

March 2026

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.

2026: “The Way of Love!”

THE 'GOOD NEWS' LETTER

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

March – April 2026

Lifestyles

Do any of you remember that tv show “Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous”? I don't remember ever watching it but it sure must have been something. Not being rich or famous, it perplexed me why I should watch it. But just because we aren't rich or famous we still have a lifestyle. If you are a farmer your lifestyle includes following the weather, commodity prices, rough hands, and muddy boots. If you are the farmer's wife it may include dealing with those rough hands and muddy boots as well as trying to address the worried looks your husband sometimes has. If you have a manufacturing lifestyle, there's a schedule of when you need to leave the house and apply for vacation time, adjusting for overtime. A retiree may fret over not having a set schedule anymore, how can I fill my time?

And now we are in the season Lent. We can look at being a Christian as going to church, serving on a committee perhaps, even giving to the food bank program, or doing all those things. Or we can choose to have a Christian lifestyle where that is the place where we start from, not just something we do. We grow weary just doing. Doing out of obligation, or guilt or well, “I've always done this so here goes.” We can't describe God. We can talk around it. It's like it says in the Bible but it always comes up just short, a mystery. The one word that nobody questions when used in these descriptions is love. God is love. When we start with that there's a much better motivation in doing things; a better way to approach the day. God loved us first and our response is sending that same love outwards. To strangers, to people we know, to creation, not because we have to or feel guilty if we don't but out of the love God has already given us. That is a Christian lifestyle, not the things you do, but why you do them.



Lent is a time when we can seek the refuge of God, seek revelation, and look for the liberation from ego and empire so that we may fully realize our Christian lifestyle. Amen

Paul Brooks



St. John's Lutheran Church Council Minutes
February 18, 2026

Members Present: David Sharninghouse, Jerry McCullough, Carol Cary, Carol Yeager, Michel Robles, Linda Ross, Paul Brooks, and 3 visitors (Jane and Frank Lopez and Oscar Velasquez).

Devotions led by Linda Ross on Ash Wednesday reading from Matthew, where our treasures are, so is our heart. Carol C. will lead March 11 devotions.

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

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed and discussed. Carol C. notes delayed delivery of certain checks due to the mail service. Michele moved and Jerry seconded to accept this report. All agreed and motion passed.

At this point the 3 visitors shared their purpose of coming to us – their desire to find a place to worship in order to share the Good News of God's Love with area people who are seeking Guidance, Acceptance and Love that the world does not give. Discussion was held to explore the possibilities of sharing our space with them in this quest. We gave them a brief tour of our church and Parish Hall and we both agreed to consider this possibility and will meet again in the near future.

No SAM report as Paul came late.

Old Business: Addressing the revision of our church constitution was tabled due to time limits today.

-Synod Assembly 2026 in May 23 from 9am-6pm at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Bowling Green was discussed. Michele is considering one of the two representatives from our church.

-Carol C. shared her revision of our mission statement. Jerry also shared his revision and both were received well and discussed. No decision was made to accept one or the other. We were encouraged to 'Pray on it' and talk again in March.

-In January we decided to use the Ash Wednesday offering for CHOPIN Hall and the Blessing Basket, but Linda informed in 2025 we also included the offerings from Maundy Thursday and the Easter Breakfast in the donation of \$200 to each with funds from the Mile of Pennies to make this amount available. Linda moved to do this, Micele seconded and all agreed and motion passed.

Council Minutes cont'd.

New Business: Sharon has had Mary Jo Agerter help with the cleaning the church and asked if we can employ her with the regular and deep cleaning of the church and Parish Hall. All were in agreement that this would be of much assistance to us all. Carol C. moved to hire her to clean twice a month at \$20 per hr. for 1-2 hours each cleaning session. Mary Jo did help Sharon with the Parish Hall wooden floors and was shown how to bi-weekly clean the church. In the future Mary Jo will invoice the church monthly. Carol Y. seconded this motion, All agreed and motion passed.

-Michele informs the Kairos cookies for the Kairos weekend of March 12-15, 2026 are due by Friday, March 6 at the church. They are \$24.99 per box at Gordon Food Service for the frozen chocolate chip cookies we bake.

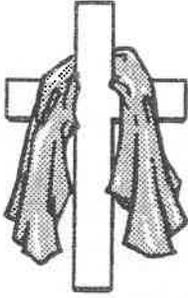
The meeting adjourned by Carol Y. moving to do so, seconded by Jerry. All agreed and motion passed. Ash Wednesday Service followed. Meeting closed by all praying The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Ross, Secretary

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In Our Prayers: John Sharninghouse, Gary Kern, Sue Maki, Carol and David Cary, Betty Hornbeck, LuAnn Beverly, Colene Shoop, Eva George, Teri Zent, Eric & Lisa Kreh, Kris, Don Edler, Ashley Edler, Brandt Edler, Mary Schroll, Pat Newell, Gordon Myers, Vicki Shoop, Jim Cary, Josh, Linda Hoops, Ellery Paige Robinson. Please pray for the victims of all natural disasters, our shut-ins, all who grieve, and all others with special needs.

The Adult Sunday School Class has started a series of study on the Parables, using study guides titled 'SHORT STORIES by JESUS.' Interesting conversations are shared as we study how these stories apply to our lives today. We also study how they are viewed and heard in Jesus time. COME JOIN THE GROUP IN THE PARISH HALL AFTER CHURCH.



Wednesday Lent Bible Study

You are invited to join St. Luke's Lutheran Church on Wednesdays of Lent (beginning February 25) as what Love Is is explored, how it is manifested and what our part is in the world. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. with discussion to follow. They are using the book 'Love Is The Way' by Bishop Michael Curry.

Food Pantry Update:

Thank You for all the soup and crackers brought in during January and February toward our annual 'Souper Bowl Sunday' outreach project. Your continued generosity of 166 cans of soup and 30 boxes of varied crackers were delivered to CHOPIN Hall and The Blessing Basket and were very much appreciated!!

March requests are canned meats of all kinds, boxed dinners such as Tuna Helpers, Macaroni & Cheese, etc.

Address change:

Eva George has been moved to The Meadows, Leipsic, Oh. recently. Her room number is 504.

Kairos Prison Ministry:

Once again we will be furnishing chocolate chip cookies for the Kairos Ministry weekend of March 12-15. Thank you ladies for baking them and getting them to the church by March 6th.

Celebration of Life for Paul Maki will take place on April 11 at 12:00 P.M. The family and friends will gather in our Parish Hall for a meal and remembrance of Paul.

Easter Opportunities:

Join us on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and on Easter Sunday as we worship with Holy Communion. Breakfast will be served following worship by our council members.

The Cross

O Lord Jesus, you took it away that day on the cross.
All my sin and shame, you bore
All for the day when I'd understand
What, Lord Jesus, you have in store.
You gave up your life to show me the way.
You gave it all up for me;
O Lord Jesus, it's hard to comprehend,
Why you would do it just for me.
Circles were drawn, lots were cast,
Jealousy and hatred abound;
Around your feet, they gathered there,
Some just waited without even a sound.
Then came the words you spoke that day
Which proved beyond doubt who you were;
The final breath was taken, and life left you.
The centurion pierced your side to be sure.
How cruel we are with our earthly games
That drove that spear even deeper;
O Lord, how precious was the blood you shed,
You truly are our keeper.
Thank you, Lord, that it didn't end,
When in that tomb you were lain;
Thank you, Lord, from the bottom of my heart,
That thou didst rise again.

*Danna Dennis
Arlington*





March Birthdays

- 8 – Kaylee Sammet
- 20 – LuAnn Beverly
- 22 – Jerry McCullough

God's Helpers for March

Readers:

- 1 – Dave Sharninghouse
- 8 – Lori McDaniel
- 15 – Carol Cary
- 22 – Linda Ross
- 29 - Jerry McCullough

Altar Care

Lori McDaniel



Calendar of Events

- March 8 – Time Change, Spring forward one hour!
- March 10 – Lions Dinner Mtg. 6:30
- March 11 – Church Council Mtg. 3pm
- March 20 – First Day of Spring!
- March 29 – PALM SUNDAY

I asked Jesus... "How much do You love me?"

And Jesus said... "This much."

Then He stretched out His arms and died.



April Birthdays

- 12 – Matt Johns
- 15 – Elyas Johns
- 22 – Heidi McDaniel
- 29 – Kris Martin

April Anniversary

- 30 – Carol and David Cary

God's Helpers for April

Readers:

- 2 – David Sharninghouse
- 5 – David Sharninghouse
- 12 – Lori McDaniel
- 19 – Carol Cary
- 26 – Linda Ross

Altar Care:

Sharon Kreh



Calendar of Events

- April 2 – MAUNDY THURSDAY
Service, 5:00 pm
- April 3 – GOOD FRIDAY
- April 5 - EASTER SUNDAY,
HE IS RISEN!!!!
Breakfast following worship.
- April 8 – Church Council Mtg.
- April 14 – Lions Dinner Mtg.
- April 29 – Newsletter Deadline

