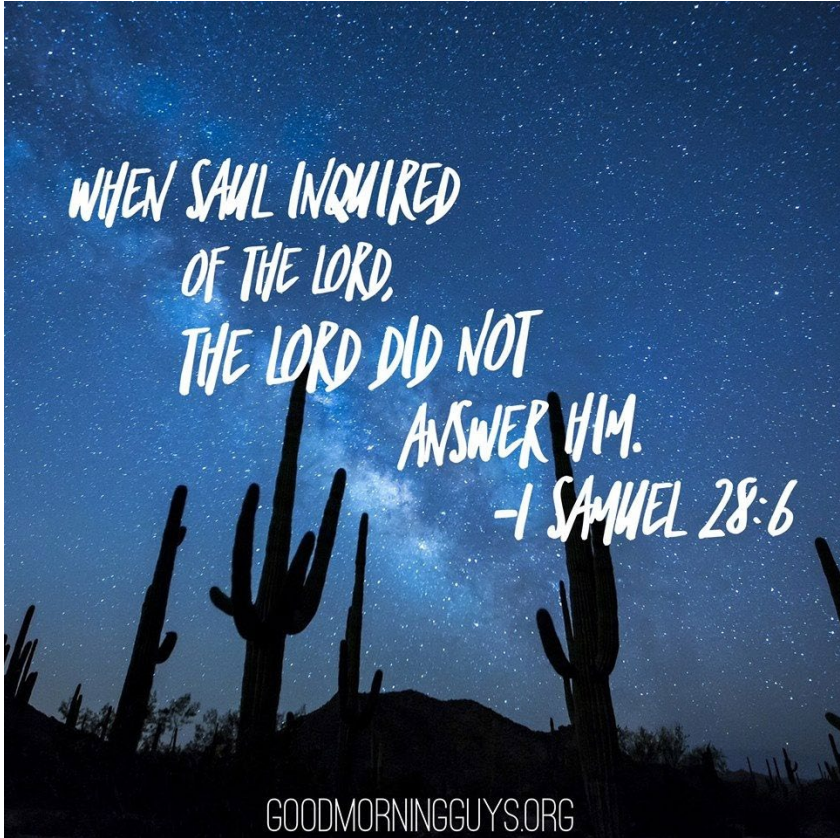


26 July 2026

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

St. John's:
Making and Maturing
Disciples of Jesus Christ



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH
211 EAST CARROL STREET
KENTON, OH 43326

St. John's Evangelical Church

211 East Carrol Street

Kenton, OH 43326

Office: 419-673-7278

Pastor Randall (cell): 724-2:30-10:30 & 12:30-2:30 90-3651

Office Hours: M- R: 8:30-10:30 & 12:30-2:30, F: 8:30-12:30

Website: www.stjohnskenton.org

Email: stjohnskenton@gmail.com

"Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ"

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Nursery is provided off the sanctuary for Infants – Kindergarten

Welcome & Announcements (Greet online viewers)

Prelude

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Tonioli

Pass the Peace – Greet One Another

***Hymn #318**

When We Walk with the Lord

***Call to Worship**

L: Come, beloved of God,
for the One who calls us knows us by name.

**C: We come to follow Jesus,
our Teacher, Shepherd, and Friend.**

L: The Lord calls not only the strong,
but the willing;
not only the skilled,
but the faithful.

**C: Here we are, Lord —
ready to listen, ready to serve.**

L: Jesus says, "*Follow Me,*"
and leads us into the work of love,
justice, and mercy.

**C: We will walk in His way,
trusting His voice,
and living out our calling.**

L: Come, let us worship the One
who gives us purpose and life.

**C: We worship You, Lord Jesus —
our calling, our hope, our joy.**

*** Gloria Patri**

Let Us Pray Unto the Lord:

The Pastoral Prayer

Missing Child: Mario Meatchem, Jr. – Cincinnati, OH

Mission of the Month: School Supplies

The Lord's Prayer

Children's Sermon God's Protective Gear

Ephesians 6:13

Special Music *Be Thou My Vision (Take Time to Be Holy)*

Linda Zeigler

Giving of Tithes and Offerings:

Offering Prayer

Offerings can be placed in the baskets in back of sanctuary

***Doxology**

Scripture

I Samuel 28:3-25

John 8:39-47

Sermon

AI and the Spiritual Realm

*** Hymn -insert**

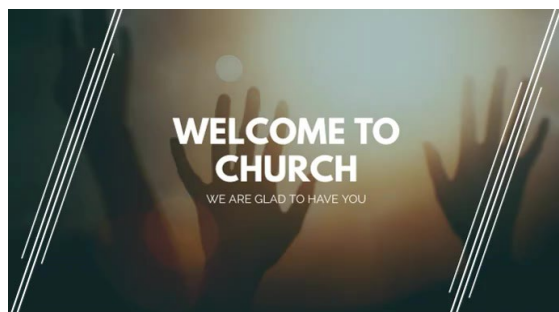
In Christ Alone

*** Benediction**

Postlude

Trust and Obey

*— Those who are able, please stand



***Welcome to
St. John's
Church***

Scripture:

I Samuel 28:3-25

³ Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in Ramah, his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the necromancers out of the land. ⁴ The Philistines assembled and came and encamped at Shunem. And Saul gathered all Israel, and they encamped at Gilboa. ⁵ When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. ⁶ And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams, or by Urim, or by prophets. ⁷ Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "Behold, there is a medium at En-dor." ⁸ So Saul disguised himself and put on other garments and went, he and two men with him. And they came to the woman by night. And he said, "Divine for me by a spirit and bring up for me whomever I shall name to you." ⁹ The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the necromancers from the land. Why then are you laying a trap for my life to bring about my death?" ¹⁰ But Saul swore to her by the Lord, "As the Lord lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." ¹¹ Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" He said, "Bring up Samuel for me." ¹² When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul." ¹³ The king said to her, "Do not be afraid. What do you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "I see a god coming up out of the earth." ¹⁴ He said to her, "What is his appearance?" And she said, "An old man is coming up, and he is wrapped in a robe." And Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and paid homage. ¹⁵ Then Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul answered, "I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams. Therefore I have summoned you to tell me what I shall do." ¹⁶ And Samuel said, "Why then do you ask me, since the Lord has turned from you and become your enemy? ¹⁷ The Lord has done to you as He spoke by me, for the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. ¹⁸ Because you did not obey the voice of the Lord and did not carry out His fierce wrath against Amalek, therefore the Lord has done this thing to you this day. ¹⁹ Moreover, the Lord will give Israel also with you into the hand of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons shall be with me. The Lord will give the army of Israel also into the hand of the Philistines." ²⁰ Then Saul fell at once full length on the ground, filled with fear because of the words of Samuel. And

there was no strength in him, for he had eaten nothing all day and all night.
²¹ And the woman came to Saul, and when she saw that he was terrified, she said to him, “Behold, your servant has obeyed you. I have taken my life in my hand and have listened to what you have said to me.”²² Now therefore, you also obey your servant. Let me set a morsel of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way.”²³ He refused and said, “I will not eat.” But his servants, together with the woman, urged him, and he listened to their words. So he arose from the earth and sat on the bed.²⁴ Now the woman had a fattened calf in the house, and she quickly killed it, and she took flour and kneaded it and baked unleavened bread of it,²⁵ and she put it before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

John 8:39-47:

³⁹ They answered Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would be doing the works Abraham did,⁴⁰ but now you seek to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did.”⁴¹ You are doing the works your father did.” They said to Him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God.”⁴² Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of My own accord, but He sent Me.”⁴³ Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear My word.”⁴⁴ You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”⁴⁵ But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.”⁴⁶ Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?”⁴⁷ Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”



Sermon Notes

26 July 2026

Scripture: **I Samuel 28:3-25; John 8:39-47**

Sermon: **AI and the Spiritual Realm**

1. Besides Jesus clearly being a hero, who are the heroes and who are the villains in today's scriptures? Why is it difficult to label and categorize them?
2. Has pursuing a "good" thing ever prevented you from pursuing a better thing or the best thing in Christ? How did you experience a "good" thing as a temptation? What did it lead you to do?
3. What was Saul's temptation to seek a witch/medium to consult the dead? How does that parallel the temptation to pursue answers through AI (Artificial Intelligence)?
4. What can you do to ensure that you will listen to Christ always and only? How can you assist other believers to do likewise? How can you share your faith and wisdom with others?

Solus Christus (Christ alone)—

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me..."—

John 8:42a

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Missing Person: Today we pray for Mario Meatchem, Jr. missing from Cincinnati, OH.

Outreach – Scioto Village: Today, 12-2 pm

Walking Group: An early morning walking group will walk each morning at Boy Scout Lake, Monday - Friday at 7 am. All are welcome to walk as often as you are available. Janie will meet you at the big pavilion. If you have any questions, please ask Janie.

Hardin Co. Food Distribution: July 28 from 11:30 – 1 at Home Run Park – 292. Please see Anna to volunteer.

Office Update: Starting August 4, the new office hours will be Monday – Thursday from 8:30-10:30. Kathy will be starting a new job during the day, so Janie will be performing the daily office duties. Kathy will continue to do the bulletin and newsletter.

Back to School Bash: August 8 from 4-6 pm at Wharton Park

Total Wellness Tuesday: is a Lunch and Learn series – August 11 from 11:00am -12:00pm.

Dinner Club- Woody's: August 16 after church

Monthly Community Meal: Tuesday, August 18, 5-6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. Please come and enjoy a nice meal and fellowship. This monthly meal will happen on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary.

Hardin County Fair (Sept. 8-13): Please consider signing up for the church booth to share with the community. A sign-up will be available in the lobby of the church soon. It is fun to talk with the community, and Janie has some fun ways to interact with everyone.

Kingdom Kids Club Kick- Off: October 4, 2-4 pm

Jr. Church the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month

Volunteering: If you have been thinking about volunteering in any way, please let Janie know. We have a lot of different things she could use help with that will positively impact the church.

July Mission of the Month- School Supplies: Our church is Collecting 12 ct. boxes of pencils & 24 ct. boxes of Crayola Crayons. Please place them in the tote in the back of the sanctuary.

Bulletin Announcements - PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE: due by **Thursday** at 8:30 AM. If you wish to have it added to the website, please email Richard at rkatterjohn@gmail.com.

Week at a Glance

Today, 7/26:	10:00 AM Worship Service Jr Church 12:30-2:30 PM Outreach: Scioto Village
Monday, 7/27:	6:30 PM Prayer Bible – FH 6:30 PM Scouts
Tuesday, 7/28:	11:30 AM – 1 PM Food Distribution 292 Ballfield 5 PM CR Step Study 6:30 PM CR
Thursday, 7/30:	6:00 PM Bible Study – Chapel 6:30 PM Cub Scouts – Basement
Saturday, 8/1:	7:30 AM Men's Bible Study – Chapel 9:00 AM Bible Recap Study- library 1 PM Rock the Lake – Old Field Beach - Lake

Week at a Glance:

Attendance (7/19): 73

Envelopes: \$3460

Loose Offering: \$60

Loose Ones: \$0

Mission: \$265

Ushers:

7/26: Janice Rall & Joy Van Horn

8/2: Peggy Cahill & Carol Wilcox

When the Christ Candle enters, may we center ourselves on worshipping Him. When the Christ Candle leaves, may we follow Christ into the world.



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH

STONE TABLE CHURCH

A TIME FOR
FELLOWSHIP,
PRAISE &
COMMUNITY

3rd Tuesday of
each Month

Monthly Community Meal

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
ST. JOHN'S FELLOWSHIP HALL
211 E. Carrol St, Kenton, Oh

Live Worship • Time of Reflection • Dinner

All are welcome – Families, friends, neighbors