

October 2025

The “Good News” Letter

St. John's Lutheran Church

203 W. South St., PO BOX 786

McComb, Ohio 45858-0786



Established 1865

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Worship 8:00 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

2025: Year of Listening!

The 'Good News' Letter

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

October, 2025



God's Harvest

The land yields its harvest, God, our God, blesses us. That's psalm 67: 6. Given that I'm seeing clouds of dust and trucks in fields, not to mention many soybean fields that are that color of pale yellow that



signals it's time to check the moisture, like anybody thinks that's a problem this year. I have even seen several fields of corn being taken off. It is that time of the year. A time when a lot of things go on the back burner so that the harvest can continue, often even at night. The effort is amazing. In Mathew 9 we read, *the harvest is plentiful but the workers few. Ask the lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest fields.* I can remember the stories both my grandfathers told

about threshing back in the day, about all the men working and the meals prepared by the women, good hearty food. I have been around the Amish when they harvest, wow a lot of work, no complaining, just many working. More hands make the work lighter.

Here in the United States, we very seldom work in unison anymore. Everyone has their own equipment, their own agenda, their own marketing plan, their own system for harvesting. In Galatians 6 we find, *do not be deceived, God cannot be mocked, a man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction, whoever sows to please the spirit, from the spirit will reap eternal life.* Let us not become weary in doing good, for at a proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Should we cooperate more? James 4 says, *peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.* We all try, I hope to be peaceful with our neighbors. I do know that in most neighborhoods, if someone falls ill, many will come together to do the planting or harvest, that's a wonderful thing, it feels good, its community, a shadow of the threshing of former times. But sometimes,..... there's that 1 guy, he never shows up and is never in a good mood even when we see him at the restaurant. And yet, he will inform us of a bountiful harvest. Does that feel right? Mathew 5 can help, *that you may be children of your father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and send rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.* So as much as we may grumble, we find that much, much is beyond our pay grade. Perhaps God is calling for

fewer judges and more harvesters. *Out of his fullness, we have all received grace in place of grace already given,* John 1:16. So in this time of harvest, perhaps focus on where the blessings before us actually came from, give God a nod. I leave you with 3 John 1:2.

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.

Faith, hope, and love - Paul

St. John's Lutheran Church Council Minutes
September 10, 2025

Members Present: David Sharninghouse, Carol Cary, Carol Yeager, Jerry McCullough, Michele Robles and Linda Ross.

Devotions led by Carol C. on loving as Christ did in unity, listening to each other and helping the community. Carol Y. will lead October 8 devotions.

Secretary's Report: Reviewed and discussed. Carol C. moved and Carol Y. seconded to accept this report. All agreed and motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed and discussed. Jerry asked what the balance in the savings and CD's totals are at present. Carol C. said she would have those totals at our next meeting. Jerry moved and Michele seconded to accept this report. All agreed and motion passed.

SAM Report: Paul was not present.

Old Business: Michele informs the cookies for Kairos Prison Ministry are due by October 4th. The box at Gordon Food Service is \$24.99 each.

- David reminds the Annual Church Picnic is Sept 21st – 12:30 pm at his home.
- Jerry and David met with Basinger Heating and Plumbing here to check our thermostats. They are all now on manual operation, not on any program. It was noted the dehumidifier seems to run a lot and David noted water in the basement near the dehumidifier. The man from Basinger's checked it and found there was a plug and he fixed it.

New Business: Pastor schedule – Pastor Ken Pollitz continues to lead our church service the fourth Sunday of every month. We will check with Dana to verify the October schedule.

-Jerry and David presented the possibility of adding a second bathroom using room in the storage room that houses our extra tables and chairs. Moving the tables and chairs to another classroom that is not being used. They are thinking of a simple remodel with a toilet and sink all ADA designed. This was discussed and all agreed to at least research this project design and cost. It was decided to check with Basinger's Heating and Plumbing and Ian Humm Construction for this cost and their availability. Dave will contact these 2 businesses. Michele will also

Council Minutes cont'd.

check with Ryan Harden for another estimate. Having a second bathroom available would be nice when we host larger groups (funerals, Lions' Club, church dinners).

Discussion on our annual Gideon donation and having a Gideon representative come and share their continued success in spreading the Gospel. Our usual donation to them is in November. Michele will talk to Robin about a Gideon visit.

Carol C. moved and Carol Y. seconded to adjourn the meeting. All agreed and motion passed. The meeting closed by all praying The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Ross, Secretary.



In Our Prayers: John Sharninghosue, Gary Kern, Paul & Sue Maki, Betty Hornbeck, Carol & David Cary, LuAnn Beverly, Colene Shoop, Eva George, Eric & Lisa Kreh, Don Edler, Ashley Edler, Brandt Edler, Mary Schroll, Pat Newell, Gordon Myers, Vickie Thompson, Jim Cary, Josh, Lind Hoops. Pray also for the victims of natural disasters, our shut-ins, all who grieve and all others with special needs.

A Thank You to Dave Sharninghouse for hosting the Annual Church Picnic. The day was well attended and all were blessed with great weather, great food, great fellowship. Donnis and Eva's birthdays were celebrated with balloons, cake and singing Happy Birthday!

Christ In Our Home daily devotions for the months of October, November and December are available on the back table. Pick up your copies for a daily picker-upper!

Faith is not about everything turning out 'OK'...
Faith is about being 'OK' no matter how things turn out

October Birthdays

2 – Journey Scheff
17 – Alison Reardon

God's Helpers for October

Readers:

5 – Dave Sharninghouse
12 – Lori McDaniel
19 – Carol Cary
26 – Linda Ross

Worship Leaders:

October 5, 12, 19

SAM Paul Brooks

October 26 – Pastor Ken Pollitz

Altar Care

Lori McDaniel



Food Pantry Update:

Thank You for all the canned fruits and boxes of cereal brought in for September! REQUEST for October are small rolls of paper towels, small bottles of laundry soap, shampoo and body wash.

NO ONE IS USELESS IN THIS WORLD
WHO LIGHTENS THE BURDEN OF
ANOTHER. -Charles Dickens

October Anniversary

13 - Dan & Colene Shoop

Calendar of Events

October 8 – Church Council Mtg.

October 14 – Lions' Dinner

October 23 – NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

October 26 - REFORMATION SUNDAY
(Wear Red!)



GOD WITH US AGE TO AGE

A Danish study explored the phenomenon most of us have experienced: perceiving ourselves as younger than we really are. The findings suggest a constant—whatever our current age, we all see ourselves as 20 percent younger. A fifty-year-old tends to imagine herself as forty years old. (This conjures up a comical scenario in which a child thinks, "Wow, I'm five, but I feel I have the energy and looks of a four-year-old!")

It doesn't take a scientific study to state the obvious: We're all growing older. And Scripture has much to say about this. Isaiah's words were issued to an Israel that had aged and become weary, but as one commentator says, "This promise to Israel, enfeebled and grown old as a nation, is applicable to every aged follower of Christ."

The prophet reminds us of God's provision throughout the life of everyone who has been faithful to Him: "I have upheld [you] since your birth, and have carried [you] since you were born" (ISAIAH 46:3).

So as we stew and fret about growing older, we're reminded that God is still with us. He promises: "Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you" (v. 4). Whatever age you are (or the 20-percent-younger version you imagine yourself to be!), embrace today God's promise: "I have made you and I will carry you" (v. 4).

KENNETH PETERSEN

In what ways do you wrestle with concerns about aging?
How do you find comfort in Isaiah's words?

Dear God, I'm feeling weary and tired.
Please give me Your strength. I ask that You
sustain me and carry me.

