



# HOPEWELL NEWS GAZETTE

## St. John Lutheran Church (Hopewell Township)

May  
2026

Here at the end of April, having suffered quite a few weather delays on the parsonage garage project, I am reminded of the saying, "April showers bring May flowers." The idea is that all the rain common to early spring time waters and prepares the ground and the growing plants. Then growing, and prepared, and supplied with what they need, those plants can put on their show and demonstrate their glory through beautiful flower. *The problem* is that, after a long winter, the first hints of warm make us want to be out and enjoying the weather! But... but more often than we would like... it's raining. And we are stuck inside.

In 1 Corinthians 3, as Paul is dealing with factions in the Corinthian church over "favorite" preachers, Paul compares the people of the church to plants. He says of the people of the Corinthian church, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth." (v. 6-7) Through the rest of Scripture we also understand that both planters and waterers are also sent by God. In the end, even those who are evangelists and teachers and preachers give way and credit to the Lord for his calling and for his Word that they preach and teach!

Regardless, we too are much like our plants. Here in our time in this world, the Lord has been busy with us. He has caused the seed of the Gospel to be planted in us. He has provided us with a place, a church, to be planted and with watering, preaching and teaching and the Scripture, for our nourishment.

Sometimes, our lives are much like April. Cooler than we would hope for. Cloudy and maybe even downright gloomy. Occasionally stormy. We hope for better! We look forward to better!

Even in all these things, in cool, and gloom and storm, our Lord is preparing us! He is nourishing us. He is making us resilient in faith and deeply rooted in him!

Sometimes the Lord blesses us, even in this life, and we find ourselves coming into a "May"... in a time when we have the opportunity to "bloom" and show forth the great things the Lord has been doing with us, for us, and in us. The glory of God's great work for us is displayed!

And... and our eternal "May" is coming! All that the Lord is working for us and in us, watering us with his Word of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord, will be brought to eternal bloom and we will display the Lord's glory and his great work for us forever.

Thanks be to God!

Pastor Adam Poe

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*Acolyte for the Month*



**Acolyte Schedule for the month of May—**

3rd Bailee Menchhofer  
10th Aaron Sheets  
17th Caleb Poe  
24th Isaac Menchhofer  
31st Elias Poe

**Cap and Gown Day:**

Please help us to celebrate our graduates on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, during worship. We will be recognizing our St. John 2026 high school and college graduates. May God bless them in all of their future endeavors!

**May Readers**

May 3rd  
May 10th  
May 17th  
May 24th  
May 31st

Michelle Tribolet  
Brad Carr  
Scott Tribolet  
Cindy Canary  
Pat Siebert



The next monthly meeting of the St. John Church Council will be held on Wednesday, May 13th, 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).

**Happy Mother's Day** to all of our Mother's on Sunday, May 10th. We hope you have a wonderful and blessed day!



The Women of the Church will be meeting on Wednesday, May 6th at 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Cindy Canary will offer devotions. The Bible Study leader is to be determined. The project of the month is the Choosing Life Pregnancy Center. The Altar flowers for the month will be taken care of by Cheri Menchhofer. If you missed the last Women's Bible Study, the next study will start on page 20 "Rudders, Bridles & Forest Fires." We will also continue with questions 11-23.









**"Backpacker" Information:** Our volunteers for the Backpack Program will be helping at the C.A.L.L. Food Pantry in Celina on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Please consider joining us for a **spring work day**, here at St. John on Saturday, May 16th. Anyone who can come and help is greatly appreciated! Thank you!

**Pentecost Sunday** is on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, we ask that you please wear something red!

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

# MAY 2026 CALENDAR -- St. John Lutheran Church (Hopewell Township)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Worship with Holy Communion & Recognition of Some of Our Graduates 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.	4	5	6 Women of the Church Meeting 1:00 p.m.	7 	8	9
“Cap & Gown” Day 10 Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. 	11	12 Volunteers for the Backpack Program 9:00 a.m.	13 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	14 Ascension Day	15	16 
17 Worship with Holy Communion 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.	18 	19	20	21	22	23
24 Day of Pentecost Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. † Please wear red	25 	26	27	28	29	30
31 Trinity Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.						