

*The Voice of  
Canaan Lutheran Church  
10851 Friendsville Rd.  
Creston, OH 44217*



*October  
2021*

## FROM THE PASTOR

I realize that this is on the monthly Calendar as well as in a special announcement in this month's Voice. Nonetheless I want to draw your attention to a very meaningful opportunity that we have as a congregation.

On Sunday October 17, Doug Leatherman of CRU (formerly known as Campus Crusade for Christ) will be here. He wants to thank Canaan for what has so far been 30 straight years of our financially helping to support him in his ministry with CRU. To celebrate this, Doug has asked to bring us a cake to be enjoyed by all in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

In addition to this celebration, I have asked Doug to please during that fellowship time give us a presentation about his ministry there in the Fellowship Hall. Now the last time I invited Doug to speak with us like this not many people turned out to hear Doug (my complaint, not his) and to take advantage of the chance to engage him in discussion.

I believe that was a missed opportunity back then, and given the current state of affairs in academia and in the country in general, I think that this will be an even more important and timely opportunity now. We keep hearing various things about what is really being taught (some would say what is being 'pushed') in today's state-sponsored and other secular universities that feels to many, and not just parents of students, like almost anti-religious and particularly anti-Christian indoctrination and propaganda.

In his campus ministry, Doug is 'on the front lines' of what is really going on and aware of what is in fact being taught these days in so-called higher education to our sometimes impressionable and easily misled young adults – especially if they get bombarded almost exclusively with one-sided opinions in the classroom setting. Doug can shed some light on whether what we hear about such things as an overall "hostile" treatment of religion in general and towards Christianity in particular – is possibly exaggerated – or quite true. From my own state university experience in the 1970s I do know that state-run institutions tend to be less than sympathetic to such concerns raised by Christian students and parents – and pastors. My own pre-seminary advisor in the university religion department was the closest to anyone on the faculty being marginally Christian. But even though he was a Lutheran and attended a local Lutheran church he told me he honestly doubted that there was an afterlife. I think he came by that honestly, having gotten his higher Ph.D. education and degrees at the University of Chicago where their religion program is pretty infamous for its religion and philosophy program ripping to shreds students' faith.

Someone in Doug's position can therefore provide encouragement and advice in regards to helping us as a congregation be aware of the challenges to their faith that our students may be facing. We can learn how best to support them in our prayers and by our continuing to support God-given campus ministries like Doug's in CRU. And I am sure that Doug could also give anyone who asked a list of other campus ministry groups available as well, since not even every Christian student necessarily feels that the same group that worked for their friends will be the best 'fit' for them as well. In my day in the 1970s, in addition to Campus Crusade there were (in alphabetical order) CBF: "Campus Bible Fellowship;" "Fellowship of Christian Athletes;" "Intervarsity Christian Fellowship;" and "Navigators." I don't recall any kind of rivalry between any of them. They all had the same goal: encouraging and supporting students in their Christian faith and walk when it often felt like one's traditional Christian faith was constantly under assault.

So, beloved, I encourage as many of us as are able to come support Doug with your presence at this event. And be sure to thank him for his service as a minister of the Gospel – oh, and don't forget to thank him for the cake!

See you in church,

Pastor Paul

## **SPECIAL CELEBRATION & DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITY!**

On Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> after worship, to thank Canaan for thirty years of our supporting him in his CRU campus ministry, "son of the congregation" Doug Leatherman will be here.

He has asked to provide us with a special celebration cake in the Fellowship Hall (yum!) I, in turn, have asked Doug to please, also in Fellowship Hall, discuss with us his campus ministry, and to answer any questions about the current state of relations between today's institutions of higher learning and Christianity and how free (or not) students are to express their Christian faith and convictions in today's academic atmosphere.

I also think it will be kind of neat to find out how Doug has managed to make what inroads he has on campus – particularly how he has managed to get so much support from student athletes and their coaches. Please stay, if you are able on the 17<sup>th</sup>, for what promises to be an enjoyable – and enlightening time.

## **HALLOWEEN PARTY**

Sunday School students – get ready for a fun and exciting Halloween Party – Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Time to be announced.



## BIRTHDAYS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Paul Younker	13 <sup>th</sup>	Lincoln Wiles
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bill Moss	19 <sup>th</sup>	Elaine Wetz
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Myles Gray	20 <sup>th</sup>	Devyn Kent
7 <sup>th</sup>	Judy Wolf	24 <sup>th</sup>	Rick Wolf
8 <sup>th</sup>	Jami Letzelter	26 <sup>th</sup>	Joanna St. Clair
10 <sup>th</sup>	Kathy Letzelter	30 <sup>th</sup>	Bob Jordan
12 <sup>th</sup>	Sundy Marty		
	Gary Anderson		
	Jacob Persic		

## ANNIVERSARIES

11<sup>th</sup> Jeff & Emily Yost  
19<sup>th</sup> Christy & Scott Sparr  
20<sup>th</sup> Neva & Don Tegtmeier

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

JEFF AGNONE  
ROLAND COOKRO  
KATHY HILL  
HELEN MACH  
GIGI SHELDEN  
AL & MARGE TUREK  
RAMONDA MILLER

PAM COOKRO  
BECKY FRASE  
JULIE JACKSON  
BURT REID  
"NATHAN"  
KELSEN BUCKINGHAM  
RANDY PORTER

### **ALL WHO ARE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Highway Patrolman Jason Bittinger  
Wooster Police Officer Nate Koch  
Smithville Police Officer Keith Yost

### **THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY**

Marine James Abel  
Marine Recruit Kellus Caskey

9/12/21

JANIE BEARD  
SANDY LANDRAM

9/19/21

SANDY SLOAN  
ELOISE TOTH

## CANAAN LUTHERAN COUNCIL MINUTES

MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Chairman Kurt Manges called the meeting to order and asked Pastor to lead the devotions and meditation with Prayer.

Secretary Valerie Jordan then was asked to read the minutes of the previous meeting which Kathy Letzelter had prepared her absence. The minutes were read and there being no corrections or additions the motion to accept them was made by Jim Letzelter and seconded by Sundy Marty and the motion passed.

Pastor handed out his statistical report and asked to have vacation from 11/14/2021 after worship until 11/21/2021 having a substitute Pastor for the Sunday he is absent. Valerie motion with Jim Letzelter seconding the motion that Pastor be permitted his vacation and the motion carried. Pastor said that Rev. Stephanie Woods would be our substitute Pastor. He had nothing further to add and Linda Manges motioned to accept his report with Denice Miller seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer Tim Tegtmeier joined us by Zoom and gave his report. We started the month with a balance of \$4,176 and had receipts after benevolences of \$7,176. We had expenses totaling \$6,690 and this left with a balance of \$4,662. We received \$1,000 toward the Building Maintenance funds and we also spent \$125 from the fund to pay for the Septic plans. Valerie Jordan motioned to accept the Treasurer's report and Jim Letzelter seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Deacons – No Report

Elders – No Report

Trustees – Jim Letzelter reported that he had gotten an estimate for \$2,400 for the metal to wrap the Pavilion. This is just the metal. He said if we were to do the inside roof with metal as well it would be around \$5,000 total. To complete the entire project would be between \$8,000 to \$9,000. He has a design showing the two ends of the building enclosed and leaving the center open. We are going to bring the idea to the congregation for discussion and approval.

Sunday School – Rally Day will be September 19, 2021. They are going to have a bounce house and an Obstacle Course. Serving hot dogs and sides along with an ice cream machine. They plan to keep social distancing and have hand sanitizer available.

Old Business – Kurt explained that the Septic System Plans have been drawn and approved by the county. The cost is going to be between \$16,000 to \$18,000. Zollinger's is hoping to have this completed yet this fall but due to their other commitments and availability of construction materials it may be Spring before completed.

Kurt looked into a new Flag Pole and a telescoping pole would be replacing the pole we have now. He received a quote back for paving the parking lot of \$50,000 and this will be put on the back burner for now. At this point we believe that we need to do other up grades to the church such as replacing the doors and making the church have an easier access for handicapped. Jim Letzelter suggested we look into a vestibule for the main entrance and new sidewalk.

Kurt brought up that he is going to be checking with our insurance agent, Anne Wolf to see if there is any coverage for mold. Since we had the issue of the hymnals and the sanctuary roof needing to be cleaned of the mold due to the dehumidifier malfunction.

New Business – Ladies of WELCA donated their money for new Banners for the church and Denice Miller asked that they be dedicated to the church. Pastor will do the dedication within the next couple of Sundays.

It was brought up that we need to check with the company that is on retainer to see if they have been doing the spraying for the bugs as it appears that they have not been out for a while.

Kurt is going to check with insurance to be sure that we have replacement cost on the Digital Piano as new it cost \$9,000 and we would want to be able to replace it should something happen to it.

There being no further business; Linda Manges motioned and Fred Wiles seconded and the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Jordan, Secretary