



HOPEWELL NEWS GAZETTE

St. John Lutheran Church (Hopewell Township)

May
2025

May... the busy month.

Or at least it *seems* that way most years. If you have kids or grandchildren who are school age, you know that May “end of the year” everything... games, concerts, graduation, parties. Add on that the weather finally turns warm enough to do some serious yard work and gardening. Then add Mother’s Day and Memorial Day.

There is a lot to do in May.

This year because Easter was so late, our church season of Easter will fill up May as well. During that season we will hear both about the resurrection appearances of Jesus and about the witness of the Apostles, the ongoing appearances of Jesus, and the work of the Holy Spirit in Acts. We will be reading how busy the Lord was establishing his church so that all might hear about his salvation and believe.

These two things go together.

Much of what we are busy with in May is family and social activity. We see and talk with many people. And just as he was active and busy following the first Easter, the Lord is still active, still busy, in the lives of people now.

All too often, people just don’t see it. In our secular age we all too often excuse the Lord from our everyday experience. That does not mean that the Lord is not involved! But perhaps our kids, our parents, our siblings, our grandchildren, have been taught by the world to be blind to both the work of the Lord and their need for the Lord.

Really, all it takes is a word. A faithful word. A statement or a question will do. “It sounds like the Lord really saw you through that one!” “How do you see the Lord working in your situation?” “It sounds like you could really use the help/comfort/forgiveness of the Lord in that... can I pray for you?”

You see, it only takes a word on our part because the risen Lord is at work. We can’t save anyone! We cannot make anyone believe or have faith! That is the Lord’s job! And the Lord is at work ahead of us, before we ever say a word... but without the focus of a faithful word, sinful people will most often not see it.

Enjoy May! Enjoy busy! Enjoy people and games and gatherings! Listen and look for where the Lord is at work around you.... And then be who you are in Christ Jesus! Be a faithful child of God and make mention of what you see! Provide that faithful Word that can be the hook for the Holy Spirit’s working of faith!

Pastor Adam Poe


St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Hopewell Township
9009 State Route 118
Celina, Ohio 45822

Church Telephone: 419-363-2154
Church Email: stjohnht@bright.net
Church Website: www.stjohnht.org
Facebook: St. John Hopewell Lutheran Church

Pastor Adam Poe
Parsonage Telephone: 419-942-2591
Email: ympoe@yahoo.com
Office Administrator: Kara Stachler

May Readers

May 4th	Cheri Menchhofer
May 11th	Michelle Tribolet
May 18th	Britt Menchhofer
May 25th	Brad Carr



The next monthly meeting of the St. John Church Council will be held on Wednesday, May 14th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. All members of the church are always invited to attend the St. John Council meetings as guests.

Copies of the minutes of the Church Council meetings will be on the table in the back of the sanctuary (when available).

Acolyte Schedule for the month of May—

Acolyte for the Month



4th	Isaac Menchhofer
11th	Elias Poe
18th	Bailee Menchhofer
25th	Aaron Sheets

There will be a **quilt knotting** day on Thursday, May 1st for anyone who would be interested in helping. Please bring your scissors. Thanks!



Blessing of Seeds, Soil, & Water: On Sunday, May 4th we will have Worship with the "Blessing of the Seeds, Soil, and Water". Anyone who would like to bring in items to be blessed can do so.



The Women of the Church will be meeting on Wednesday, May 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Pat Siebert will offer devotions and Terry Carr will lead the Bible Study. The project of the month is the Choosing Life Pregnancy Center. Terry Carr and Pat Siebert will take care of the Altar flowers for the month.



Volunteers for the Backpack Program

Our "Backpacker" volunteers will continue their duties on Tuesday, May 13th at the C.A.L.L. Food Pantry in Celina beginning at 9:00 a.m. Thank you for your help with this ministry.



Please consider joining us for a **spring work day**, here at St. John on Saturday May 17th, starting at 9:00 a.m. Anyone who can come and help is greatly appreciated! Thank you!














Cap and Gown Day:

Please help us to celebrate all of our graduates on Sunday, May 18th, during worship. We will be recognizing our St. John 2025 high school and college graduates. May God bless them in all of their future endeavors!

Our benevolence contributions for the month of May will benefit the Henderson Settlement Project .

Happy Mother's Day to all of our Mother's on Sunday May 11th. We hope you have a wonderful and blessed day!

MAY 2025 CALENDAR -- St. John Lutheran Church (Hopewell Township)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 3 Ohio Mission Region Convocation at Grace Lutheran Springfield, OH	1 National Day of Prayer  Quilt Knitting 1:00 p.m.	2 9 10	7 Women of the Church Meeting 7:00 p.m.	15 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	16 Spring Work Day 9:00 a.m. 	17 Spring Work Day 9:00 a.m. 
4 Worship with Holy Communion & "Blessing of the Soil, Seeds, & Water" 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.	5 6 7	13 Volunteers for the Backpack Program 9:00 a.m.	14 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	22 Ascension Day 29	23 30	24 31 
11 Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. 	12 Newsletter  Articles are Due	19 "Cap and Gown" Day	20 21 22	28 Ascension Day 29	29 30	30 31 
18 "Cap and Gown" Day Worship with Holy Communion 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.	26  Parish Hall is Reserved	27 28 29	28 Ascension Day 29	29 30	30 31 	31 31 
25 Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.	26  Parish Hall is Reserved	27 28 29	28 Ascension Day 29	29 30	30 31 	31 31 