

Alleluia!
He is Risen!



Hoppy Easter!



Lenten Services

You are invited to attend our Lenten services. The date and times are below.

Wed. March 6 7 pm

Wed. March 13 7 pm

Wed. March 20 7 pm

Holy Week Worship Services

Palm Sun, Mar. 24 Sat. 6 pm,

Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 am

Maundy Thu, Mar. 28 7 pm

Good Fri, Mar. 29 1 pm & 7 pm

Easter Sun, Mar. 31 8:30 & 10:30 am



Growing up, one of the greatest things for me was when I was able to come forward for Holy Communion. Once in high school I loved being able to help serve communion. As a pastor, one of the things I truly love is being able to preside over communion, bringing God's gifts and the real presence of Jesus to the people gathered along with me. The gift of the table, the presence of Jesus, the forgiveness, life, and salvation that comes to us is remarkable and I am awed every single time.

As we journey through Lent and move toward the Easter celebrations, we have the opportunity to come to the altar, to the table of our Lord, in repentance, needy and hopeful knowing that Jesus is here with comfort and challenge, with forgiveness and guidance. Taking the time for continued confession in Lent, leads us to profound moments at the table where we can truly feel the depth of God's love. I hope that you will join us in worship and at table for these moments which come as true gifts in Jesus our Lord.

Also in Lent it is time for me to do First Communion instruction for any of our students fourth grade or older who haven't had that opportunity. We will meet for two Sundays going over the meaning and the procedures for receiving this profound gift of God. If you are, or know, of a student who fits these criteria please let me know. There is no more wonderful moment than knowing that you are in the presence of Jesus who loves you truly, deeply, and completely. Instruction will be held on March 17 and 24 during Sunday School. First Communion will be available then on either Maundy Thursday, or Easter Sunday. I am excited to help others to come to the table of our Lord.

Pastor Steve

Lori Holt

Brothers and Sisters,

- Here we are, March!! Many things happen in March. March Madness,
- Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am on the 10th, the 17th is St. Patrick's Day, and Spring begins on the 19th.

March 24 begins Holy Week with Palm Sunday, the 28th is Maundy Thursday, the 29th is Good Friday, and March 31 we celebrate Easter!!

- We will, of course, continue midweek Lenten worship on March 6, 13 and 20. Please join us as we continue to learn about the prophets.

As Easter approaches, we can't help but remember John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Good and Merciful God, thank you for loving us so much. Amen

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!! Hallelujah!!

May you all have a most blessed Easter!!

Happy 46th Anniversary, Steve!!

Love in the Risen Christ,

Lori



St. John's Info!

Coffee Time!

Every *first Sunday of the month*, 9:30 am, we will be having a fellowship gathering in our church "Christ and Coffee" bar for coffee,



Altar Guild Volunteers March

Lori Holt
Karen Olding

Youth Meeting

6 pm Sunday, Mar. 17

Dorothy Love Monthly Worship Service

10 am, Mar. 19

Pastor Steve presiding.

Joy Circle
Mar. 19
Tuesday, 1 pm

Quilting Circle
to meet
Mar. 27, 9 am

The St. John's Thrift Shop is not just about shopping...

It's about *happiness* when a homeless client stops in to say they have a job prospect.

It's about *sadness* when a volunteer passes away and when we read the obituary of a regular customer.

It's about *well wishes* when a young woman is returning to college after being home to visit family.

It's about *concern* when customers head home on icy streets.

It's about *smiles* when a gentleman talks about his horses.

It's about *sharing* when a young man arrives in Sidney from the Carolinas and is in need of a winter coat.

It's about *joy* when we hear of a great grandbaby arriving soon.

It's about hugs when you're down in the dumps.

The St. John's Thrift Shop is not just about shopping...*It's about loving our neighbors!*



January Thrift Shop Statistics

Clients:	37
28 Assistance:	\$863.88
9 In-kind Assistance:	\$17.75

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

JESUS IS RISEN!

St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Date: Feb 12, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: President Kaleb Headings

OPENING DEVOTIONS: Pastor Steve Edmiston

AGENDA REVIEW: Additions to new business of a summer softball league and AED training to old business was submitted by Kaleb Headings. Moved to approve as amended by Kaleb and seconded by Myron Koester. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Grant Covault contacted the church about developing a team for a coed church softball league. Will meet one time per week on Thursdays, will run from May to August and will play at Flannigan Park. The requirements are that players have to be 18 yrs old or older and the team must have at least one female. The cost will be \$40 per player and the only cost to the church would be t-shirts and /or hats (however this is not necessary).

It was decided to turn this over to Parish Life Committee to contact Grant and clarify equipment needs.

It was also suggested that Thomas check to see if there are already set aside funds for this as there had previously been a softball team.

Grant is asking to have this publicized to the congregation.

OLD BUSINESS:

The AED has arrived and has been installed in the connector.

This was announced but it was felt that a list of congregation members that have current training with AED would be advisable. This will be announce in church. Will also speak to fire department requiring church requirements.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Due to the change in council members, many of the council did not get the secretary's reports. This was printed, past out and read at the meeting. Kaleb and Pastor Steve submitted spelling corrections. Jen motioned to approve with as amended and Kaleb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Thomas was unable to attend this meeting. The treasurer's report was submitted written and it was pointed out that the report format had changed. Council is to review and email Thomas if there are questions. The report will be approved and /or amended at the next meeting.

Staff Report

* Pastor Report -

-Committees were announced as follows:

Ministry - Education & Youth: Tatum Werntz & Michelle Cavinder

Ministry- Music and Worship: Deb Mertz & Becky Mann

Outreach - Evangelism: John Widney & Wes Cavinder

Outreach - Parish Life: Jen Meier & Ann Huber

Operations - Finance: Thomas Martin

Operations - Property: Norb Mertz, Myron Koester, & Kaleb

Headings

-2 funerals

-Pastor reports that he had a wonderful and refreshing visit with his brother

-Preparing for Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday. Ann Hubler offered to assist in communion distribution for this.

- Stacy's father Roger is in Hospice so Pastor Steve may need to take the week after Easter to go with her to visit the family.

-Synod Assembly is Friday and Saturday May 31 and June 1, 2024. 2 delegates may attend (1 male and 1 female) and Pastor Steve. Pastor Steve asked all to think about participating.

* Volunteer Coordinator - No report

* Thrift Shop Report- Financial report enclosed

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ministry- Education & Youth: Sharon Koester may be away for a couple of weeks on babysitting duty so may not be able to assemble bags. Tatum and Michelle will assist with this.

Ministry- Music & Worship: Deb reports that bell choir practice will start up in March and plan to play on Palm Sunday. Irish Strings will play March 17th and volunteers to participate are welcome.

Outreach - Evangelism: No meeting

Outreach - Parish Life: Jen and and had started discussing meals for Lent services but it was decided that the change in committee members was too close to being able to organize this therefore the committee will plan to do next year. Deb Mertz states that she will help with this.

Operations - Finance: No report

Operations - Property: No report

Additional notes-

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pastor Steve's father in law - Roger

Jen Maier's father in law - Joe

DEVOTIONS: John Widney

INFORMATION:

* Sign up sheets for communion assistants and devotions posted

* Newsletter deadline : Feb 290, 2024

* Next Council Meeting: March 11, 2024

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Michelle Cavinder, Wes Cavinder, Pastor Steve Edmiston, Kaleb Headings, Margy Headings, Ann Huber, Myron Koester, Jen Maier, Norm Mertz, Tatum Wertz, Deb Mertz, John Widney

Excused: Becky Mann, Thomas Martin



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

COUNCIL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CORE)

Happy New Year!

There have been so many amazing things happening with CORE this year. We want to share with you what God has been doing right here in our community! We could not do what we do without the support of all of you.

PROGRAM EXPANSION

At the beginning of 2023, CORE began the process of expanding from serving 1st and 2nd grade to also serve 3rd and 4th grade. This was a very big decision, since just a few short years ago in 2021, we were told by Sidney City Schools, they no longer had time in the school day schedule for CORE. We did not believe God felt the same way, so we rallied our community and through much prayer, we fought for God and the children and won! So this year, we took a giant leap of faith requesting even more time with the students. Though we encountered many uphill battles of resistance, we continued to prepare for the upcoming year, purchasing a 50 ft trailer, hiring a second full time teacher and getting the word out to parents about our expansion. Because of your prayers, God's will prevailed! Not only did the parents sign their kids up, but there were so many permission forms turned in, the school had to go from giving us 5 classes a week to 18! We currently have over 220 students enrolled in CORE from 3rd and 4th grade! Not to mention, we have gained favor with the schools and continue to do our best to build relationships with them and with the students. We have even been able to provide brand new winter coats and gloves to 16 needy children, along with other student and school needs.

WE NEED HELP

Because of our growth, we are still looking for classroom aides and also a substitute teacher. If you know of anyone that would like to be a part of our ministry, please reach out to us with your recommendations.

A HEARTFELT THANKS

We would like to thank our previous president, Scott Dorsey, and our treasurer, Patti Puckett, for their many, many years of serving on the Council. We will be forever grateful for their dedication to CORE. Our new officers include President, Doug Billenstein, Vice President, Bruce Toal, Secretary, Pam Wagner, and Treasurer, Joyce Fishbaugh.

Thank you for continuing to partner with us as we serve those in our community with tremendous, unconditional love. Your support through prayer, service, and monetary donations continue to make all of this possible. We look forward to working together for years to come!

Any questions or comments please email us at councilofreligiouseducation@gmail.com
Or contact Lead Teacher, Shavon Puckett (937) 538-8983 or
Council Member, John Young (937) 524-9345

Save The Date for Family Camp 2024 July 16th - 20th

Tue 4pm-Sat noon



Family Detectives

Unlocking Bible Mysteries

Lutheran Memorial Camp at HopeWood Pines

2790 State Route 61, Marengo, OH 43334



For registration information, scan this QR code
to go to <http://myfamilycamp.com/register>

or text Kathy Gaiser 937-287-4569

Council of Religious Education (CORE)



HOPE FOR THE HURTING



The Council of Religious Education has been bringing the Gospel to students enrolled in Sidney City Schools for over 100 years! We currently have almost 500 students, serving grades 1st-4th teaching 38 classes a week! This year we were also able to give out 16 coats and gloves to children in need, among other needs within the school. God is doing big things inside and outside the classroom!

How to support CORE at no cost to you! Shop at Kroger and they donate to CORE!

1. Create or sign in to your Kroger account.
2. Go to My Account or Rewards depending on your device.
3. Click on Community Rewards.
4. Search "Council of Religious Education".
5. That's it! Thank you!

Would you like to join us and be a bigger part of advancing God's kingdom?! We are currently looking for classroom aides (40 minute classes) and a paid, substitute teacher. If you have any interest in this or can recommend anyone who may be interested, please contact councilofreligiouseducation@gmail.com or Lead Teacher, Shavon Puckett at (937)538-8983 or CORE Member, John Young at (937)524-9345



Easter Fun!



He is ⁺Easter Crossword

Risen Solve the clues and fill out the grid

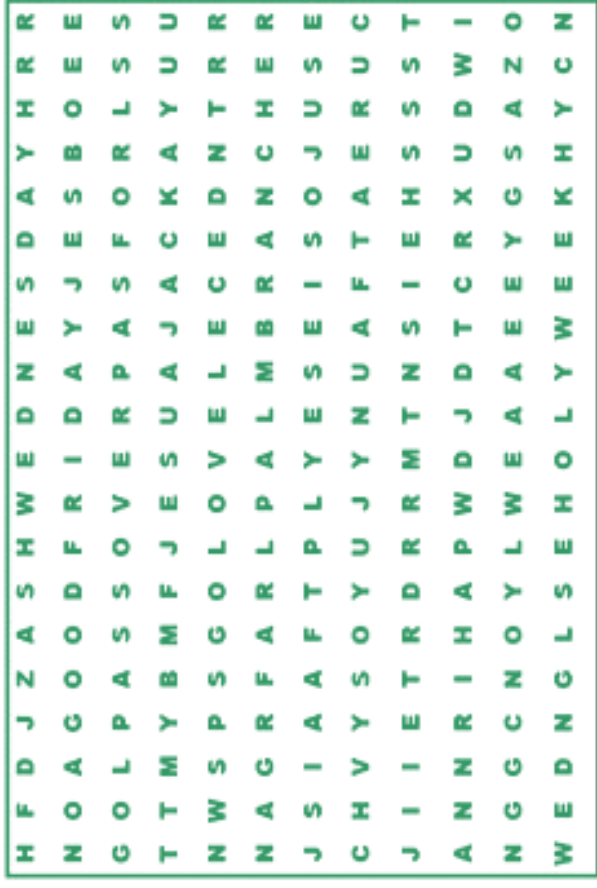
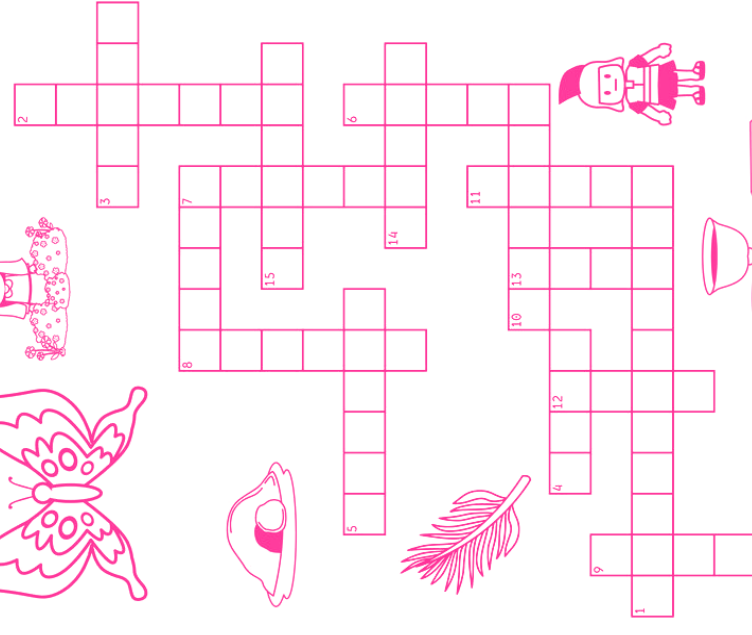


DOWN

2. A marvelously unexpected and beneficial event
6. The opposite of birth
7. A paradise where the blessed are reunited with their deceased loved ones
8. A living organism that typically produces petals, leaves, and a stem
9. A burial chamber
11. A representation of the Christian faith
12. A strong feeling of care and admiration
13. A feeling of trust in a desired outcome

ACROSS

1. The process of ceasing to feel resentment against someone
3. The disposition to be kind and forgiving
4. A type of evergreen tree found in tropical climates
5. A four-legged beast of burden
8. A strong belief in a supernatural power
10. A house of prayer
14. A figure of light in some religions
15. A spiritual communion with God or an object of worship



Ash	Holy Week	Palm Branch
Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Forty Days
Sacrifice	Good Friday	Jesus
Almsgiving	Holy Saturday	Passover
Prayer	Easter	Foot Washing
Fasting	Palm Sunday	Resurrection
Lent	Purple	Love

HE IS RISEN
Hallelujah!

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:

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

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

Margaret Ike, Apt. 213
Jeanne Mears, Apt. 301
Gary Paul, Apt. 324
Dick Clark, Apt. 303N

Dorothy Love Homes:

Jerry Gibbs, 701 Bennett Circle, Sidney, Oh 45365

Koester Pavilion

Mildred Hughes, 3232 N. Co. Rd. 25-A, Room 35, Troy, Oh 45373

Birchaven Village Home

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

Fair Haven, 2901 Fair Rd., Sidney, Oh 45365

Residents: None at this time


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

Resident: LeRue Gooder, Rm. 506
Phyliss Blust, Rm. 508
Linda Steenrod, Rm. ?

Heartland

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!*

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Church Office Open Mon-Thurs. 8-3 pm Fri., 8 am-12:30 pm					1 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm	2 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm
3 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	4 AA, 12 pm		6 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm Lent Service, 7 pm	7 Bells, 6:30 pm	8 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm	9 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm
10 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	11 AA, 12 pm Church Committee, 6 pm Church Council, 7 pm		13 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm Lent Service, 7 pm	14 Senior Lunch, 12 pm Bells, 6:30 pm	15 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm	16 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm
17 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am Youth Meeting, 6 pm St. Patrick's Day	18 AA, 12 pm Right to Life Contest, 6 pm	19 Dorothy Love, 10 am JOY Circle, 1 pm	20 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm Lent Service, 7 pm	21 Bells, 6:30 pm	22 Office Closes, 12:30 pm AA, 12 pm	23 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm
24 Palm Sunday Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am **** 31 Easter Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	25 AA, 12 pm	26	27 Quilting, 9 am AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm	28 Maundy Thursday, Worship, 7 pm	29 Good Friday, Worship, 1 pm & 7 pm	30 No Worship service NA, 8 pm