ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2025

FISHING FOR MIRACLES

Vacation Bible School Highlights













HISTORIC SIDNEY CHURCH TOUR



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN



FIRST BAPTIST



FIRST METHODIST



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN



HOLY ANGELS CATHOLIC

SEPTEMBER

21

3:00 PM

Join us as we visit six historic churches in downtown Sidney and celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the First Presbyterian and Sidney First Methodist Churches.

RSVP FOR THIS FREE TOUR TODAY!

For questions and to RSVP, please call (937) 498 - 1653 or send an email to info@shelbycountyhistory.org

Pastor Steve Edmiston

I like stories. I like fairy tales and fables, short stories, novels, and movies that tell stories. I love to listen to life stories, passages from time in the lives around us. I also love the parables of Jesus, the stories Jesus shares with us to gives us something to ponder and chew over as we are challenged and grow in our faith.

Stories are wonderful because they provide us with enough detail to engage us to hook us into the world of the story. The parables all use normal, everyday things to attempt to show us the kingdom of God, or the judgment of God, always the grace of God. As we enter into the worlds we find in Jesus stories, we meet God and God's love as it is shown to us in Jesus our Lord.

In September, the gospel for three of our Sundays will be parables. Some of them are well known and "easy." We have the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin, we have all pondered these. But we also have the "sneaky steward" who goes behind his master's back and also the one about the rich man and Lazarus. Sometimes these stories can challenge us and make us feel uncomfortable, but Jesus has shared them all to bring us into the presence of God's love.

So, I invite you to spend some time with us in church this month. Visit with your sisters and brothers in Christ. Come to the table of the Lord, invited and welcomed, forgiven and loved. On September 7, there will be donuts. All sorts of reason to come and be enchanted by, and challenged by, the stories Jesus tells us hoping to inspire our lives to be lived in love. I hope to see you soon.

Pastor Steve

Romans 12:2: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Lori Holt

Brothers and Sisters.

September, can you believe it? Autumn is right around the corner!! I can't wait, although, this summer has been mild!!

I want to take this opportunity to thank Bill and Brenda McCroskey!! They are the reason we have streaming and sound at 8:30 worship and many of our special services!! According to Bill, on web site visits, after the United States is Singapore. Viewing of the videos on YouTube is typically about 42% United States with the balance international. WMVR reaches 9 countries with our worship service. Regarding the slides Bill and Brenda put together, recording and production of the radio show, it takes 4-5 hours. They look at what the Holy Spirit can do with this! Bill said if one person finds God through what they do, they are humbled and all Glory to God. He then quoted Isaiah 43:19 "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." You two are indispensable, and we really can't thank you enough, Bill and Brenda!!

I don't know if any of you saw movies at our Auto-Vue Drive-In. As of the end of September, it's closed. This is breaking my heart, but I'm not the only one. I've gotten to know many who love this place as I do. My parents went there when they were dating and brought me when I was little. I spent so much time there when I was growing up and then into high school. I've been pretty much a permanent fixture there for the last 8 years. I can't believe it's not going to be there next year. I pray she finds a new location.

Happy Birthday, Stephanie!! Love in Christ, Lori



Altar Guild Volunteer September Kathie Fields/Pat Mullen

We Need Volunteers! Sign up today!

Dorothy Love Monthly Worship Service 10 am Sept. 16



Coffee Time!

Every first Sunday of the month, 1

9:30 am, we will be having a fellowship gathering in our church "Christ and Coffee" bar for coffee, donuts, and fellowship!

Quilting Circle
to meet
Wednesday,
Sept. 24

Joy Circle
1 pm
Tuesday
Sept. 16

St. John's Thrift Shop

Melissa Barhorst

Summer is over and with school starting vacations are done and things can get back to normal.

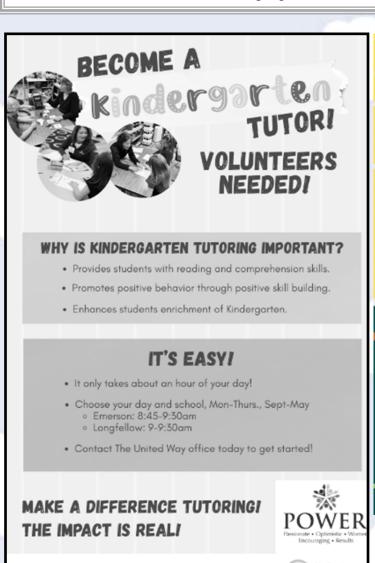
We will be having a bag sale for all clothes starting August 25th to get ready for Fall changeover, which will start Thursday afternoon September 4- Monday September 8 and we will open ready for Fall on September 9th. We are doing a major changeover so if you or anyone you know would like to participate, I would be very grateful. You can let me know at 937-492-0337. This is going to be a major change for the thrift shop to help it flow better!

I have so many ideas and am loving every minute of being the Director of this ministry. I believe we help everyone that walks through the shop's doors by offering them clothes and goods for a discounted price than any retail store.

God has me here and I am going to be obedient to what He wants me to do as well as being fiscally responsible with what we have thus why I have been trying to find more prudent ways to run the shop.

Proverbs 13:16 says "Wise people think before they act; fools don't and even brag about their foolishness." (NLT)

12 people for In Kind of \$60.75 7 people for Cash Assistance of \$120



Contact Amy West at 937.492.2101 ext. 1003

or awesteshelbycountyunitedway.org



Ways You can Help Our Community



UNITED WAY

St. John's Church Council Minutes

St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Date: August 11, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: by President Myron Koester

OPENING DEVOTIONS: Pastor Steve Edmiston

AGENDA REVIEW: Pastor Steve motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Seconded by

Pat M. Motion passed

NEW BUSINESS:

Shelby County Historical Society is arranging a tour of 6 churches in Sidney, including St. John's Lutheran Church, that have been a long time part of the community. Sept 21, 2025. Will involve a walk through guided by Pastor Steve (he would welcome others to assist).

OLD BUSINESS:

Lift chair ideas for interior: Myron states trying to brain storm to come up with ideas. Pastor Steve points out that he has seen other churches attempt this with insufficient space on steps and was not satisfactory.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A copy of the Secretary's report was distributed with the agenda. Kathy V. moved to approve as submitted and Kaleb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's Report was distributed. Ann H. moved to approve the report as submitted. Pat seconded the motion. Motion passed. The report was reviewed by Dave B.

STAFF REPORT:

Pastor Report- Presented by Pastor Steve

Frost Roofing came in with drone and found some flaw in the area above the altar that could be repaired with caulking but otherwise is in great condition. This has been done and Frost Roofing thinks that will take care of the problem. Suggest the church wait until fall to do any paint repair to make sure. Wes C. questioned if a routine inspection should be done every 4 yrs (currently done every 5 yrs for the parking lot). Ann H. moved to place on calendar and Deb M. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Two funerals since last meeting.

Susan Dillahunt was elected as Bishop

VBS was well attended and very successful.

A. Jacob was given First Communion.

Pastor Steve's grandson was born.

Participated in Eagle Scout ceremony for Kaia Kellersmith

Pastor Steve will be out next week to travel to Stacy's mother's and pick up a car.

Will be home by Aug 21 to perform graveside service for Jerry Gibbs.

Jeff Blust will be performing services on August 24 so there will be no communion that Sunday.

- Volunteer Coordinator Report no reports submitted
- Thrift Shop Report Financial report enclosed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ministry - Education & Youth:

VBS was successful. 27 kids showed up for the sign up event. Some of these children and their families have since come to church for services. VBS had great numbers in volunteers at VBS, with those helping hand out flyers at Farmer's Market, and with the carnival sign up event. All of these efforts seemed to have a significant impact on participation and will be repeated next year.

Ministry - Music & Worship:

Deb is trying to get a small bell choir to perform in the chapel.

Bell Choir practice will start in Sept.

Becky is playing old hymns at the end of 10:30 service that the congregation attempt to identify. The timing of this was discussed but Pastor Steve currently likes it at the end of the service to encourage congregation interaction after service. May revisit this timing next year.

Outreach - Evangelism:

Participated in the sign up event (carnival) for VBS

No meeting

Outreach - Parish Life:

No meeting

Operations - Finance:

Dave stated that Melissa will make payroll this month.

Dave pointed out that Melissa is doing a wonderful job in her new role as Director of the Lutheran Thrift Shop

Operations - Property:

Roof repair is now complete

Looking for ideas to solve the arch repair at the front entrance of the church. Josh has spoken to several companies and is waiting for some recommendations for this. It would be very costly and time consuming to replace the limestone. It was pointed out that the arch is safe.

Additional Notes:

PRAYER REQUEST: Family of Jerry Gibbs

DEVOTIONS: Margy Headings

INFORMATION:

*sign up sheets for communion assistants and devotions was passed

*Newsletter deadline: Wednesday, August 20, 2025
*Next council meeting: Monday, September 8, 2025

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Pastor Steve Edmiston, Myron Koester, Josh Ward, Michelle Cavinder, Wes Cavinder, Ann Hubler, Kathy Vogler, Kaleb Headings, Deb Mertz, Dave Bollheimer, Pat Mullen, Margy Headings

Absent:

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

God's Vision, Our Mission

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

Elaine Boughner, 736 Stratford Dr., 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

Christine Weber-A03

Brenda Riddle, A-23

Dorothy Love Apartments: 2400 N. Kuther Rd., Sidney, Oh

Margaret Ike, Apt. 213

Jeanne Mears, Apt. 301

Gary Paul, Apt. 324

Dick Clark, Apt. 303N

Shirley Sparks, Apt. 117

Koester Pavilion

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

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

Phyllis Blust, Rm. 508

Linda Steenrod, Rm. 802

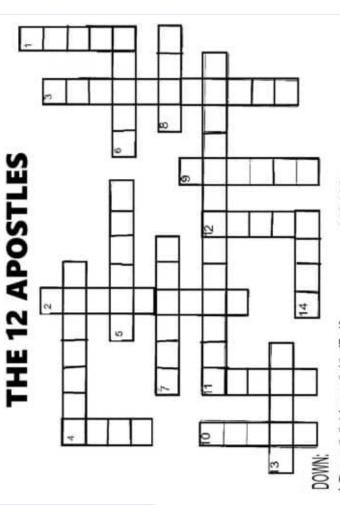
Nick Miller, Rm. 306

Ayden Health Care (Piqua) 275 Kienle Drive, Piqua, Oh 45356

Pamela Morgan Rm. 307

Doris Conrad Rm. 300

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!



. The apostle that Jesus called the "Rock"

- Occupation of several apostles
- one of the few apostles that witnessed the Risen Jesus walking on water
- Converted to Christ on the road to Damascus
- One of the writers of the Gospel A tax collector
- Not iscariot, is sometimes called Thaddeus 11. Brother of Mathew, son of Alpheaus.
- 12. Luke added the name Zealot, to distinguish him from Simon Peter

ACROSS:

- 4. He distributed the miraculous loaves and fishes
- 5. The doubting apostle
- 6. Denied Jesus 3 times
- 7. Brother of St. Peter, he was the first to be called
- 8. The aposte that Jesus loved
- 11. Betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver
- 13. This is the same name of 2 of the apostles
 - 14. The only apostie to die a natural death

Biblical Places

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September 2025

| Sat | 6 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm | 13 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm | 20 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm | 27 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm | |
|-----|--|---|---|---|--|
| .E | Office Closed AA, 12 pm | 12 Office Closes, 12 pm AA, 12 pm | 19 Office Closes, 12 pm AA, 12 pm | 26 Office Closes, 12pm AA, 12 pm Johnny Appleseed Day | |
| Tho | 4 Senior Lunch, 12 pm | 11 | 18 | 25 Piano Tuning, 12 pm | |
| Wed | 3 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5፡30 pm | 10 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm | 17 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm | 24 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm Quilting, 9 am | |
| Tue | 2 | 6 | 16 Dorothy Love, 10 am Joy Circle, 1 pm | 23 | 30 |
| Mon | 1 Office Closed AA, 12 pm Labor Day | 8 AA, 12 pm Church Committee Meeting, 6 pm Church Council Meeting, 7 pm | 15 AA, 12 pm | 22 AA, 12 pm | 29 AA, 12 pm |
| Sun | | 7 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Child Sunday school, 9:30 am Youth Group, 9:30 | 14 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am | 21 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am | 28 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am |