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

Stovertown

www.stovertownelca.com

VOL. 15 No. 8

Pastor-AI Laese-740-541-2823

August 24, 2023

FORGIVENESS

GOD'S IMMEASURABLE MERCY

(Back of weekly bulletin)

Forgive seventy-seven times? Jesus' instruction at best, all but impossible and, at worst, dangerous. Sometimes the Bible has been used to excuse abuse in the name of mercy, but Jesus doesn't mean to condone suffering for its own sake or to commit us to endlessly enduring hurt and harm. Instead, Jesus wants to orient us to the all-encompassing nature of forgiveness. Seven days make the week complete and whole. Grace also extends to us the promise of wholeness, and yet forgiveness that comes from the heart is immeasurable.

Forgive seventy-seven times. The number suggests that forgiveness isn't to be doled out or strictly accounted for, but rather is endless. Forgiveness is not a singular event as much as it is a process. We are amazed and rightly inspired when some Christians are able to so quickly forgive others even the most horrendous crimes, like the Amish community after the West Nickel Mines School shooting in 2006, or some families of the Emmanuel Nine in 2015. But today's gospel (Matthew 18:21-35) does not preclude the rest of us. Probably for most of us, forgiveness is much more the destination we are journeying toward than the place at which we've already arrived.

Every day God calls us back to the everlasting promises made in baptism. Our participation in the church's worship life assures us that forgiveness is not something we endeavor to do alone, but rather is a lifelong journey in which we can turn to one another for support. Every Sunday

at Jesus' table we are freely given the bread of mercy and cup of forgiveness. God's grace sets all of us free to extend that same mercy to others. God's forgiveness erases every debt.

Bear with each other and forgive one another. If any of you has a grievance against someone, Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

-Colossians 3:13

GIFT OF FORGIVENESS

(Moments of Peace for a Woman's Heart, Bethany House)

"God has provided complete forgiveness through the work of Christ, and now He asks you to follow His example when it comes to those who have hurt you.

In His earthly ministry, Jesus Christ bore the insults of His persecutors without returning insult for insult, and He uttered words of forgiveness even to the soldiers nailing Him to the cross. He never considered whether the person deserved forgiveness; He simply forgave, because His compassionate heart allowed no other response.

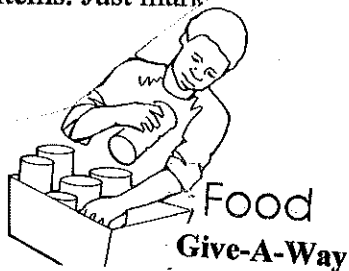
Take pleasure in living as the completely forgiven child of God, that you are and let your heart of compassion deal mercifully with those in need of your pardon"

Heavenly Father: In gratitude for the gift of your forgiveness, move me to choose forgiveness instead of offense when dealing with the failings of others. Amen.

PROJECTS FOR OUR INVOLVEMENT

MID-OHIO FOOD GIVE-A-WAY.....

The next planned supplement for the market is for the month of September give-a-way. Colgate Palmolive has donated 130 bottles of dish soap and 130 bottles of a multi-purpose cleaner. We would like to add rolls of paper towels, and boxes of tissues to this collection. You may bring these items to the church or you may donate money that will be used to purchase these items. Just mark your envelopes accordingly.



ALSO:

A MEMORIAL DAFFODIL HILL WILL BE ESTABLISHED.....

The Stovertown Lutheran Church is a beautiful site for those passing by. The church building and the grounds are well cared for by members and employees of the church.

I (Karen Showers) have proposed to council and received approval to create a **Memorial Daffodil Hill** in memory of loved ones. Bulbs will be planted on the hillside below the big oak tree to the right of the church in the Fall. This is a highly visible area as you pass by. Daffodils require little effort once they are planted and they bloom year after year. It is a very pleasing to see flowers blooming after a long cold winter and the emerging Spring.

Daffodils come in various shades of yellow, pink or white and some are early bloomers and some later, so we should have blooms for a number of weeks in the Spring

Contributions of bulbs can be made in memory of a loved one. We will set a date in September/October to have a planting day. You may plant your own or volunteers will plant them for you. Each year we can add to Daffodil Hill. Our loved ones who have passed on will help us to continue to keep our church in the country, a beautiful site for years to come.

If you have questions please see Karen Shower.

OUR 12th ANNUAL CAR SHOW.....

Will be held on Saturday October 7. Registration begins at 12:30PM. See the attached flyer for all the details.

Volunteers will be need to help with various activities and especially providing food for the event. See Steve Wolfe for further details and/or to sign up to help.

OUR ANNUAL CANOEING/CAMPING EVENT

at Hocking Hills will be on Saturday, September 16. Some members will be attending on Friday evening to camp. A potluck will be held following the canoeing trip.

All are welcome to join in the day/weekend events for fun and fellowship.

A NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

Will be on Sunday, September 10 following the morning worship service to welcome our new members:

- Jim & Gail Swingle
- Vince & Linda Showers
- Joy & Joe Pletcher

CONGRATULATIONS.....

To Cale and Monica Miller on the birth of their son, Benjamin Cale on July 22,2023. He entered the world at 7.4 oz and 20 inches long. The Grandparents are Brian and Susan Miller and Great grandparents are Donna & Dave Miller.

A BIG THANK YOU.....

Thank You to all who made my birthday a special one and I am so blessed to have celebrated 87 years.

Delores Wolfe

St John's Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Minutes
August 3, 2023

Bill Thomas opened the meeting at 7:58 P.M. Members present were Gary Williams, Joe Pletcher, Robert Pletcher, Frank Dietz, Steve Wolfe, Nathan Atkins, Jason Fabiny, and Pastor Al Laese.

Bill Thomas led devotions from Collosians 3, 1-4. Keep your minds fixed on Christ.

Council secretary Frank Dietz presented the minutes of the July Meeting. They were approved on a motion from Gary Williams and Joe Pletcher.

Pastor's report for the month of July 2023: 5 Sunday worship services and Sunday School, 4 weekly cluster meetings, July 15 family cluster gathering in Pleasant City, hospital visit, private communion, nursing home visit, 3 phone contacts, and 300 miles submitted. Jamie Ludwick has become the new pastor at Marietta as of August 1, 2023. Ordination was the last week of July. Pastor's report approved on a motion from Robert Pletcher and Gary Williams.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Produce Give-A-Way – The truck arrived at 8:45 A.M under sunny skies and temperature in the upper 70's. 97 households were required to fill out new paperwork. 16 new families were signed up. 568 fruit cups were given out through another Trivent application by Susan and Brian Miller. Leftover food was taken to the Salvation Army. Thank you to all the volunteers.

PRAYER CO committee – The canoe trip will be September 15, 16, 17, with a potluck on Saturday evening. Saturday October 7, 2023 will be the Triple Nickel Country Cruise-In. A \$250 gift card was given to the house fire victims in Cannelville.

Property committee – Karen Showers has asked that an embankment facing State Route 555 be utilized for the establishment of a "Memorial Daffodil Hill." There was a short discussion among council members concerning the advantages of such an area. A motion to approve such a project was made by Nathan Atkins. A second to the motion was made by Frank Dietz. The council approved the motion. Powerwashing, slate and gutter repair will need to have a 60 foot man-lift to complete these projects. The lift can be rented for approximately \$3000. Council decided to take this request to the church congregation because of the amount. It will be discussed with the congregation after worship service August 13, 2023. Options for the church parking lot followed. Resealing of the asphalt would be for looks only-it is not recommended.

Resurfacing with black top (\$\$\$) or chip-n-seal (\$\$) would repair the deterioration that is occurring. Repainting of the parking lot lines can be done at any time. Nathan Atkins motions to repaint the lines in 2023, obtain an estimate for the chip-n-seal of the parking lot, and to wait to resurface the parking till a later date. Frank Dietz seconded the motion. The council approved the motion. The elevator is still waiting for the inspector's approval.

The treasurer's report was presented and reviewed by council. It was approved on a motion from Frank Dietz and Gary Williams.

NEW BUSINESS

There will be a luncheon held September 10, 2023 to celebrate the new members to our church family.

Construction work occurring at St John's Lutheran Church in Zanesville is to repair the roof that was damaged during a hail storm in 2022.

Robert Pletcher will make sure that our church Workers Compensation coverage is adequate.

Steve Wolfe will replace the batteries and the patches for the church AED.

Frank Dietz and Nathan Atkins motioned to adjourn at 9:02 P.M.

All prayed The Lord's Prayer

Frank Dietz - council secretary

Nathan Atkins has devotions for the September 2023 council meeting.

St John's Lutheran Church Special Congregational Meeting August 13, 2023

Council Vice President Bill Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:51 A.M.

The church council has made a motion to spend approximately \$5000 to powerwash the church, repair spouting, and to repair some of the slate. Gary Williams seconded the motion. Discussion of the work to be completed, where the funds will come from, and how members of the congregation can donate to this specific project followed. The motion was approved by the congregation.

Robert Pletcher motioned to adjourn at 10:55 A.M.

12th ANNUAL! TRIPLE NICKEL 555 COUNTRY CRUISE-IN

"Autumn in the Country!"
Saturday, Oct. 7th, 2023

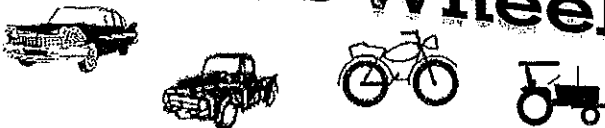


Event Starts at 1pm - Reg. Starts 12:30pm
Saint John's Lutheran Church - Stovertown
6575 Center Road, Roseville, OH 43777

CARS, TRUCKS, BIKES, TRACTORS
"If It Has Wheels, It's WELCOME!"



Just South
Of Zanesville
On Ohio Route 555!



Free Admission and NO Entry Fee!

**DASH PLAQUES &
GOODY BAGS**
(While Supplies Last)

**FAMILY
FUN!**

**HORSE RIDES
HOMEMADE FOOD
& ICE CREAM**

**RAFFLE
PRIZES**

**TWO 50/50
DRAWINGS**

**MUSIC BY:
CLAY CITY DJ's**

**BOUNCE
HOUSE**

BRING YOUR CHAIRS AND CANOPIES!

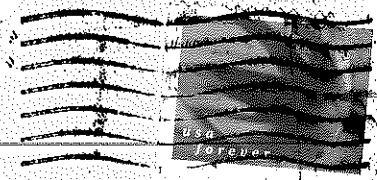
Bring an FM Radio to ensure you hear announcements on event grounds!

PLEASE! NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT: Saint John's Lutheran Church P.R.A.Y.E.R Company Youth Group
MORE INFO: Steve Wolfe (740)-647-3066, email: sjlcpc@hotmail.com

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Pastor 740-541-2823</p>	<p>Church 740-697-0202</p>	<p>Vicky Thomas Secretary 740-674-6814 cabinintheorchard@yahoo.com</p>				
<p>3</p> <p>Holy Communion Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Council 8PM</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Worship-10AM SCS-9AM</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>WELCA 12 noon</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Canoeing/Camping Trip & Potluck</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Mid-Ohio Food Give-A-Way-9-11AM</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Worship-10AM SCS-9AM</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>



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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE
 LABOR DAY!!!!!!**

**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".

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

Birthdays—September 2—Gary Williams
21—Lynne Parmiter
24---Nate Atkins
29---Andrea Laese

Anniversaries: September 3-Bill & Vicky
Thomas
20-Susan & Brian
Miller

WELCA.

Will meet on Tuesday, September 12 at the church at 12 noon. Hostesses will be Lynne Parmiter and Janet Novaria. Topic-Lynne/pack LWR quilts and kits to be sent out.
