

*St. John's Evangelical Church
211 E. Carrol Street
Kenton, Ohio 43326
(Non Profit Organization)*

**Do Not Delay
Dated Material**



St. John's Evangelical Church Newsletter

July 2021

211 E. Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326
Church Phone: 419-673-7278
Pastor Randall cell: 724-290-3651

Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester, Senior Pastor
Website: www.stjohnskenton.org
Email: stjohnskenton@gmail.com

Church Social

**Thursday, July 15
4:00—6:30 PM
Fellowship Hall**

**Sandwiches, Noodles, Salads, Pie, Cakes, Dietsch Ice Cream
and drinks**

Everyone is invited to fellowship and eat some of the
BEST home cooking in Hardin County!

**Carry-Out Available
419-673-7278**



**Free
Will
Offering**

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH

211 East Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326

REV. DR. RANDALL J. FORESTER, PASTOR & TEACHER

Phone: 419-673-7278 (o)

Phone: 724-290-3651 (c)

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JULY 2021

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

It's hard to believe that 1 year has passed since our lockdown. As I write this, we have just completed the Vacation Bible School that should have been offered to our families and our community last summer. This year, we gathered without masks. Last summer, we barely saw each other unless it was via a screen or from a (very) safe distance. In many ways, the lost year of 2020 seems very fresh; in other ways, it seems like a distant memory.

Last summer, I recall a woman—not from our church—that had seen me out and about and asked:

“Preacher, do you think we'll ever get back to normal.” I responded to her: “Yes. After all, we did it one-hundred years ago.” She looked at me quizzically. I had to explain to her that lockdowns and masks were part of the great influenza pandemic in 1918. What was then known as the Spanish Flu tore through our land shortly after 1918 and an estimated 675,000 Americans died from it at a time when our national population was less than one-third of what is currently. Strikingly, the memory of that event faded quickly from our corporate consciousness. As one historian noted, “as soon as the dying stopped, the forgetting began.” It was as though we had a case of collective amnesia.

In this month of July, we are called upon to remember. As the end of May called us to remember the fallen who purchased our freedom with the sacrifice of their lives, July calls us to remember our founding as a nation—the land of the free and the home of the brave. We live in a time when we are divided over what our history means. Some want to forget these aspects of our history while others want to deny other aspects. We are called to remember

our history not in part but in the whole. There are moments of noble service and sacrifice, and there are others that are scandalous and reprehensible. There are others that are a mixed bag that we cannot sort out.

Still, it is our history. It is filled with characters who fought for freedom while owning slaves. There are civil servants and community heroes who had dark and twisted personal lives. In the pursuit of noble goals, some

used questionable means to arrive there. To maintain power, some have excluded and disenfranchised others. While building a land of personal liberty, our national government often supported ruthless dictators overseas. Still, this mixed bag has brought us freedom and prosperity unparalleled in history.

It's a lot like our scriptures. Apart from Jesus, no one is portrayed as anything close to perfect in scripture. All characters have their flaws. Paul murdered Christians before becoming one. Peter denied Christ before helping to lead the early Church. Abraham—like many others—created his own path instead of waiting for God's to open before him. Moses was a reluctant leader with bouts of frustration with his people. And oh those people of God who backslid, idol-worshipped, and contradicted God again and again and again. Still, that mixed bag carried God's redemptive message to us and ensured its transmission to us even if it was delivered in broken vessels and flawed servants.

The same is true of these days. We need to remember. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, stood on Franklin Field at the University of Pennsylvania in 1936 as he was renominated for a second term as his party's candidate. That day, he remarked, “Philadelphia is a good city in



which to write history.” To write history is to remember—the good, the bad, and all that lies in between. Also, the weight of history falls unevenly upon various generations, and FDR acknowledged as much. In 1936, the nation and the world was not facing a pandemic but there were evil forces threatening to infiltrate the land in another way and threatened global stability. As he accepted his nomination, he brought his thoughts to a resounding conclusion: “To some generations much is given. Of other generations much is expected. This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny.”

I believe that we too have a rendezvous with destiny. These are days that call for bold action. As Christians, we have to boldly proclaim the hope that we have within us (**I Peter 3:15**). We have to humble ourselves to serve our neighbor in need (**Matthew 25:31-46**). We have to share our doubts as much as our faith, and show our struggles alongside our convictions. We have to reveal our humanity to our neighbor, which opens the door to sharing the Gospel of Christ with them. People already see enough fake and plastic people in the world. Now, is the time to demonstrate the whole Gospel and our whole lives to others.

Recently, I've been calling on you to pray and to pray and to pray some more. Praying is an act of remembrance. In prayer, we remember God's promises. In prayer, we remember our calling as children of God but also as His ambassadors (**II Corinthians 5:20**) as well as to be a priesthood of all believers (**I Peter 2:5**). In prayer, we find our rest, but we also receive the strength to go into the world and carry out our mission here on earth. The power of Pentecost—and the preaching, teaching, and service of the disciples in the days that followed—was enabled by the

**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
CHURCH:
MAKING AND MATURING
DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST**

days spent in prayer in Jerusalem (**Acts 1:14**).

It's also in prayer where we bring our whole heart before the Lord. We bring petitions as we pray for the needs of individuals, our community, and our world. We bring praises as we celebrate joyful occurrences and things for which we are thankful. We confess our personal sins and our communal sins. Along with this, we lament what breaks our heart and saddens us.

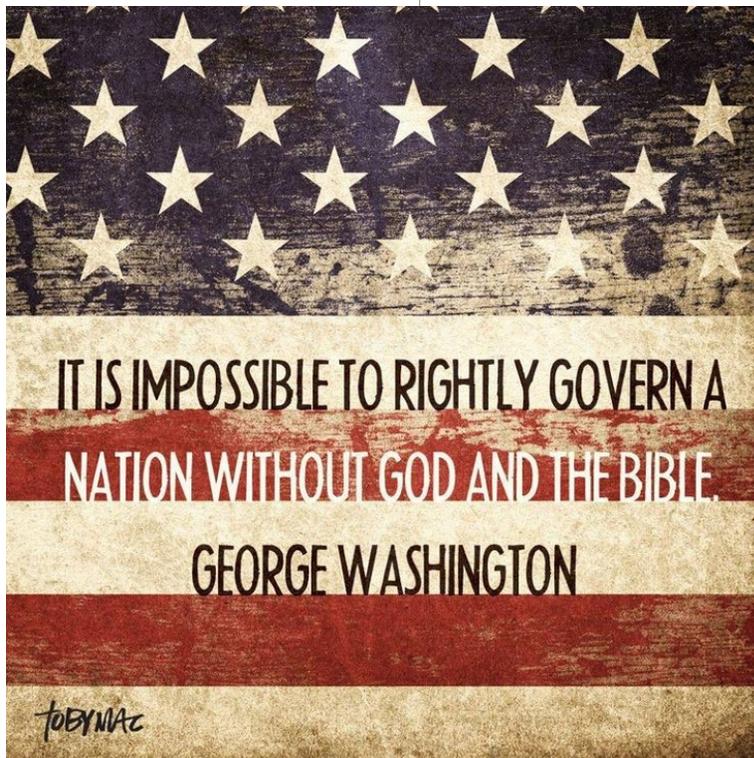
And God hears our prayers. He hears and receives all that we offer Him. As we bring our whole selves, He helps us to make sense of it all. He focuses our story to share that with others. What we tell of ourselves resonates with their story and opens the door for a deeper personal understanding, but also

provides the space for the Gospel of Jesus Christ to fall upon their soul like good seed onto good soil.

It's not always enjoyable to remember the struggles and pain, but that is part of our story that has prepared us for our rendezvous with destiny—our opportunity to share the Gospel of Christ and build His kingdom now and in this place.

With love and faith and service,

Pastor Randall



Preaching Series

In July, we continue to have sermons on topics suggested by members of our church. There are still a few slots available if you would like to share something. The idea for the sermon could start with a topic, a question, or a scripture that you would like to learn more about. You can share a lot of detail or a little to get the

St. John's by His Word and by the Holy Spirit.

04 July

Scripture **Exodus 18:1-27**
Galatians 6:1-2
Sermon **Serving Together**



ball rolling.

At the conclusion of the summer series, there will be a sermon series on the characteristics of a healthy and vibrant church according to the Bible, which will lead us into our times of remembering the saints who have gone to be with the Lord, stewardship, and thanksgiving. The calendar year will end with the start of a new church year, which begins 28 November with the first Sunday of Advent. Advent and Christmas will carry to the end of 2021.

Please pray over these scriptures and topics as God speaks into the church here at

11 July

Scripture **II Kings 4:42-44**
John 6:1-15
Sermon **The Leftovers**

18 July

Scripture **57th Psalm**
Isaiah 38:1-8
Sermon **The Diagnosis**

25 July

Pastor's Continuing Education

01 August

Scripture **Numbers 23:18-24**
Titus 1:5-16
Sermon **Above Reproach**

Upcoming Events



Prayer & Song Nights

Please join us for casual nights of prayer & song in the sanctuary at 7 pm each night:

- Wednesday, July 7 (Hymns with Linda Zeigler)
- Wednesday, July 14 (Praise team)
- Wednesday, July 28 (Hymns with Linda Zeigler)
- Wednesday, August 4 (Praise team)
- Wednesday, August 18 (Hymns with Linda Zeigler)

Prayer, Song & Dinner: On Sunday, August 29 at 4 pm, we will have a Prayer & Hymn Night (Hymns with Cinda Shea) & a Carry In dinner after at 5 pm in the fellowship hall.

St. John's Family Fishing Derby

St. John's will hold a Fishing Derby on Saturday, July 10 from 10 am—2 pm at Boy Scout Lake in Kenton. Lunch will be provided! Prizes for 1st catch, biggest and smallest. All are welcome! Please plan to join us for a fun time!



HCC Youth Pool Party

The HCC Youth group will have a pool party on July 17 from 7-9 pm at the Kenton City Pool. Shine FM will provide music. Pizza and snow cones will also be served! All Youth are welcome to attend! See Michele Sherman with any questions.



Bible Study Wednesday Nights

A Bible Study led by Jerry Pfister meets Wednesday Nights at 7:00 pm in the chapel. All are welcome to attend!

Community Men's Bible Study

A Community Men's Bible Study meets Saturday mornings at 7:30 am at Our Place Family Restaurant.

Community Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study is now meeting on Sunday morning at 9 am in fellowship hall. All are welcome! The ladies are beginning a new study on the book of Psalms and then this fall will start a Chip Ingram Study "Doing Good". If anyone is interested in the Chip Ingram Study, please contact Anna LaWarre, so she can order a study guide.



KIDNEY DONOR NEEDED
SHARE YOUR SPARE

Living Kidney Donation

Prayers for Vaughn Rall who is in need of a kidney transplant. If you are willing to give the gift of life, please call 614-293-6724 or 800-293-8965. For a Living Donor Assessment Form, go to <https://go.osu.edu/LivingDonorForm>

Support Group Leader Needed

If anyone is interested in leading a support group (AA/NA) during the week or take the T/R 11:30/noon time slot, please contact the church office.

Mission of the Month— Fairhaven Life Enrichment Fund

Since 1916, Fairhaven Community has maintained a tradition of providing compassionate health care and senior living services in Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

St. John's Care Team



We have a group of people that make calls to members to try to keep in touch with each other and to just check in. If you would like to participate in any way, please let the church office know or contact Carol Wilcox. If you are not receiving a call and would like one periodically or know of someone who would, please let us know.

Confirmation Class Interest

Anyone interested in participating in a confirmation class in the fall please contact the church office or Michele Sherman.



Urge Concert (Youth) - Mark your Calendars

The Urge Concert is August 29 from 5-7:30 pm at Bethel Church of Christ at 4014 CR 304, Ada for all students in grades 7-12. Urge is a Free, community wide event for students with great music and an encouraging message. The focus of Urge is to encourage students to do well in the upcoming school year but more importantly to urge them to be who God wants them to be in their schools.

website: stjohnskenton.org
 Facebook: St Johns Kenton, Ohio
 Youtube: St. John's Evangelical Church

Friday With Friends

Friday With Friends is a wonderful group of widows, widowers, and single seniors who meet twice a month for a special time of food, fellowship, and fun. We meet the first and third Fridays of every month. Please join us if you are a widow, widower, or single senior adult. This is not exclusive to St. John's, so pass the word along to someone that you know who could be blessed by this special group. For more information, contact Ethel Koch at 419-674-6344.

Forthcoming outings will be as follows:

If out of town, meet at St. John's, corner of Wayne St. and E. Carrol St. to carpool. They leave sharply at 10:45. Still eating at 11:30 am.

- July 2 Homecoming—Bellefontaine
- July 16 Tilton Hilton—Lakeview
- August 6 Viva Maria—Ada
- August 20 Coonies—LaRue



Birthday Blessings (over 80 yrs. Young)

Happy Birthday!! Please contact the church office if a name was omitted from the list. Thank you so much.

- July 2: Jack Draper
805 Vernon Street
Kenton, OH 43326
- July 2: Shirley Draper
805 Vernon Street
Kenton, OH 43326
- July 12 Carole Spillman
PO Box 143
Kenton, OH 43326



Happy summertime, parents! We hope your family is having a blast and enjoying the calm before a new school year.

Here are a few things coming up in our ministry . . .

Hardin County Collective will be having another Pool Party this year. Mark your calendars for **July 17th** at the Kenton Swimming Pool from 7pm-9pm. Shine FM will be DJing, pizza will be served, and snow cones.

If you're new to our ministry (or you just want to hang out with us for a few minutes) we'd love to see you at our Open House in August so we can introduce you and your teenager to our youth ministry! Details to come....

Urge Concert is August 29th! This is a free back to school event for 7th-12th graders. We have been attending with Hardin County Collective each year. Please let me know if your teenager is interested in attending this year.

Tip of the Month

Here's an easy way to encourage teenagers to pray (or to step up your own prayer game): think about the words you say all the time, like "please," "thanks," and "sorry." Tell God "thanks" when you're grateful, "sorry" when you've messed up, and "please" when you need help. These three words are a simple prompt we can use to talk to God every day.

Question on the Month

Hey parents, as we wrap out this school year, would you help us out? **As the parent of a teenager, what's one thing our church could do to better serve and help you?** Email us to reply @ michelesjyouth@gmail.com

KIDS CORNER



We had a total of 28 kids attend VBS this year. They would arrive and go to the Sanctuary for Music with the Youth and then break into 2 groups (K-2nd grade and 3-5th grade) to go to their Bible lesson. After their lessons they would have crafts, where we made prayer journals, hard hats, kinetic sand, cross necklaces and construction bracelets that read "I dig Jesus." Games were a huge hit; we had a lot of fun playing relay races and the last day water games. Each child received a snack and then we would go back to the Sanctuary to end the night, where we would review what we learned.

Our mission for VBS this year was Angels for the Elderly. We set a goal of \$500. The kids did an amazing job helping this cause. With their help we raised \$728 and Missions doubled this amount. What a blessing to be able to present this to Angels for the Elderly.

Our Volunteers did an amazing job and I couldn't have pulled VBS off without them. They took each situation and showed the love of Jesus to each child. I think the amount of volunteer/child interaction was amazing. We had that one on one with each child when needed. Thank you all for your continued support and dedication.

What's happening this month...

We haven't been able to do much outside the church with our families, so an annual fishing derby out at Boy Scout Lake is what's planned this month. This year's derby is scheduled for **July 10**. Start time will be 10 am. We will have everyone sign up. When they catch their fish, they will bring it up to be measured. (length) The first catch, smallest and biggest fish will receive a prize. We will serve hotdogs and chips at noon for lunch and finish the derby at 2pm.

Tip of the Month

"We are raising our families in a desert, but Jesus is our Living Water, and He's with us every step."

-Brian Haynes

"Whoever believes in Me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them."

John 7:38 [#D6EveryDay](#)



As you know the early church records that presently exist were translated from German, last year. As many in Hardin County are descended from our pioneer ancestors, it comes as no surprise that most of the enquiries I have received about the records are not members of St. John's. Perhaps setting forth a few examples may stir some interest, so the following are examples of portions of those records:
"Baptism protocol
Year 1850

Sarah, daughter of Christian Becher and Elisabeth Barbara née Pfund, living in Pleasant Township, born 1 July 1850, baptized 25 Oct 1850. Parents of the child were the sponsors.

Johann Georg, son of Johann Georg Ramge and Elisabeth née Pfeiffer, living in Pleasant Township, born 10 April 1850, baptized 10 Nov 1850, sponsors was Adam Pfeiffer, the brother of the mother. The father of the child is deceased.

Dorothea, daughter of Ludwig Ramge and Susanne née Naumann, living in Pleasant Township, born 10 Feb 1847, baptized 21 Nov 1850, sponsor was Anna Elisabeth Heil. The mother of the child is dead.

Elisabeth, daughter of Adam Mueller and Marie Elisabeth née Ramge, living in Pleasant Township, born 8 Aug 1847, baptized 21 Nov 1850, sponsor was Elisabeth Kautz.

Margareth, daughter of Adam Mueller and Marie Elisabeth née Ramge, born 18 Sept 1850, baptized 21 Nov 1851, sponsor was Margareth Ramge.

Child of Conrad Frischkorn, born 23 Oct 1850, baptized 18 Dec 1850, sponsor was Margaretha Loef-fert.

Eva, daughter of Jacob Wolf and Barbara née Wang, living in Goshen Township, born 24 Dec 1848, baptized 25 Dec 1850, sponsor Elisabeth Born.

Family Records:

No. 6.

Heinrich Mueller, son of Georg Mueller and Margaretha née Meier, was born 13 March 1831 in Zeilhard, Dieburg, Hessen. He was baptized and confirmed as a member of the Protestant-Lutheran church. He emigrated to this country on 18 Oct 1850 and reached on 26 Dec 1850 New Orleans, Louisiana. He came to Kenton in 1851. He married on 25 Dec 1860, Christine Bihler, daughter of Christian Bihler and Christine Seher. She was born 26 July 1839 in New York City, New York.

Their children:

Marie Louise, born 22 March 1867 in Kenton, Ohio, baptized 22 Sept 1867.

A deceased child, Anna Dorothea, born 13 Jan 1864, baptized 22 Sept 1864, died 16 April 1868 at the age of 4 years, 3 month and 3 days.

Marriages of 1862

Pastor William Helfer married the following people.

No. 1

Johann Marti, born 1830 of Leysin, Switzerland, son of Nicolaus Marti and Sina née Sterchi, married the widow Suanne Kumby née Strahm on 19 April 1862. She was born 10 Oct 34 in Alterswil, Switzerland and is the daughter of Sam Strahm and Elisabeth née Rief.

No. 2

Anton Kayser, born 13 April 1830 in Zeilhard, Hessen, son of Anton Kayser and Marie née Koch, married Elisabeth Scheer on 20 April 1862. She was born 28 May 1838 in Romrod, Hessen and is the daughter of Ludwig Scheer and Anna Catharina née Caspar.

No. 3

Widower Johann Steiner, born 3 July 1821 in Bottigen, Switzerland, son of Johann Steiner and Anna née Haeny, married Marie Born on 10 July 1862. She was born 15 Aug 1839 Niederbipp, Switzerland and is the daughter of Benedict Born and Elisabeth née Schoenmann.

No. 4

Widower Adam Pfeiffer, born 14 Aug 1808 in Hinkelstein, Hessen-Nassau, son of Michael Pfeiffer and Kunigunde née Ift, married the widow Susanna Winger née Hischner on 30 Aug 1862. She was born 10 March 1811 in Weiler, Baden and is the daughter of Friedrich Hischner and Marie née Trollinger.

No. 5

Heinrich Kaiser, born 10 Aug in Helmarshausen, Hessen-Nassau, son of Philipp Kaiser and Catharina, married Marie Kautz on 7 Sept 1862. She was born 22 April 1840 in Kenton, Hardin Co., OH and is the daughter of H. Christoph Kautz and Margaretha née Mueller.

No. 6

Wilhelm August Lieke, born 1835 in Oberheldrungen, Sachsen (province), son of Georg Gottfried Lieke and Marie Dorothea née Foerme, married Sophie Kaiser on 23 Oct 1862. She was born 26 Feb 1840 in Kenton, Hardin Co., OH and is the daughter of Johann Kaiser and Caroline Marie née Schelken.

No. 7

Johann Christoph Kimmel, born 17 Jan 1836 in Friedewald, Hessen-Nassau, son of Chirstoph Kimmel and Gertrude née Rietasch, married Marie Frey on 11 Nov 1862. She was born 10 Feb 1841 in Niederbipp, Switzerland, dau of Johann Frey and Marie née Segesser.

As you will note, there is a lot of information available and copies both booklets and CDs are available in the Church Library/History Room. Please feel free to contact me for any assistance you may require.

Peace and blessings,
Jerry Pfister, Historian

**Be a Fisher of
Men—Invite a
Friend!**



ST. JOHN'S FAMILY



LUNCH PROVIDED ☺

PRIZES FOR 1ST CATCH, BIGGEST & SMALLEST



St. John's Evangelical Church
Church Council Agenda
Thursday, May 13, 2021
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER - Terry Hord, President

OPENING PRAYER - Pastor Randall

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT - Pastor Randall

Soup Kitchen: Soup is moving from St. John's and are moving to Coterie and have signed a contract until the end of 2021. The Kenton Hardin County Health Department told St. John's that we can't have the SOUP kitchen with the current COVID-19 restrictions. It was suggested to SOUP that they could have carry out, but SOUP decided against.

OFFICER'S REPORT

Secretary's Report - Heather Erwin

- April 8 minutes – Motion to accept minutes and seconded, council vote, motion carried.

REPORTS

1) Finance - Jerry Pfister & Kay Rush

- Jerry Pfister and Kay Rush Kay is going to get with Tracy to update

2) Christian Education—Michele Sherman

- Michele Sherman. End of year programs. Camp and VBS

3) Women's Ministry - Kay Rush

- Freer's and Women's ministry gave Mother's Day gifts

4) Worship, Arts & Music

- Haven't met
- Discussion about adding the 8:30 service and changing the 10:00 to 10:30 service
- Committee to find contemporary music leader: Terry, Jerry, Carol and Worship, Arts and Music committee

5) Personnel Committee - Jerry Pfister

- Needs to meet with a staff member

6) Pastoral Relations - Carol Wilcox

- Next Meeting: May 23, 2021

7) Trustees

- Church Bell Tower: Motion made and seconded to Remove and place on ground. Motion carried.
Timeline: ASAP

Audio Visual: Jerry Pfister

- 60 hours + for April

Van: Anna LaWarrre

- Going to Graphic Stitch on Sunday and will be finished next week.

Farm: Greg Martin

- signed papers for CRP (keep up of water ways)
- Gravel is being removed and making a big mess. Denny would like to have solution

8) Missions, Evangelism - Heather Erwin/ Mark Sherman

- Heather and Anna delivered supplies to Angels for the Elderly. Gave money to YMCA for a children's fieldtrip. Gave to the 4th of July fireworks committee. Christian Lifeline meal packing October 23, 2021.

9) Pastor's Report - Pastor Randall

OLD BUSINES:

- Hunting Lease Proposal. Handed out lease proposal and hunting lease agreement. Tabled until next meeting
- Safety of Church/Alice Program - tabled
- Church Rental agreements- tabled
- Church inventory – tabled
- Revisiting Restroom use for Rental Agreement
- Keys that need to be returned.
- Natural Church Development survey was discussed

NEW BUSINESS:

Next Meeting: June 17, 2021 7:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT – Motion and seconded to adjourn, Council Vote, motion carried. LORD’S PRAYER

All Church Social

St. John’s Evangelical Church

*Fellowship Hall—Air Conditioned
211 East Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326*

Thursday, July 15, 2021

4:00—6:30 PM



Menu: Sandwiches, Noodles, Salads, Pie, Cakes, Dietsch Ice Cream and drinks



Free Will Offering



Everyone is invited to fellowship and eat some of the BEST home cooking in Hardin County!

**Carry-Out Available
419-673-7278**

*0 taste and see that the lord is good...
* * **

Church Social

Volunteers and Donations Needed

It is time again to plan for the upcoming All Church Social. It is scheduled for Thursday, July 15, 2021, with serving between 4:00 and 6:30 p.m. The social has been a success in the past several years only because of **YOUR** help. We again are asking for donations of foods and monies to help with this event. We also need as many helpers as possible on the day of the social to prepare and serve the food as well as set up for and **clean up after the social**. If you are able to help in any way, please let the church office know by returning the Volunteer postcard as soon as possible.

The following items are needed:

Home Made Pies (*all kinds*) - 24

Hamburger—20 lbs.

CASH to purchase chicken

- **Donated items need to be at the church by 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, July 13.**
- **Pies and Cakes need to be at the church by 12:00 Noon Thursday, July 15th (*day of social*).**

(Complete and detach below volunteer/donation card)

Thank you for all your continued support. Remember, this all church social works only because you are willing to help and make it the success it has been in the past. We do need your continued support.

Sincerely,
The Social Committee

I will donate the following for the Church Social:

I am willing to work (*please mark which apply & times available*)

_____ **Prepare Food on Wednesday, July 14 starting at 1:00 PM**

_____ **Help Serve Food from 4:00 - 6:30 PM**

_____ **Clean-Up 5:30 PM - ?**

Name

Phone Number



Church Staff:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester
Youth Ministry: Michele Sherman
Financial Secretary: Kay Rush
Church Secretary: Kathy Forester
Chancel Choir Director: David Beazley
Organists: Randall S. Rogers, Teresa Broseke and Linda Zeigler
Children’s Choirs Director: Hope Cauley