

All ate



and were



filled



MATTHEW 14:20



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
August 2, 2026

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870

(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

Sanctuary Worship 9:30 a.m. Live streamed to Facebook

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

August 2, 2026

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to Worship! In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord's table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

We thank Devon Snook and Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt for leading our worship this morning. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Bell

Welcome and announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand if you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

ELW 843

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1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light;
praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel,
healing ev'ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the very bread of peace.

2 Praise the One who blessed the children
with a strong yet gentle word;
praise the One who drove out demons
with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
to the desert's burning sand;
from this well comes living water
quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

3 Praise the one true love incarnate:
Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose for many
that we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness,
seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory;
praise the One who makes us one.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



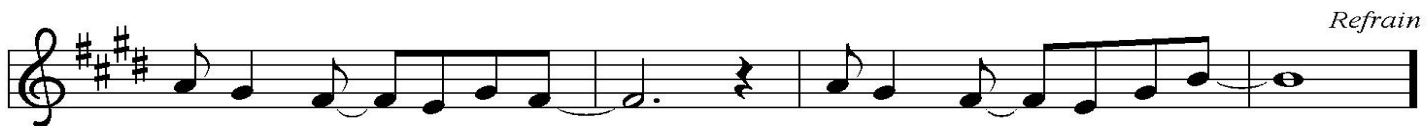
- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

- ¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts;
 come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
 come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
 without money and without price.
- ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
 and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
 and delight yourselves in rich food.
- ³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
 listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
 my steadfast, sure love for David.
- ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
 a leader and commander for the peoples.
- ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
 and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
 for he has glorified you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 145:8-9, 1-21 (Read responsively)

- ⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
 slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- ⁹ **LORD, you are good to all,
 and your compassion is over all your works.**
- ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall
 and lifts up those who are bowed down.

- ¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.**
- ¹⁶ You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- ¹⁷ **You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.**
- ¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.
- ¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;
you hear their cry and save them.**
- ²⁰ You watch over all those who love you,
but all the wicked you shall destroy.
- ²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

A reading from Romans.

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Youth Time

Sermon

Please stand if you are able

Hymn of the Day

"Borning Cry"

Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

Devon Snook

ELW 732

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."</p> <p>3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."</p> | <p>2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."</p> <p>4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."</p> |
|---|--|

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,**

the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

Prayers of the people:

Response: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Offering

“Borning Cry”

Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

Please stand if you are able

Offertory

“All Are Welcome”

Verse 3

ELW 641

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Offering Prayer

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Deacon **Carolyn Steinfeldt**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
 through our Savior Jesus Christ;
 who on this day overcame death and the grave,
 and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

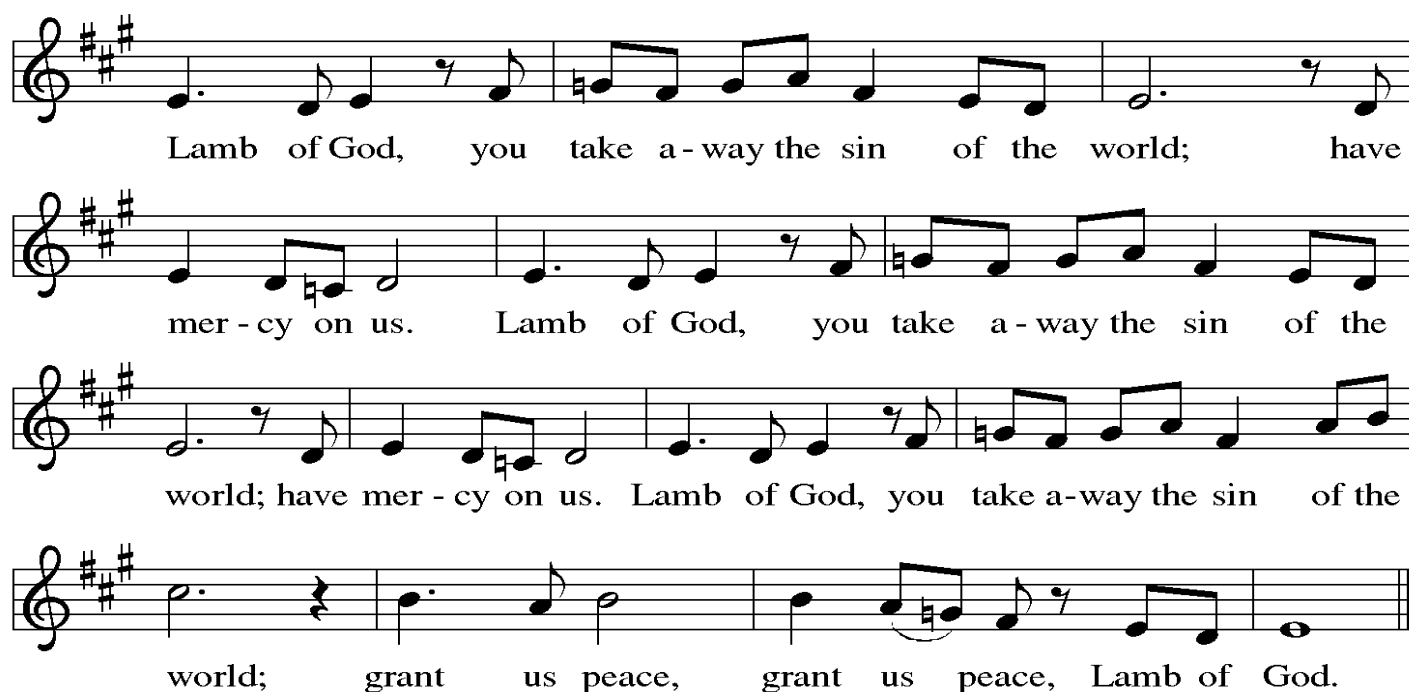
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated

Communion Song



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Distribution Hymn “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart: Gift of Finest Wheat” ELW 726

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Refrain

You satisfy the hungry heart
with gift of finest wheat.
Come give to us, O saving Lord,
the bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
they know and heed his voice;
so when you call your fam'ly, Lord,
we follow and rejoice. Refrain

2 With joyful lips we sing to you
our praise and gratitude
that you should count us worthy, Lord,
to share this heav'nly food. Refrain

4 The myst'ry of your presence, Lord,
no mortal tongue can tell:
whom all the world cannot contain
comes in our hearts to dwell. Refrain

Distribution Hymn

3 Is not the cup we bless and share
the blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare
our oneness in the Lord? Refrain

5 You give yourself to us, O Lord;
then selfless let us be,
to serve each other in your name
in truth and charity. Refrain

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us

Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
hun - ger, words that tell your love not and care.

Refrain

By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your
wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your
peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Please stand if you are able

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His care.

Amen

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen

Sending Hymn

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Arr. © 1990 Melva W. Costen, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Refrain

Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

Ev'ry time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | Upon the mountain my Lord spoke,
out of his mouth came fire and smoke. <i>Refrain</i> | 3 Jordan river, chilly and cold,
chills the body but not the soul. <i>Refrain</i> |
| 2 | All around me looked so fine,
asked my Lord if all was mine. <i>Refrain</i> | |

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is:
“A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known”
And a congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

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Usher: Chuck Thompson	Communion Assistant: Mary Snook
Audio/Visual Tech: Brandon Alt	Attendance: July 29 - 45
Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com	
Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky	

2026 The Year of the Way of Love. “We love because he first loved us.”

Bible Verse for August: *1 John 3:23–24*

“And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us”.

The Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of the birthday of Peg Kingsley's husband, Chuck.

Council asks the congregation to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our nation, that God unites us as one people in our love for Christ, our nation and one another.

Communion Clean-up today: Elizabeth Libben

Aug. 9 – Set-up – Joleen Dillender

Clean-up – Sandy Thompson

16 – Set-up – Jim Kluding

23 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben

30 – Set-up – Joleen Dillender

Clean-up – Jim Kluding

Clean-up – Sue & Lynn Schlessman

Clean-up – Sandy Thompson

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help, please see Elizabeth Libben or Sandy Thompson.

Endowment Grant Applications are being accepted: please contact a member of the endowment team and they will be glad to mail you an application. The requests need to be presented to the Endowment committee no later than October 4, 2026. You can mail the application back to the church, put your request in the endowment mailbox in the basement or present it to any member of the committee. The committee members are John Miller, Ted Call, Jeff Justi, Bob Stacy, Kathy Schlessman, Ron Zorn, Pastor Stacy. If you have any questions, please see a member of the endowment committee.

The Endowment Team will hold its quarterly meeting in mid to late October, at which time all grant applications that have been presented will be reviewed and voted on. Those that are approved will be sent to the Finance Team for additional review and approval.

Happy Birthday to Linda Stauffer, Bonnie Semon, Bob Krawetzki, Cassidy Lane and Chuck Thompson.

Happy Anniversary to Bob & Lori Stacy and Jim & Linda Stauffer.

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR FOR AUGUST 2ND THRU AUGUST 16TH

Sunday, August 2	9:30 am	Worship
Tuesday, August 4	1:00 pm	Faith Life
Sunday, August 9	9:30 am	Worship
Wednesday, August 12	10:00 am	Book Discussion final chapters meets in the Upper Room
Sunday, August 16	9:30 am	Worship/Backpack Blessing

Dear Members of St. John's Council and Congregation,

Mike and I would like to thank you for allowing us to rent the church's parsonage for the past couple of years. We greatly appreciate your willingness to do so and agreeing to a moderate monthly rent. That and your flexibility with our timing made the transition from full-time ministry to retirement far less stressful than it might have otherwise been. It was a joy to live next door to you and get to know so many of you.

We pray for God's continued blessing on your ministry and the Spirit's guidance as you decide how you can best use the property to further your ministry.

Blessings and peace to you all,
Pastor Katie and Mike Suggitt

St. Stephen UCC Rummage Sale 905 E Perkins Ave. Sandusky will be held on Aug. 7th & 8th from 8:30 am-2:00 pm. Saturday Special: "BOGO (Buy One, Get One) on clothing only. If you have items to donate to our rummage sale-they would be greatly appreciated. Items may be dropped off at our church through Wednesday, August 5th. Please use the parking lot ramp door. **Please no televisions, car seats, baby cribs, large appliances or mattresses.**

Attention Ladies of St. John's: The ladies of Zion extend an invitation to you to join in one of their ladies' book studies. The Zion Lutheran Church Women offer two different but similar monthly Bible Studies! One group meets in the morning and the other meets in the evening. Both offer casual conversation on a current book series by Liz Curtis Higgs. Liz's unique brand of "girlfriend theology", using friendly humor, has helped women of all ages experience God's grace!

The Zion Lutheran Church Women are starting up their fall Bible study beginning Thursday, August 13 at 10:30 am in the Christian Center. We enjoyed last year's study of "Bad Girls of the Bible" by Liz Curtis Higgs so much that we are following up this year with "Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible"

SPIRIT Women's Bible Study group will resume meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 6:30 pm in the Upper Room at Zion. We will begin reading and discussing the book "Bad Girls of the Bible." Please contact Mary Ann Hahn or Carol Hubner this month so you can get the book in time for the first meeting.

Back to School: Teachers and students, it's hard to hear but the start of a new school year is just around the corner! St. John will mark the occasion with the "Blessing of Book Bags." on Sunday, August 16th during our 9:30 service. Students, teachers, bus drivers, school staff are all invited to come forward during worship with whatever it is you carry with you to school...book bag, backpack, briefcase.

Rally Day: September 13th is Rally Day! We worship together with Zion Huron. Please join us for a festive worship service, a delicious St. John's potluck and God's Work Our Hands service project. This is a great start for our fall and winter programs, but it's even better when you are part of it. We gather at Edison Park Shelter, 6 East St. Milan, OH. **Coffee time will start at 10:00 am with worship at 10:30** followed by a potluck

lunch. After lunch we will assemble the personal care kit items that we have been gathering during the month of August for LW Relief. Water and table service are provided. You are invited to bring a dish to share.