

The Parish Voice

St. Thomas Lutheran Church – Streetsboro, Ohio

August 2023

Over the years, many within the Church have attempted to create evangelism programs to make outreach within their local communities more successful. Such success is often measured by the number of people attending church. Sadly, the Bible doesn't give us an evangelism program in great detail. It doesn't give us rubrics and steps that we can follow to get the results we want.

Nevertheless, Jesus and St. Paul give us the essentials of evangelism: Preach the word. Our Lord Jesus compares the kingdom of God to a farmer who goes around scattering seed all over the place, with varying results (Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23). The farmer is an image of the Son of Man (Jesus) who went around ancient Palestine proclaiming the word and who continues to do so in our own time through us, His body, the Church. Notice that Jesus doesn't tell us to make judgments about with whom we should or shouldn't share the Word of God. He just does it.

St. Paul tells us why we proclaim the word of God to those around us. "Faith comes through hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ." (Rom. 10:17) God creates faith in the hearts of individuals through the word of Christ. "The word of Christ" is a nice way of saying the word about Christ or from Christ, namely, the Gospel; what God has done for our salvation in Christ Jesus. This word creates faith because God breathes into it His Holy Spirit (2 Tim. 3:16-17). This Spirit is the only one who can give us faith to confess Jesus as our Lord (1 Cor. 12:3).

What does this sharing of God's word look like in our own day? I would suggest that it doesn't consist of standing on a street corner and shouting at people as they walk by. It involves sharing the word of God with those in our lives. Who has God placed in your life? What established relationships do you have? Do they know what God has done for them in Christ Jesus? As a church body we can also look for opportunities to share the word of God within our local communities by getting involved in what is happening locally.

If we are afraid that we don't know what to say or how to share God's word properly, consider the Apostles' and Nicene creeds. These creeds are summaries of the Christian faith grounded in the Bible. And if we don't get the results that we would like to see when sharing God's word, we can find comfort in knowing that God's word always accomplishes what *He* intends (Isa. 55:11).

Pastor Martzowka

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Kathy Braesher	Palagia Hlava	Pastor Just	Lorene Kozar
Carol Poston	Heather Poston	Ben Wolff	Becky Larkins & Rowan
Patty Abramovich	Adalyn	Alexa	Ally
Paul Berry	Ray Bishop	Archer Bradshaw	Carl
Russ & Lana Carnes	Christine	John Cowling	Billy Earle Jr.
Evelyn French	Dennis Fuldauer	Daniel Gump	Mary Hardesty
Heather Hendrix	Jaylah	Naomi Just	Linda Kuzniakowski
Lance	Laurance Jeanblanc	Leo	Christine Lowdin
Steve Mamber	Frank Manijak	Amanda Nicely	Delilah Nicely
Paul	Larry & Sally Powell	Angela Reker	Leo Rohaley family
Joan Rupp	Leslie Slanina	Mary Lou Snider	George Stenger
Joe Svonavec	John Szabo	Deacon Robert Szalai	Tyler
Bennie Wegener	Renee White	Darcy Wood	Donny Wood
Chris Zimmerman	Ukraine refugees	COVID-19 patients	All Natural disaster victims

Please keep Becky and Rowan in your prayers. Termination of parental rights have been done. Waiting for the courts to award custody of Rowan to Becky and Keith.
Also another new baby has been born by the mother of Holly and Rowan and has birth defects. Please keep this baby in your prayers. Thank you

We would love to have updates on our prayer list. If you have good news about someone on this list please let the church know or call Marla at 330-472-3045. Thank you!

Our shut-ins—please send them a card

Carole Poston 12790 Chamberlain Aurora, OH 44202	Lorene Kozar 8460 Westport Dr. #225 Mentor, Oh 44060
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Our College Students—Grace Rohaley, Abigail Ayers, Corey Hautmann, Thomas Ayers, Jenna Zimmerman, Jacob Zimmerman

Our Military members—Troy Roman and Ben Wolff

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays

8-Denise Nicely
11-Steve Manijak
23-Marla Manijak
27-Lori Ludeman
30-Marcy Harrison
31-Tracy Fuldauer



AUGUST BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Baptism Birthdays

Happy Anniversary to...
2-Tom & Jen Jones

If anyone has been left off this list or any other list, please let Marla Manijak know so she can add you. I would love birthdays and anniversaries and baptism birthdays if you know when it is. Thanks!

Church Council will be meeting Sunday, August 20 after the worship service.

Contact Person: Please call Pastor Blake Martzowka at the church on Thursdays from 9-3 at 330-626-4945 or on his cell phone 989-372-5318 for emergencies or Council President Steve Hlava at 330 422-1959 for any emergencies or questions.

Deb Wolff has pickles ready. Please bring back your empty jars and she will fill them up again. The pickles are delicious!!

Becky Larkins is collecting Paper towels and toilet paper rolls for craft projects. Also 2 litre plastic bottles. You may give them to Deb Wolff. Thank you!

As a fundraiser for the month of August, Church Council has selected St. Jude's Hospital for children. We will be collecting all month for this special project. Please mark your envelopes St. Judes or 5th Sunday as there are 5 Sundays in August. Thank you for your generous heart.

Have you ever been to a coffee clutch? Well now's your chance! Join us Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:30 to talk about anything you want. Come and chat with us!

There are a lot of church projects out there that need to be done. If you are willing to help please see Steve Hlava or Del Groff for more information on projects that need done. Thank you!

Finance Report

TREASURERS REPORT - Month of JUNE 2023

	Current Month:	Current YTD	Prior YTD:
TOTAL INCOME - General Fund Only	5359.53	40276.15	30507.08
TOTAL EXPENSE - General Fund Only	4880.42	30570.03	29640.07
NET GAIN (LOSS)	479.11	9706.12	867.01
TOTAL INCOME - Special Funds (See Below)	1132.00	2104.00	472.84
TOTAL EXPENSE- Special Funds (See Below)	53.59	245.18	417.63
NET GAIN (LOSS)	1078.41	1858.82	55.21
Average General Fund Income Per Week	1339.88	1549.08	1173.35
Amount needed to meet expense budget - per week	<u>1292.31</u>		

Special Funds Include:

Special Building/Property, Pastor's Second Chance, Memorial Gifts, New Building, Lutheran Women's Group, 5th Sunday Benevolence

**St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 2247
9042 State Route 43
Streetsboro, OH 44241**

Change Service Requested

THE PARISH VOICE NEWSLETTER

Office: 330-626-4945

Web Site: www.stthomasstreetsboro.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 A.M.

IN CHURCH PARKING LOT ON CHANNEL 96.9 FM

LIVE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

OR PLEASE JOIN US INSIDE

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!!