

March 2025

The “Good News” Letter

St. John's Lutheran Church

203 W. South St., PO BOX 786

McComb, Ohio 45858-0786



Established 1865

419-293-3445

sjlcmmccomb@gmail.com

Worship 8:00 a.m.

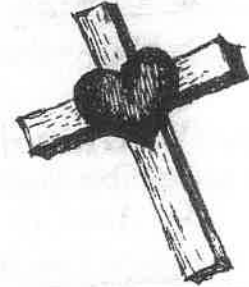
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

2025: Year of Listening!

THE 'GOOD NEWS' LETTER

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

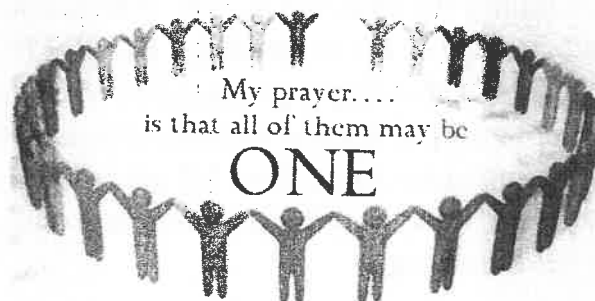
March 2025



This is the right time

Jesus invites his followers to pay attention to spiritual matters in the same ways we watch the skies for weather. We can read the skies, but we "do not know how to interpret the present time (*kairos*)" (Luke 12:56). The word *kairos* is not about chronological time, but about the appointed time, when God's timing is right. Jesus shares this while also reminding his followers about the hard choices of following him. They'll need to let go of wealth, family connections and anything else that hinders their faithfulness. Jesus seems to be saying, "I am the right time, and it's now. So don't let anything get in the way of our work."

What will we make of the future? We live in a *kairos* moment -- the right time to work together for the sake of our neighbors, the planet, ourselves and future generations. There's a hope in not knowing that moves us to create a future where all people can thrive. A hope build on the vision of beloved community, care of neighbor and stewardship of the resources that God in Christ gives to us.



John 17:20-21



St. John's Lutheran Church Council Minutes February 11, 2025

Members Present: David Sharninghouse, Carol Cary, Jerry McCullough, Michele Robles, and Linda Ross. Devotions led by Linda on 'Listening'. Carol will have March 12 devotions.

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

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed and discussed. Some variations in utility bills were noted but nothing we need to worry about. Carol reports our CD's at the bank will soon mature. She did research presently 9 months CD's are 3.26% interest rate. Jerry moved and Michele seconded to reinvest all the Cd's for 9 months @ 3.26% interest rate. All agreed and motion passed. Linda moved and Jerry seconded to accept this report. All agreed and motion passed.

Old Business: Carol has not heard from Lovell's yet to verify their 2025 snow removal agreement for church's parking lot. She did leave a message with them. She will also see if they can salt our walk paths and ramps for safer surfaces.

-No further plans for 2025 Adult Vacation Bible School but we will discuss this with Paul Brooks to see if he has any ideas.

New Business: Dave and Jerry relate Paul Brooks is our full time SAM (Synodical Approved Minister) with occasional fill-ins with local pastors. The Calling Committee has decided to let the Synod continue with our Pastor search (vs. us advertising on our own).

-Lenten and Easter plans are as follows: March 5, Ash Wednesday Service here at 5 pm. Paul Brooks has decided to do a combination Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service on Maundy Thursday here at 5 pm. The Altar Guild will strip the Altar at the end of this service.

- Discussion on continuing the practice of Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Breakfast offerings to be donated to CHOPIN Hall and the Blessing Basket (old LSS at St. John's, Findlay), giving \$200 to each place and using Mile of Pennies funds to supplement if needed to make this amount.

Linda moved and Carol seconded to do this. All agreed and motion passed.

-Decision was also made to have an Easter Breakfast on April 20th after church. We will plan further next meeting.

Council mtg. cont'd.

-Michele informs the chocolate chip cookies for the Karios Prison Ministry are due Monday March 17. Our participation in this effort will be more definitely planned in early March. Cookie bakers alert!

Jerry moved and Linda seconded to adjourn the meeting. All agreed and motion passed. We all stood and closed the meeting by praying The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Ross, Secretary

+ * + * + * + * + * + *

In Our Prayers: John Sharninghouse, Gary Kern, Paul & Sue Maki, Betty Hornbeck, David Cary, LuAnn Beverly, Colene Shoop, Eva Geroge, Eric & Lisa Kreh, Bob, Don Edler, Ashley Edler, Pat Newell, Jo Mineo, Gordon Myers, Tim Smith. Pray also for the victims of natural disasters, our world leaders, all who grieve, and all others with special needs.



Food Pantry Update: Thank you for the soup and crackers brought in for the Annual Souper Bowl of Caring event thru February. CHOPIN Hall and the Blessing Basket (former LSS) appreciated the 103 cans of soup, 10 boxes/bags of crackers, and there was a box of Ramen noodles (12 pkgs). For April we will be collecting cake mixes, cans of frosting, cookie mix or any dessert mix for those families who may enjoy them for their Easter family gathering. Thanks again for your generosity!!

Readers: Is there anyone who would like to volunteer to take a turn to read the lessons during worship? If you're interested, contact Carol Cary 419-250-9062.

Every Day of the Year,
May You Feel Jesus Near

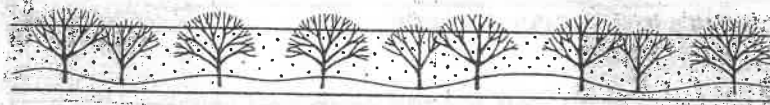
Remember the days of old; consider the generations long past.
—DEUTERONOMY 32:7 (NIV)

LENT

News flash..... Lent is upon us. We all have experiences with this thing we call lent. In the latin, its Quadragesima (fortieth). Hmm... forty... lent is forty days long. Jesus prayed for 40 days in the wilderness. It rained for forty days in Noahs time. The exodus was forty years. Lent, derived from the anglo-saxon word 'lencten' spring. And from the west germanic 'langitinaz' long days. For us it is the forty days leading up to Easter that we are called to reflect, to pray, to dig into ourselves as we dig into god. When Jesus went into the wilderness to pray, he fasted. His focus was on preparing, just like we are for his rejection by the human race, us. Jesus fasted because fasting clears your mind, actually allowing you to think better, to be more aware. He then prayed, questioning his future and the horrors that lie in wait, he wrestled with the devil, he wrestled with his faith, He questioned God, isnt there another way? Have you ever wrestled with god? That is what lent is for.

Please join us at St Lukes every wed eve during lent as we watch segments of "the chosen" and dig into, wrestle, with the questions around our lives, gods promises and our place in them.

SAM. Paul Brooks



Καιρος Χοοκισ ανδ Πρισον Μινιστρψ

Kairos prison ministry is an international interdenominational Christian ministry



that aims to address the spiritual needs of incarcerated people and their families. One area of their ministry is the Kairos Inside Prison Ministry Program. Kairos Inside is a ministry whose mission is to develop a Christian community inside prisons. The Kairos Inside program brings positive and negative leaders together, in both male and female institutions, for a 3 ½ day Weekend led by same gender Kairos volunteers. The Weekend is based on: A series of talks, discussions, chapel meditations, and creating a Christian community. For many participants, the Kairos Weekend creates the desire to become a Christian, and for others the desire to continue his/her spiritual growth. On these weekends we are invited to share home baked chocolate chip cookies with the participants. Our next opportunity to share the love of God through cookies will be for their weekend of March 27-30, 2025. The cookies will need to be ready for pick-up or delivery the weekend of March 22-23. Watch the March for more details and plans.

March Birthdays

- 3 – Kaylee Sammet
- 20 – LuAnn Beverly
- 22 – Jerry McCullough
- 26 – Alister Mewhorter



God's Helpers for March

Readers:

- Mar 2 – Dave Sharninghouse
- Mar 9 – Lori McDaniel
- Mar 16 – Carol Cary
- Mar 23 – Linda Ross
- Mar 30 –

Worship Leaders:

- Mar 2 – SAM Paul Brooks
- Mar 5 - SAM Paul Brooks
- Mar 9 – SAM Paul Brooks
- Mar 16 – SAM Paul Brooks
- Mar 23 – Pr. Sarah Kronback
- Mar 30 – SAM Paul Brooks

Altar Care:

Lorene Raney



**A blessing for
St. Patrick's Day**



An old St. Patrick's Day blessing:
*Bright stars above you,
 Sunshine on your way,
 Many friends to love you,
 Joy in work and play.
 Laughter to outweigh each care,
 In your heart a song,
 And gladness waiting everywhere,
 All your whole life long!*

Calendar of Events:

- Mar 5 – ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE,
Communion, 5 : pm
- Mar 9 – Time change, spring forward
1 hour
- Mar 11 – Lions Dinner, 6:30 pm
- Mar 12 - Church Council Mtg, 5:30
- Mar 17 – St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 20 – First Day of Spring!
- Mar 28 – Newsletter Deadline



2/1/2025-
2/25/2025

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| INCOME | |
| Direct Deposit | 380.00 |
| Envelopes | 1,726.00 |
| Mile Of Pennies | 37.11 |
| Plate | 1.00 |
| Thrivent Choice Fund | 7.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 2,151.11 |
| EXPENSES | |
| Real Estate Tax | 271.74 |
| Supply Pastor | 475.00 |
| Utilites | |
| Water & Sewage | 100.14 |
| TOTAL Utilites | 100.14 |
| Utilities | |
| Electric | 246.86 |
| Gas | 120.00 |
| TOTAL Utilities | 366.86 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 1,213.74 |
| OVERALL TOTAL | 937.37 |

