the WORD

The "Good News" and "Happenings" of

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Stovertown

VOL.18, No. 10 October 24, 2026

MISSION.....

A ministry commissioned by a religious organization to propagate its faith and/or carry on humanitarian work.

All churches or religious organizations have a mission in which they provide numerous acts of humanitarian work. We at St. John's, Stovertown has made humanitarian work (taking care of our neighbors, friends, and community) one of our top priorities.

Throughout the year there are many times that we are helping to provide our community with the help they need, whether it be physical or financial.

THE PRAYER COMMITTEE FUND was established to help us provide money to help our community. This fund brings in money that enables us to provide financial help whenever a need arises.

OUR ANNUAL CAR SHOW on one October day, is our biggest fund raiser. With these funds we are able to help many individuals and families throughout the year.
Here is a very small list of activities we have provided to our community:
-Gasoline to families to travel for medical reasons
-Medical assistance
-Help to pay a utility bill
-Help to put in water lines to an individual that had not had water for a year.
-Fire victims
-Flood victims (Neighbors next to our church were able to park their RV in the parking lot and hook up to our electricity and water until the floodwaters receded and they could return to their home.
A note regarding the flood victims:

A huge thank you to all who contributed food and money to provide lunches for the flood volunteers at the old Roseville church. We were able to provide lunches plus make arrangements for a pizza lunch. The lunches were much appreciated by volunteers. One volunteer used some of the food to make lunches for several elderly community members who were displaced by the flood. Thank you to Leslie, Gary, and Karen for delivering the meals. Thanks also to Father Ramey for suggesting the lunch idea. Thanks to all for your generosity. They will be vacating the Roseville building by October 10.
-Many families have been helped with gifts and food for Christmas Day.
-We give to the Lutheran World Relief

Steve Wolfe can give you a much more detailed list of these activities.

(Just a note concerning our car show: A lady approached us to inform us that each year she starts saving her money, a total of $100.00, to bring to our car show each year and she spends it all before she goes home.

We also have many people who do not bring a car but looks forward to attending our show just to see the cars, **buy the food, (we are known for our delicious food)** and buy tickets for the raffle. They spend all day with us.

These are just a couple of instances of what our show means to our community.

Note from Steve Wolfe: The 15th annual Triple Nickel is in the books, and even without mother nature cooperating, it was still a great success!

Attendance was down overall with 121 cars registered, compared to 169 last year, but everyone had fun. $5,759.00 was deposited and that was after the half and half was given to the Jason Fabini Family ($424.00) and Brandon and Luke was paid their usual $300.00 for the use of their DJ equipment. Also, some new raffle ideas were tried this year, and they worked out very well. Thank you to everybody for their hard work, donation collections, and famous Church Lady food and we will do it again next year! God's Blessings to all.

OUR PRODUCE GIVE-A-WAY which takes place on the third Tuesday of each month provides food to local families. This food comes from The Mid-Ohio Food Bank and is given out in our parking lot by our volunteers.

WELCA- provides quilts, Kiddie Kits and School Kits through their outreach programs.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS are collected for the Oesterlen Fund and Avondale Fund each year at Christmas and other times as needed.

There are also many individuals in our congregation who provide their own mission/ministry on a daily, weekly, or monthly bases.

Through all of our many humanitarian acts, we have become known as a giving church, aware of the needs in our community and the willingness to help.

* *

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS...

Will begin on Sunday, November 1st. Turn your clocks **BACK (Fall Back)** one hour before you retire on Saturday evening, October 31st. You will gain an hour's sleep.

* *

CANDIDATE FOR PART-TIME PASTOR

Pastor David Hinkelman.....

Will be with us on Sunday, November 1st to conduct our worship service and administer Holy Communion.

Immediately following the service the congregation will have the opportunity to meet Pastor Hinkelman.

Then on Sunday, November 8th, Pastor Hinkelman will lead us in worship again. Immediately following our worship service we will have a congregational meeting to vote on Pastor Hinkelman becoming our Part-time Pastor.

* *

PANCAKE BREAKFASTS.....

Will begin on Sunday, October 25 at 8:30AM before SCS, and continuing the last Sunday of the month until otherwise informed.

* *

WELC NEWS.....

Will host the "Grateful For Our Church Family Luncheon" on Sunday, November 8th. Soup and sandwiches will be provided for the congregation following our worship service and congregationl meeting.

THANKOFFERING SERVICE.....
Sponsored by the WELCA will be Sunday, November 22nd.

* *

PRODUCE GIVE-A-WAY.....

Will be held on the third Tuesday of the month, November 17 at 9:00AM.
Volunteers will be needed and appreciated. You need to arrive by 8:00AM.

* *

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

St John's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2026

Council vice president Robert Pletcher opened the special meeting at 7:06 P.M. Members present were Steve Wolfe, Brian Miller, Linda Showers, Bill Thomas, Nathan Atkins, Carol Cramer, Frank Dietz, and Joe Pletcher. Robert Pletcher introduced Bishop's Assistant Katie Kerigan and Bishop's Assistant Bob Abrams.

Bob Abrams opened with a prayer. Bill Thomas led devotions from Job 14:7,8,9.

Sunday morning church leadership was discussed at length. Who may and may not lead a communion service, frequency of communion, and the availability of Southern Ohio Synod approved Lutheran Pastors were the items of discussion.

Bob Abrams led the group in a closing prayer at 8:15 P.M.

Council vice president Robert Pletcher called the regular council meeting to order at 8:34 P.M.

Frank Dietz presented the minutes from the July 2026 council meeting. They were approved on a motion from Nathan Atkins and Bill Thomas. Frank Dietz presented the minutes from the August 2026 council meeting. They were approved on a motion from Nathan Atkins and Joe Pletcher.

The July and August treasurer's report was reviewed by council. After a short discussion, it was approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Linda Showers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cemetary – 2 new footers have been poured. During the recent flooding, 2.5 rows of the cemetery were under water. Fortunately there was no damage from the flooding. Report approved on a motion from Nathan Atkins and Carol Cramer.

Education – Attendance has recovered after an August lull. Pancake breakfast resumes October 25. Report approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Bill Thomas.

PRAYER – The camp out / canoe trip and the Triple Nickel Country Cruise In will both occur within the next 5 weeks. Donations have been given to a local cancer patient and also to the flood relief center in Roseville. Report approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Carol Cramer.

Produce – July, 91 households were served potatoes, tomatoes, cabbage, watermelon and squash by 19 volunteers. Donuts were provided by Dave Swingle. Leftover produce was donated to the Senior Center. August, 68 households were served watermelons, cucumbers, grapefruit, cabbage and Cheryl's cookies by 14 volunteers. Low attendance was attributed to recent flooding and Senior Citizen day at the county fair. Leftovers were delivered to Dodson Restaurant in New Lexington, Peaches Restaurant in Crooksville, Crooksville Fire Department, and the Roseville Middle School. Report approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Natan Atkins.

Property – Property chair Nathan Atkins thanked all for the help moving furniture before and after the carpet installation. The mowing of the lawn in the cemetery and the church grounds has been quite the struggle this year. The sidewalk at the rear entrance to the church is still uneven. Robert Pletcher and Steve Wolfe motioned for Atkins Enterprise to replace the affected section before the Triple Nickel Country Cruise In. After a brief discussion, the motion passed with a margin of 7 to 1. Property committee report approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Linda Showers.
Witness / Evangelism – Hard copies of the updated church directory are now available.
Worship – Pastor Deb Bowsher will lead Sunday Sept 6, 2026 worship service with communion. Father Shannon Ramey will lead regular worship service Sept 13, 20, and 27. Reverend Joy Miller will lead Sunday October 4, 2026 worship service with communion. The Osterlund Children's Fund donation jar will be picked up Sept 9.
NEW BUSINESS 9:11 P.M.
Joe Pletcher and Steve Wolfe motioned to discuss council's spending limit at the annual meeting. The motion was approved by council.
Compensation for Sunday Morning worship leadership was discussed. Linda Showers and Carol Cramer motioned to increase compensation from $225 plus mileage to $300 plus mileage per Sunday Service. The motion was approved by council.
Frank Dietz and Steve Wolfe motioned to adjourn at 9:23 P.M.
All prayed The Lord's Prayer
Frank Dietz - council secretary

Minutes of the Women of St. John's Stovertown – WELCA - October 13, 2026

The Women of St. John's Stovertown – [WELCA] met at church on 10/13/2026 at 2 pm. Three members were present. After beginning with refreshments, President Susan Showers opened the meeting at 2:10.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the September 8, 2026 WELCA meeting were printed in *The Word*.
Treasurer's Report: WELCA Balances: Savings: $7213.69, Checking: $2,304.97, Cash: $71.45
Treasurer, Leslie Williams, reported that receipts included $5,000 from the American Legion and $672.35 from the Basement Sale; Expenditures included $250 to Jason Fabiny, $50 to the ELCA, $100 for the July Pizza and $500 Donation to Flood victims.

Correspondence

Three "thinking of you" cards were signed by all for Kathy Jenkins, Ida Lane & Janet Novaria.

Committee Reports – No Chairpeople present – no reports

Old Business

Susan thanked Joy Pletcher and Bob Pletcher for delivering the LWR School Kits and Leslie Williams and Karen Showers for delivering health kits and meals to Roseville Flood Victims/Crew.
Grateful for Our Church Family Luncheon – Sunday, 11/8: Susan circulated the Food Signup
WELCA Christmas Potluck – 12/8 – Noon – The gift exchange will be ONE Christmas Tree ornament - $15 max
Thanks Offering Service – 11/22 – Susan West will be planning the service.

New Business

Leslie Williams Motion: Use the Flower Fund for Easter and Christmas Altar Flowers. [2nd: L. Showers; motion passed]
Leslie Williams Motion: Collect the WELCA Change Collection once a month on the 1st Sunday of the month. [2nd: S. Showers; motion passed]
Susan Showers Motion: WELCA gatherings will include the following Sponsored Events for 2027 [with no additional regularly scheduled business meetings]:
February 14th – LOVE Luncheon & Games following church service
May [Date TBA] – Mother/Daughter/Friends Tea at the church
July 13th – WELCA sponsored food, fun & bingo at the church at 6 pm
September [Date TBA] – pack quilts and kits for LWR
November 14th – Grateful for our Church Family Luncheon following church service
December 14th – WELCA Christmas Potluck at the church at NOON
Communication will be through the WELCA Text Thread. If you are not currently on it and wish to be, contact Vice-President, Janet Novara. [2nd: L. Williams; motion passed]
Susan Showers Motion: Send $100 to the Women of the ELCA for 2026. We will no longer have business meetings with a collection so this will conclude payments. [2nd: L Showers; motion passed]

Topic

Eat the Cookie...Buy The Shoes: Giving Yourself Permission to Lighten Up Bible Study; Craft: earrings

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Holy Communion** **Worship-10AM** **SCS-9AM** **WELCA change collection** **Meet Pastor Hinkelman**	2	3	4	5 **Council 7PM** **(Note time change)**	6	7
8 **Worship 10AM** **SCS-9AM** **Congregation** **Meeting** **WELCA luncheon** **For congregation**	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 **Worship-10AM** **SCS-9AM**	16	17 **Produce Give-A-Way**	18	19	20	21
22 **Thankoffering service hosted** **By WELCA** **Worship-10AM** **SCS-9AM**	23	24	25	26 **HAPPY** **THANKSGIVING**	27	28
29 **Worship-10AM** **SCS-9AM** **Pancake Breakfast 8:30AM**	30				**Vicky Thomas** **Secretary** **740-674-6814** **740-252-1890 (C)**	

print-a-calendar.com



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

[redacted]

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Birthdays: November 24—Steve Wolfe
27—Bill Thomas

Anniversaries:
November 3—Frank & Susan Dietz
25—Don & Lynne Parmiter

* *

THE 2027 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE. . . . . .

You can pick them up in the pews at the back of the church by the elevators.

* *

OUR HAPPY THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH. . . . . .

Happiness is a perfume
You cannot pour on others without
Getting a few drops on yourself.
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".