



729 W. Washington Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46802 Church: 260.426.5751 Fax: 260.420.9158 After Hours Emergency #: 260.385.5244 E-MAIL: Church Office: sjluth@stjohnluth.com Pastor Offhaus: pastorpaul@stjohnluth.com

PRAYER CONCERNS



Milt Brown (healing) Those affected by the Coronavirus Diane Gebfert (health) Nancy Gebfert (healing) Heidi (healing) Jane Lizotte (Ann Arnold's sister working on the frontline) Olivia Jane McCanless Ruth Miers (health) The family of Jim Rodewald Tim Shelton (health/Tony's brother) The family of Norma Wyckoff Karen Yaegler (ER Nurse/Sister of Chris Heidegger)

CONTINUING CONCERNS: Clarence Bush (health/Vickie Brown's father) David Drake Lucy Graham Jeremy Gray Esther Helmke Alma Kable (health) Rose Ellen Marquart Jermarcus Jones

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Aaron (relative of the Cobb/Johnson family) Anthony Cutino (Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, GA/nephew of Fran Gull) Nicolas Cutino (Fort Benning, GA/nephew of Fran Gull) Vince Cutino (Ft. Bragg, NC/nephew of Fran Gull) Cody Gull (Army/Fort Benning, GA) Lucas Kirkwood (Hawaii/Mike & Sherry Mommer's grandson) Matt McGahey (Scott Air Force Base, IL) Warren Rockett, (McConnell AFB, Wichita, KS/nephew of Fran Gull) Jonathon Strait (nephew of Linda McGahey/Fort Huachuca, AZ) Carter Vanworth USAF-Washington DC/Julia Rieck's nephew) CHURCH OF THE WEEK Holy Spirit Lutheran Church 7234 Fenton Rd Grand Blanc Township, MI 48439

We invite you to share your prayer concerns by calling the church office, 426.5751, or by filling out a green Prayer Request Card (found in the pew-card holder) and giving it to an usher, placing it in the offering plate or by placing it on the desk in the church office. Please indicate what you would like listed for prayers if you would like it to be listed. If you or a family member goes into the hospital, please call the church office so we are made aware of it as the privacy laws for hospitals do not always allow them to notify us thanks.

REMOTE WORSHIP – CONNECTING

Today we are continuing to worship remotely via the church's Facebook page. Direct your web browser to www.facebook.com/stjohnluthfw/ at 10:00 a.m. Then look for a notice indicating that we are Livestreaming. Click on that notice and you should be able to watch—and worship—together. You can even click 'likes' and add comments that others will see. God bless and keep us all in this "new normal" in which we find ourselves!

WEST CENTRAL COFFEE OPENING JUNE 19

(BARRING COVID-19 COMPLICATIONS) The West Central Coffee (WCC) Advisory Board and others continue to work hard behind the scenes to put the final pieces together for our opening, approximately one month from now. A flyer was emailed with The Weekly that provides a wide scope of ways you can support this ministry, including prayer. Please do what you can to help, as God's Spirit whose coming we celebrate today directs you. Thank you!

HAPPY PENTECOST, CHURCH!

Today we celebrate the birthday of the Church—more commonly known as Pentecost, a Greek word meaning fiftieth, as this is the 50th day since/of Easter. This account is found in Acts 2—our First Reading today. Many people wear red on this day to remind us of the tongues of FIRE that descended on the apostles with the Spirit's coming. If that's you as we worship remotely, feel free to share a picture with others on Facebook or some other social media using the hash tag, #WearRED. May God bless our worship today with God's loving Holy Spirit!

WHEN WILL ST. JOHN RETURN TO PUBLIC WORSHIP?

We know this is a question on many of our minds within the St. John community. Unfortunately, we don't have a definite answer we can provide at this time. Council has met and discussed the matter at various times but has not yet felt comfortable setting a definite 'date' when worship in our sanctuary will resume. However, there is some general sense that mid-June may be a responsible target date. An email along with a letter to those not on email (identical to how we now notify folk about congregational meetings) will precede any return. In addition, any return will involve a careful following of CDC guidelines for public gatherings, including social distancing and asking / expecting all participants to wear masks. It's vitally important that we keep Jesus' command to love our neighbor, in this case our more at risk neighbor (in age or health-wise), at the forefront of our thinking, even if it means setting aside our 'right of assembly' as a faith community. That in part explains the long absence from gathering together for public worship. But as Jesus tells his disciples then and now, "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Indiana continues to move forward without delays in re-opening the state; by God's grace and with the guidance of our local, state and national health and public officials, so will we. In the meantime, thank you for your patience! And please keep on – or start – checking in with your fellow members and your own neighbors, especially those more at risk for whatever reason, to see how they're doing and how you can help. It really makes a big difference! May God's grace and peace go with us all!

WEEKLY NEWS DEADLINE



If you have information to be put into the Weekly please make sure it isZ turned in to the church office each week by Tuesday noon. Thanks!

NOISY OFFERINGS

May's Noisy Offering will be collected for The Journey. You may mail a check to the office with "May Noisy Offering" in the memo line.

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Name _____ Address _____ Best Contact Phone _____ Email _____ Service Attended _____

Would you like to volunteer or respond to an announcement? How about requesting a favorite hymn? Let us know by emailing the church at sjluth@stjohnluth.com or calling 426-5751 and leaving a voicemail.

WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP UPDATE

The May newsletter indicated the possibility that we might be worshipping on Wednesdays in the sanctuary beginning Wednesday, May 27. Due to the ongoing concerns from COVID-19, it is now clear we will be unable to do so at that time. We will keep you updated in the Weekly as to when that will happen. We look forward to gathering again, but want to do so when it is safer for all who come. Thank you for your patience and prayers!

#TIREDOFLEADINGWORSHIPINANEMPTYCHURCH

So how do we get around it? With a sense of humor, of course! You probably don't realize that you're attending church even as you read this. As can be seen in the May newsletter, we have placed pictures of a bunch of the 'regulars' in their 'usual' pews around the sanctuary to add some life to our worship space. It's so nice to see your bright and shining faces while we're leading worship and until you can be here for real, this will have to do! When we can come back together for worship, your picture will be waiting for you to remind you where "your" seat is – just in case you forget in the meantime!

MEET ME ON THE ELEVENS

Have you been missing human contact? Are you looking for a chance to connect with folk, check in on life during COVID-19 and maybe even find some encouragement to help you through the day or week? Is there some loss you're grieving or something you have missed during these times? Then perhaps "Meet Me on the Elevens" is for you. This is an opportunity this coming week on Monday and Thursday to gather on a Zoom call with some of your brothers and sisters in Christ at St. John, as well as Pastor Paul, at precisely 11:11 a.m. Pastor will share a word from Scripture and offer a brief devotion. Then folk will be invited to check in with one another, including time to share anything that's been weighing on you. We will close with prayer—for ourselves and our world. These Zoom calls will run no later than noon, and will finish earlier, the fewer the number who attend. Then it's back to the rest of our days—hopefully renewed for this brief time of gathering for what Martin Luther called "the mutual care and consolation of believers." Log in to Zoom (go to zoom.us or call Pastor Paul for more details) by 11:11 and use **meeting ID # 260 348 6357**.

REMOTE FELLOWSHIP TIME

In addition to utilizing Facebook for our remote worship, there will be an opportunity for remote fellowship before and after our 10 am service time, starting at 9:15 am and ending at 11:45 am. This opportunity will be offered through Zoom, a remote meeting app you can download in your smartphone's App Store or at the Zoom website (Zoom.us) for your computer. All you will need is the app, an internet connection and the meeting number, which is **878 097 321**. Go to the website or open the app and look for a link called, "Join a Meeting."

Enter the meeting # and click 'Join.' It should take you right to the "St. John Sunday morning FELLOWSHIP" meeting where other St. John members will be joining remotely. You can now say hi to folk as we gather prior to or after worship similarly to how many of us usually gather. The only major drawback? No donuts!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AT ST. JOHN

May 31 - June 7

SUN 31	The Day of Pentecost	10 am	Worship Service of the Word (Remote)
MON 1		11:11 am	Meet Me At the Elevens (Remote)
TUE 2		6 pm	WCC Board Mtg. (Remote)
WED 3		6:20 pm	Casual Gathering (Remote)
THU 4		11:11 am 1 pm	Meet Me At the Elevens (Remote) Brown Bag Bible Study (Zoom/Remote)
SUN 7	The Day of Pentecost	10 am	Worship Service of the Word (Remote)



IT'S STARTING!

Although it's two months away, garage sale prep and collection has begun! With school not returning for session this year, we've been able to set up early and have started collecting donations already. Bored from sitting around your house during this isolation period? It might be a perfect time to clean out that closet, spare room, basement, or attic and get things ready to drop off for the garage sale. We ARE taking donations. Just call or e-mail Jay Heare (260.249.8229 / jay.heare@stjohnluth.com) to arrange a time. To protect our sorting/pricing team, we'll be letting all donations sit for 5 days before we open any boxes or bags and do any sorting and pricing. Any pre-sorting you can do would be extremely helpful, i.e. kitchen items in one box, dishes in a separate box, Christmas items in a separate box, etc. If you can't do separate boxes, even separate bags in a box would be helpful. Even more help would be donating your clothing on the hangers! If you haven't already received a phone call or had a conversation about how you can help during the garage sale, say "Yes!" when you do. Or contact Jay Heare or one of the following people about how you can help:

Windy Cobb-Johnson – Kids' Room
Susan Steele/Hannah Starrick – Book/Media Room
Susan Benesh – Holiday Pricing/Cashiers
Jane Porter Gresham – Adult Clothing
Wade & Pauline Prentice – Antiques/Collectibles
Cheryl Kienzle – Concessions
Chris & Julie Walda – Tools/Sporting Goods/Garden/
Medical Supplies/Pet Supplies
Sam Starrick – Electronics

