

# St. John's Lutheran Church

---

St. John's Lutheran  
209 Broad St. PO Box  
Montpelier, OH 43543  
419-485-3736

Paul Gruetter, Pastor  
567-201-3455

[stjohnsmontpelier@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsmontpelier@gmail.com)

[www.stjohnsmontpelier.org](http://www.stjohnsmontpelier.org)

---

*April 2022 Newsletter*

---

---



# Homebound and Shut-Ins

Luella Rockey  
07949 St. Rt. 107  
Montpelier, OH 43543

Larry Eriksen  
Fountain Park, Room #203  
1433 N. Main St.  
Bryan, OH 43506

Marcella Henry  
Hillside Country Living  
09876 Co. Rd. 16  
Bryan, OH 43506

---

## Serving in Worship during April

*Sign-up sheet is passed around during worship!*

### **Acolytes**

3: Jess Hendricks  
6: 7:30 pm Anna Burt  
10: Olivia Thompson  
14: 7:30 pm Jess Hendricks  
15: 7:30 pm Jess Hendricks  
17: 7:00 am Anna Burt  
17: 10 am Olivia Thompson  
24: Jess Hendricks

### **Lay Readers**

3: open  
10: open  
17: 7 am Michael Kidston  
17: 10 am open  
24: open

### **Greeters**

3: Kim & Allyson Hutchison, Olivia Thompson  
10: Hill Family  
17: 7 am open  
17: 10 am Jason Luke Family  
24: Alan & Joie Henry, Tim & Vonda Henry



# April Birthdays

- 1 - Kati Ewers
- 1 - Tre Hutchison
- 1 - Sally Lemmon
- 4 - Tom Mick
- 8 - Karen Esterline
- 8 - Hayden Dye
- 8 - Henley Dye
- 8 - Gezzy Kidston
- 12 - Michael Kidston
- 13 - Katie Solo
- 14 - Katie Scott
- 14 - Ed Kidston
- 16 - Kendyl Thomas

- 19 - Mitchell Rjngs
- 20 - Susie Mick
- 20 - Dan Clum
- 21 - Corey Steinke
- 21 - Trent Jaessing
- 22 - Alysha Sloan
- 26 - Roger Scott
- 28 - Sarah Willson
- 29 - Mark Baker
- 29 - Brandon Scott
- 30 - Dave Gearhart
- 30 - Jacob Dewire

# April Anniversaries

- 3 - Rob and Karen Taylor
- 4 - Jim and Janice Thompson
- 6 - Dave and Ellen Gearhart
- 7 - Greg and Julie Lee
- 10 - Kyle and Stacy Sapp
- 23 - Dave and Becky Jaessing
- 28 - Josh and Jodi Fiser

## *In Sympathy*

We extend our deepest Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Myrtle Cook, who died March 20 Sunday morning.

## *Rejoicing*

We rejoice with Braxton Henry, Parker Stump, and Kolbee Thomas as they received Holy Communion for the first time on Sunday, March 6.

The new prayer room at St. John's is now open! It is at the end of the first-floor classroom hallway, near the north doors. There are prayer resources available inside, as well as places to sit and kneel. There are also prayer request cards that you can use. The prayer room is made possible by gifts given in memory of Mary Steinke and was dedicated on Sunday, March 27.

### **The family of Mary Steinke wishes to say a special thank you:**

- \* To those who gave donations in Mary's memory, making this room possible;
- \* To the Church Council and especially the Board of Elders for their aid and consideration;
- \* To Dave Deetz, who graciously donated his time and talent to build the altar and kneeling bench;
- \* To Merlin Wright and Jim Thompson and Jeanne Willson for all their help in getting the room ready;
- \* To McCrae Kidston and Josh Fiser, as well as the rest of Mary's family who helped in any way.

We pray that this is a place where each person who comes may be blessed and may find strength and peace as they grow in Christ. To God be the glory!

## *More Rejoicing*

We also rejoice with Pastor Alan Aley and the good people of Freemount Lutheran Church in Lindsborg, Kansas. Pastor Aley is being installed as pastor of Freemount Lutheran at 5 p.m. Sunday, April 3.

## **Lutheran Marriage Encounter**

Please take a moment to explore [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org) to become familiar with this ministry that has been blessing marriages for over 50 years and is more needed today than ever. This intense but private and safe experience can take couples beyond the frustration, disappointments, or loneliness that mark our typical lives. You will have an opportunity to learn and practice simple tools of intimate communication. Invest your time in each other. Register by April 15 for the April 22-24 weekend at Fairfield Inn, Streetsboro, OH. Contact David & Jean Fell 440-227-8740 or [davidjeanfell@hotmail.com](mailto:davidjeanfell@hotmail.com)



## **Annual Chicken BBQ Dinner Fundraiser**

The Chicken Barbecue dinner sale is Saturday, May 7, from 11 am – 1 pm. Tickets are \$10 per meal and include ½ chicken, baked potato, and baked beans. This is a benefit for our Mission Trip to Birmingham, AL. The dinners will be drive up/carry out. Tickets are available in the church office, or through Dave Jaessing, Jeanne Willson, and others.

## **Good Friday Community Service**

Our community worships together on Good Friday. The Community Good Friday worship service is at 1:30 p.m. at Church of Christ.

## **Good Friday Readers Needed**

Readers are needed for the evening Good Friday service on April 15 as we read the story of Jesus' suffering and death. Talk to Pastor Paul if you are interested.

## Graduates

Please send names of your 2022 High School or College graduates to Megan Hill at [209st.johnsyouth@gmail.com](mailto:209st.johnsyouth@gmail.com) to be recognized at an upcoming service!



### Vacation Bible School 2022

This year's VBS is going to be MONUMENTAL. Go off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead. VBS will take place June 20-24 from 9-11:30am with a program to follow on Sunday, June 26th at the 10am service. We are seeking volunteers to fill a variety of roles-group leaders, class teachers, snacks, and decorations. If you are available to help in any capacity, please contact Megan Hill at [209st.johnsyouth@gmail.com](mailto:209st.johnsyouth@gmail.com). Thank you!

### Church Camp

It's time to register for Lake Luther. Programs are available for any students entering grades 1-9. Some of our St. John's students are already registered for the week of July 17-22. There is a \$50 deposit. Please let me know if your child would like to attend and I can help you through the registration process. For more information, check out <http://www.lomik.org/>.

### April is NALC Health Kit Month

Pack in 2-gallon Ziplock bag or tote bag: 1 bath towel, 1 wash cloth, 1 shampoo (regular size or 2 travel size), 1 bar of soap (regular size or 2 travel size), 1 toothbrush, 1 pack of floss, 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size), 1 comb, 1 deodorant, 1 nail clippers.

This is a ministry of our WOTC women's groups to support NALC Disaster Response Needs who send our contributions where needed.

## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



### **April 10 - Palm Sunday - 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.**

Celebration with palms

Children and Adult choirs sing together at 10 am

Holy Communion

### **April 14 - Maundy Thursday**

**6:00 p.m.** Potluck meal (meat provided)

**7:30 p.m.** Service with Holy Communion

Stripping the Altar

### **April 15 - Good Friday**

**1:30 p.m.** Community Good Friday Service  
at Church of Christ

**7:30 p.m.** Tenebrae Service of Darkness

### **April 17 - Easter Sunday (Holy Communion all services)**

**7:00 a.m.** Sunrise Service, Traditional Worship

**8:00 – 9:30 a.m.** Easter Breakfast served by the Youth

**8:00 a.m.** Praise & Worship

**10:00 a.m.** Traditional Worship



## **WOTC February 6, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Renae Hendricks, Kim Hutchison, Lexy Robson, Allyson Hutchison, and Robin Willson

**Treasurer's Balance as of 2/6/2022:** Checking \$12,160.61

Funeral Fund: \$1,428.53

Kim and Lexy to gain access to the funeral fund.

**Vice President** — No report

**Secretary of Mission** —

Blanket Sunday will be 2/20/22, and envelopes were set out for it. There will be a fleece blanket workshop on 2/16/22. The workshop originally scheduled for 3/16/22 will need to be rescheduled.

**Secretary of Community** — No report

**Old Business** —

The 2022 donations were decided on as follows:

Master's mission work - \$1,500

NALC Disaster Relief - \$1,000

Compassion Clinic - \$250

Helping Hands - \$250

House of Prayer after school program - \$250

Lutheran Social Service - \$250

Montpelier Ministerial - \$250

Women's Booklets printed.

**New Business** —

Renae to check and see if the Lenten Dinners are covered for this season.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be held on 3/6/22 at 9:00 am at the church.

Respectfully submitted by Allyson Hutchison



## **WOTC March 6, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes**

Present: Renae Hendricks, Kim Hutchison, Lexy Robson, and Allyson Hutchison

Treasurer's Balance as of 3/6/2022: Checking \$8,489.61    Funeral Fund: \$1,395.11

Kim and Lexy both have access to the funeral fund.

Annual donations have been sent out.

**Vice President** — No report

**Secretary of Mission** —

March is Soap Month.

Blanket Sunday collections totaled \$465. Kim is waiting to send the money out in case more donations come in on Sunday, March 6.

Fleece blanket workshop was held on 2/16/22. Two were present. The next workshop will be on Saturday 3/26/22.

**Secretary of Community** — No report

**Old Business** —

The Women of the Church will be providing Lenten Dinner on 3/30

**New Business** —No new business.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be held on 4/3/22 at 9:00 am at the church.

Respectfully submitted by Allyson Hutchison



## St. John's Lutheran Church Church Council Meeting March 20, 2022

**Present:** Jim Engels, Jeanne Willson, Ric Clark, Jim Thompson, Merlin Wright, Sara Luke, Robin Willson, Nathan Baker, Dale Gearhart, and Pastor Paul Gruetter.

- 1. Meeting Called to Order:** President Jim E. called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.
- 2. Approve the Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda made by Dale and seconded by Ric. Motion approved.
- 3. Devotions:** Given by Jim T. from the Elders. (Parish Ed. in April)
- 4. Opening Prayer:** Given by Pastor Paul.
- 5. Approve Minutes of Last Meeting:** The February 13, 2022 Church Council Minutes, also previously emailed, were read by council members. Motion to approve the February 13, 2022 meeting minutes made by Nathan and seconded by Dale. Motion approved.
- 6. Treasurer's Report:** (Copies of the February Financial Report are available on the bulletin board near the office and on the table in an orange/yellow folder by the front entrance.)

### **Treasurer Notes – February**

- \$531.53 was transferred from the Contingency Fund to cover the intern housing expense for February.
- The \$15,000 special donation was transferred from the Contingency Fund to cover the cost of the carpet in the sanctuary.
- \$2,298.61 was transferred from the Memorial Fund to cover the remaining cost of carpet in the sanctuary.
- \$1000.00 was transferred from the Youth Savings to the Youth Checking to cover expenses.
- A special donation of \$20,000 was given this month to be used for the parking lot project. This amount is reflected in the Contingency Fund.

- The \$2,590 in the Clearing Account is Seed Offering from the Special Prayer Service led by for Intern Philip Sandi.

## **7. Board Reports:**

- **Deacons** – given by Ric. Present was Ric.
  - There were 4 Sundays in January. The attendance for the 8:00 a.m. service had an average of 25 and the 10:00 a.m. service an average of 86 for a total average of 111 per Sunday.
- **Elders** – Given by Merlin. Present were Jim T., Pastor Paul, and Merlin.
  - The assisting Elder Communion Schedule for Holy Week and April was set.
  - The Prayer Room dedication is tentatively set for March 27.
- **Parish Education** – Given by Sara Present were Sara and Robin.
  - A new date for Confirmation will be May 8 since only Jess Hendricks is being confirmed and the family had a conflict on May 1.
  - Still talking about having a Fun Night for the Youth. It will now be for grades PreK – 6<sup>th</sup> grade. It will have 2 different age group activities as there are many younger children.
  - Still working on getting new furniture for the younger children. Megan has put together information about measurements and prices that they will plan to make a decision on.
- **Trustees** – Given by Dale. Present were Nathan, Shawn, and Dale.
  - Dale commented he was present at the Trustee meeting for February, but his name was missing.
  - Tiffany Thomas has been hired to take Lonnie Gillen’s place assisting the treasurer. Her background is in bookkeeping.
  - Getting ready to proceed with the parking lot. Asking for an abandonment of the alley as we will concrete the entire alley from Empire Street to the west end of the church. The Veterans Building members will be contacted.
  - The front steps will need some work again as people are using salt which damages the brick.
  - Looking into the drinking fountain downstairs so children are able use it without assistance.
  - The new covers on the kneeling pads that coordinate with the new carpet are done and in place.
  - Looking into repairing the flagpole for the Christian flag.
  - Will be power washing and cleaning the building bricks.
  - Dale reported he contacted Owens about the electrical problem in Val’s office and it is fixed.

**8. Pastor's Report:** Given by Pastor Paul.

- For the month of January worship services: 7 Sunday services, 3 sermons, and 1 worship service at Evergreen. In person visits: 5 homes, nursing homes, hospital, 4 office or elsewhere. Attended 5 meetings and 9 other events. Taught 6 classes. Assorted other contacts – telephone, Facebook, etc. Attended the NALC Pastor's Retreat in Orlando, FL for 4 days.
- Pastor Paul reported the NALC Ohio Churches will have a Convocation on May 7 at the Oromo Evangelical Church outside of Columbus which is a church we support. This church's choir will sing and lead worship. We are entitled to send a Pastor and a Lay Delegate and Pastor is looking for a volunteer to attend.
- Pastor Paul reported our other mission church in Ohio, Journey of Faith, in the greater Cleveland area, does not seem to be growing at all.

**9. Committee Reports:** There were no committee reports.

**10. Approve All Reports:** Motion to approve all reports made by Merlin and seconded by Jim T. Motion approved.

**11. Half-Time Prayer:** (Pastor Paul had to leave earlier)

**12. Old Business:**

- President Jim E. again mentioned we are still looking for 1 Elder and 1 Vice President.
- Dale asked if our Custodian, Judy Handy, had purchased a sweeper and Jeanne replied yes, she submitted a bill.
- President Jim asked about the water bill and the men's upstairs' toilet. It still needs fixing.

**13. New Business:**

- Jeanne asked about some way to keep the NALC banner's bottom edge to stop curling up. Nathan said he would look at it.
- Nathan mentioned the Children's Buddy Bag stand need reinforcement to prevent tipping over.
- Ric offered to look into the door going into the sanctuary that will not close by itself after the new carpeting was installed.
- Jeanne passed around pictures from Jill Beck for the board to look at of our sister church in Milan, MI that looks identical to our church and has a handicap ramp.

**14. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Nathan and seconded by Dale. Motion approved.

**15. Lord's Prayer:** The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is April 10 at 11:30 a.m.