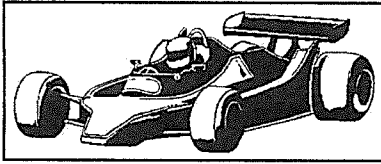


The Parish Voice

St. Thomas Lutheran Church — Streetsboro, Ohio

September 2020



Gentlemen, start your engines!” is the famous cry at the Indianapolis 500 auto race. With that command, the race begins and the speed is awesome. Early fall feels like that.

If you still have school-aged kids, this time of year feels *a lot* like that! In our culture, the end of summer becomes the beginning of a race — to make sure that everything is in place for the start of school. There are clothing purchases . . . seemingly endless supplies for school . . . arrangements for bus schedules, car pools, day care, after-school activities . . . and, of course: sports! Add to that this year the question of at-home distance learning or in-school contact learning.

Even if your children have long since left the system of elementary and secondary education, there is still a feeling of new beginnings. The promise of harvest for those with vegetable gardens means a busy time to gather in the produce that will be canned or frozen or stored away. This, in turn, leads to the process of bedding the garden down for the winter.

For those of us who never grew up on a farm, this all may seem a little remote. Since we live in an area where farming was the norm not all that long ago, there is a kind of residual feeling that early fall brings to hurry things along before the snow flies.

With the advent of new technologies and products, most of us no longer know what it’s like to get out the storm windows for mounting (an arduous task from the past). Homes now are designed to free owners from having to invest time, energy, and money on the land-locked equivalent of “battening down the hatches.” But the change of seasons still brings a sense of urgency to get those things done.

This becomes a metaphor for life.

We spend a lot of time and energy on things that seem to be getting us ready for other things. So much time is spent on these pursuits that we often miss out on the very things we spend so much effort to get to. “Hurry up and wait,” was the cry of those caught up in Army life. Today, often for no apparent reason, the cry is simply, “Hurry!”

The word we need to hear in this hectic time is “Stop!”

Stop worrying, Stop scurrying. Stop pushing and shoving. Stop fretting. Stop kvetching (it’s Yiddish, look it up). Stop thinking that everything has to be done . . . by you . . . today!

Once you have come to a “full and complete stop” examine what is so important that you have no time for prayer, for meditation, to read the Bible, for worship, for fellowship with other Christians. Really, in all the rush — what IS so important?

Our Worship This Month



September 6 — Pentecost XIV

Sermon: *"Forgive? Forget?"*

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

The question of forgiveness keeps coming up, in the Bible and in our daily lives. How do we do it? Can we truly forgive? Are we then able to forget?



September 13— Pentecost XV

Sermon: *"Is It Fair?"*

Texts: Jonah 3:1-14; Psalm 51; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

How do we assess the grace of God that to us appears often unfair? Jonah struggled with it; Jesus addresses it.

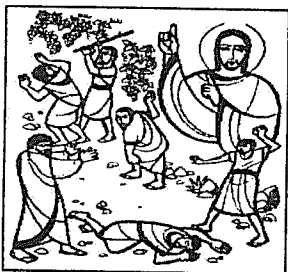


September 20 — Pentecost XVI

Sermon: *"Doing His Will"*

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

St. Paul tells us to have the same mind as Jesus. Jesus teaches us this means doing the will of the Father. We have a lot to learn.



September 27 — Pentecost XVII

Sermon: *"How Easily We See 'Them'!"*

Texts: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

In Jesus' Parable of the Vineyard, we are challenged to recognize ourselves as part of the story. But which part? And which characters?

Tune In to
96.9

Our thanks to Jim Doerfler for arranging for the signage that promotes our FM broadcast signal. Right now, our range is very much limited (pretty much just the parking lots in back and in front); but the Council has discussed looking into expanding that capacity so that we may be able to reach a larger audience. We don't yet know what will be required (licensing? costs? equipment?); we will let you know what develops. For now, continue to come to the rear parking lot on Sundays and tune your car radio to 96.9.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Abigail Ayers	Trudy Ayers	Bill Crile	Deb Earle
Cory Hautmann	Linda Hautmann	Palagia Hlava	Lorene Kozar
Joanna Nicely	Ken Nicely II	Kenny Nicely IV	Tim Nicely
Carol Poston	Heather Poston	Ron Stenglein	Debbie Anderson
Ed Boland	John Buterbaugh	Jeremy Campbell	Carl
Russ Carnes	Scott Corban	Tom Corban	Toni Corban
Christine Combs	Decklin	Sue Ellinwood	Brian Fisher
Pastor Gau	Bridget Gehri	Todd Gless	Karen Groves
Charles Hohne	Debbie Hovanetz	Rocky Kinder	Sherry Koppel
Brad Kozar	Suzanne Latham	Dave Lauver	Frank Manijak
Martino family	Nadine Nicely	Samantha Nicely	Sandy Platten
Art Robinson	Richard Rohaley	Diane Seman	Barbara Schreiber
Teri Stroki	Mary Small	Derrick Smith	Tim Tolodzieski
Kenneth Udovic	Tara Vargo	Tim Wheeler	COVID-19 patients
Sommer & Mark Dunlevy	Hurricane Laura victims and the fires out west		Peaceful demonstrations
Safety for all our school and college students			

Mrs. Audrey Holland
4552 Aspen Lake Road
Apartment 102
Brunswick, OH 44212-4582

Mrs. Eunice Haschak
Avenue at Macedonia
9730 Valley View Road
Macedonia, Ohio 44056

Our College Students—Grace Rohaley, Abigail Ayers, Corey Hautmann and Joanna Nicely

If there is anyone you would like to add or delete from this list, please let Marla Manijak know. You can reach her at 330-626-5120 or fill out one of the cards in the pew and put in offering plate.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays

5-Cathy Fairchild
9-Gavin Hagen
9-Jeannette Doerfler
9-Jenna Zimmerman
9-Jacob Zimmerman
10-Nick Phillips
10-Noah Pasket
15-Amanda Nicely
17-Steve Hlava
19-Jillian Earle
20-Jarid Phillips
21-Patty Phillips
27-Carole Earle
29-Anibal Torres



SEPTEMBER BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Baptism Birthdays

4-Gabe Johnson
16-Corey Hautmann

Happy Anniversary to

6-Tom and Linda Beuck
18-Gilbert and Trudy Ayers
26-Bill and Sharon Crile

CALL COMMITTEE

We would like to thank Diane Pencin, Robin Hoffman, Gilbert Ayers and Guy Jeanblanc for volunteering to be on the Call committee to help us search for a new pastor. Pastor Just will be retiring from his ministry with St. Thomas at the end of December.

There are many options to look at but the most important one is the financial one. Abundant Life will no longer be using our building as Pastor Nickerson has taken a position in Columbus. That will mean \$425 less the congregation will be receiving.

Some of the options are 1) Call a full time pastor,, 2) Call a seminary student, 3)Share a pastor with another congregation 4) possible interim pastor. The committee is recommending that a congregational assessment be done. It would help the committee have an idea of the strength and weaknesses of our congregation.

If anyone has a suggestion please let the call committee know. You can find their numbers in the new directory.

CONCORDIA AT SUMNER

As a congregation, St. Thomas is invited to the Annual Meeting of Concordia and Sumner Place on September 20 from 3:30-6:00 p.m. They are asking that the Pastor and one lay representative attend (just the two so they can socially distance). If any of you would like to represent us, please let Pastor know within the week so he can inform them. He should know by then what meals will be offered.

BACK TO SCHOOL MONTH PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY!

School is back in session starting Sept. 1 in Streetsboro
and Sept. 8 in Ravenna.

Please keep the staff and children
in your prayers for a safe return
and protection from the coronavirus.

OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL HOLIDAYS FOR SEPTERBER!!

5-Tailgating Day

7-Labor Day

9-Teddy Bear Day

11-Patriot Day

13-Grandparents Day

17-Constitution Day

18-Rosh Hashanah Begins and
Cheeseburger Day

19-Talk Like a Pirate Day

20-Rosh Hashanah Ends

21-International Day of Peace

22-First Day of Autumn

26-Johnny Appleseed Day

28-Yom Kippur

29-Coffee Day

1 + 1 + 1 giving

We, along with other English District congregations, are raising money to help our missionaries spread the good news of Jesus. 1+1+1 means \$1 per member each Sunday. There is a plastic box as you pick up your bulletin for you to place your \$1 each Sunday. It will be posted each Sunday in the Offering List. Thank you for your donations!

WE CARE!

Your church family is here for you in this time of the Covid-19 virus. If you need someone to help you with groceries, doctor visits, etc. or just someone to talk to, please call your church family. You received your church directory last month. We are here for you!

We are still meeting in the parking lot. Please join us this Sunday!! Would you like a hymnal so that you can sing along with facebook? Call Marla and she will bring you one. You can listen to the service on Channel 96.9 FM also. Marla can be reached at 330-472-3045 anytime. If I can't help you I will be able to find the person you need. We miss all of you and can't wait for the day we can worship together again in our church sanctuary.

Stay safe everyone! You are all in our prayers!

WEBSITE

If you haven't checked out our church website yet, please do and let Del Groff know how you like it or if there is something you would like to see added. The website is www.stthomasstreetsboro.com

Our July-September Portal of Prayers devotionals are available now. You can find them on the table by the door or ask Steve for one and he will bring it to your car.

Contact Person: Please call Pastor Just at 216-789-6688 or Council President Steve Hlava at 330 422-1959 for any emergencies or questions. Pastor Just is in the office on Thursdays from 8:00-4:00.

**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

Pastor Just office hours—Thursdays 8:00-4:00

Cell Phone (216) 789-6688 Email: doctorjust@gmail.com

Web Site: www.stthomasstreetsboro.com

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 A.M.

HELD IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT ON CHANNEL 96.9 FM

OR YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US INSIDE

WE ARE ALSO LIVE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE