

ST. JOHN'S JOURNAL

The monthly newsletter for
St. John Lutheran Church
Loogootee, IN

LIFE TOGETHER

BY PASTOR TIMOTHY FLEACE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Nicene Creed is not only one of the most important works of Christian thinking in the history of the Church, it also is good for contemplation and prayer. It is a summary of what the early Christians believed in the face of ideas that threatened to move the faith in directions that would destroy it. But it is not a dry factual statement that is dreary to learn and repeat. It is a confession of trust and hope in God. Many of the Church Fathers who wrote the Nicene Creed were survivors of some of the bitterest persecution Christians have ever faced. The faith that sustained them during this time is expressed in the Nicene Creed.

It begins with I believe or we believe in One God the Father Almighty Creator of Heaven and earth. Sigmund Freud, one of the pioneers of modern psychiatry and psychology, suggested that belief in God as Father is a childish projection. We are naturally fearful of the

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shortness of life or other things we can't control and so we wish that there might be a father or daddy in heaven to take care of us. The modern counterpart of this line of thinking is the suggestion that calling God Father is patriarchal and reflective of primitive societies that were controlled by men. This simplistic view of Christian faith is certainly not the faith that sustains Christian martyrs in times of deepest trial. The father in biblical times was the figure who gives and sustains life. He was responsible for the health and well being of his family or tribe. To call God Father Almighty is to say that my life, and the life of all creation comes from One who cares and loves all that He has made. He has revealed Himself as Father and invites us to call upon Him as our Father. This is what Jesus taught us to do and how we are to pray. Jesus did not have a childish simplistic faith. The One who created heaven and earth is not a blind uncaring force like gravity, but someone of wisdom and love. Our Father.

Several years ago, I read a sermon by a preacher who had met with a man who had lost everything. His marriage failed, he was estranged from his kids, and he lost his job. In despair he walked out on a bridge in the middle of the night contemplating taking his own life. As he stared down into the icy dark water below, he thought about his life and how as a child he had attended church and wondered where that simple faith had gone. The words of the ancient creed he had learned in confirmation entered his mind: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth".

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Prayer Concerns

Please be praying for these friends and church family members.

Those with health concerns:

*Brian Wininger (church member)
 *Bryan Adams (church member)
 Charlie Little family (friend of Drew Davis)
 Chris Haag (brother to T. Haag, cousin to J. Love)
 Dave Harder (friend of Linda Goldman)
 David Welch (brother-in-law of Doug & Rita Denson)
 Helen Bauer (wife of Augie Bauer)
 JJ Jones (friend of the Goldman family)
 Jennifer Nolting (friend of Mason Grubbs)
 Jim Leistner (friend of Goldman family)
 Joan Haag (mother of Tony Haag)
 Joseph Hart (friend of Barbara Prince)
 Ladema Welton (friend of Julinda Adams)
 Lee Sipes (brother of Tammy Wininger)
 Marg Otto (friend of Barbara Prince)
 *Mary Hudson (church member)
 Pam Bullock (friend of Linda Goldman and others)
 Steve Deckard (friend of Hilbert Fuhrman)

Those who are grieving:

The family and friends of Joseph Prince (brother of
 *Barbara Prince)

Those in the nursing home and homebound:

*Phyllis Lynch (Gentry Park, Bloomington)
 *Verneeda Roach (her home)

Our College/Graduate Students:

*Alex Adams, Ivy Tech, Bloomington
 *Isaac Eagle, University of Southern Indiana
 *Olivia Harker, University of Southern Indiana
 *Carson Shaw, University of Evansville
 *Kenley Shaw, University of Southern Indiana

Our Military Personnel:

*Kody Neukam-Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota

Other concerns:

The spiritual state of our nation and churches
 The leaders in our nation and world
 Our church and leaders of our church
 Our sister church in Dubois and leaders
 Our own individual spiritual state
 Those experiencing war, unrest, and persecution
 Those who suffer depression & mental illness
 Staff and students at our local schools

(Life Together, continued from page 2)

It dawned on him that this life is not all there is, and that there is an almighty power at work behind the scenes who created him and loved him and would help him. He had made bad choices and had harmed himself and his family, but nothing is beyond the power of the Almighty with whom there is always hope. He stepped away from the railing and found the pastor who later shared this story.

The Christians who wrote the Nicene Creed knew this faith. No matter what befell them in this world they trusted in the Father Almighty Creator and giver of life.

In Christ,
Pastor Fleace

Worship Service Times

September-December 2025 - 11 AM

January - April 2026 - 9 AM

May - August 2026 - 11 AM

September-December 2026 - 11 AM

Can You Help?

The IN Department of Child Services is having a Foster Family Holiday Appreciation Event on Tuesday, 9 December. The event is held to honor the foster families with a catered meal, games and activities for the children and families throughout the evening. The hope is to also offer a gift from Santa for each child present and door prizes for the families. Our hope is that we can help provide money to purchase the gifts for the children who are present. There will be a basket on the table in the narthex for any money you can give. Duane and Karen Mann will be responsible for purchasing the gifts and getting them to the correct party. We pray that you will be generous in giving. The church council has decided to give \$100.00 from the church for this event. Thank you for giving!

But those who wait for the LORD
shall renew their strength, they
shall mount up with wings like
eagles, they shall run and not be
weary, they shall walk and not
faint. Isaiah 40:31



Operation Christmas Child



It's that time again!!! We are once again collecting boxes for Operation Christmas Child to send to countries around the world to less fortunate children who need to know that they are loved and remembered! ***It is truly amazing that in three decades God's love has reached more than 232 million children who live in 170 countries and territories.*** This is an incredible way to show God's love and teach children about Jesus. Each gift is packed with and invitation to a Bible study where children can learn about "The Greatest Adventure." So we hope you will pick up your box and brochure at church, fill it up with gifts and **return it on or before November 16, 2025**, which is dedication day for our boxes. The brochure will give you ideas for items to include. If you prefer to donate money, we can use that too to buy needed items or help with shipping. Thank you!!!!!!

Ignatius of Antioch, Pastor and Martyr

Commemoration Day October 17

"Ignatius was the bishop of Antioch in Syria at the beginning of the second century AD and an early Christian martyr. Near the end of the reign of the Roman Emperor Trajan (AD 98-117), Ignatius was arrested, taken in chains to Rome, and eventually thrown to the wild beasts in the arena. On the way to Rome, he wrote letters to the Christians at Ephesus, Magnesia, Tralles, Rome, Philadelphia, and Smyrna, as well as to Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna. In the letters, which are beautifully pastoral in tone, Ignatius warned against certain heresies (false teachings). He also repeatedly stressed the full humanity and deity of Christ, the reality of Christ's godly presence in the Lord's Supper, the supreme authority of the bishop, and the unity of the Church found in her bishops. Ignatius was the first to use the word *catholic* to describe the universality of the Church. His Christ-centeredness, his courage in the face of martyrdom, and his zeal for the truth over against false doctrine are a lasting legacy to the Church."

Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, and Paul Gerhardt, Hymnwriters

Commemoration Day October 26

"Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608) was a pastor in Germany during the Great Plague, which took the lives of thirteen hundred of his parishioners during a sixth-month period. In addition to his heroic pastoral ministry during that time of stress and sorrow, he wrote the texts for 'Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying' and 'O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright,' known, respectively, as the king and queen of the

Lutheran chorales. Johann Heermann (1585-1647), also a German pastor, suffered from poor health as well as from the ravages of the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648). His hymn texts are noted for their tenderness and depth of feeling. Paul Gerhardt (1607-76) was another Lutheran pastor who endured the horrors of the Thirty Years' War. By 1668, he had lost his pastoral position in Berlin (for refusing to compromise his Lutheran convictions) and endured the death of four of his five children and his wife. He nevertheless managed to write 133 hymns, all of which reflect his firm faith. Along with Martin Luther, he is regarded as one of Lutheranism's finest hymnwriters."

Reformation Day Festival Day October 31

"On October 31, 1517, an Augustinian monk posted ninety-five statements for discussion on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Dr. Martin Luther hoped that posting his theses would bring about an academic debate regarding repentance, the sale of indulgences, and other matters of concern within the Roman Catholic Church. However, Rome eventually excommunicated Luther, judging him to be a heretic. Luther's reforms, centered on the teaching that a believer is justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, sparked religious reforms not only in the German states but also in many European countries. In 1667, Elector John George II of Saxony standardized the custom of observing Luther's October 31 posting of the Ninety-five Theses."

Lectionary Readings for October

Please find below the daily lectionary readings for this month. Reading the Bible every day will increase your spiritual health in the same way that exercise helps you physically to stay well. We encourage you to make time in your day for the care of your soul.

- 1 Deuteronomy 2:16-37; Matthew 6:16-34
- 2 Deuteronomy 3:1-29; Matthew 7:1-12
- 3 Deuteronomy 4:1-20; Matthew 7:13-29
- 4 Deuteronomy 4:21-40; Matthew 8:1-12
- 5 Deuteronomy 5:1-21; Matthew 8:18-34
- 6 Deuteronomy 5:22-6:9; Matthew 9:1-17
- 7 Deuteronomy 6:10-25; Matthew 9:18-38
- 8 Deuteronomy 7:1-19; Matthew 10:1-23
- 9 Deuteronomy 8:1-20; Matthew 10:24-42
- 10 Deuteronomy 9:1-22; Matthew 11:1-19
- 11 Deuteronomy 9:23-10:22; Matthew 11:20-30
- 12 Deuteronomy 11:1-25; Matthew 12:1-21
- 13 Deuteronomy 11:26-12:12; Matthew 12:22-37
- 14 Deuteronomy 12:13-32; Matthew 12:38-50
- 15 Deuteronomy 13:1-18; Matthew 13:1-23
- 16 Deuteronomy 14:1-15:15; Matthew 13:24-43
- 17 Deuteronomy 15:19-16:22; Matthew 13:44-58
- 18 Deuteronomy 17:1-20; Matthew 14:1-21
- 19 Deuteronomy 18:1-22; Matthew 14:22-36
- 20 Deuteronomy 19:1-20; Matthew 15:1-20
- 21 Deuteronomy 20:1-20; Matthew 15:21-39
- 22 Deuteronomy 21:1-23; Matthew 16:1-12
- 23 Deuteronomy 24:10-25:10; Matthew 16:13-28
- 24 Deuteronomy 25:17-26:19; Matthew 17:1-13
- 25 Deuteronomy 27:1-26; Matthew 17:14-27
- 26 Deuteronomy 28:1-22; Matthew 18:1-20
- 27 Deuteronomy 29:1-29; Matthew 18:21-35
- 28 Deuteronomy 30:1-20; Matthew 19:1-15
- 29 Deuteronomy 31:1-29; Matthew 19:16-30
- 30 Deuteronomy 31:30-32:27; Matthew 20:1-16
- 31 Deuteronomy 32:28-52; Matthew 20:17-34

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

Servers for October

5 October Sunday 17 after Pentecost

Lector/Comm Asst: **Hannah Davis**

Communion helper: **Drew Davis**

Acolyte: **Hannah Davis**

Greeters: **Mary Ann Divine, Wanda Smith**

Nursery: **Tammy Wininger**

Color: **Green**

12 October Sunday 18 after Pentecost

Lector: **Duane Mann**

Acolyte: **Duane Mann**

Greeters: **Duane & Karen Mann**

Nursery: **TBD**

Color: **Green**

19 October Sunday 19 after Pentecost

Worship Assistant: **Deron Steiner**

Lector/Comm Asst: **Leanne Love**

Acolyte: **Leanne Love**

Greeters: **Dick & Kay Barber**

Nursery: **TBD**

Color: **Green**

26 October Reformation Sunday

Lector: **Tammy Wininger**

Acolyte: **Tammy Wininger**

Greeters: **Bill & Karen Whorrall**

Nursery: **TBD**

Color: **Red**

Financial Assistant: **TBD**

Altar Care: **Tammy Wininger**

Church Cleaning: **Bill & Karen Whorrall**

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27

The Church Mouse

Hi everyone! Well, I didn't make it to the Hill Church homecoming like I had planned. I was all ready to go in Mrs. Pastor's purse and then she didn't go. She stayed at home to watch grandkids. I was really looking forward to all that food..... Oh well, maybe next year. I hear that it was really good. (sigh...)



St. John Lutheran Church

Chili Day

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

11 AM - 6 PM

(or until we run out of food)

We are prepping and getting ready. It will be here before you know it. Duane Mann has all the details. Please let him know how you can help! It will take all of us to make this happen, so jump in. Do what you can!



Our Joint Thanksgiving Service and Dinner



Our Joint Thanksgiving Service and Dinner with our sister church, St. John of Dubois Crossroads, will be at our church on **Sunday, 23 November, at 10 AM** with dinner afterward. Churches will provide turkeys. We ask you to bring side dishes and desserts. What a great opportunity to worship and fellowship together with St. John Dubois. Hope you will plan to be here that day!!

a little lutheran levity!

A small Lutheran parish was raising funds for a new piano. One Sunday before the worship began, the pastor announced:

"Whoever gives the most money this morning for this special offering can pick out 3 hymns."

The ushers passed the offering plates and gave them to pastor. He sees a \$100 bill in the plate. He said, "We have a winner. Whoever gave the \$100 bill can come forward and select 3 hymns for today."

An 80 year old lady slowly got up and walked to the front of sanctuary. She pointed her finger into the pews and said:

"I will take him, him, and him."

Do not neglect to show
hospitality to strangers, for
by doing that some have
entertained angels with out
knowing it.
Hebrews 13:2

Highlights from St. John's Lutheran Church Council Meeting September 2025

The St. John's Lutheran Church Council met on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the church social room. Members present were Deron Steiner, Barbara Prince, Pastor Tim Fleace, Karen Mann, Tammy Wininger, and Duane Mann. Absent was Angie Steiner.

Chairman Deron Steiner called the meeting to order. The minutes from the July meeting were approved as printed in the St. John's Journal, per a motion made by Tammy Wininger, seconded by Karen Mann. The motion carried.

Treasurer Duane Mann presented the financial report for August. As of August 31, 2025, the report shows an ending balance of \$39,532.53. Duane reported that finances are similar to previous months. Tammy Wininger moved to accept the report, seconded by Pastor Tim Fleace. Motion carried.

Financial Trustee Report – Karen reported that giving has been light during the summer months. Property Trustee – A new trustee will be secured in the coming months.

Worship Deacon – no report

Youth Deacon – nothing to report

Pastor's Report - Pastor Tim combines activities for both churches in his report for August

- Nineteen pastoral calls, attended four meetings, participated in five days of Vacation Bible School, conducted one counseling session, presided over two funerals (Mike Qualkenbush and Rhonda Kraus (this one was held in Bloomington)).

- Pastor Tim thanks the congregation for the time away during a recent vacation. He was pleased with the attendance and participation at the joint picnic. He attended Rose Bauerfiend's 100th birthday party. On July 19th, he met with the Purdue Lutheran Alumni for a communion service at West Boggs, followed by breakfast at Stoll's Lakeview. He will attend the Annual conference Advent retreat at Lutheran Hills Camp in October. Confirmation and Bible study begin in September.

OLD BUSINESS

Duane reported that the repair of the patio, fence, and yard at the parsonage is finished. Many thanks to Duane for his work on seeing this project to the end. A letter from Noel was shared requesting a donation for the Martin County Council on Aging. Duane had already sent the \$100 donation. Duane reported that we are on the schedule for contractors to repair the storm damage at the church. Discussion of a "bat box" and/or modifications to the exterior cross was discussed. More information is needed before proceeding.

NEW BUSINESS

We received a letter from the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Loogootee High School for a donation. Karen moved to donate \$100.00 to this organization. Seconded by Tammy. Motion carried. We received a letter from Kristin Cooper asking for help with the Annual Foster Family Holiday Appreciation Event. Barbara Prince moved to donate \$100. Seconded by Tammy Wininger. Motion carried. We will be holding a joint council session with Dubois sometime in December. The meeting date will soon be determined.

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 5th – Chili Day

November 20th - Our next council meeting

November 23rd - A joint service with our sister church, St. John's of Dubois, hosted by our church will be held at 10 am, followed by a Thanksgiving Dinner.

Duane moved to adjourn, seconded by Tammy. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Submitted by, Angie Steiner, Church Council Secretary

Budget Report for August 2025

General Fund:	Balance on 8/1/25	\$38,676.17
Total Receipts	\$9,105.88.....	\$47,782.05
Disbursements		
Salaries	\$3,268.24	
Worship	\$316.29	
Office	\$203.60	
Utilities	\$1,633.21	
Rep/Main	\$522.69	
Misc.	\$3,456.71	
Total Disbursements.....		\$9,400.74
	Balance on 8/31/25	\$36,760.28

Special Funds:

Building Fund	\$39,532.53
Good Samaritan Fund	\$1,094.04
Synod Mission Support	\$0.00
Memorial Fund	\$9,286.99
Grace LC Legacy Gift	\$1,558.55

Stewardship Report August 2025

Date	Attendance	Offering
Sunday, 3 August	22	\$1370.00
Sunday, 10 August	22	\$710.00
Sunday, 17 August	31	\$725.00
Sunday, 24 August	23	\$280.00
Sunday, 31 August	26	\$555.00*

Needed weekly to meet the budget \$1004.00

**45.00 Ice Cream Social*



Daylight Savings Time Ends

Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday, 1 November! Daylight Savings time ends on 2 November. We "fall back" one hour. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep. See you on Sunday!



This month we have one special birthday to celebrate (members 80 years old and up). We hope you will help us "shower" Verneeda and Bill with love by sending them a birthday card for their special day on the date listed with their name:

Verneeda Roach
(October 22, 1938)
13871 US Highway 231
Loogootee, IN 47553

Bill Whorrall
(October 24, 1943)
13669 Rama Dye Road
Shoals, IN 47581

Contact the church office if you know someone who is not listed above. We don't want to miss anyone. Thank you!!

Create in me a clean heart,
 O God, and put a new and
 rightt spirit within me. Do
 not cast me away from your
 pesence, and do not take
 your holy spirit from me.
 Restore to me the joy of
 your salvation, and sustain
 in me a willing spirit.
 Palm 51:10-12

October 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 The Divine Service 11 AM Pentecost 17	6	7 Commemoration Day for Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, Pastor	8	9 Commemoration Day for Abraham	10	11 Commemoration Day for Philip, the Deacon
12 The Divine Service 11 AM Pentecost 19	13	14	15	16	17 Commemoration Day for Ignatius of Antioch, Pastor and Martyr	18 Feast Day of St. Luke, Evangelist
19 The Divine Service 11 AM Pentecost 20	20	21 Items for St. John's Journal are due today! Thanks!	22	23 Feast Day of St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of Jesus and Martyr	24	25 Commemoration Day for Dorcas, Lydia, Phoebe,
26 The Divine Service 11 AM Reformation Sunday Linger Longer Commemoration Day for Hymnwriters	27	28 Feast Day of St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles	29	30	31 Reformation Day	

Celebrations

1 Wrenlye Divine
2 Pastor Timothy Fleace
5 Matthew Fleace
Trenton Wininger
6 Jack S. Divine
Tony & Teresa Haag (A)
Richard & Kay Barber (A)

7 Wyatt Smith
8 Owen Jones
9 David Whorrall
Neal Whorrall
13 Tad Lynch
Deron Steiner

19 Eli Fleace
20 Jack Divine
21 Oliver Mann
22 Verneeda Roach
24 Bill Whorrall
25 Debbie Hawkins
26 Larry & Linda Goldman (A)

Church Council

Chairperson - Deron Steiner

Secretary - Angie Steiner

Treasurer - Duane Mann

Financial Trustee - Karen Mann

Property Trustee - vacant

Worship Deacon - Tammy Wininger

Youth Deacon - Barbara Prince

Contact Information

Pastor Timothy Fleace

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church website:

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Church Secretary

Barbara Prince

812-296-8164

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