

380 Keny Blvd.
London, OH 43140

☎ 740 852-1522

Sunday Worship 10:00am

the Chimes

Christ in us, the hope of glory!

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ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2026

*I want to know Christ.
Philippians 3:10*

The main objective within Paul's life, that for which he sacrificed everything, was that he might know Christ. But not just in the manner in which we frequently say we "know someone," but far deeper than even the deepest relationships we know and experience among those whom we know and love most. In doing so, Paul gave up country, family, honor, tradition, comfort and his own freedom. He relinquished all he was born into and all he had accomplished; all he would call "garbage" by what he had gained in Christ.

To know Christ is the true desire of one who has been saved; one who enjoys the full conviction that his sins have been forgiven, and that he is in Christ. It is only one who has come to know that he or she is a child of God, an heir, who can feel this desire, "I want to know Christ."

Is this your desire; to know Him? And this begs to question: How do we really know Jesus?

Charles Spurgeon wrote within a sermon from 1864: "I know Christ as a cleanser. They tell me he is a refiner, that he cleanses from spots; he has washed me in his precious blood, and to that extent I know him. They tell me he clothes the naked; he hath covered me with a garment of righteousness, and to that extent I know him. They tell me he is a king, and that he reigns over sin; he hath subdued my enemies beneath his feet, and I know him in that character. They tell me he is a shepherd; I know him for I am his sheep. They say he is a door; I have entered through him, and I know him to be a door. They say he is food; my spirit feeds on him as on the bread of heaven, and therefore, I know him as such."

Christ is indeed these things, and He is also our Creator, Deliverer, Advocate, Mediator, Light, Redeemer, Truth, Word, Lord and Savior. This is what He does and this is who He is. To this extent we know Him.

If I know Him personally, He is not just the Jesus of history within the words of The Bible. He is Jesus "My Lord and my God!" the One whom Thomas exclaimed after his own questions and doubt after Jesus' resurrection (John 20:28).

I want to know Him, but more than just biblically and theologically, and more than just through sermons and church services. I want to know the One who saved me, who suffered for my sins; the One who prays and intercedes for me. The One who knows all my failings and weaknesses and sins, yet who never tires to forgive me. The One who comforts me and walks with me, even through the trials and storms of my life. The One who congratulates me upon happy moments, yet always reminds me, the best is still yet to come.

Just like a best friend. That's how I want to know Him - personally - as my best friend.

In this issue

September Calendar	2
Prayer Requests	2
PowerPoint Help Needed	2
September Birthdays	2
September Anniversaries	2
Care Group	2
Altar Flowers / Eternal Flame	2
Finance Report	3
Church Council	3
Good Samaritan Fund	3
First Sunday Fellowship	3
Council Highlights	3
Kroger Rewards	3
H.E.L.P. House	4
Christian Education	4
Daylight Bible Study	4
Adult Sunday School	4
Madison County Food Pantry	4
Blood Drive	5
All Abilities Service	6
Uncle Mike's Birthday	6
The Chosen	7
Worship Assistants	8
Church Cleaning	8

Continued on page 2

To know Him in this way, means we commune with Him not only on Sunday mornings, but throughout all our daily life as we seek His presence and continue to learn of Him. It means we think about Him, talk with Him and we talk to others about Him. It means we love Him as we love no other. I want to know Christ in that way – Paul’s way. I pray you want this, too.

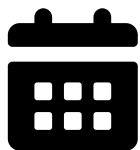
With blessings – Vicar Jon



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.

Madi Herman
Nancy Hodosko
Ryan Lappie
George Lassel
Barbara Mills
Charlene Olsen
Piper Thompson
Marilyn
David Friend
Sheila Kern
Valerie Meister
Ray Scharf
Christian Meister for a good year teaching
John Blessing Vicar's uncle
Kristen Duncan
Charles McComas Bart's father



September Calendar

[First Sunday Fellowship](#)
September 6, after worship

[The Chosen Showing](#)

September 8, 15, 22, 28 - 1:00pm
September 10, 17, 24 - 7:00pm

[Church Council Meeting](#) (open to all)
September 8, 6:00pm

[H.E.L.P. House Meal Prep](#)
September 21, 8:00-11:30am

[Blood Drive](#)
September 24, 11:00am - 4:00pm

September Birthdays



6 Darcey Mast
7 Braden Mast
12 Mack Smathers
20 Derek Fisher
22 Ava Ackley
Otis Strawder
28 Kyle Ball
29 Kelly Cooley
Hallie Patz
30 Jacob Toops

September Anniversaries



1 Linda & Wally Ward
6 Jeff & Tonya Blain
8 Marie & Mike Wood
20 Monroe & Roseann Harbage
24 Bryne & Nick Adkins
27 Keith & Denise Languell
30 Susan & Eric Friend

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.

PowerPoint Help Needed

We are in need of volunteers to run the PowerPoint computer for the Sunday afternoon service.

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.

Council Highlights



- Per the direction of the congregational vote August 9 regarding the replacement of the roof, council approved Corps 1 Remodeling, Siding & Roofing as the vendor to be used. Work is to begin between August 28 and September 3, weather permitting. Donations may be made to the church specific to this project at any time.
- To continue the transition of the treasurer position to Mark Erbaugh, a motion was passed to update the signers on all St. John's accounts, both with existing banks (PNC and Merchants) as well as Thrivent.
- Further, as it pertains to finances, as the need to replace the roof has brought to light, there are a number of budgetary categories which had not been forecasted for the current year in a manner to reflect proper expense efficiency. Many of the categories were budgeted by the prior year's usage, rather than any anticipated spending needs for 2026. As such, council approved that the budget, as it pertains to the existing allocated categories of expenses, should be "suspended" to the end of the year. At that point, the council and treasurer will be able to re-evaluate not only the actual spending in 2026, but will review to better anticipate what that spending may be within each category for the 2027 budget.
- Lastly, as Mark is now treasurer, Fritzi Heckel has accepted the position of secretary of St. John's.

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, Treasurer	(740) 845-1877	mark.election@gmail.com
Melanie (Fritzi) Heckel, Secretary	(920) 279-8044	heckelf6@gmail.com
Aaron Patrick, Vice President	(937) 417-8346	ampatrick29@gmail.com
(vacancy)		
Jon Meister, Vicar	(614) 204-8073	jmeistersam@stjohnslondon.org

Finance Report

	July 2026	2026 YTD
Income	\$15,993.00	\$149,343.57
Expenses	31,997.16	198,588.15
Net	\$-16,004.16	\$-49,244.58

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.

Kroger Rewards



Thank you to the 22 households participating in the Kroger Community Rewards program. From May through July you contributed \$66.54 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/community/community-rewards>



Good Samaritan Fund

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

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 making good progress renovating the area on the backside of Buckeye School. Meals will be distributed from Royal Cabinets until we hear other news. **Our next meal preparation date is September 21 from 8:00-11:30.** THANK YOU to those who are able to donate their time, money, supplies, or for keep the H.E.L.P. House in your prayers because every little bit helps. St. John's prepares a meal four times a year on the third Monday of March, June, September and December. Donations are always welcome in the form of:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Cash | 2. Loaves of bread | 3. Lots of prepackaged cookies |
| 4. Onions | 5. 10# cans of Applesauce | 6. 10# cans of green beans |
| 7. Quart size zip bags | 8. 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 8:00-11:30 or anytime in between.

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

Adult Sunday School

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

- | | | |
|--------------------|--|------------------|
| • God | <i>Faith is a Quest</i> | Brian McLaren |
| • Religion | <i>Spirituality is Not Enough</i> | Lilian Daniel |
| • Jesus | <i>The Revolution of Love</i> | Mark Seandrette |
| • Salvation | <i>Abundant Life Now</i> | Shane Hipps |
| • Cross | <i>Where God Is</i> | Nadia Bolz-Weber |
| • Bible | <i>A Book Like No Other</i> | Lauren Winner |
| • Church | <i>An Imperfect Family</i> | 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.

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



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.

The last Tuesday of each month we meet at local restaurants so the community can see us. Contact Linda or the church office for the location.

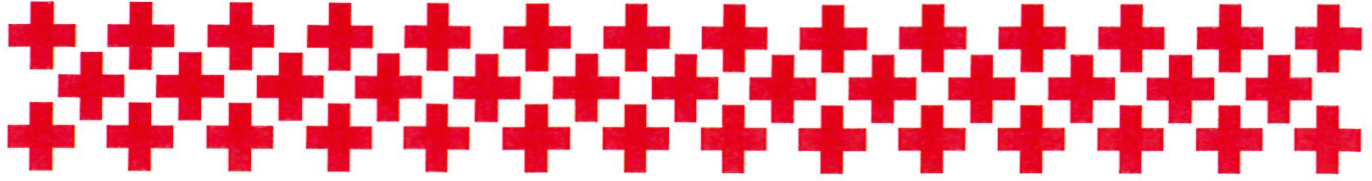
Madison County Food Pantry



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

American Red Cross



Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.
Help save lives.

Give blood.

Blood Drive **St John's Lutheran Church**

Fellowship Hall
380 Keny Blvd
London, OH 43140

Thursday, September 24, 2026
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: SJLC to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

**Fall into the habit of donating! Get a \$15 e-gift card
when you come to give blood Sept. 21-Oct. 18.**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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All Abilities Service

We are so glad to see so many smiling faces at our 2:30pm All Abilities service each Sunday. Please feel free to join and share in the message that God loves us all. There is fellowship after worship around 3:00pm if you would like to welcome our guests, or enjoy a snack with them.



Uncle Mike's Birthday

We would like to thank everyone for making Uncle Mikey's 80th birthday so special. He has gotten so many cards in the mail from St. John's friends! He is now everyone's favorite Uncle Mike.

Fred, Fritz & Gayla Heckel





Each week at St. John's Lutheran Church

Tuesday afternoons at 1:00

Thursday evenings at 7:00

Beginning Tuesday September 8

Free to the congregation and friends!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

MINISTRY	SEPTEMBER 6	SEPTEMBER 13	SEPTEMBER 20	SEPTEMBER 27	
ACOLYTE	GENE NOBLE	ALEX SPHOLER	ALEX SPHOER	MIA PATRICK	
USHERS	AMY MCCOMAS	TIM AMLING JEFF BLAIN	KRISTEN DUNCAN DOMINIC GAMMELL	DAVE FISHER JERRY BALL	
LECTOR	MARK ERBAUGH	SUSAN FRIEND	FRTZI HECKLE	D'ANNE STECKLI	
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	ELAINE AND MARTY KOMIVES	VICTORIA AND AARON PATRICK	RACHEL AND DANA FISHER	MELANIE FISHER DEB BALL	
POWER POINT VIDEO/ SOUND	SCOTT AND ALEX SPHOLER	JOHN & D'ANNE STECKLI	MIKE WOOD	SCOTT AND ALEX SPHOLER	
ALTAR GUILD	MELONIE FISHER	MELANIE FISHER	MELANIE FISHER	MELANIE FISHER	
OFFERING CAREGIVERS	TIM AMLING FRITZ HECKLE	MARIE WOOD KELLY DAVIS	KELLY COOLEY MARK ERBAUGH	VALERIE EADES AARON PATRICK	
ALTAR FLOWERS	WALLY & LINDA WARD'S ANNIVERSARY	COOLEY FAMILY IN HONOR OF LOVED ONES	COOLEY FAMILY IN HONOR OF OUR FAMILY	KELLY COOLEY BIRTHDAY	
ETERNAL FLAME	THE COOLEY FAMILY	THE COOLEY FAMILY	THE COOLEY FAMILY	THE COOLEY FAMILY	



Church Cleaning

St. John's has contracted with Stratus Clean to provide routine cleaning of the building. If you see something that needs attention, let Amy or Vicar know.