |   |  |     |             |     |     |

Vicky Thomas  
Secretary  
(H) 740-674-6814  
740-252-1890 (Cell)  
cabininthecorchar.d@yahoo.com

COLUMBUS OH 430  
23 APR 2026 PM 1 L



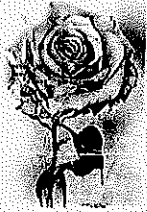
**RETURN**  
**TO: ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH,**  
**STOVERTOWN**  
**P.O. BOX 361**  
**PHILO, OH 43771**



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

...g more  
...alth and a bad memory.

4370185364  
Albert Schweitzer



These thoughts come from the book: Be  
Happy, Words of Wisdom About Joy,  
Scandinavia.

**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".**