

PO Box 40
Sandyville, Ohio 44671-0040
www.sotvchurch.com
info@sotvchurch.com

To Our Beloved Friend
and/or Member:

Did you invite someone to church today?

God bless the mail carrier who delivers this newsletter.

Cross Talk

Monthly Longform Newsletter for September 2020

Find back-issues online at www.sotvchurch.com/crosstalk.

Please join us on Sundays for Worship!

Worship Service at 9:30 AM with Pastor Scott Anderson

Address:

4796 Crossroads Road NE
PO Box 40
Sandyville, Ohio 44671-0040

Office Phone: 330.866.9293

www.sotvchurch.com

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and
Instagram!
@sotvsandyville

Scott Anderson, Pastor

pastor.scott@sotvchurch.com

Mary Drotleff, Secretary

info@sotvchurch.com

Susan Kaschak, Musician

Joe and Melinda Farber, Custodians

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
9 AM-1 PM
Closed Thursday and Friday

Cross Talk

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A Special Message from the Pastor's Desk

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matthew 5:9)

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let them be troubled and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27)

So far, the year 2020 has been anything but peaceful. At the very least, lives have been disrupted with the COVID-19 virus. Some have been tragically lost. My neighbor, who lived diagonally across the street from me, contracted the coronavirus and, 8 days later, died. We have also been confronted with racism this year. And now, we will be in the thick of a presidential election that, more than likely, will be extremely contentious. Most of us, myself included, would enjoy a moment of peace. So, how do we go about creating or making peace in our lives?

In Jesus' Beatitudes that began His Sermon on the Mount, we hear these words, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Jesus' peace is about living with the divine presence in an imperfect world. We are called upon to enter into another's struggles of the outcast, the marginalized, the rejected, the downtrodden. In so doing, we become sensitized to the pain of others. It has been said that Jesus' words, especially in the Beatitudes, were to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable. Considering this, we should strive to make peace, especially for those who know no peace.

Jesus' peace has as its foundation the peace described beautifully in the second chapter of Isaiah where swords shall be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. There is the promise of God's peace when nation shall no longer lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore. From this verse in Isaiah, there is a transformational nature to God's peace. Destructive instruments of war will be changed into constructive instruments of peace. This vision of peace is a great reminder that we, too, need to be transformed or changed.

Cross Talk

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A Special Message from the Pastor's Desk, cont'd

God's transformational peace is based on that wonderful Hebraic word: shalom. Shalom is not limited to its meaning of peace, but has a wider, larger meaning of well-being. Shalom seeks peaceful, friendly relationships with others (individuals as well as nations), that are mutually beneficial for all. The key thing to know here is that shalom is relational; it is never defined as an inner peace, but in terms of relationship with God, with others, with other nations, with creation. Are there relationships in our lives with other people that need this infusion of shalom, of well-being, of being mutually beneficial?

Peace, then, is an active verb, not a passive one. As our lives are transformed by God's peace, we are then called to bring that peace into our relationships. We can do that by looking beyond our own welfare to the needs and welfare of others. In this sense, we are called to be instruments of the peace that God makes. As a result, we become a blessing to others as a gift of peace.

And that is another dimension to Jesus' peace and shalom: gift. We might think that peace is something earned, like after a war, or that we can have peace if we only can find it (as if peace were playing hide and seek with us). God simply gives us His peace as Jesus gave it to his disciples (see John 14:27; 20:21). We just need to accept this gift. And the best way to honor the giver of any gift that we receive is simply to enjoy the gift by using it. In our time as a nation, we must actively seek and find ways to use the gift that Jesus has given us rather than merely putting it up on a pedestal.

When I was a student with the campus ministry at Ohio State, we had a beautiful piece (peace?) of music for the Agnus Dei using the words of John 14 and Matthew 28. May we sing that music into the world by remembering Jesus Christ, the source of true peace: *Peace I leave with you my friends, my friends, for I am with you till the end. Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us."*

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Scott

Tammy Klingelhofer. Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Tammy Klingelhofer who passed from this life to the next on Tuesday, August 4th. There was no memorial service due to the COVID19 virus and there was no graveside service because of Tammy's wishes for her ashes. Loving Lord, remember Tammy in your kingdom, and be a source of comfort and strength to all who mourn, especially her husband, John Klingelhofer, and her brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Nancy Farber.

Announcements for the Start of the Month

News breaks all the time during a month from our church! Find it anytime at www.sotvchurch.com/blog.

Kenny Flesher. Our Christian condolences are given to the family and friends of Kenny Flesher, who passed away, Friday, August 7th. A memorial service for Kenny was held at the Finefrock- Gordon Funeral Home in Magnolia on August 11th. Gracious God, remember Kenny in your kingdom and be a source of comfort and strength to all his family and friends, especially parents Ken and Arlene Flesher and aunt and uncle, Darlene and Max Lebold.

Thank you, from Sgt. Christian and Halle Anderson, for the thoughtful gifts given to our newborn daughter, Iris Elizabeth Marie Anderson. We were thrilled to receive the beautiful purple afghan and quilt for our daughter. The pink Barney Bear looks perfect with either. Thank you for your generosity and thinking of all of us.

Thank you from Pastor Scott for the wonderful gifts. Thank you for the scarlet and grey prayer shawl! How did you know what colors to choose? I received this prayer shawl the Sunday after my silver anniversary, so it has layers of blessings for me. Thank you for the Buckeye Barney Bear, which is proudly sitting in my living room. Thank you for your time, talent and prayers for these gifts.

Thank you from Pastor Paul Schwitgebel: "I very much appreciate having been invited to lead worship this past Sunday (August 2nd). It engaged my personal journey in ways beyond your wildest expectations. It is part of my style to ask: Is there something you wish that I could have done differently? If so, what and how? Was there anything you felt especially positive about? Your responses to those questions have an impact on my next opportunity to do worship leadership. Thanks!" If you have any comments, please give them to Mary during her office hours so that she may pass them along to Pastor Paul.

Sunday, September 6th: Holy Communion. We will have our first Holy Communion worship service on the first Sunday in September. We plan on giving people as they enter the sanctuary the individually sealed wafer and communion cup (with grape juice) with a plastic bag to dispose of the empty cups after taking the sacrament. Further instruction will be given at the service. Church council has worked hard to find a way to safely distribute the sacrament. We plan on holding two more Holy Communion services on October 4th and on Reformation Sunday (October 25th).

Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12: Northeastern Ohio Synod (NEOS) Assembly. Just a reminder from last month - The NEOS Assembly has been rescheduled to Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12 when we will elect a new bishop. These dates have been coordinated with the John S. Knight Center in Akron. Details to how we will safely meet during this assembly is currently being evaluated. As reported last month, Bishop Allende has agreed to serve beyond his end of term date (August 31) until a successor has been named.

Thank you to all who gave for the Noisy Offering. At the end of August, we held our first noisy offering of the year. All of the donations to our Noisy Offering were given to Helping Hands. Please recall that our first two noisy offerings scheduled in March and May were canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Thank you for your generosity in loving our neighbor in need.

Our quilting group has started meeting again. Many quilt tops were made during the stay-at-home order, so there is a lot of finish work to do. All participants are wearing facial coverings.

The dates in September are 9/8 & 9/22, beginning around 9—9:30 AM. Come and join the fun.

ACME CASHBACK IS BACK!!

Save your Acme Fresh Market receipts dated from August 6 to December 26, 2020, when you purchased [Acme store brand](#) items.

Helping Hands receive 5% back through this program. This a great way to supplement HHN for the service they provide for the community.

Other Dates and Information

If it's a note from a friend or member, a birthday, or anything else, we have it here.

Birthdays this Month

- 2 Yvonne Kuhns
5 Linda Neary
12 Bruce Tolfo
18 Jim Hunter
19 Alex Hunt
30 Mary Lou Cooper

Anniversaries This Month

- Don & Kathy Pontones (9/8)
Joe & Melinda Farber (9/30)

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? Did we have the wrong date? We apologize! Please let the church office know, and we will fix it on our end!

Special Messages for the Congregation

Communion Sunday—September 6, 2020

Church Council Meeting, September 14, 6:30 PM, remotely

Fall Begins on September 22, 2020

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Nancy Tolfo, Glen Johnstone, Greg Kinsley, Kathy Kinsley, Shirley Kuhns, Max Lebold, Dan Mason, and Kathy Patterson., and Kyle McCune.

Sunday Readings for This Month

Sunday September 6

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

Sunday September 13

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

Sunday September 20

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

Sunday September 27

- Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25: 1-9
Philippians 2: 1-13
Matthew 21: 23-32

Council Members

- Jeff Ward, President
Fred Drotleff, Vice President
Jacob Schandel, Secretary
Carol Hormell, Officer
Susan Lux, Officer
Marilyn Mason, Officer
Sally Nesselrode, Officer
Terri Wanner, Officer

Please Remember the Shut-Ins

We have members of our flock who are not able to attend our Worship Services on a regular basis. Please remember these members in your prayers and with your cards. Addresses can be obtained from the church office upon request.

Church members living in assisted facilities:

Country Lawn Nursing Home

Tammy Klingelhofer

Canton Christian Home

Kathy Patterson
Carl Wanner

Country Club Rehabilitation Campus

Alexa Dazey

Hennis Care Centre—Bolivar

Nancy Tolfo

St. Lukes Lutheran Community

Roberto Techi

Church members living independently and/or with family:

Guy & Joyce Aultman
Debra Campbell

Worship Leaders for the Month

If you are unable to come the day you are scheduled for, please notify the church office as soon as you can!

September 6

Music *Susan Kaschak*

Greeters/Ushers

Lay Reader *Bill Bowman*

Communion Assistant

Acolytes *Jack Bowman*

Junior Communion Assistant

Counters *Dan & Jeff*

Altar Care *Jennifer Crone*

September 13

Music *Susan Kaschak*

Greeters/Ushers

Lay Reader *Michelle Ward*

Communion Assistant

Acolytes *Jack Bowman*

Junior Communion Assistant

Counters *Michelle & Linda*

Altar Care *Jennifer Crone*

September 20

Music *Susan Kaschak*

Greeters/Ushers

Lay Reader *Fred Drotleff*

Communion Assistant

Acolytes *Jack Bowman*

Junior Communion Assistant

Counters *Janine & Terri*

Altar Care *Jennifer Crone*

September 27

Music *Susan Kaschak*

Greeters/Ushers

Lay Reader *Karen Broadwater*

Communion Assistant

Acolytes *Jack Bowman*

Junior Communion Assistant

Counters *Brian & Mary*

Altar Care *Jennifer Crone*

The month of September at Shepherd of the Valley

Our calendar of events is online at www.sotvchurch.com/events.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Holy Communion Service	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8	9	10 Office Open	11	12
13 National Grandparents Day	14 Council Meeting 6:30PM	15	16	17	18	19
20 SVSA 7:00 PM	21	22 Newsletter Deadline Fall Begins	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

About Due Dates

- **If you have an announcement to go into the Sunday bulletin, please have it to the church office by 10 AM on the Tuesday before.** Unless it is a change of address announcement, it will be automatically posted to the website on the Latest News blog and go out with Cross Talk Online on Sunday morning. (Need to send something sooner digitally? E-mail Jacob Schandel at media@sotvchurch.com for help.)
- **Newsletter items for the upcoming month are due to the church office by the third Monday of the month prior.**