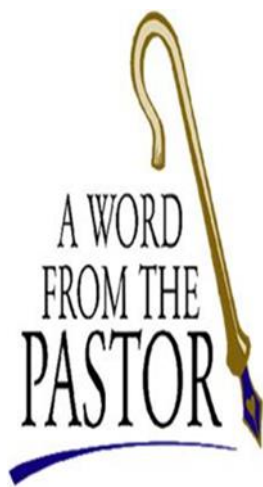


Pastor's Note

We have had some moments of exuberance and joy this summer, and some moments of deep sadness. We had a grand time at Vacation Bible School. Pr. Scott taught us some new songs, including a rousing version of "Jesus Loves me." We learned about health of body and mind, family and community and spirit.



We needed that spirit, because we also had some very sad times this summer. Tom Johnson passed into heaven, as well as Jan Heitmiller, John Gray and Doug Bailey. While we rejoice

in their blessed state in the presence of God, we are going to miss them. We will need to love each other in our grief.

As I submit this letter, we are having our community yard sales—a continuation of one of our goals to reach out to our community.

All of these are well known, high-quality ways of sharing Jesus.

This September, I will also be conducting a private lifting-into-the-hands-of-God for a pet. (If you would like such an observance for your pet, or the pet of a friend, let me know.) We are also thinking very carefully about making Friends in Faith into an intergenerational learning event, and, of course, our new sign.

These are new, high-quality ways of sharing Jesus.

God makes this possible through you: through your work, your money, your spirit and your welcoming embrace.

Thanks be to God.

Pr. Andy



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Schedule

After serious consideration of the congregation's input, congregation council has decided to stay with our single Sunday service at 10:00 for September 2023 through May 2024. We had 57 responses to our survey. 51 voted to stay with one service at 10:00 and 6 voted to return to 2 services.





“God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday

“God’s Work Our Hands” is Sunday, September 10. We celebrate this with all ELCA congregations every year. This year we are again supporting Street Reach Ministry of Fern Creek United Methodist Church. Their ministry is to personally check on the homeless living on the streets and margins in Louisville. Our task between now and September 10 is to collect non-perishable snacks. Please stop by church and place non-perishable snacks in the boxes beside the front door and the Diehl Hall entrance. On Sunday, September 10, we will assemble the bags for distribution.

Volunteers will be needed September 9 and 10 to organize the food and assemble the bags. Please remember, our donation must be non-perishable and individually wrapped.

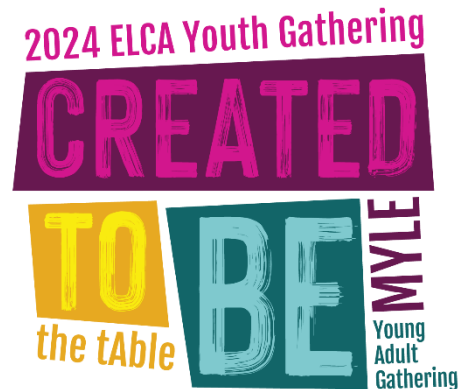
Snacks in a Sack Suggestions: Some ideas include Vienna sausages, beef jerky, peanut butter cups (think Jif, not Reese’s), Pop Tarts, cereal bars/protein bars, protein drinks (like Boost), applesauce pouches/cups, fruit cups, pudding cups, snack cakes (like Little Debbie’s), Rice Krispy bars, chips, crackers, nuts, trail mix, prepackaged ready to eat meals, raisins cookies.

Also needed: gallon sized Ziplock bags, Gatorade and bottled water, and individually

wrapped hand sanitizing wipes. We especially want to emphasize the need for healthy snacks.

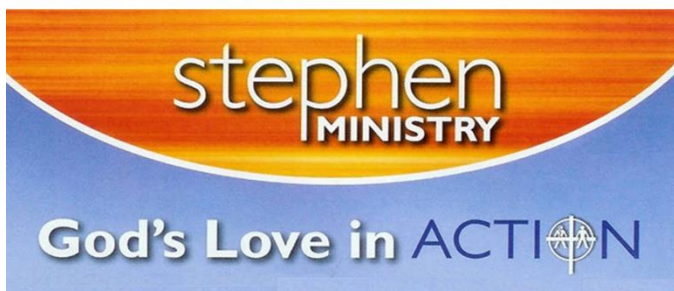
Also this year, we are collecting men’s and women’s socks and underwear to be donated with the food items. Please package or separate the underwear and the socks from the food items as well as the men’s and women’s clothing items.

Last year St. John’s supplied 197 baggies, which were stuffed and distributed to the homeless, and many unfortunate people in the Louisville area. Pastor Darryl Glass of Fern Creek United Methodist Church left a special voicemail for us with a special thank you both the gesture and the overwhelming volume we furnished. Our hope would be to exceed last year’s number.



National Youth Gathering

2024 National Youth Gathering, July 16-20 in NEW ORLEANS! All youth in eighth to twelfth grade at the time of registration (Fall 2023) are invited to the ELCA national youth gathering in New Orleans. This is a wonderful event for ELCA youth from all over the country to celebrate, think and have fun. Everyone who is able to go is encouraged to do so. But we need to plan ahead because the pre-registration date is in mid-September! Scholarship money is available. Please see Pr. Andy for details.



Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry team invites you to join them on October 22 as we consider the topic of senior living options. We will serve lunch and watch a short informative video after which we will discuss some of the senior living options available in Louisville. We especially invite those who are thinking of the possible options available for themselves, family members and friends and also those who have had experience in researching and making decisions about senior living situations for themselves or others. You are welcome to invite friends or family to join us. RSVP's to the church office are appreciated but not required.



Choir Rehearsal

Choir rehearsal has resumed, 6:30-7:30 Wednesday evenings. Please join us.



FRIENDS

Faith

FRIENDS

Friends in Faith

After Sunday worship, September 24. We will have some games, a story, crafts, a snack and a song or prayer. All ages are invited to participate.



Financial Update

Monthly Financial Update

	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23
Income	\$21,493	\$19,861	\$25,219
Expense	\$37,287	\$31,713	\$22,504
Result	(\$15,794)	(\$11,852)	\$2,715
(Income less Expense)			

Summer slump continues, but at least we were positive for July. Thank you for your continuing support of the mission of St. John. Please continue to mail in your contributions. Feedback welcome and appreciated. Please reach out to Christi Elbert or Diane Kushman if you have questions or concerns. Thank you.



Last Yard Sale

September 2: Come, meet people, see the items on sale, eat lunch in the café consider the craft items in Diehl Hall. 9:00-1:00 Saturday Sept. 2. Last Chance this Year.



Blessing of the Animals

Blessing of the Animals

At worship October 1, we will have a Blessing of the Animals. Send in a photo of your pet, or bring one Sunday morning along with their name and we will say a prayer of blessing for them. If you would like to have a prayer of blessing for your animal in person, let Pr. Andy know and we can meet outside after church.



Confirmation

Confirmation begins Sunday afternoon, Sept. 17 from 1:00-4:00 at St. John.



LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER



September Birthdays

Laurie Workman	09/01
Judd Johnson	09/03
Marisa Newton	09/07
Barbara Speck	09/11
David Lamar	09/12
Kirk Berglund	09/13
Deb Janes	09/15
Bradley Lowen	09/15
Dinah High	09/16
Rita Smith	09/17
John Florence	09/19
Barbara Gentry	09/19
Paul Harvey	09/19
Chuck Lind	09/20
Nathaniel Janes	09/21
Sophie Hann	09/22
P. J. Young	09/22
Edward DeVore	09/23
Justin O'Dell	09/23
Hallie Stemler, Jr.	09/23
Karen Kaiser	09/27
Terri Dallas	09/29
Jim Eaton	09/29
Chelsea Gentry	09/30
Jennifer Stanfield	09/30



SEPTEMBER



September Anniversaries

William & Alison Stemler	09/06
Kirk & Kelly Berglund	09/10
Michael & Renae Barkley	09/16
Al & Leah Tabler	09/23
Ernie & Annie Worman	09/23

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2 7:30am - Set-Up for Yard 9am - Yard Sale 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
3 10am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	4 Labor Day Office Closed 6:30pm - Men's Group	5 6:15pm - Evangelism & 6:30pm - Property 7:30pm - Technology	6 9:30am - Bridge Club 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	7 Council Reports Due (1st 6pm - Executive	8	9 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
10 10am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 11am - "God's Work. Our 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	11	12	13 10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	14 6pm - Congregation	15 First Day of Hispanic Journal Deadline	16 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
17 10am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	18 6:30pm - Men's Group	19 6:30pm - Christian	20 10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	21 4pm - Worship & Music	22	23 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
24 10am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 11am - Friends in Faith 12pm - Stephen Ministry 12:30pm - Stephen 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	25	26 10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	27	28	29	30 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC

SEPTEMBER 2023 WORSHIP TEAM

	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
<u>Assisting Minister</u>				
10:00	Cindy L	Ann H	Diane K	Renae B
<u>Lector</u>				
10:00	Mike M	Todd H	Connie S	Renae B
<u>Youth Lector</u>				
10:00	---	---	---	---
<u>Cantor</u>				
10:00	Cindy L	Laura R	Diane K	Laura R
<u>Crucifer</u>				
10:00	Melvin G	Trey L	Melvin G	Trey L
<u>Acolyte</u>				
10:00	Trey L	Lily B	Emilia M	Magdalene M
<u>Usher</u>				
10:00	Melissa W	Sherley S	Joanne N	Edie M
<u>Altar Guild</u>				
Dinah H, Brenda P				
<u>Communion Prep</u>				
10:00	Brenda P	Brenda P	Brenda P	Brenda P

Send a cheerful note to our members who are "under the weather" and/or can't make it to church services or church events.

Vivian Lenberger
Betty Pauley
Nancy Robinson
Skip Stearman
Maxine Wines

If you would like a copy of the addresses emailed or mailed to you, please contact the church office.

St. John Lutheran Church

901 Breckenridge Lane
Louisville, KY 40207

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www.stjohnlutheranky.org

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SEPTEMBER 2023

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



St. John Journal

St. John Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, grace-based community proclaiming the gospel through word and deed.

Worship at St. John

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Online & In-person

Monday-Friday

12:00 p.m. Online

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Lunch 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Church Telephone

& Fax Number

Phone: (502) 895-9320

Fax: (502) 895-3979

Email

stjohn@stjohnlutheranky.org



Visit us on the web at
www.stjohnlutheranky.org
or scan the QR code.



Staff

Reverend Andy Rutrough

Pastor

David McNease

Office Administrator

TBD

**Youth Project
Coordinator**

TBD

Choir Director

Dr. Denine LeBlanc

Organist