

# SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



601 North Sandusky Avenue Upper Sandusky Ohio 43351 419-294-3544

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Worship 10 a.m.	4 AA 7-9p	5	6	7	8	9
10 Worship 10 a.m. Fair Worship 7 p.m.	11 Rotary 11-1 AA 7-9p	12	13	14	15	16
17 Worship w/ Children's Sunday 10 a.m.	18 Rotary 11-1 AA 7-9p	19	20	21 Council 7 p.m.	22	23
24 Worship 10 a.m.	25 Rotary 11-1 AA 7-9p	26	27 BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM	28	29	30

# Pastor Kathy's Page



*Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;  
Things I would ask Him to tell me if He were here;  
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,  
Stories of Jesus, tell them to me.*

In this “Year of Story” this children’s song has often come to mind, as we read the story of Jesus. It’s been good reading through the Gospels. Thank you to Kristin for posting them so regularly for us on First’s Facebook page.

The theme verse for this year comes from the book of Acts: **“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”** (Acts 1:8) We are called to be witnesses, called to tell the story of Jesus.

In his introduction to the Bible resource for this year, Bishop Beaudoin writes of the story of Jesus, “A story many of us have been learning and telling our entire lives.” I invite you to join me in Bible Study using that resource, beginning Wednesday September 27 at 6:30 p.m. and the five Wednesdays following. (if another day or time would be better for you – let me know – additional times can be arranged).

There is always more to learn in our life together. If you haven’t yet done so, please take time to respond to the interest form (attached to an e-mail sent Wednesday, August 30) for Firsts@First – an intergenerational Sunday morning experience prior to worship.

May we continue to learn and grow together so we can better share the stories of Jesus.

Peace, Pastor Kathy

# CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

**August 17, 2023 Members Present:** Rita Bennett, Dorothy Blackburn, Kristin Ealy, Maureen Hawkins, Tom Martin, Mary Wright, Brenda Zeigler **Also present:** Rev. Kathleen Shuck  
**Excused:** Karen Magers

## Opening Devotions

Pastor's Report: Various meetings including USAMA, Open Door Board and mentoring her SAM. Held Bible Study and Worship at Westbrook and the County Home. Visits included Ronald Wright at the veterans home in Sandusky, graduation and 90<sup>th</sup> birthday parties. Continued Education by participating at Lutheran Lakeside Chataqua, involved in VBS here, Baptism of Charlotte Weir and attended funeral of Pastor Hugh Daley in Waldo. Pastor advised she would be taking a few days of vaca next week and then September 11-17. Catechism classes will resume and confirmation is slated for October 29 for Jake Nieset, Nick Nieset and Averie Rowlinson.

## Old Business:

1. Organ Company contacted to replace lightbulbs on organ, will contact office when they will be in the area.
2. Local Rotary Club has been using the building since July 30 with no issues.
3. Update on outdoor construction and parking lots: Things will be happening as soon as next week. Kristin will notify those that use the building.

## New Business:

1. Diakonia: Council viewed short clip from the synod regarding Diakonia classes. Agreed upon that if those that would like to do it need financial help, we would see that they could still participate. There are synod funds available as well. More publicity to congregation about the program will happen as well.
2. Talk about offering the pool table to the congregation members if anyone would desire to take it. That will be brought up in announcements. Also mentioned that it isn't necessary that we dispose of it as people still utilize it.
3. Brief discussion regarding steps that will need taken upon Pastor Kathy's retirement. We will pull the Church information such as constitution and MSP to ready ourselves for committee to be formed for transition and call. Synod will be at our next Council meeting to advise.

In Committee talks: Outreach is in full swing with the Backpack Collection and Christian Ed has begun thinking into an intergenerational opportunity for Sunday mornings.



**We will continue to collect for a while longer.  
We will not be sending these out until October, if you'd  
still like to participate!**

**We are collecting SCHOOL SUPPLIES for  
Lutheran World Relief again this year! We are hoping  
to get 75 backpacks full within the month of August!  
Please take backpacks from the main entrance (lists  
included in them) and return filled to the collection spot  
in the South Room. These backpacks will be shared  
around the world, where the need is most!**

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH SCHOOL KIT

- FOUR 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- ONE 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ONE pencil sharpener
- ONE pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- FIVE unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- FIVE black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- ONE box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ONE 2 ½" eraser



**Please give new items only.**

- **Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.**
- **Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.**
- **Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.**

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Monthly Mission in September will be for the Lutheran World Relief Organization. We will collect loose and designated offerings and send off to LWR at the end of October! In addition, we are doing our BackPack Collection for them as well that will be shipped out in October!



# CHOCOLATE WALK

*Downtown  
Upper Sandusky*

**\$20.00**

SEPTEMBER 28TH  
5:30-7:00

TICKETS ON SALE SOON

ENJOY VISITING LOCAL SHOPS AND  
BUSINESSES AND RECEIVE A  
CHOCOLATE TREAT AT EACH STOP!

[www.opendoorohio.org](http://www.opendoorohio.org)

419 209-6736 [www.facebook.com/youropendoor](https://www.facebook.com/youropendoor)

**FIRSTS@  
FIRST**

Please check your e-mail  
for information regarding  
this new ministry we are  
planning for our  
Church Family!

# September ACOLYTES

3- Kloe  
10- Averie & Alissa  
17- Dalton  
24- Nick & Anderson



## SEPTEMBER FLOWERS

3- John & Theresa  
10- Altvaters  
17- Ealy Family  
24- Hawkins Family

## SEPTEMBER Scripture Readers

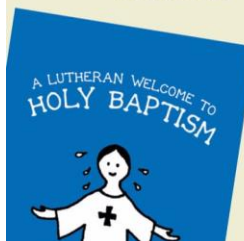
3- Kristin Ealy  
10- Lisa Rife  
17- YOUTH  
24- Marty Denney

Interested in  
a Baptism for  
your little  
one...



Or any age?

contact the  
office today!



Pastor Kathy: 419.366.8755 [intpk@gmail.com](mailto:intpk@gmail.com)  
Kristin: 419.310.0107 [firstevangelical@gmail.com](mailto:firstevangelical@gmail.com)



<http://www.upperfirstlutheran.org>  
<https://www.facebook.com/FELCUpperSandusky>

# Care and Prayers

**Our Prayer List is everchanging, if you or someone (with their permission) would like added to our weekly prayers, please let Pastor or Kristin know.**

**If you feel like you or someone you know within the congregation is in need of some visits, we have a few different ways to help:**

**Eucharistic Team - Trained individuals that will go out and administer Holy Communion to those that are possibly homebound or that find it difficult to make it to church.**

**And of course....our own minister, Pr. Kathy will provide needed visits, when requested.**

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**To reach out to those that are in area care facilities, please use the addresses below. Please remember that we do not know if you or a loved one is hospitalized or now living somewhere else, unless we are told.**

**Wyandot County Home- 7830 OH-199 Upper Sandusky Ohio 43351  
Phil Walton**

**Westbrook- 101 Westbrook Blvd. Upper Sandusky Ohio 43351  
Joan Reinschell, Jean Factor, Dorothy Sammet and Linda Welker**

**Sandusky Veterans Home- 3416 Columbus Avenue Sandusky OH 44870  
Francis Ronald Wright (make sure you use full name)**

**Temporary Rehab @ Vancrest (Fairhaven)  
850 Marseilles Avenue  
Donna Kimmel**



# Monthly Scriptures



## SEPTEMBER 3 Scriptures

Jeremiah 15:15-21  
Psalm 26:1-8  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28

## SEPTEMBER 10 Scriptures

Ezekiel 33:7-11  
Psalm 119:33-40  
Romans 13:8-14  
Matthew 18:15-20

## SEPTEMBER 17 Scriptures

Genesis 50:15-21  
Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13  
Romans 14:1-12  
Matthew 18:21-35

## SEPTEMBER 24 Scriptures

Jonah 3:10--4:11  
Psalm 145:1-8  
Philippians 1:21-30  
Matthew 20:1-16



## The Diakonia Program

When Jesus told his disciples, “Come, follow me,” (Mathew 4:19 NIV), it wasn’t simply a call for them to follow Jesus on the road. It was an invitation to life-long discipleship. That meant learning, listening, and sharing Jesus directly through his Word. In fact, the definition of disciple means *follower* or *student*.

Diakonia is a call to discipleship. The invitation is to live our lives for Christ, to commune with other Christians, and to undertake theological learning that will mature our understanding of the Word and carry that learning to others in love and service.

Begun by a Lutheran pastor to support the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Diakonia is offered to both ELCA members and others interested in learning more about their Christian faith. Currently active in 11 out of 65 ELCA synods, the program develops dynamic disciples by providing:

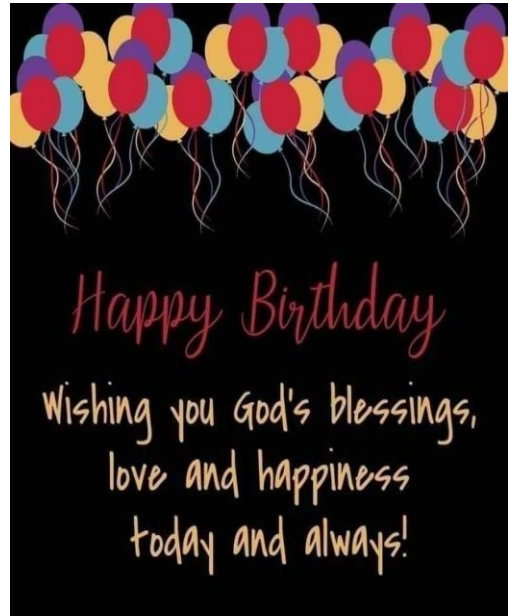
- Rich, theological education
- A deepened appreciation of the Bible – dynamic, living and transformational
- Clarity in forms of grace-filled service

The Growing In Faith: Diakonia curriculum consists of twelve courses, with six courses offered each academic year. Participants begin with a Foundation’s Year and then may choose to continue their formation through a Practical Year. Each course has five weekly sessions that meet in three-hour increments. Weekly assignments and reading are designed to relate subject matter to the students’ context of life and ministry.

Tuition cost is \$65/course, \$390/year. A registration fee of \$30 covers start up and celebration costs. The cost for books for each course varies, but typically doesn’t exceed \$30/course. Financial assistance is available upon request. Your home congregation may offer some financial assistance as well.

More than a course of study, Diakonia is a chance to heed Christ’s call, to grow spiritually and to commit to a life-long spiritual journey spent on the road with our Lord.

- 2- Carrie Grogan
- 5- Claire Stoneburner
- 7- Joan Reinschell
- 12- Terry Boucher
- 13- Kaylyn Shock & Bryson Stoneburner
- 15- Marla Ritter
- 16- Karen Gillen
- 17- Fred Gillen
- 19- Karla Giese
- 20- Linda Welker & Carter Brunson
- 23- Aiden McCartney
- 28- Dawn Kidwell
- 30- Marty Denney & Carter Stoneburner



- 2- Karl & Laura Wines**
- 5- Ray & Carrie Grogan**
- 18- Loren & Lois Dillon**
- 21- Larry & Maureen Hawkins**
- 22- Randy & Jenna McCartney**

First Evangelical Lutheran  
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