

380 Keny Blvd.
London, OH 43140

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Sunday Worship 10:00am

the Chimes

Christ in us, the hope of glory!

pastor Josh Stibb
secretary Amy McComas
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ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2025



Cowboy Jeff and the Kids



Miss Karen

Thank You for Making Wonder Junction a Success!

As the dust settles on the trails of Wonder Junction, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for making this year's Vacation Bible School an unforgettable journey through the wonders of Jesus!

From August 3–7, we explored five incredible aspects of His life — from His miraculous birth to the promise of His return. Each night was filled with joy, learning, laughter, and the unmistakable presence of God.

This event would not have been possible without the dedication and heart of so many:

Jeff Blain – Thank you for kicking off each evening with energy and inspiration during our opening sessions.

Val & Kirstin Eades – Your science lessons brought the wonders of Jesus to life in such creative and engaging ways!

Marie & Mike Wood – The crafts were a hit! Thank you for helping kids express their faith through hands-on creativity.

Bobby Wood – Your games kept the energy high and the smiles wide. Thank you for making fun a part of our faith journey.

Amy McComas, Kristen Dunn, Kathy Erbaugh & Nancy Penix – The snack team was amazing! Thank you for keeping everyone fueled and happy with your delicious treats and warm hospitality.

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Karen Saupe – Thank you for your guitar and music fun that added joy and spirit to our evenings.

Mark Erbaugh – Thank you for leading the Adult Class and enriching the experience for our grown-up participants.

To all our volunteers, teachers, parents, and participants — thank you for showing up with open hearts, ready to ride through the wonders of Jesus together.

We hope Wonder Junction left you inspired and reminded of the incredible love and power of our Savior. Let's carry that wonder with us as we continue to grow in faith and community.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Kelly Cooley



Adult Class



Snack Team

Upcoming Events

- [First Sunday Fellowship](#)
September 7, after worship
- Church Council Meeting (open to all)
September 9, 6:00pm
- [H.E.L.P. House Meal Preparation](#)
September 15, 9:00am - noon
- [Church Exterior Maintenance Work Day](#)
September 27, 8:00am - 1:00pm
- [First Sunday Fellowship](#)
October 5, after worship
- Church Council Meeting (open to all)
October 14, 6:00pm

Prayer Requests



If you have a prayer request, please pick up a prayer request card in the church office. In accordance with HIPAA Law, a prayer request should not be published without the person's consent.

Marilyn Ballenger
Sharon Dillion
Vici Geer
Elaine Komives
George Lassel
Amy McComas

Charlene Olsen
Jim Penix
Peg Saupe
David Smith
Pr. Josh Stibb
Debbie Vecchiarelli

First Sunday Fellowship



Join us after worship the first Sunday of each month in Luther's Café for coffee, snacks and fellowship.

If you are interested in hosting one of the First Sunday Fellowships, please see the sign up sheet in Luther's Café. It's not that much work and there are always other folks willing to bring food and help out.

Council Highlights

Upon recommendation of the call committee, we amended our pastoral vacancy listing to make it more attractive to potential pastors. We are willing to pay above Synod guidelines and willing to discuss family based incentives. We also approved a budget of \$1,500 plus air fare to bring a candidate to London, when that happens (no candidate yet).

Council became aware of \$4,935.72 in unclaimed funds with the state and are working to recover those.

Council approved a Church Exterior Maintenance Work Day on September 27, headed by Rick Davis.

Council approved a checklist for the custodian / cleaner to make sure the items in her contract are properly addressed.

Council is preparing for a secretary vacancy as Amy is having surgery on 8/27 and will be out for three to six weeks.

Council received notice of a zoning meeting concerning the parcel between the church and the Chamber of Commerce and Cyprus Church.

Matt Riley has resigned from Council and we are looking for a replacement.

Call Committee

Rick Davis: chair
Tim Amling
Kelly Cooley
Marty Komives
Victoria Patrick
Morgan Riley
Scott Spohler

Church Council

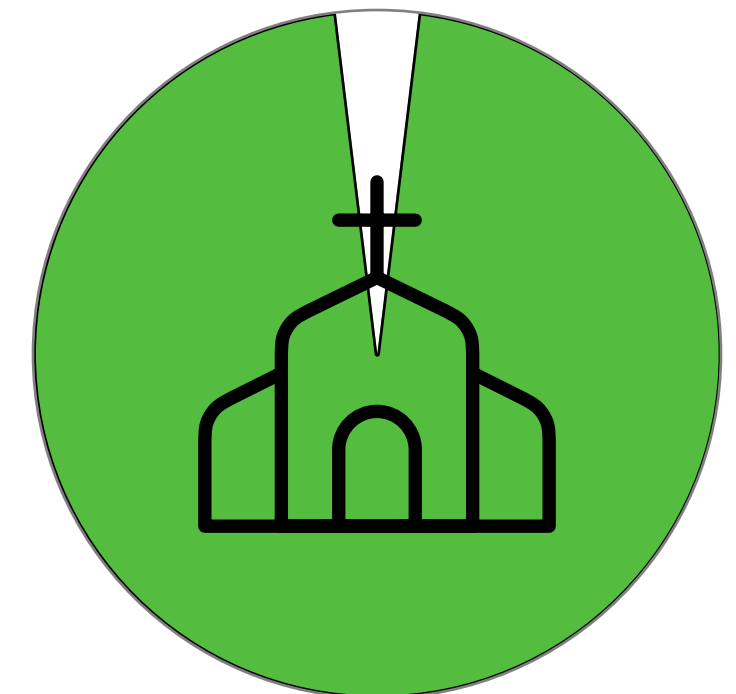
| Name | Phone / Text | Email |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Kelly Davis | (614) 581-8929 | rick_and_kelly@yahoo.com |
| Martha Davis | (740) 248-6440 | mjdavis7085@gmail.com |
| Valerie Eades, President | (614) 419-0232 | vjeeades@gmail.com |
| Mark Erbaugh, Council Secretary | (740) 845-1877 | mark.election@gmail.com |
| Liz Lassel, Treasurer | (614) 769-3986 | agourdus1@yahoo.com |
| Aaron Patrick, Vice President | (937) 417-8346 | ampatrick29@gmail.com |
| Josh Stibb, Interim Pastor | | |

Finance Report

| | July | YTD |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Income | \$19,539.93 | \$153,366.16 |
| Expenses | 20,643.72 | 110,207.90 |
| Net | (\$1,103.80) | \$43,158.26 |
| Mortgage Balance (8/11/25) | | \$67,429.74 |

Mortgage Payoff

Initial: \$971,747
Current: \$67,430



September Birthdays

- 14 Ray Scharf
- 22 Ava Ackley
- 28 Kyle Ball
- 29 Kelly Cooley

Milt Boerger's 97th



Congratulations to Milt Boerger on his 97th birthday, August 31.

September Anniversaries

- 1 Wally & Linda Ward
- 6 Jeff & Tonya Blain
- 7 Wyatt & Macy Eades
- 8 Mike & Marie Wood
Connor & Blair Cooley
- 27 Keith & Denise Languell
- 30 Eric & Susan Friend

Exterior Maintenance Work Day



Rick Davis is coordinating a church exterior maintenance work day on September 27, 8:00am - 1:00pm. We will do touch up painting and repair trim and siding.

Volunteer Opportunities



There are many ways you can help St. John's. If you would like to volunteer, contact the church office.

Some areas where help is needed

- Webmaster
- Fellowship coordinator
- Historian / Archivist
- Vacation Bible School
- Maintenance
- Worship Assistants
- Vocal / Instrumental Musicians

Worship Assistants

| | September 7 | September 14 | September 21 | September 28 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Acolyte | Jeff Blain | Andy Wood | Gene Noble | Mia Patrick |
| Ushers | Dora Johnson Pam Smathers | Nancy Penix Fran Datz | Jerry Ball Deb Ball | Marian Fisher Rachel Fisher |
| Lector | Susan Friend | Rick Davis | Gene Noble | Dana Fisher |
| Communion Assistant | Wally Ward Linda Ward | Ruth Peters Kelly Cooley | John Steckli D'Ann Steckli | Victoria Patrick Aaron Patrick |
| Video Sound | Scott Spohler Alex Spohler | John Steckli D'Ann Steckli | Mike Wood Andy Wood | Scott Spohler Alex Spohler |
| Offering Caregiver | Tim Amling Sharon Dillion | Kelly Davis Marie Wood | Kelly Cooley Mark Erbaugh | Valerie Eades Aaron Patrick |
| Altar Guild | Nancy Hodosko Sharon Dillion | Nancy Hodosko Sharon Dillion | Nancy Hodosko Sharon Dillion | Nancy Hodosko Sharon Dillion |
| Altar Flowers | Helen Stevens by Liz Lasso | In honor of Wally and Linda Ward's Anniversary | Eleanor & Penelope Hoffman birthdays by Jerry & Deb Ball | Cooley Family |
| Eternal Flame | Nancy Hodosko | Nancy Hodosko | Nancy Hodosko | Nancy Hodosko |

The Altar Flowers and Eternal Flame charts are posted in Luther's Café. If you would like to sponsor one or the other in memory of or in honor of someone special, please sign up on the chart or call the church office.

The altar flowers are \$35.00 for the pair and the eternal flame is \$10.00 per week.

Christian Education

Daylight Bible Study - Tuesday 10:00am Luther Café - Gospel of John
Adult Sunday School - Sunday 9:00am David Room - Adult VBS Repeat
Children's Sunday School - Sunday 10:00am Nursery

September Sunday Readings

| | Sunday | 1st Reading | Psalm | 2nd Reading | Gospel |
|----|--------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 7 | 13 Pentecost | Deuteronomy 30:15-20 | Psalm 1 | Philemon 1-21 | Luke 14:25-33 |
| 14 | 14 Pentecost | Exodus 32:7-14 | Psalm 51:1-10 | 1 Timothy 1:12-17 | Luke 15:1-10 |
| 21 | 15 Pentecost | Amos 8:4-7 | Psalm 146 | 1 Timothy 6:6-19 | Luke 16:19-31 |
| 28 | 16 Pentecost | Amos 6:1a, 4-7 | Psalm 37:1-9 | 2 Timothy 1:1-14 | Luke 17:5-10 |

Chimes Content

What things about St. John's would you like to see in future *Chimes* newsletters?

If you have any information about current St. John's ministries that should be shared, please let the church office know.

Chimes Photos

If you like one of the photos in *the Chimes*, let me know and I will make you a print or provide a digital version of it.

Mark Erbaugh

Prayer Quilt Supplies

During the Church cleaning, we found a lot of supplies left over from the Prayer Quilt Ministry. If you can use them, let the the office know, otherwise we will donate them to other groups that make quilts for charity.

VBS Snacks



Snake / Serpent



Cart



Work Table & Hammer

Kroger Rewards

Thank you to the 19 households participating in the Kroger Community Rewards program. Between February 1 and April 30 you contributed \$43.26 to St. John's. The Kroger Rewards goes into our Ekedahl Fund.

If you are interested helping St. Johns through the Community Rewards program, visit <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>.

Madison County Food Pantry

The Madison County Food Pantry now has a website: www.madisoncountyfoodpantry.org

The Food Pantry serves an average of 800 households which includes an average of roughly 3,000 individuals every three months. Food and financial support can be dropped off at 125 S. Oak St. in London during distribution hours: 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. every Wednesday and Saturday, or by special arrangement

H.E.L.P House

The H.E.L.P House is a nonprofit organization who provides Madison County residents with daily needs. They have clothing, furniture, bedding, and of course food. The people running H.E.L.P. House use all the donations collected to help people in need. All donations will get redistributed around the area.

The London Help House was very grateful for the donations that filled the church basket. Thank you for adding items whenever you are able since families definitely need it. The Help House crew cooked and packaged over 160 individual meals. The church smelled amazing as the ham, green beans, onions, and potatoes simmered. Thank you to all of you that donated money to help cover the costs. Another special thank you goes to the work crew that was here from 8:00am to 11:30am. Thank you to Deb and Jerry Ball, Fran and Allan Datz, Kathy and Mark Erbaugh, Linda and Wally Ward, Darrell Storck, and Fritz Heckel for their time. We had good socializing and friendship building.

If you are interested in participating in the next meal preparation, just reserve the morning of September 15th between 8:00-12:00.

Donations are always welcome in the form of:

1. Cash
2. Loaves of bread
3. Cookies
4. Onions
5. Applesauce
6. Large cans of green beans
7. Buffet ham
8. Quart size zip bags
9. Snack size zip bags
10. Raw potatoes

There will be a sign up sheet on the board by the entry for anyone to sign up to donate or help prepare the meal. We appreciate all the help!

Please contact Fritz Heckel at 920-279-8044 or heckelf6@gmail.com.

VBS Bible Memory Verses

And the word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

The Wonder of His Birth

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor. (Luke 2:52)

The Wonder of His Childhood

But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. (John 21:25)

The Wonder of His Ministry Years

But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God and that through believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:31)

The Wonder of His Death and Resurrection

May your kingdom come. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. (Matthew 6:10)

The Wonder of His Return

Meet Your Church Council

Valerie Eades, Council President



Valerie has been a member of St. John's just over twelve years.

Valerie and her husband Aaron have two children. Son Wyatt is married to Macy and daughter Kirstin is currently attending Ashland University. She has two sisters, Brandy Keller (deceased) and Emily Ball.

Her maternal grandparents, Emily and Bill Bauerle, were members. Valerie's parents raised her Catholic, but she attended St John's with her grandparents and family members on occasion. Valerie and Aaron raised their kids Catholic, but attended St John's for family events and with their cousins. Her children prompted her to join St. John's to be with their cousins and participate in the youth group.

She has other family connections to St. John's. Her sister Emily is married to Kyle Ball. Her cousin, Nathan Ernst, is married to Anna, the daughter of Linda and Wally Ward.

She and Aaron farm about 2,000 acres, growing corn, soybeans and wheat. Valerie has worked for the Madison County Engineer's Office for 25 years. For the past 5 years, she has been the fiscal officer for Paint Township.

She got involved in VBS, Trunk or Treat and Breakfast with Santa. Linda Ward asked her to be on Church Council. She was serving as Vice President when Amy McComas resigned from Council to become the church secretary and agreed to take over as President.

When asked about the strengths of St. John's, she said that we are a small community and everyone knows everyone and checks up on each other.

As for weaknesses, being small makes it hard to bring in new members and to grow, but she thinks with the right pastor we could grow.

As for challenges, the biggest one is finding the right pastor for our next chapter and getting youth involved. She remembers that when her children were younger there were lots of activities for them.

