

380 Keny Blvd.  
London, OH 43140

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Sunday Worship 10:00am

# the Chimes

Christ in us, the hope of glory!

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ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

JULY 2026

Summer is officially here! We are all well underway of our vacations (well, at least some of us are). Camping and cruises; checking off those bucket-list trips with loved ones; state parks and amusement parks; beaches and mountains; and let's not forget about things even closer to home – the baseball games and backyard barbecue's.

Regardless of the views or who you may share them with, they all come with things in common: No meetings. No deadlines. No pressure to “produce.” And all these views, destinations and those with who you share them come from God; His goodness, His creation and His love for each one of us, in the form of well-deserved rest.

That's the purpose of rest. That's the purpose of vacation. Not just to escape — but to return: to yourself, to your peace, and to your God.

Let's get this out of the way first: not everyone can afford a cruise or beach trip or a cabin in the mountains. For many, vacation sounds like a luxury we can't reach — because of finances, family, or the demands of everyday life.

But here's the truth I want to say loud and clear: rest is not a luxury. It's a command. And God never gives us a command He won't help us keep. Rest isn't something reserved for the privileged. It is a birthright of the believer — a holy rhythm we are all called to embrace, no matter our zip code or income bracket.

Let's be honest, most of us have replied at one time or another to the question, “How are you?” by responding, “I've just been so busy.” We take a certain pride in that, and consider it almost shameful if our schedules aren't jam-packed and our to-do lists fail to carry over to begin the next day because of the unforeseen busyness of today. Many of us live by a hustle ethic that says: work harder, never say “no” to a request, help more, sleep less. In effect, we are what we do.

We wear exhaustion like a badge of honor. We glorify being busy. We even feel guilty when we're not working longer and harder at something. Maybe not even anything we should. Just something.

But God's rhythm is different. God doesn't call us to hustle harder. He calls us to abide deeper. And the deeper we abide, the clearer we hear, the stronger we stand, and the more fruitful we become — not because of our striving, but because of our surrender.

“Be still, and know that I am God.” - Psalm 46:10

That verse is not a suggestion. It's a command wrapped in a promise. “Be still.” That's the command. “Know that I am God.” That's the reward. But you can't know God deeply if you're never still long enough to listen. It's shocking how clearly God speaks to us if only we would be still and listen. Stillness is the soil in

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which spiritual clarity grows. If we never stop to be still, we miss the invitation to intimacy. We miss the chance to hear the still, small voice that speaks not to our performance, but to our personhood.

In its purest form, vacation is a form of worship. It's a declaration that your value is not measured by your output, but by your identity in Him. Yes, you read that right. So, many of us need to refocus on the way we view vacation. Is it time for us – or time for us to be with Him? Time to appreciate Him. Time to thank Him. Time to hear Him. When you choose to enjoy beauty, silence, or play, you are engaging with the God who created joy, silence, and play.

This summer, I challenge you to a vacation with God, even if you never leave the 43140. Turn off the noise. Reclaim your peace. Take a break - not just for your body, but for your soul.

You may not be able to afford a hotel, a plane ticket, or an Airbnb — but you can always afford stillness. You can always afford to sit at the feet of Jesus.

With blessings  
Vicar Jon



## July Calendar

[Fireworks Cookout](#)

July 3, 5:00pm

[First Sunday Fellowship](#)

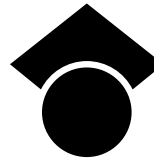
July 5, after worship

[Church Council Meeting](#) (open to all)

July 13, 6:00pm (note date change)

[Vacation Bible School](#)

July 26-30, 6:00-7:30pm



## High School Graduation

Congratulations to our recent high school graduates:

Gracie Lappie - London

Lucas Lappie - London

Andy Wood - Madison Plains



## 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.*

Prudy Goodyear

Madi Herdman

Nancy Hodosko

Ryan Lappie

George Lassel

Valerie Meister (Vicar's mother)

Barbara Mills

Charlene Olsen

Rich Paysen

Ruth Peters

Piper Thomspson (Betty Thompson's Daughter)

Marilyn (Martha Davis' sister)

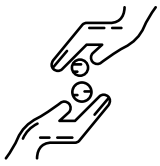
*We extend Christian sympathy to the friends, family and loved ones of those who have recently passed.*

Dorothy Jean Browning

(Doreen Browning's mother)

Peg Saupe

Bill (Dora Johnson's nephew)



## Good Samaritan Fund

The church now has *The Good Samaritan Fund*. Proceeds from this fund will be used to meet emergency needs within the community and in the congregation. Please consider contributing to this fund.

Some of this fund will be used to purchase gift cards to be given out by the church office (with documentation to prevent abuse) to those coming to the church for assistance. Some of this fund will be contributed to the H.E.L.P house for their community emergency fund.

## Finance Report

	May 2026	2026 YTD
Income	\$23,901.04	\$106,751.09
Expenses	11,302.02	119,734.56
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$16,608.02</b>	<b>\$12,983.47</b>

## Sunday All Abilities Service

The new 2:30pm Sunday All Abilities Service is off to a great start! Please feel free to join for some extra special socializing and activate your grateful heart. We have had a couple new guests receiving God's word during the short half hour service. You can sing favorite songs, receive communion, and be blessed for the week.



## 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
Melanie (Fritzi) Heckel	(920) 279-8044	heckelf6@gmail.com
Liz Lassel, Treasurer	(614) 769-3986	agourdus1@yahoo.com
Aaron Patrick, Vice President	(937) 417-8346	ampatrick29@gmail.com
Jon Meister, Vicar	(614) 204-8073	jmeistersam@stjohnslondon.org

## July Birthdays



- 1 Ryan Lappie
- 2 Jacob Friend
- 4 Dale Johnson
- 6 Mike Zbleski
- 7 Zachary Davis
- 9 Hudson Davis
- 10 Richard Davis
- 11 Matthew McComas
- 14 Charlene Olsen
- 21 Marian Fisher
- 24 Kaleigh Duncan
- 30 Dora Johnson
- 31 Barbara Mills

## July Anniversaries



- 25 Kathy & Mark Erbaugh

## First Sunday Fellowship



Join us after worship the first Sunday of each month in Luther's Café for coffee, snacks and fellowship. Since the first Sunday in April is Easter, the fellowship will be the Easter Bruch at 8:30.

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.

## Daylight Bible Study

10am Tuesdays at the Church



Linda Ward is leading this Bible study which is currently studying the Gospel of Matthew. New members are always welcome.

## Care Group



Interested in learning about the Care Group? We send birthday, anniversary, get well, etc. cards to families. The church furnishes the cards. It's nice to be remembered and you'll feel good for doing the remembering!

*Questions, please see Debbie Ball or the church office.*

## Altar Flowers / Eternal Flame

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 and the eternal flame is \$10.00 per week. London Florist has raised the cost to \$72 per week.

## Madison County Food Pantry



The Madison County Food Pantry now has a website: [www.madisoncountyfoodpantry.org](http://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

## Kroger Rewards



Thank you to the 21 households participating in the Kroger Community Rewards program.

Between February 1 and April 30 you contributed \$56.26 to St. John's. The Kroger Rewards go into our *Good Samaritan* Fund.

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

## Christian Education

[Daylight Bible Study](#) - Tuesday 10:00am Luther Café - Gospel of Matthew

[Adult Sunday School](#) - Sunday 9:00am David Room - *Animate: Faith*

[Children's Sunday School](#) - Sunday 10:00am Nursery

## H.E.L.P. House

The H.E.L.P. House is a nonprofit organization who provides Madison County residents with daily needs. The new location is undergoing major renovations on the backside of Buckeye School. This area never had any plumbing so raising money to put in a kitchen and bathrooms is a priority. Thank you to everyone who ate at Los Mariachis in June during the 20% give back days. Meals will be distributed from Royal Cabinets until we hear other news. THANK YOU to the great crew who prepared 194 hot meals at St. John's on June 16. THANK YOU also to those who were able to donate cash or keep the HH in their prayers because every little bit helps. We have always operated in the black! Our congregation works together to prepare at least 150 individual servings that friends in need can enjoy. St. John's prepares a meal four times a year on the third Monday of March, June, September and December. Our next meal prep date will be September 21 and all are welcome who are available.

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! We socialize as we chop veggies and fill the containers. It is very enjoyable and uplifting so please feel free to join us from 8:30-11:30 or anytime in between.

Please contact Fritzi Heckel at 920-279-8044 with any questions or suggestions.





## Council Highlights

Council approved giving \$250 from the Good Samaritan Fund to the Madison for help with their summer cookouts.

Council approved our community garden project, starting with one raise bed. St. John's has received a \$250 grant from Thrivent for this project.

St. John's received \$5,400 in unclaimed funds.

Council voted to give Amy a \$1 / hour raise and to officially change her title to Administrative Assistant.

London Florist has raised our weekly flower cost to \$72. We will keep the weekly donation at \$35 through the end of the year. We are looking into alternative flower suppliers.

Council held a planning retreat at the church on June 20. We discussed starting the process to update St. John's Mission and Vision. We are looking for people willing to lead ministry teams.

## First Communion



*Barbara Mills, Morgan Riley, Oliver Riley, Vicar*

## Adult Sunday School

We continue with our series titled *Animate: Faith*. Each session starts with a video featuring a leading Christian voice followed by time for personal reflection and journaling and then sharing ideas with the group.

- God | Faith is a Quest *Brian McLaren*
- Religion | Spirituality is Not Enough *Lilian Daniel*
- Jesus | The Revolution of Love *Mark Scandrette*
- Cross | Where God Is *Nadia Bolz-Weber*
- Bible | A Book Like No Other *Lauren Winner*
- Church | An Imperfect Family *Bruce Reyes-Chow*

Please join us a 9:00 am in the David Room. All are welcome. Feel free to attend even if you can't attend all sessions.

# Sharing **THE GOSPEL** with kids

The word *gospel* means “good news.” It is the message about **Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation.** Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



**GOD RULES.** The Bible tells us God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. (Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17)



**WE SINNED.** Since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



**GOD PROVIDED.** God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9)



**JESUS GIVES.** Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18)



**WE RESPOND.** We can respond to Jesus. The ABCs of Becoming a Christian is a simple tool that helps us remember how to respond when prompted by the Holy Spirit to receive the gift Jesus offers.

**ILLUMINATION**  
**STATION** JOHN 1:9



July 26<sup>th</sup> – July 30<sup>th</sup>  
6:00pm- 7:30pm  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
380 Keny Blvd.  
London, Ohio 43140  
All are Welcome

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JULY 2026

MINISTRY	JULY 5	JULY 12	JULY 19	JULY 26
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	MIA PATRICK	ANDY WOOD	NANCY HODOSKO	MIA PATRICK
<b>USHERS</b>	VICTORIA AND AARON PATRICK	LINDA AND WALLY WARD	MELANIE AND DAVID FISHER	SHARON DILLION NANCY PENIX
<b>LECTOR</b>	DEBBIE VECCHIERELLI	DOREEN BROWNING	DOMINIC GAMMELL	JOHN STECKLI
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANTS</b>	FRAN AND AL DATZ	MORGAN RILEY MALENIE HADIDON	TIM AMLING SUSAN FRIEND	VALERIE EADES MACY EADES
<b>POWER POINT VIDEO/SOUND</b>	MIKE AND ANDY WOOD	JOHN & D'ANNE STECKLI	SCOTT AND ALEX SPHOL-ER	MIKE AND ANDY WOOD
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	FRAN DATZ SUSAN FRIEND	FRAN DATZ SUSAN FRIEND	FRAN DATZ SUSAN FRIEND	FRAN DATZ SUSAN FRIEND
<b>OFFERING CAREGIVERS</b>	TIM AMLING FRITZ HECKLE	MARIE WOOD	KELLY COOLEY MARK ERBAUGH	VALERIE EADES AARON PATRICK
<b>ALTAR FLOWERS</b>	RICK AND KELLY DAVIS IN HONOR OF AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY	MEMORY OF ALEX & MARY KOMIVES BY DEB VECCIERELLI	IN HONOR OF ERNIE BURTON & PAM SMATHERS BIRTHDAYS	IN MEMORY OF ALL OF OUR LOVED ONES
<b>ETERNAL FLAME</b>	BEVERLY LONDERGAN	BEVERLY LONDERGAN	BEVERLY LONDERGAN	BEVERLY LONDERGAN

### Uncle Mikey is turning 80!!

Saturday, July 4th: Cheer for Mike and his honeywagon in the parade in downtown London. After the parade, meet at Butcher Block approximately around 12:30 until 3:30 for a burger bar, cold drinks, live music by Spittin' Image including a special appearance featuring Big Mike himself on guitar. I would bring your lawn chairs, can coolies, sunscreen, and a "game on" fun attitude!

Since Mike loves getting mail, please send him a card instead of a gift to:

Mike Zbleski  
9460 Roberts Road SE  
West Jefferson, OH 43162

