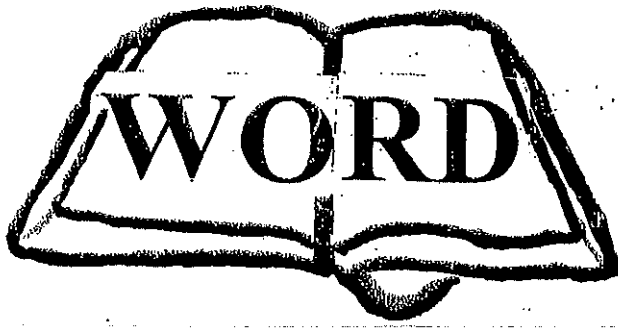


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The "Good News" and "Happenings" of
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Stovertown

VOL.18, No. 8

August 24, 2026

THIS TIME IT DIDN'T HAPPEN SOMEWHERE ELSE

On late Monday, August 10th into Tuesday, August 11th, and continuing into the week, we and our community experienced a devastating flood.

We have seen, many times on the news, of events like this having a devastating effect on other people in other places, but this one we are experiencing ourselves. Our neighbors in Roseville, Crooksville, Stovertown, Cannelville and many surrounding areas were greatly affected when they received 7-1/2 inches, plus of rain over a very short period of time. Other places in the state experienced the same fate. Many people have lost the contents of their homes, personal property, cars, almost everything.

Hebrews 13:16: Do not forget to do good and to share what you have for such sacrifices are pleasing to the Lord.

However, amid all this devastation, the love, support, donations and helping hands of our community has been everywhere.

Many locals and national organizations has miraculously stepped up with food, cleaning supplies and emotional support. These include: **-God's Pit Crew-** from Danville, Virginia with Blessing Buckets containing cleaning products and a Bible; Play Pails with books, games and stuffed animals; and sealed food boxes.

-The Country Social Food Truck- from the Crowders on Irish Ridge with free meals for three days,

-Hope for Crisis- from Millersburg, Oh. with hot meals, volunteer coordination and logistics.

-Dodsons on Broadway (New Lex) serving free meals.

-Samaritans Purse responding in Jesus' name to help mud out basements, remove drywall and flooring, and salvage personal belongings, and provide Chaplain service.

-St. John's, Stovertown- providing a safe place for two days in the parking lot for two families flooded out along St. Rt. 555.

-Church of Christ Disaster Relief Team from Nashville- sent cleaning supplies, blankets, and clothing and food in a 53 foot trailer

-Red Cross-shelter & logistics

And many others that we are not aware of.

Not only was it organizations helping out but a couple of our members were among those individuals Susan Miller and Stacy Tompkins (and many others that I am not aware of) that personally got involved.

Susan Miller- Here is their account of helping out.

I was part of the first team out that included only two volunteers (both of us nurses) and our two team leads doing what is called "mud out." We helped a local schoolteacher, husband and 6 kids aged 10-23 with basement clean up. Basement had family room, bathroom, and bedroom and 3 foot of water that rushed in. They evacuated their kids and stayed back but then water came in fast. Her family had removed drywall and contents the day before we arrived, so

we were ahead of the game when we the four of us started around 9AM and finished about 3PM. Cleaning, shop vac, removal of drywall, (must remove all nails), door removal and frames and spraying with mildew and mold killer to all exposed wood/wall. Guys did the bigger work with goal to get it ready for future install back to original. We started with prayer and ended with prayer. Each team member signs a new Bible that is then given to the family once the work is complete. Tiring day, but nothing I had never did before. If you want to volunteer anytime in the future this is a great way as they serve all over the country and internationally. One can volunteer for an entire day or half a day of multiple days in a row. They have a great website as a reference.

Volunteering for Samaritans Purse was the right fit. No preparedness could have prevented this flooding and she said the water just kept coming in. Strangely the home is not even close to a creek or water source, but on this day the water had to go somewhere and it made its own path. Samaritan's Purse always ask about praying first and if family says no then you don't pray. Billy Graham chaplains were to also be on site to assist and provide support as needed and requested. Is it a ministry yes-it is helping in Jesus' name as the orange t-shirt ways! Our team leaders taught us a lot about how the organization operated and evaluates needs for activation. That final assessment was not complete until sometime mid-morning on Thursday, Aug. 13 and by evening that same day the trucks rolled in, utilizing Rolling Plains Church as their hub.

Stacy Tompkins- I tend not to watch the news much these days. Too much bad news. The flooding event this past week, in our community, has left many people to start over. Houses destroyed, cars destroyed, hearts destroyed. The good news is, so many people, businesses and churches have donated time, money, items and meals. Hugs are needed and given to loved ones and strangers. I witnessed all of this first hand while helping sort and distribute donations in Cooksville. God's love was very evident. Donations flooded in from all over. The need will be great for many weeks/ months ahead. Please keep all of these people in your prayers.

As witnessed, first hand by Susan and Stacy,
God's love and presence is ever present.
As we pray for our community in this time of

need a few scriptures for you to add to your devotions:

Colossians 3:17

1 Thessalonian 5:18

Ephesians 3:20

WELCA NEWS.....

The WELCA is making Personal Care Kits and School Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Your last day to donate is Aug. 31st.

WELCA will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 2:00PM at the church to pack quilts and kits for LWF. Hostess is Joy Pletcher.

PRODUCE GIVE-A-WAY.....

Will be held on Tuesday, September 15 at 9:00AM.

Volunteers will be needed and appreciated. You will need to arrive by 8AM.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

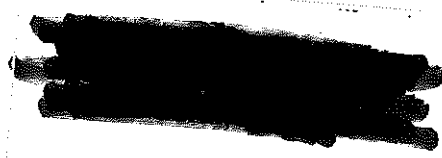
OUR YEARLY CAMP-IN AND CANOEING AT HOCKING HILLS, Friday September 11th and Saturday, September 12 at Campell Cove in Hocking Hills. Some campers will be arriving earlier that week, but the canoeing will be on Saturday. Plan on attending, even though you may not want to camp or canoe. There will be food and fellowship on Saturday night. See Steve Wolfe for the details.

THE 15TH ANNUAL "TRIPLE NICKEL COUNTRY CRUISE-IN" will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2026, beginning at 1:00PM. Volunteers will be needed. See Steve Wolfe for details.

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
				Council meet with Synod-7PM Regular council meeting-8PM		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Holy Communion? Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection		WELCA -2PM			Camping & Canoeing	Camping & Canoeing
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship-10AM SCS-9AM		Produce-Give-Away				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship-10AM SCS-9AM WELCA change collection						
27	28	29	30			
Worship-10AM SCS-9AM						

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Birthdays: September 2-Gary Williams 43771-39384 R012
21-Lynne Parmiter 43771-39384 R012
24-Nate Atkins

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

**OUR HAPPY THOUGHT FOR THE
MONTH.**

Happiness is
A by-product of an effort
To make someone else happy.

-Gretta Brooker Palmer

NOTE TO CONGREGATION.....

A meeting is being set up for September 3 at 7:00p. before regular council meeting for council members to meet with representatives from Synod to discuss our current situation, of where to go next for someone to provide worship to our congregation. Talk to a council person if you would like to have any concerns addressed.

Also On Sunday, September 13 we will be using the first setting in the Green Hymnal for our worship service each week.

**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".