

"

# Be *kind* to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, has forgiven you." (Ephesians 4:32)

He knew he was guilty. He had cheated and then lied to cover up the cheating. His stories got larger, wilder, and dragged many others into their orbit. He was guilty. He knew that he deserved to be convicted but dreaded the punishment, dreaded getting caught. Then, he heard three words he never thought that he would hear, "I forgive you." Hopeless amounts of weight we removed from his life. He still faced getting caught and all the consequences that brings but he knew he was forgiven.

That can be any of us. In a way it is all of us. We are sinners. We rebel against God. We treat people poorly. We are not perfect, by any stretch of the imagination. What we are, though, is forgiven. From Jesus on the cross, to every trip to the table, from our private confessions in our heart to coming forward for absolution on Maundy Thursday, we are forgiven.

Forgiveness is one of the most kind things that God does to us. We don't deserve it and yet we are forgiven. Paul reminds us in Romans that even when we were enemies with God in our sin, we are forgiven. So Paul now calls us to forgive one another. Our kindness to one another can look like forgiveness.

When someone wrongs us, we could stew in resentment looking for ways to take vengeance. That stifles our growth as people and limits our actions. We could also reach out in kindness and forgive. By forgiving we give up all hope for a better past but we step into tomorrow with hope for better things.

Forgiveness can be hard, and for some nigh on impossible, but through forgiveness God's kindness to us lives on. We are not called upon to forget the ill done, but to forgive the other, to forgive ourselves, can open a world of hope that only God's love can help us to find.

So let us be kind and tenderhearted. Let us forgive one another so that hope may spring in our lives and the lives of those around us. It may be difficult, but that is our calling.

Blessings, Pastor Steve





# Lori Holt



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We will now be in the heart of summer! Baseball, flowers are in full bloom, baseball, lawnmowers are running, baseball, and allergies are insane!!!

I don't know if I've ever said this before, but I grew up very patriotic. This was because of my Dad. Not only was in the Army, then the Army reserves and the National Guard; he was also born on Independence Day, making him my Yankee Doodle Dad!! When Dad raised the American flag, after it was raised, he saluted the Stars and Stripes. I find it very ironic, but perhaps meant to be that having a Dad who was born on such a patriotic day that the man I married was born on Flag Day. I think this is so cool!! So on both of their birthdays, June 14 and July 4, please remember to fly your flag. But you can always fly your flag every day!!

Happy 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday to my youngest grandson, Ross!!

Happy 246<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Stars and Stripes!!

Happy Birthday to my Honey, Steve!!

Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary to Stephanie and Craig!!

Happy 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Nolan, the young man who made me a Granvol!!

Happy 247<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the United States Independence!!

Happy 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday to my Yankee Doodle Dad!!

Happy 41<sup>st</sup> Birthday to my son, Andy!!

Love in Christ,

Lori





Volunteer hours are tracked each month at the Thrift Shop and included in a report to church council. These hours are generously given and basically represent the hours that the Thrift Shop is open to customers...10 to 4 each weekday. What these numbers don't reflect are the many hours that volunteers invest in this ministry away from the Shop. One person takes all of the donated shopping bags home and folds and stores them in shoe boxes to be used at the register as people check out. Another person gets great satisfaction when

she takes the silver and brass items home and polishes them until they shine. And a third volunteer has been known to take bags of children's clothes home for sorting and tagging. There are also times when toys and electronics are taken home to be checked and tested before they are placed on the shelves for sale. All of these activities and others are done by our volunteers on their own time because they are dedicated to and believe in the mission of the St. John's Thrift Shop.

All of the St. John's Thrift Shop volunteers are a blessing and we thank God for them and their dedication to this calling. If you would like to know more about volunteering at the Thrift Shop, please contact Mary at 937-492-0337.

**April Thrift Shop Statistics** 

Clients: 17

16 Assistance: \$280.14

1 In-kind Assistance: 5.40

Last month's "What is this?" answer ... Wilton cake separator used to make cupcakes with an outer cake flavor different than the center flavor.



In all our giving, our service, and our worship, we do "beautiful things" for the One who died for us!



# St. John's Church Council Meeting Minutes

#### ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

May 8, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**: Vice President, Kaleb Headings **OPENING DEVOTION**: Pastor Steve Edmiston

**AGENDA REVIEW:** Addition: New business: Recommendation on future plans for Church bus. \*Tina Ike moved to approve as amended, Norb Mertz seconded. Motion passed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

### July council meeting

As has historically been the case, Council takes a break during the month of July. \*Pastor Steve moved to cancel the council meeting in July, Margy Headings seconded. Motion passed.

#### **Bus recommendation**

Norb Mertz gave a report that the bus continues to need additional maintenance/repairs while also seeing a decrease in usage. The property committee's recommendation is to sell the bus, put the proceeds into a special account that can be held if future purchase is desired, and/or used for vehicle rentals as needed in the meantime. \*Kaleb Headings moved to table the decision and revisit discussion during net meeting to determine the future of the bus, Wes Cavinder seconded. Motion passed.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

### Wellman construction update

Thomas Martin reported last month that we are on the Wellman schedule for late June/early July. Per our agreement to Memorial Committee, they asked that we arrange an outside resource with expertise in the construction field to review Wellman's work in order to confirm that it was completed as quoted. \*Tina Ike moved to confirm Frank & Ed Langenkamp to complete inspections on Wellman's work and pay them each \$100, Margy Headings seconded. Motion passed.

### **Servicing of elevator**

Work completed.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**: A copy of the Secretary's report was distributed with the agenda. \*Pr. Steve moved to accept the report as submitted, Norb Mertz seconded. Motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Thomas Martin was not able to attend due to sickness. Report was submitted but not reviewed in detail.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

Pastor Report: Report reviewed by Pastor Steve. Points reviewed: catechism winding down and service will be Sun Aug 6, current Bible study is covering Romans, Pr. Steve's daughter graduates college and he will not be here for Mother's Day – Jeff Blust will be covering, Synod Assembly is Sat June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Peace Lutheran church in Beavercreek, Pr. Steve will not be here for Father's day due to being out of state for a family function, VBS coming up in July.

Volunteer Coordinator Report: No report submitted.

Thrift Shop Report: Financial statement submitted, no additional report.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Ministry – Education & Youth:* Per Joyce, VBS is being set for 2nd week in July, Tues-Thurs. Per Tatum, youth group gathers 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month.

Ministry – Music & Worship: Per Margy, this group is coupling with Evangelism and Parish Life to develop an initiative to grow small group activities in the church. More to come.

Outreach – Evangelism: Per Linda, meeting with Music & Worship on small group initiative.

Outreach – Parish Life: Per Wes, beginning in June, Parish Life committee will be offering donuts and coffee the first Sunday of the month in the coffee area.

Operations – Finance: Per Tina, no report.

Operations – Property: Per Norb, leak in Thrift Shop needs attention.

### Church Council Minutes continues

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**DEVOTIONS:** Pastor Steve

#### **INFORMATION:**

Sign-up sheets for communion assistants and devotions.

Newsletter deadline: Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>

Next Council Meeting: Monday June 12, 7pm. Exec mtg 6:30.

#### ATTENDANCE:

Wes Cavinder, Pr. Steve Edmiston, Joyce Fishbaugh, Linda Fogt, Kaleb Headings, Margy Headings, Tina Ike, Becky Mann, Deb Mertz, Norb Mertz, Tatum Werntz, John Widney. Excused: Jacob Cook, Jen Maier, Thomas Martin.

### **Altar Guild Volunteers**

June

Josie Goffena & Patti Puckett

July

Renee Davis & Kathy Iwanski

Morgan's Place
Dine to Donate
June, 5, 2023 11 am-9 pm
Firehouse Subs in the Kroger Plaza, Sidney

# **Senior Group Event**

Thursday, June 8
Jack's Cabin Restaurant
& Bears Mill

**Greenville Ohio** 

Meeting at the church parking lot leaving at 11:15 am.

To Sign up, call the church office 937-492-8047.

## You're Invited to Garbry Ridge Assisted Living

"Lunch and Learn"

Wednesday, June 7th at 11 am

1567 Garbry Ridge Road, Piqua

Advanced Directives with Medicaid Explained with Elder Law Attorney, George Lovett

Power of Attorneys, Living Wills, Medicaid Planning, etc.

RSVP, 937-418-7624



# Garbry Ridge Assisted Living Presents "Concert on the Lawn"

1567 Garbry Rd Piqua June 27 at 6-7:30 pm

Come Join us for a concert with Noah Back and enjoy great music and fun times! Snacks provide-bring your own lawn chair! RSVP to Pam Miller at 937-778-9385 GarbryRidge. com

# St. John's Info!

# Romans Bible Study

Thursdays through June 22 at 7pm, Pastor Steve will lead a Bible Study on Paul's letter to the Romans. This fascinating book looks at our lives as Christians in relationship with God and with the people around us. Class will end by 8:30 each evening. You are invited to join us in opening our Bibles and listening for God's word for each of us and all of us.

The Quilting Circle
Fellowship Hall 9 am
Wednesday
June 28/July 26
If you would like to join,
please just show up!



# **Senior Lunch**

Thursday, June 13/Jul 11. Details to follow.

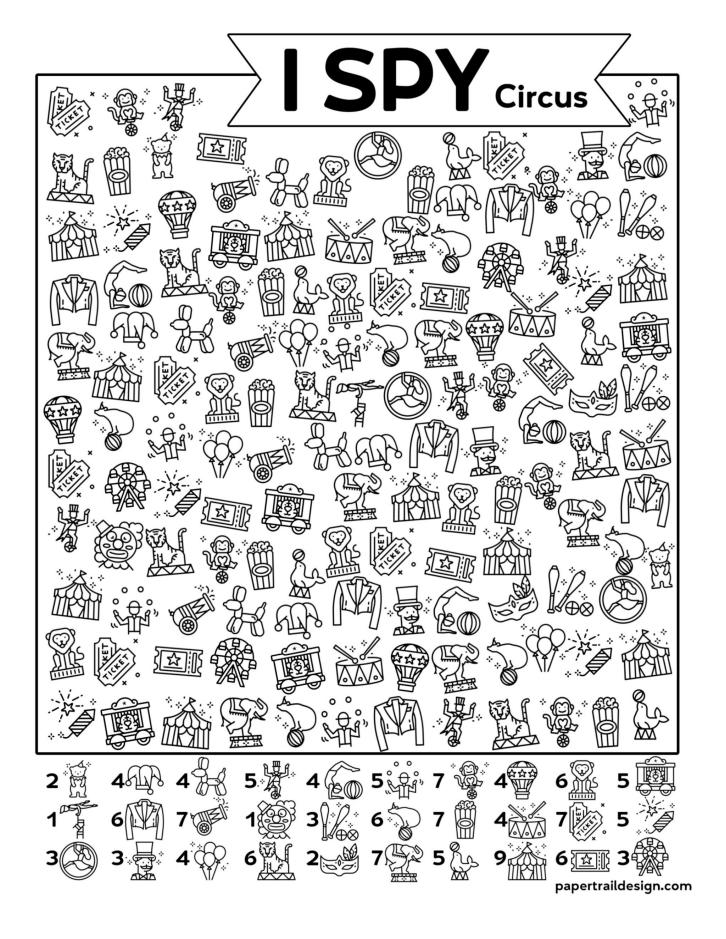
If you would like to have an opportunity to volunteer, try Altar Guild. During a month, once a week, the sanctuary candles and altar cloths would need tended to. It is a rewarding and easy way to get involved. Please call the church office.

Joy Circle Tuesday, Jun 20/ Jul 18 1 pm

# Dorothy Love Monthly Worship Service

10 am, June 20 &
July 18, 2023
Pastor Steve presiding.
Please stop by and join
us for worship!





### ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

120 W. WATER STREET SIDNEY, OHIO 45365

PHONE: 937-492-8047 FAX: 937-492-2462 http://www.sidneystjohns.com

> ST. JOHN'S THRIFT SHOP 319 SOUTH OHIO AVE. SIDNEY, OH 45365 PHONE: 937-492-0337

## WORSHIP SERVICES:

SATURDAY, 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, 8:30 & 10:30 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30 AM

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20



### Please pray for our Homebound Members and mail them a card to:

Doris Conrad, 2360 Wapak Ave. #106, Sidney, Oh 45365

Erika Montgomery, 2333 Apache Dr., Sidney, Oh 45365

Rhonda Vance, 1302 Spruce St., Sidney, Oh 45365

Dick Wilson, 5577 Heathrow Dr., Powell, Oh 43065-7970

Dorothy Love, 3003 W. Cisco Road, Sidney, Oh 45365

*Residents:* 

Norma Durnell-W15, Marilyn Brulport-E14, Wayne Brockman, E-20 and Christine Weber-A03

**Dorothy Love Apartments**:2500 N. Kuther Rd.

Margaret Ike, Apt. 213

Jeanne Mears, Apt. 301, Sidney, Oh 45365

**Dorothy Love Homes:** 

Jerry Gibbs, 701 Bennett Circle

### **Shelby Skilled Nursing**

Mildred Hughes, 705 Fulton St., Rm. 8, Sidney, Oh 45365

### **Birchaven Village Home**

Helen Dill, 15100 Birchaven Lane, Birch 40, Findlay, Ohio 45840

Fair Haven, 2901 Fair Rd., Sidney, Oh1150

Residents: None at this time

Landings of Sidney, 1150 Russell Road, Sidney, Oh 45365

Resident: LeRue Gooder, Rm. 506

Phyliss Blust, Rm. 508

### Heartland

Pamela Morgan, 275 Kienle Drive, Room 409, Piqua, Oh 45356

<u>Vancrest Assist. Living</u>, 1035 Hager St., St Mary's, Oh 45885 Paul Shreffler

# God's Vision, Our Mission

At St. John's, we are given the opportunity to worship God, study His Word, and serve Him in many capacities, while at the same time enjoying Christian fellowship. Please consider ways that you can get involved!

H	3 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm	10 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm	17 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm	24 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm	
SAT	NA NA Or	NA Or	NA NA OF	NA NA Or	· • · •
FRI	2 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm	9 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm	16 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm	23 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm	30 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm
THU	1 Bible Study, 7 pm	8 Bible Study, 7 pm <b>Senior Lunch, 12</b> pm	15 Bible Study, 7 pm	22 Bible Study, 7 pm	59
WED		7 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm	14 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm	21 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm	28 Quilting, 9 am
TUE		Q	13	20 Dorothy Love, 10 am JOY Circle, 1 pm	27
MON		5 AA, 12 pm	12 AA, 12 pm Church Commit- tee, 6 pm Church Council, 7 pm	19 AA, 12 pm	26 Office Closed AA, 12 pm
SUN	Church Office Open Mon-Thurs. 8-3 pm Fri., 8 am-12:30 pm	4 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	11 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	18 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school & WFC, 9:30 am Happy Father's Day	25 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am, WFC, 9::30 am

SAT	1 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm	8 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm	15 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm	22 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm	29 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm	
FRI		7 AA, 12 pm	14 AA, 12 pm	21 AA, 12 pm	28 AA, 12 pm	
THU		9	Senior Lunch, 12 pm  Vacation Bible School 6-8 pm	20	27	
WED		5 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm	12 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm Vacation Bible School 6-8 pm	19 AA, 12 pm	26 AA, 12 pm Quilting, 9 am PB&J, 5:30 pm	
TUE		4 Office Closed Independence Day	Vacation Bible School 6-8 pm	18 Dorothy Love, 10 am JOY Circle, 1 pm	25	
MON		3 AA, 12 pm	10	17 AA, 12 pm	24 AA, 12 pm	31 AA, 12 pm
NOS	Church Office Open Mon-Thurs. 8-3 pm Fri., 8 am-12:30 pm	2 One Worship Service, 9:30 am	9 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	16 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am Youth Mtg., 6 pm	Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am, Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am Wired for Christ, 9:30 am	30 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am, Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am