

MARCH 2026

Pastor Schilling
Invites anyone
with pastoral
needs to reach
out to him at
937-477-6502

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 32
West Alexandria, OH 45381
937-839-5321
Email: sjohningomar@swhoio.twcbc.com

Church Office Hours
Mondays & Fridays
10:00 am-3:00 pm
Sunday Worship Service
10:00 am

SOUP SUPPERS & LENTEN SERVICES
ST. JOHN ANNOUNCES THE REVIVAL OF THE LENTEN SOUP SUPPERSWEDNESDAYS THROUGH MARCH 4, 2026 AT 6:00 PM. THE MEAL WILL BE SIMPLE: SOUP, BREAD OR CRACKERS, AND BEVERAGE.
THE LENTEN SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 PM. THE THEME IS TITLED "THE POWER OF LENT".

St. John Lutheran Church

St. John Lutheran Church comes together to love God and one another, serve others and share God's word. We do these things by God's Grace that comes through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ

How is your soul?

*He leads me beside still waters,
He restores my soul. Psalm 23:2-3*

How is my soul?

Is it scathed or whole?
It is very often my thought,
Further along, why am I not?

In truth and mind, in what I know,
Two thumbs up, there's no plateau.
But in the organ about a foot below,
I have still got quite a ways to go.

Not too bad is what I'd say.
But not too bad is a ways away,
From where I'd really like to be,
But you asked, so there, that's me.

For God, I strive to make the time,
His Word, in prayer, and praise sublime.
But do I truly give Him my heart?
Or of my life, is He only a part?

For time, by itself, is never enough,
If your mind is distracted by life and its stuff.
I truly desire to give Him my all,
Quantity, quality, in Him to enthrall.

I don't blame the enemy,
Or his fiery weaponry,
If my time with God is brevity,
My walk with Christ: entropy.

I'm not unaware of his wicked schemes.
This world in which we live, oh how it teems.
He's just not the problem, I've learned to see.
My worst enemy, you guessed it, is me.

With Christ at my side, I have nothing to fear,
Anxiety, worry, they're not in my sphere.
The temptation for me, as I know He observes,
Is to trust in myself, not the One who deserves.

To God be the glory, as the song goes.
For He wrote my story, my soul He chose.
I know that I truly have nothing to dread,
The praise is His duly needs to stay in my head.

My time, my money, they belong to Him.
With me at the helm, my chances are slim.
If I rely on myself, the results, they look grim.
The distractions I allow are in need of a trim.

My clock I turn off, my cash I give back.
With Him in control, there's never a lack.
When my grip is too tight, He gives me a whack.
And that's usually enough to get me on track.

There is sin in my life, too much to hide.
Iniquity, yes, but no long backslide.
Doubt, indeed, and that so stubborn pride.
But never a hint of the faith being denied.

I can definitely see a trend of progress.
Victory over sin is quite the process.
To the old nature, I'll never acquiesce.
All the way to the end, when I luminesce.

Please pray for me, I need the support.
Without God's help, I'll always fall short.
Pray that His Word, I'd never distort.
And that His wisdom, He'd always import.

How is my soul?
It's under control.
No, not by me,
It's His, actually.

S. Michael Houdmann
www.gotquestions.blog/how-is-your-soul.html

COMMUNITY DAY OF PRAYER – FRIDAY, MAR. 6, 2:00 PM @ SALEM

Women of the NALC Meeting Minutes

The February 2026 meeting of St. John Women was held on February 12 with 7 members present.

Chris presented the topic.

Secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurer's reported a Jan. balance of \$1065.60. Kathy reported 26 cards were sent. Carolyn reported reservations have been made a Charlotte's Catering in Eaton on April 9 for our annual night out. All those going need to sign the sheet in back of church along with entrée choice. All women of the church are invited to participate.

Carolyn reported Community Day of Prayer will be held March 6 at Salem Lutheran Church at 2:00 pm. Each church is to submit a choice of hymn and a prayer. The offering will be given to the Foodbank.

Family Night will be held on May 8 this year. This will consist of a carry-in meal and entertainment. Carolyn submitted a name for possible entertainment to Judy.

Carolyn reported she has lined up a speaker from Birthright for our August meeting.

The homeless meal this month will be provided by Earla & Chris

Meeting Closed with the Missionary Benediction.

Refreshments were served by Stephanie and Carolyn. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 12, 7:00 pm.



Proverbs 31:30

CHARM IS DECEPTIVE, AND BEAUTY IS FLEETING; BUT A WOMAN WHO FEARS THE LORD IS TO BE PRAISED.



The women of the church meet on the second Thursday of the month



TRINITY CHURCH OF LEWISBURG

IS HOSTING A

CHILI COOK OFF

SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH STARTING AT NOON

SHOWCASE YOUR CHILI OR ENJOY SOMEONE ELSE'S

STAY FOR A GOSPEL HYMN SING.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

511 N. COMMERCE ST.

Anniversary
 March 16 Scott & Janette Hittle

Birthdays
 March 2 Randy Ingram
 March 6 Earla Donaldson
 March 8 Margaret Degler
 March 11 Fulton Collins

PRAY TO ME
 I WILL HEAR YOU

COMMUNITY DAY OF PRAYER
 FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2:00 PM
 SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

* * * * *
 * Attention Women of the Church! Our annual
 * night out will be Thursday, April 9, 6:00 pm. We
 * have reservations to dine at Charlotte's Banquet &
 * Catering, located at 323 N. Barron St., Eaton. Two
 * entrees and the sides will be chosen at our March
 * meeting. Announcements will be made of the
 * menu. If you are planning to attend, you can let
 * Carolyn know your meal choice. This time of fel-
 * lowship and friendship is always enjoyable! We
 * hope you can join us!
 * * * * *

PALM / PASSION SUNDAY
MARCH 29 

MAUNDY THURSDAY
APRIL 2, 7:00 PM 

GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 3, 7:00 PM 

Our Church Family,
 Thank you for you continued prayers during this
 time. Thank you for your support with Marna's
 Service and the meal you provided. We will remem-
 ber your kindness as we move through this time
 together!
 Love,
 The Beneke Family

Weekly BIBLE STUDY on Acts
There will be no Bible study in March.
We will resume in April.

Steve and I would like to thank our St. John family for
 the many cards, prayers and expressions of sympathy
 following the passing of our dear sister Kandy
 Nevin. We are deeply touched and appreciative.
 Cindy and Steve Dafler

Hi Stephanie & Everyone at St. John,
 Thank you so much for the donation~~your
 prayers & support are really appreciated,
 especially the for the families in Kerrville, TX.
 We will be using it the week of Feb. 8!
 God Bless,
 Mary

West Alexandria Food Bank
St. John Church 20 E. South St.
West Alexandria, 937-839-1615
Mons & Weds: 10:00am –
12:00pm
Also open on the 2nd & Last
Wednesday each month, 6 – 7:30pm. The Food
Bank's current needs are toothpaste, shampoo,
egg noodles, ramen noodles.



PRAYER CONCERNS updated February 27, 2026
 Grandma Diana, Terry Locke, Tim Hawley & family, Chris Dawson, Heavenly, Elle Daw-
 son, Sue Johnson, Andrew Obst, and Eric Walker.
GRIEVING FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF: Steve Moses, Gregg Goldy, and John Knaff.
MISSIONARIES: Jonathan & Michelle Voge & Family
ST JOHN FAMILY: Kathy Boebel, Janet Eby, Terry Bundy, Ellie Arnett, June Souleyrette,
 Marlene Neff, Mark McKinley, Buzz Wright, Earla Donaldson, Melissa Collins & Family,
 Jenny Dawson, Paula Schiml, Bill Dafler.
SHUT-INS: Lynn Voge and Janet Ferguson.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest."
 Matthew 11:28 

Women of the NALC at St. John will continue to take donations for the Domestic Violence Shelter and NALC Disaster Response until further notice. You may leave items on designated tables in fellowship hall. Monetary donations and gift cards may be given to Stephanie. In 2025 the lives of families were made better through the contributions of our St. John family. Let us continue to do the work of Christ by caring for those in need.

Thank you!



I N R I
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I E S V S
N A Z A R E N V S
R E X ←
I V D A E O R V M ←

JESUS THE NAZARENE, KING OF THE JEWS
 Iesvs Nazarens Rex Ivdacorum

NOTE: Latin uses "I" instead of the English "J", and "V" instead of "U"

Please Join Us! Relay For Life of Preble County, OH

When: Saturday, July 18, 2026

Time: 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

**Where: Preble County Council on Aging
800 E. St. Clair Street
Eaton, OH**



If interested in sponsorship contact Tiana White - 937-533-8282
 For more information on how to get involved in the **Fight Against Cancer**,
 Contact Tiana White, 937-533-8282 or by email at tianawhite@live.com
demetriadarden@yahoo.com Please scan the QR code to
 register **NOW**



Did you know.....

The seasonal color of purple has royal roots. Purple is the liturgical color of Lent. Costly to make in ancient times, purple came to be associated with kings and royalty. Before His crucifixion, soldiers clothed Jesus in a cheap robe made of "fake" purple dye intending to imply that Jesus was fake king, not knowing they were about to crucify the King of Kings.

In addition to being the color of royalty, purple is also the color of repentance for sins and symbolizes the state of our souls without the light of Christ. The color also symbolizes our mourning for Jesus' sacrifice.

There's a deeper meaning behind the word "Lent." The word "Lent" derives from the Old English word "lenten," which simply means "spring season." It also might derive from the same root as "long," a reference to the lengthening days of the season. Furthermore, it wasn't until the 11th century that the word was embraced by the Church.

MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 M-Carol M. LR-Kathy B. G-Bill & Julie D. Holy Communion	2 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	3 Worship & Music 5:00 pm	4 Lenten Service 7:00p Soup Supper 6:00 p	5	6 Community Day of Prayer 2:00 pm Salem Lutheran Church	7
8 M-Carol M. G-Buzz & Nancy W. LR-Mark M. G-Buzz & Nancy W. Healing Daylight Savings	9 Bell Choir 5:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm	10 Council Meeting 6:30 pm	11 Lenten Service 7:00p Soup Supper 6:00 p	12 WNALC 7pm	13	14
15 M-Carol M. LR-Stephanie C. G-Steve & Cindy D. Holy Communion	16 Bell Choir 5:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Lenten Service 7:00p Soup Supper 6:00 p	19	20 <i>Spring</i>	21 Sleep Mat Project Vancouver 9-11 am
22 M-Mandy A. LR-Chris I. G-Al & June S. Healing	23 Bell Choir 5:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm	24 Homeless Meal June & Nancy	25 Lenten Service 7:00p Soup Supper 6:00p	26	27	28
29 M-Mandy A. LR-Carolyn S. G-Dave & LaVerne W. Holy Communion Palm Sunday	30 Bell Choir 5:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm	31			AG-Lorey Collins U-Steve D., Mark M. CA-Chris I.	

