



The Voice



June 2020

The church has received numerous words of thanks and gratitude from local individuals and agencies in the Miami & Montgomery counties for the masks and surgical caps made by the quilt ladies. A wonderful ministry, ladies!

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 - Levi Hahn | 9 - Joyce Neth |
| 4 - Scott Gephart | 11 - Deb Shively |
| 4 - Kennedy Shively | 13 - Nora Shively |
| 6 - Marian Fenner | 30 - Brent Shively |

Member Spotlight: Dawn Flory

Dawn Flory grew up in Covington, but she was baptized and attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church in North Star because it had been her mother's home church. When Dawn was in first grade, the family decided to switch to St. John's because it was closer to home. Her first memories of our church were going with Jackie Kiehl after choir practice to the dairy around the corner for bubblegum ice cream. She also remembers playing in the sand table and marching around Kate and Georgiana's Sunday school room singing "I'm in the Lord's Army". Dawn was confirmed at St. John's when the church was in between full-time pastors.

As a youth, Dawn was active in choir, youth group, and Sunday school. She fondly remembers attending the mother-daughter banquets and celebrating the church anniversary with the congregation dressing up in old-fashioned clothing sitting with women on one side and men on the other.

As a student, Dawn attended and graduated from Covington Schools. She was in choir, FHA, and flag corps. After high school, Dawn went to the School of Advertising Art and graduated from there in 1991. Dawn worked for two years for Piqua Granite and Monument. During her time there, she designed the Piqua Veteran's Memorial. She began dating her future husband, Eric in high school, and they were married at St. John's on August 10th, 1991 by Pastor Steve Kimm. Dawn and Eric celebrated twenty-six years of marriage before he passed away in 2017.

In 1994, Dawn and Eric welcomed their first daughter Kaitlyn, and after that, they had Meredith in 1996, Landon in 1999, and Jaiden in 2002. Dawn stayed home raising her kids and running a full-time in-home daycare. In 2004, she began teaching art classes at the Troy Hayner center. Then, in 2013 she became an art teacher at Troy Christian Schools. In 2019, she began teaching art classes at Miami County Controlled Learning Center as well.

As an adult, Dawn has been very active in the church. She and Eric taught Sunday school and served as the youth advisors for many years. She was the Vacation Bible School director for many years as well. She also enjoys helping out with Ft. Rowdy and Fastnacht, and she still loves singing in the choir.

In her free time, Dawn loves spending time with her children and working in her garden. She has three miniature dachshunds named Bella, Sable, and Willow.

Dawn feels like St. John's has always been her home. She says that surviving all that she has been through would not have been possible without the support of the members of St. John's. She looks forward to seeing her children get married at St. John's and grow their own families.

PRAYER LIST

HOSPITALIZED, RECOVERING AT HOME, and OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS

Marian Fenner	Jerry Schroeder	Uta Schroder
Phyllis Drieling	Jim Perry	Leon Hollopeter
Roger Colby	Jack Besecker	Erica Hollopeter
Judy Fletcher	Sally Griffin	Linda Iddings
Helen Kellar	Luella Roeth	Kathy Short
Ann Horman	Bill McKibben	Harold Roeth
Janice Meyer	Keith Fletcher	Matthew Hahn

IN EXTENDED CARE

Linda Morrow (Cincinnati)
 Barb Besecker (Versailles Health Care Center)
 Charlie Horman (Brookdale)

FRIENDS & RELATIVES OF MEMBERS

Paula Hahn (daughter-in-law of Richard & Gloria Hahn)
 Kennedy Kraft (granddaughter of MaryAnn Francis)
 Larry & Tracy Laub (friend of Jim Perry)
 Thelma Archer (friend of Jim Perry)
 Bernice Davis (cousin of Jim Perry)
 Marilyn Helke (friend of Colbys)
 Ethel Besecker (friend of Colbys)
 Fran Maynard (friend of Colbys)
 Jack McCoy (friend of King family)
 Darlene Wise (friend of Jim Perry)
 Bridget Simon (friend of Jim Perry)
 Mary Littlejohn (friend of Jim Perry)
 Shirley Sheffer (friend of Dawn Flory)
 Bob Bruyere (uncle of Charlie Bruyere)
 Howard Chaney (friend of Jim Perry)
 Owen Gauntt (friend of Dawn Flory)
 Joyce Gilbert (friend of Jim Perry)
 Lester Smith (friend of Jim Perry)
 Joel Miller (Connie Adams' brother-in-law)
 David Moss (friend of Levi, Brandy, Tyrus, & Nessa Hahn)
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Burlieson (friends of Jim Perry)
 Asher Cantrell (grandson of Stephanie Wood)
 Andrew Purvis (grandson of Pattie Perry)
 Joanne Schmidt (mother of Jim Schmidt)
 Kenton Stacy (grandson of Wanda Stacy)
 Joan Will (cancer-aunt of Laura Schmidt)



FAMILY & FRIENDS IN THE ARMED FORCES

Faith King- Army- Bravo 1-134th Field Artillery, Piqua, OH (niece of Brooks and Briana King)
 Brandon Moyer – Navy, Pyndell AFB, Florida
 Jon Osterman- Army
 Cory Purvis- Army, Alaska (Pattie Perry's grandson)
 LT Mary Strade- USS Bainbridge- deployed (sister of Laura Schmidt)
 Jerrid Stangel- Army
 Tristin Stangel- Marines, Keesler AFB, Mississippi

SCRIPTURE

Sunday, June 7, 2020

First Reading: Genesis 1:1–2:4a
Psalm: Psalm 8 (1)
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Sunday, June 14, 2020

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8
Psalm: Psalm 100 (3)
Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8
Gospel: Matthew 9:35—10:8 [10:9-23]

Sunday, June 21, 2020

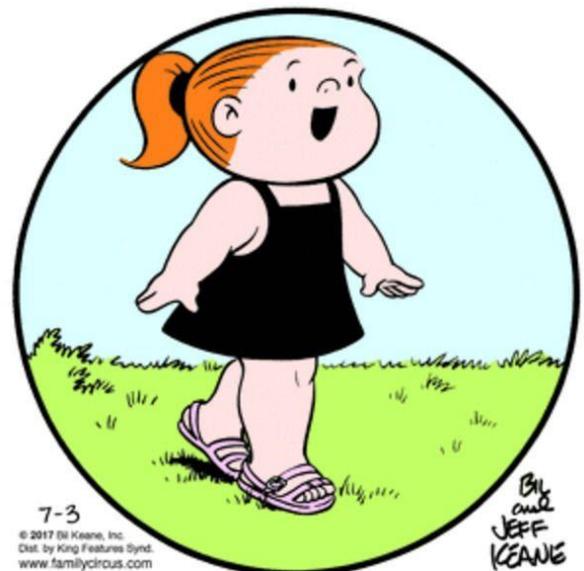
First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm: Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15]
 16-18 (16)
Second Reading: Romans 6:1b-11
Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39

Sunday, June 28, 2020

First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9
Psalm: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 (1)
Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23
Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

“Give me the splendid silent sun
 with all his beams full-dazzling.”

-Walt Whitman



7-3
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Bill
 and
 JEFF
 KEANE

“My toes love wearing sandals 'cause
 they get to have sun and fresh air.”

WHAT IS IN THE WATER?



I relish the time I can make face-to-face visits, but in the meantime, I have enjoyed visiting with some of the folks by phone conversation. But I have to ask, what is in the water in the Covington area? I have talked to some amazing people ages 90 and above.

I spoke to a lady recently who at 93, still lives on the family farm and spends 6 hours a week mowing the grass. Is that impressive or what? And she is not the only one. I was talking with a gentleman who is 85 and gave up riding his motorcycle at age 80! I was impressed. And there have been many more like that: strong, sturdy, full of life, thankful for all the blessings and life they have been given, people of a sound and deep faith. I have been blessed by visiting with them.

From their stories, many had really tough times and experiences so life was not always easy and pleasant. Still, their focus was always on the blessings God has bestowed on them, and that is what I found so impressive: their unwavering faith in God.

Granted, years of life and experiences we encounter affect the attitude we have of life and faith, and what I find so exciting is the level of faith, the depth of their relationship with Christ in so many other of our folks, of all ages. We have some young families that are a great witness to the Lord, for example. I am learning that gifts and strengths of St. John's are numerous and deep.

So, what is in the water? Perhaps it is not the water we drink, but the water of our baptism, and the results are people of various ages, experiences, and backgrounds united in faith, joined together in living that faith and eager to worship the Lord Jesus Christ. You have a rich history of faith and a bright future in serving the Lord.

Finally, as you read this, we will be back in communal worship. Please know how hard your council members worked. They looked at various possibilities, asked tough questions, and put together a plan that all believed was safe and protective for all who attend. It has been a joy working with this group of men and women.

Let us pray for a good summer and better days for all.

Peace,
Pastor Jon



Youth!

After much discussion with council about rescheduling some of our upcoming events, here is the new revised schedule:

June 7- Council Installation

June 14- Baptism of Taylor Schoonover

September 13- Communion and Confirmation



Are you planning on attending the tri-annual ELCA Youth Gathering "BOUNDLESS" in Minneapolis June 29-July 3, 2021? This is a life changing, faith full, spiritual adventure! You must be an incoming freshman to graduating senior on those dates. If you think you are interested, please contact Laura Schmidt so we can plan for registration (opens in September, 2020), logistics, and chaperones. Please let Laura know by July 1, 2020 if you intend to go.



Safeguard Procedures

**This is a working document and items/procedures may change based on new information that becomes available. The church will update as new procedures are put in place.

- **Entering/Exiting the Church** – It is recommended that members wear a mask while they are entering and exiting the church. Once you are seated in a pew, you may take off the mask. The usher(s) will assist with exiting the church one pew at a time. Doors will be propped open, and only the main doors will be unlocked. Please go directly to a pew to sit down. Only the main sanctuary will be open for the congregation. This will include the restrooms on the main level.
- **Seating** – Families or people who arrive in the same car are allowed to sit together in a pew. To comply with social distancing, we will sit in every other pew.
- **Sharing of the Peace** – We will refrain from shaking hands during this time. The sharing of the peace will be through smiles and waves with everyone staying in their pews.
- **Children's Sermon/Nursery** – Pastor Jon feels comfortable to have a children's sermon. Children will sit with social distancing on the floor before the steps leading up to the altar and face the altar and Pastor Jon will stay by the altar to conduct the sermon. There will not be any nursery until further notice.
- **Masks** – The pastor and the assisting minister will wear a mask when they are closer than 6 feet of each other. The church will have a few masks available for those that may need one.
- **Acolyte** – During this time, there will be no acolytes.
- **Bulletins/Hymnals** – Bulletins will be placed in pews. The bulletins will have the hymns printed, so the use for hymnals is not needed. Hymnals will be removed. All other papers and pencils will be removed from the pews.
- **Prayer Requests** – There will be NO prayer requests taken during the service. If you have a prayer request please email Stephanie at secretarystjohnscov@windstream.net, or you may call the church office at 473-2170 before 8:00 am on Thursdays. You may also contact Pastor Jon at 937-492-3467 or schriberjonathan@gmail.com.
- **Offering Plate** – The collection plate will be in the middle of the aisle for members to drop off their offering.
- **Communion** - We will use wafers instead of communion bread. The altar guild will have the wine pre-poured in the communion cups leaving 2-3 empty spaces between each cup. Council will continue to work on communion procedures for best practice.
- **Cleaning/Sanitization** – The custodians will be cleaning and sanitizing all areas in the church. Hand sanitizer is available in all pews. To minimize movement around the church only the main sanctuary will be open this will include the restroom located on the main level.

As per the CDC guidelines, if you are feeling ill, please stay home. The church will continue to have worship via Facebook Live.

St. John's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
May 13, 2020

Present: Pastor Jon Schrieber, David Larson, Mindy Gearhardt, Kevin Marten, Derrek Shively, Katilyn Flory, Chad Reese, Holly Turner, Scott Gephart
Absent: Brandy Hahn

1. Devotions – Devotions were led by Pastor Jon
2. Pastor's Report – Mindy moved to accept the Pastor's Report, seconded by David. Motion carried.
3. Financial Report – We have seen an increase in giving since the online giving, and we have deposited all of the checks that have been sent in. The flooring was paid and therefore that was a higher spending than what the budget allowed. Overall, for the year we have a surplus. Derrek moves to accept the financial report, seconded by Chad. Motion carried.
4. Committee Report – No committees had anything to report.
5. Old Business
 - a. Call Update – The committee had an interview and they have decided to continue to search.
 - b. Council Installation/Baptism/Confirmation/First Communion – A date will be determined once we are able to congregate again.
6. New Business
 - a. On-line Giving – People who are giving on-line have not had any questions. The company is sending emails with reports to David and he is sending those reports to Bev and Sandy. The site is user friendly and so far, has been an effective tool.
 - b. Facebook Live Services – We are averaging 80-90 views each Sunday. The council discussed that we will continue to record services even after we are able to congregate for the members who may not feel comfortable to attend church.
 - c. Returning to Live Worship – Council discussed at length of returning to worship at the church. We are hoping to return to the church on May 31 but council will meet periodically throughout the following weeks to discuss guidelines and then getting those guidelines out to the congregation.
7. Adjournment – Holly moves to adjourn, seconded by Mindy. Motion carried. Council closed with the saying of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by,

Holly Turner