

THE EPISTLE

TOPICS FOR THE MONTH: Something to Think About

We're all familiar with the concept, "No need to reinvent the wheel." Throughout my ministry whether as a teacher, DCE or Pastor, ideas, concepts and ministry ideas from other congregations have been a blessing to me and are valuable resources. "Keep the best, leave the rest," is a wise saying that leads us to realize blessings from others that may influence us.



If you haven't heard, my daughter, Kaitlynn Mews, who was the 5th grade home room teacher and upper grade teacher at our school, accepted a position as Middle School teacher at Our Savior Lutheran School (OSLS) in Lansing, Michigan. She moved there the weekend of July 23-25 and will begin serving in early August. In late June, my wife, and I took our daughter to OSLS to help her secure an apartment and to tour Our Savior Lutheran School and Church and see where she will be teaching. An Elder and Christian Education board member from OSLS, married with two children in the school, led the tour, and we had supper together. The meeting was encouraging and beneficial. Here are some insights that can be a blessing for us:

Our Savior Lutheran School (OSLS) has 199 students from K – 8.

This past year OSLS added 41 new middle school students. The part-time teaching position then moved to full time, as OSLS calls and hires teachers based upon students and needs. Hence, Kaitlynn filled that need. The student-teacher ratio is 1 to 17.

She is receiving a 34% increase in salary. OSLS keeps their salaries to 92% of their public school counterparts. Her contribution to her health care decreased from 49% at SJL to 20% at OSLS. 20% is the standard percentage for most Church workers throughout the LCMS.

She is receiving a flat \$1000 stipend to move and a team from the church/school will be there to assist her in that move.

Shortly she will enter the Teacher Colloquy Program to become a called LCMS teacher. There are funds available for her to do that and a number of teachers at OSLS are/have taken that path.

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- CHURCH SERVICE TIMES -

Traditional Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. Sunday
and Contemporary Service at 11:00 a.m. Sunday

655 Wayne Ave., Defiance, OH 43512

• www.stjohnndefiance.com

Church 419.782.5766

• email: church.secretary@stjohnntigers.com

- LIVE STREAMING -

5:30 p.m. Saturday and 11:00 a.m. Sunday
Bible Study, Sunday, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

School 419.782.1751

• www.facebook.com/stjohnlutherandefiance

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SERMONS FOR AUGUST

August 1, "In the Land of Good & Petty" by Pastor Mews

Text: Exodus 16:2-15

August 8, "Drawn Back or Drawn In" by Pastor Mews

Text: John 6:35-51

August 15, "Submit=Considerate Love" by Pastor Mews

Text: Ephesians 5:6-21

August 22, "Heartfelt Worship" by Pastor Mews

Text: Isaiah 29:11-19

August 29, "The Heart of the Issue" by Pastor Mews

Text: Mark 7:14-23



Church Staff NEW Emails

Pastor Mews:

pastor.mews@stjohntigers.com

DCE Cassidy:

cassidy.holeso@stjohntigers.com

Secretary Dani:

church.secretary@stjohntigers.com

Secretary Diana:

dgrim@stjohntigers.com



LIFE WITH GOD

The spring class starts Monday, September 13 through November 29. Classes are held Monday evenings in the Adult Bible Study Room from 6:30 -8:30 p.m. This class is for all interested in renewing their faith, learning the basics of Christianity and Lutheranism, or just exploring what our church believes and why we do what we do. Sign up by September 12. Blue forms are attached or see Pastor Mews or the Church office.



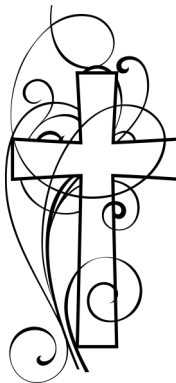
The Church is in need of volunteers. If you have a desire to help serve please contact the church office. We have multiple opportunities available.

PRIVATE COMMUNION

The Pastor continues to offer private Communion for anyone who wishes to have Communion. Please call the church office for an appointment.

SHUT-IN CALLS

We have around 40 people who are designated as shut-ins in our congregation. The Pastor, Walt Smith, and George Kaiser are keeping in contact with our members. If the shut-in person is comfortable having a home visit, arrangements will be made for this visit.



PASTOR'S OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptism

Harris David Wagner on July 18, 2021.
 Parents are Graham & Ashley Wagner.

Funeral

Rose Cantrell passed away on June 11, and received a Christian funeral on June 17.

Thelma Duerk passed away on June 20, and received a Christian funeral on June 23.

Dennis Hull passed away July 8, 2020 and received a Christian memorial on July 10, 2021.

Joyce Meyer passed away on March 17 and received a Christian memorial on July 17.



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Typical of most LCMS Elementary schools, just like at SJL, attendance declined from grades 5-8. OSLS became intentional to change that: they expanded their sports and music programs and the church and school worked closely to form deeper relationships with parents and students. This effort has had a positive impact.

A few years ago, attendance in grades K-8 dropped to 139 students. With the encouragement of the "Christian Education Team," (OSLS's School Board) the principal willingly taught classes in the school to assist with the financial and teaching burden due to decreased attendance until attendance rebounded, which it eventually did.

Just some things to think about as our church and school move forward in ministry and expand our ministry as things continue to open up after COVID. May Christ and Him Crucified bring you light and hope as we enter into the 'dog' days of summer.

Peace, Pastor Kurt F. Mews, (KFM).



WHAT IS CROSS TRAINING?

Cross Training is our Confirmation program here at St. John Lutheran. Our goal is to build up students with the knowledge about their faith in Christ so that they can share it with the world. Throughout this year, we will grow together through fellowship, special events, service projects, icebreakers, team-building games, and learning about our faith and what we believe as Christians. All students in first through eighth grades are invited to participate in this program. First through fifth graders will be taught together while sixth, seventh, and eighth grades will be taught separately. There are 93 children ages 6 to 13 who are members of this congregation, and we would love to have all participate in learning more about our amazing God. Please contact us at the church if you will be attending our kick-off event/participating in our Confirmation program this year. We look forward to another year of building faith in our young leaders and growing in our relationship with Christ!

DCE Cassidy Holeso—419.782.5766 ext. 106

Cross Training

Our Cross Training program is ready to begin another great year of guiding and educating our youth on what we believe as Lutherans. We will be kicking off our 2021-2022 year with a Movie Night themed BLAST Event on Wednesday September 1, 2021 from 6:30-8:00pm. Dress-up as your favorite movie character, or wear your favorite movie tshirt, and join us for corn dogs, nacho bar, popcorn, trivia, and an overview of the Cross Training year. All families with youth in 1st-8th grade are invited to attend and learn more about our program. At this event, we will be going over our covenant/expectations, class leaders, BLAST Event meaning and themes, and registration information as well. If you plan on attending, please contact DCE Cassidy at Cassidy.holeso@stjohntigers or call the church office at 419.782.5766 to RSVP. If you cannot make it to this event, please plan on coming to our make-up parent/student meeting on September 8 at 8:00pm in the Fellowship Room (after Cross Training classes) so that we can get you caught up with any details for our 2021-2022 program year.





Financial Update

June revenue:	June expenses:
\$59,477.66	\$85,975.59
July revenue:	July expenses:
\$51,782.74	\$81,261.40

*These are approximate numbers.

The Food Pantry

Continues on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. In June we served 33 families or 75 people with 145 bags of food with a value of \$1450.00. In July we served 32 families or 89 people with 64 bags of food with a value of \$1640.00.



Thank you to our congregation for supporting this ministry and to all our volunteers who help with their time and talents to continue operating.

Ladies Aid

"The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2

We hope everyone is enjoying the summer.

Our next meeting is August 26, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. Karen Kent will be the hostess. The food pantry items for the month are toothpaste, toothbrushes, and deodorant.

We will have lots to talk about for the upcoming months. We will be distance socializing and we hope to see you at the meeting.



Scouting News



Summer has provided a variety of fun and exciting activities for Cubs to enjoy. In June, Cubs participated in two different events: the Backyard Olympic Games & Picnic as well as the Rain Gutter Regatta. The Backyard Olympic Games tested Cubs in their running and throwing skills while the Rain Gutter Regatta, an annual event, found them moving sailboats made from a kit down a water-filled rain gutter by blowing on the sails.

Cubs also had a busy July with two events: Wakheya Weekend when families had an overnight camping experience, and Cub Scout Camp, a week where Cubs spent each day doing a variety of activities, from shooting BB guns and bows/arrows, making crafts, taking nature hikes, and climbing the tower, among others. Both of these events were held at Camp Lakota.

This month, there will be Welcome Back Picnic as the Pack gears up to return to its weekly schedule of meetings with the start of school.

The Troop attended a week of summer camp at Lakota in July, as has been done for many years. Scouts had an opportunity to complete a number of merit badges but also had time for a number of fun activities, including using the water slides, swimming, fishing, canoeing, kayaking and sail boating in Lake Glengary, sharpening their skills in shooting sports with rifles, shot guns and bow/arrows, making crafts, and practicing various scout skills, to name a few. Leadership development was also an important aspect of summer camp.

July 4 weekend provided an opportunity for members of both the Pack and Troop to serve as flag bearers for the St. John Church services.

The Boy Scout Troop has for many years recycled newspapers as a conservation project and last month delivered a load of newspapers for recycling. Anyone wishing to recycle newspapers can place them in the garage on the east side of the south parking lot. Money made from their sale is used to help pay for Scouts to attend summer camp.

Youth and adults are always welcome to attend pack and troop events to learn more about the program. Questions at any time can be addressed to Mike Saxton, Chartered Organization Representative, at 419-439-2079.

FROM THE DESK OF PRINCIPAL JOHN MARCH:

Greetings, St. John Family:

As I sit here and write this, I am amazed at the blessings that God has granted me. I have a wonderful family. A loving wife, three unique and incredible children, extended family that is now close to me that I can see more often, a beautiful home, safe vehicles to drive in, an accepting church, a school that I love and hope to continue to see grow and expand, but most importantly a Savior who is with me in every detail of my life and whose love never changes.

As I look back over the past year and a half, we truly have lived in unprecedented times. No one would ever have guessed we have gone through a global pandemic and experienced the restrictions and changes we have had. At times life was scary, lonely, depressing, frustrating, definitely unexpected, and yet with all those feelings, we were able to experience life differently: spending time with our families—uninterrupted time. Time to strengthen our family bonds, to focus on what really matters and what is important. Time to refocus our relationship with Christ; to grow in our relationship with Jesus.

One of the reasons that I am called to ministry within the Lutheran School system is because I see the value and the calling of the church to help train the youth of today. As a parent myself, I know how hard it is to effectively teach and train my children in the ways of the Lord in this secular world. The youth of today have so much more to deal with. They are being thrown ideas, values and beliefs that are trying to tear them away from the church and our Lord and Savior. I value the fact that through programs at church my children

can learn more about their Savior and grow in their faith. However, knowing that our church established a school more than 150 years ago shows that the congregation of the past saw the necessity of spiritual training within the confines of the school day. I am sure that no one back then would ever have guessed that prayer would be taken out of the public school system, or that books about accepting different lifestyles would be read to our children, or that abortion would be used to get rid of “unwanted and imperfect” children and promoted within our public schools. But what they did see was the value of the church coming alongside

the families within their congregation and helping them to guide their children in the Lord. They saw this as the number one ministry of their church – and I am truly thankful that they valued Christian Education and that our congregation today continues to see the value and the importance in having the school.

What we teach at St. John Lutheran School is more than just reading and writing, science and math. We teach everything from the foundation of what God’s Word says. When we are able to show our students that everything needs to be looked through the filter of God’s Word and to see if it is in line with the teachings of Christ, we are able to impact society beyond our wildest imagination. That is the true value of our school: impacting the lives of our students and their families for Christ. This has eternal and everlasting impact. An impact that will be felt for generations.

I am excited about our school theme for the year. Going along with the National Youth Gathering theme, it is “IN ALL THINGS”. We are focusing on Paul’s letter to the Colossians. In this book Paul reminds the Colossians that Christ created all things, that He rules over all things, and that He reconciles all things. This year at school, in our chapels and religion classes, we will learn about all the things Christ is and all the things Christ has done for us. How wonderful it will be to share this message with our students and families! Each of you within our congregation has a part in the ministry of our school. We covet your prayers for a positive and successful 2021-2022 school year. We pray that God will continue to pour out His blessings with increases in our student population, our finances, and how we in turn serve our community.

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Bible Study Opportunities

Led by Pastor Mews

◇ In Depth Bible Study

"Parables Through Peasant Eyes" (the next study after Spirituality of the Cross) this Bible Study is a practical insightful look into 10 of Luke's parables with profound blessings for everyday life. There are two classes offered: Wednesdays from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. and a Zoom option on Wednesdays at 3:15 p.m.

◇ Exodus Thursday A.M. Bible Study

Has already begun. Now is the time to join. The class gathers from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. on Thursdays in the Fellowship room. This is a natural extension from Genesis! Come join us whether you have been a part of Genesis or not: all is provided. We are discussing Moses' initial confrontation with Pharaoh.

◇ Life with God

Fall class starts Monday, September 13 through Monday, November 29. Classes will be held Monday evenings in the Adult Bible Study Room from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This class is for all interested in renewing their faith, learning the basics of Christianity and Lutheranism, or just exploring what our church believes and why we do what we do. Sign up by September 12. Blue forms are attached or see Pastor Mews or the Church office.



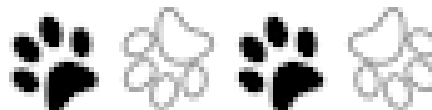
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We also value your help with regards to volunteering. If you have time during the day and would like to come and help minister to our children, we would love to have you.

From helping in the cafeteria to reading to students or having them read to you, to teaching a song or a new art skill, we would love to see our congregation be active in our school. The opportunities are endless! If this is something that you would be interested in, please call me at the school office, or drop in and talk to me. I would love to help you get involved in our ministry here at St. John Lutheran School!

May God continue to bless you IN ALL THINGS,

John March, principal



Best Practices Conference

September 19-21

Frankenmuth, MI

Renew your passion for ministry

With the goal of helping congregations use their God-given gifts more effectively, Christ Lutheran Church in Phoenix, Arizona, began the Best Practices for Ministry Conference. Since it began, the conference has been presented free of charge to all who attend. Participants are greeted with warm hospitality, great speakers, and practical workshops. The Conference has grown greatly, expanding to the Midwest.

If interested in attending the conference please contact Lorna Smith (lornaandwalt@gmail.com) or Pat Marshall (pat.marshall@stjohntigers.com) for more information.





40+ Anniversaries

Arnold & Susan Cheek (51 yrs) Aug 1
 Terry & Dianna Gathman (51 yrs) Aug 1
 John & Carolyn Heilman (47 yrs) Aug 3
 Tom & Sue Boesling (48 yrs) Aug 4
 Ken & Susan Diemer (61 yrs) Aug 11
 Steve & Judie Zachrich (55 yrs) Aug 13
 Peter & Bonnie Karzynow (45 yrs) Aug 14
 Rev. Don & Faye Luhning (55 yrs) Aug 20
 Skip & Sue Hanenkrath (52 yrs) Aug 23
 Elmer & Linda Friedrichsen (53 yrs) Aug 24
 Steve & Ginna Waxler (42 yrs) Aug 26
 Tom & Kathy Wolfrum (50 yrs) Aug 28



80+ Birthdays

Elinor Lee (84) Aug 9
 Elaine Harris (88) Aug 10
 Ginny Hefflinger (95) Aug 12
 Bill Hultz (83) Aug 18
 Arleta Hammon (86) Aug 21
 Myrna Ritterling (86) Aug 28

CLOTHES CLOSET

The Clothes Closet is now open on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



Donations are accepted on Mondays and Tuesdays 8:00-10:00 a.m. and during open hours. Please go to the back door for donations.

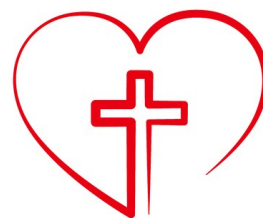


**PIE PAN @
 DEFIANCE
 COUNTY FAIR
 August 21-28**

We need lots of helpers and volunteers to work shifts throughout fair week. Youth and parents are strongly encouraged to work a few shifts at the Pie Pan. Congregation members are welcome to volunteer as well. Contact DCE Cassidy if you would be able to help. You may sign up on the youth bulletin board as well.

CALL COMMITTEE

Is requesting you submit names for possible pastors to serve at St. John. We are specifically looking for a pastor to serve primarily in the areas of Family Life, Outreach & Evangelism, and Pastoral Care. If you know someone that you would like to nominate to fill these areas of need, please contact the church office for the nomination form please submit all forms by August 8.



CHURCHFUNERALS

DIRECT NETWORK

Preferred Partner Program

"Better Funerals, Lower Costs"

We are now enrolled in the Preferred Partner Program at ChurchFunerals Direct Network. The mission of ChurchFunerals Direct is to provide a better overall funeral experience at a greatly reduced cost; often half of what you would pay somewhere else. We are happy to partner with them in their mission.

Because of our participation in their Preferred Partner Program, you can now receive a substantial Preferred Partner discount off their already low prices. Simply call them, day or night, at 1.800.308.3590 when a death occurs in your family and someone will arrive in about an hour.

Plus, if you meet with them now and preplan everything ahead of time, you also receive an additional Preplanning Discount. There is no cost or obligation when you meet with them, and you can get all of your questions answered.

If you've already preplanned somewhere else, it's easy to transfer those arrangements; even if you have already prepaid your funeral (and you'll likely receive a large refund).

You can call them at 1.800.308.3590 and schedule a time to meet, or simply request a free brochure. They are always open and available. You may also visit their website at www.churchfuneralsdirect.com to learn more.

800.308.3590

We Are Always Open And Available



Available locally, expanding nationally.

Visit us at www.churchfuneralsdirect.com or read our brochure for additional important information and disclosures.

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Youth Scoop August 2021

Clean and Kayak!

Sunday August 15th, 12p-5pm



Join us as we clean and prep the Pie Pan for our fundraiser at the fair! We will depart from St. John at noon. Bring money for lunch at subway in Hicksville. After we are done cleaning, we will go kayaking as a group on the river. Bring a friend!



Pie Pan @ Defiance County Fair!

August 21st-28th

Need lots of helpers and volunteers to work shifts throughout fair week. Youth and parents are strongly encouraged to work a few shifts at the Pie Pan. Congregation members are welcome to volunteer as well. Contact DCE Cassidy if you would be able to help. Signup on the youth bulletin board as well.

Pack and Swim!

Sunday August 29th, 12pm-6:30pm

Help us pack up the Pie Pan for the year and then go swimming at the Morris's. Bring swimsuit and towel. We leave from St. John at noon; pickup youth from Angie and Tim's home at 6:30.



Youth Activities:

Youth Nights are held on Sundays from 6:30-8pm for youth in 6th-12th grades. We do not meet on holiday weekends or after special events on Saturdays. Calendars can be found on the youth bulletin board next to the gym.

AUGUST

August 2021 Youth Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Youth Night 6:30-8:00pm	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 NYG Parent/youth meeting 12:15pm Youth Night "Life is Messy" 6:30-8pm	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Clean Pie Pan and Kayaking! 12pm-5pm No Youth Night	16	17	18	19	20	21 Pie Pan Start! 
22 No Youth Night (Pie Pan)	23	24	25	26	27	28 End of Fair
August 21 st -28 th – SJL Youth Pie Pan @ the Defiance Co. Fair!						
29 Pack up Pie Pan and Swim! 12pm-6:30pm No Youth Night	30	31				

<div>SUN</div> <div>Aug 1</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Worship Service 9:30am Adult Bible Classes 9:30am Worship Service 11am Contemporary Worship Service 	<div>MON</div> <div>2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Finance 1 6:30pm TeleCare Calling 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Life with God 	<div>TUE</div> <div>3</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am School FR 9:30am Food Pantry 6pm Long Range Planning Committee 	<div>WED</div> <div>4</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am School FR 11am Strummers & Hummers 1pm School Adult A 2pm Parables (Mews) 3:15pm Zoom Parables (Mews) 	<div>THU</div> <div>5</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am School Adult A 9am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 10am Exodus Bible Study 7pm Elder Meeting 	<div>FRI</div> <div>6</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Clothes Closet 	<div>SAT</div> <div>7</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Worship Service-Traditional
<div>8</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Worship Service 9:30am Adult Bible Classes 9:30am Worship Service 11am Contemporary Worship Service 12:15pm National Youth Parent Meeting 	<div>9</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Finance 2 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Life with God 7pm Preschool Parent Meeting FR 	<div>10</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Food Pantry 1pm Knit & Study 	<div>11</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Strummers & Hummers 11:30am Endowment 2pm Parables (Mews) 3:15pm Zoom Parables (Mews) 	<div>12</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 10am Exodus Bible Study 7pm Christian Day School Board Meeting 	<div>13</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Clothes Closet 	<div>14</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Worship Service-Traditional
<div>15</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Worship Service 9:30am Adult Bible Classes 9:30am Worship Service 11am Contemporary Worship Service 	<div>16</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Finance 1 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Life with God 	<div>17</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Food Pantry 6:30pm Altar Guild Meeting in Adult 6:30pm Trustees 	<div>18</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Strummers & Hummers 2pm Parables (Mews) 3:15pm Zoom Parables (Mews) 5:30pm Possible Cross Training Team 	<div>19</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 10am Exodus Bible Study 7pm Parish Planning Council 	<div>20</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Clothes Closet 	<div>21</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Worship Service-Traditional
<div>22</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Worship Service 9:30am Adult Bible Classes 9:30am Worship Service 11am Contemporary Worship Service 	<div>23</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Finance 2 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Life with God 	<div>24</div> <div>First Day of School</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Food Pantry 1pm Knit & Study 	<div>25</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Strummers & Hummers 2pm Parables (Mews) 3:15pm Zoom Parables (Mews) 	<div>26</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 10am Exodus Bible Study 2pm Ladies Aid Meeting 	<div>27</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Clothes Closet 	<div>28</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Worship Service-Traditional
<div>29</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Worship Service 9:30am Adult Bible Classes 9:30am Worship Service 11am Contemporary Worship Service 	<div>30</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Finance 1 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Cub Scouts 	<div>31</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Food Pantry 	<div>Sep 1</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11am Strummers & Hummers 2pm Parables (Mews) 3:15pm Zoom Parables (Mews) 6:30pm Cross Training 	<div>2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 10am Exodus Bible Study 7pm Elder Meeting 	<div>3</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Clothes Closet 	<div>4</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:30pm Worship Service-Traditional

FALL 2021 St. John Lutheran church, Defiance, Ohio

LIFE WITH GOD: (LWG) Starting, Monday, September 13, 2021

Does God exist? What happens after death? Why are there so many different religions? Can the Bible be trusted? Why do bad things happen to me? I want to learn more about Lutheranism and become a member of a Christian Church. St. John's "**Life with God,**" explores and answers these questions and more in an informal, enjoyable, yet beneficial way through a 12 session/week course called "**Life with God.**" (LWG) Sign up below, we ask that participants attend 10/12 classes and there are videos over each class that can be viewed for missed classes. For those who complete this course they can become communicant members if they desire. **Life with God** will be offered each Winter, Spring and Fall. **St. John members are asked to attend a "Life with God," class once every five years to renew and refresh their faith!**

TOPICS: Evidence for God's existence, Saving Faith, Baptism, The Lord's Supper, The Bible, Law and Gospel, Living a Christian Life, Being a part of the Body of Believers at St. John, Good Works, The Ten Commandments, Worship, Christian Stewardship. Come to learn and grow together.

DATES: Monday, September 13, 2021 to Monday, November 29, 2021. Classes are held on Monday Evenings in the Adult Bible Study room from 6:30-8:30 P.M.. A calendar will be shared then. Bring nothing, on the last class we will bring refreshments to share. After the 2nd class, no new class members are to join.

TEACHER: Pastor Mews, who has been teaching and leading this for 18 years.

FOR: Adults or High School students desiring to be members of St. John Lutheran Church, or those who want to support those attending. This is also for those who simply desire to renew their faith or explore the basic teachings of Christianity and Lutheranism.

REGISTRATION: To be turned in to the church office by **Sunday, September 12, 2021** or hand to a pastor.

Fall 2021 St. John Lutheran Church "Life with God" (LWG) Registration Form:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Baptized: Circle; Yes No Current Church Membership: _____

Check those which apply;

_____ I plan to attend Life with God and my desire is to become a communicant member of St. John.

_____ I plan to attend Life with God to renew my faith and/or to support a friend attending.

_____ I plan to attend Life with God to simply explore and learn about Christianity and Lutheranism.

_____ I plan to attend Life with God and will decide later about possible membership.