

The Visitor

prayer concerns

Please Pray For:

- Karen Rice, who had her gall bladder removed on March 26th at Toledo Hospital and is doing well.
- Charlene LaFountaine, who had surgery to remove screws and a plate from an earlier ankle surgery.
- Rosemarie Schmidt, who is recovering from a fracture of the hip socket.
- Nancy Storrer, who is home recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander, who will undergo chemo treatments, awaiting test results to determine level and dosages.
- Sharon VonDeylen, who is home recovering from surgery.
- Dale VonDeylen continues to have positive steps of healing over the infection in his knee.
- Mike Henry, who is home recovering from liver transplant surgery.
- Bob and Connie Bostelman, as Bob undergoes treatments for stage IV colon cancer.
- Bea Briggs, who continues to recover from cancer.
- Roger Roth, who is undergoing treatments for stage IV renal cancer.
- Kreighton Sims, whose father, Greg Sims, continues to go through cancer treatments.
- Roger and Kay Merillat's granddaughter, Chloe Merillat, who continues with chemo treatments.
- Annie and Joel Foote, as Annie continues to receive target chemo treatments.
- Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety. Serving from our church are:

Kyle Ducey (Navy)

10175 Park Meadows Dr., #5-326
Lone Tree, CO 80124

Cpt. Jared R. Kuntz (Army)

Wife, Maria & children, Silvette & Elias:
3857 B Moss Circle, Fort Sill, OK 73503

Dennis LaPorte (Air Force)

Wife, Wren & daughters, Jillian & Lorelei
107 Nebraska St., Travis AFB, CA 94535-1235

Lesniak, Jacob LCpl (Marines)

5901 Aztec Avenue, Apt. 159
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

Martinez, Braden (Army Reserves) now home

Wife, Brittany & daughters Madison & Claire
610 E. South St, Bryan, OH 43506

Steven Schink (Coast Guard)

Wife, Ashley & son Brennan
150 Dewey Avenue, Groton, CT 06340

Koltin Zimmerman (Army)

Fort Lee, Virginia

A monthly Newsletter for St. John's Christian Church
Family and Friends

April 1, 2015 Volume 61, Number 4

Please consider sending these people cards letting them know that we continue to lift them up to God in prayer, that He will guide, comfort and sustain them through these times.

Home Bound/Care Facility Residents:

Cards, phone calls and visits to our home bound would be a wonderful blessing:

Fairlawn Haven, 407 E. Lutz Rd., Archbold, 43502

Florence Augustine, Room #120

Mary Jo Britt, Fairlawn Haven, Room #206

Valeria Hornish, Room #174A

Eileen Meller, Room #133

Esther Rice, Room #116

Cathy Spiess, #153

Sadonna Spiess, Special Care Unit Room #405B

Fairlawn Asst. Living, 500 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502

Lois Heer, Room #238

Jane Short, Room #208

Pauline Short, Room #205

Fulton Manor, 723 S. Shoop Ave., Wauseon, 43567

Robert Kuntz, Room #225-2

Myrl & Pauline Zimmerman, Room #505

Northcrest, 240 Northcrest Dr., Napoleon, 43545

Irene Short, Room #100

congregational thank you's

Thank you for the prayers, cards, and prayer shawl.
A special thanks to Pastor Erich for his visit.

Jr. Grime



Dear St. John's Christian Church,

Thank you for the donation to my mission trip to Peru. I am blessed to have this opportunity to travel internationally and serve the people of Peru. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Delaney Nofziger

REMINDER - Labels for Education:

By clipping and saving the UPC's and beverage caps/sauce caps from participating products and placing them in the designated container on the coat rack in the chapel narthex, our preschool staff can redeem them and earn FREE educational merchandise. Previously we have redeemed points for books, art supplies, sports equipment, and numerous other classroom items.

To find a list of participating products, go to www.labelsforeducation.com. Thank you for your help!

pastor's letter

Thoughts from Pastor Adam . . .

The old saying goes, "April showers bring May flowers." April is a month in which we are to receive rain shower after rain shower. The rains pour down on the earth providing water for animals, plants, gardens, flowers, drinking supplies and dry lands. We need the rain.



The physical need that we have for water and rain is mirrored by a spiritual need for the water of God. David in Psalm 63:1 says, "You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole body longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water." In the same way that our bodies cry out for water during a long hot day, our souls cry out for the "rain" of God. How is your soul? Is it parched? Is it dry? Are we earnestly seeking the love and grace of God?

Jesus tells the people in John 7:37-38 "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." Jesus always seems to be offering an invitation to us. The door always seems to be open. It's whether we choose to open it or walk through it. Whether or not we decide to accept the invitation. This invitation is for rain and water in our lives. Or we could say "reign." Do you want the reign of Christ to flow over you?

This year April begins with the amazing days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter morning. These are days full of wonderful opportunities to drink in the water of Jesus. So, are you thirsty?

May you be thirsty for Jesus this April.

Blessings,

ADAM



preschool corner

We enjoyed many classroom visitors during the month of March. We celebrated "Guest Reader Month", and also invited some parents and community members to come in and talk to the children about their jobs. We continued our "Animals" unit in March with a week spent in the "Zoo". The children had a great time making a variety of zoo animals in the art area. We hope you enjoyed their zebras, giraffes, lions and alligators hanging in the hallway! We learned about the differences among zoo animals, pets, farm animals and ocean animals. During that first week of March, we also hosted the dads of our M-W-F children for Dad's Night. The children were thrilled to bring dad/grandpa/uncle to preschool and share some special time with them. We made stepping stones, played in the classroom, and enjoyed a snack and story. We also learned a few interesting facts about our dads when we read the children's interviews we had conducted. The second and third weeks of March were dedicated to "Community Helpers." We are so grateful to the Archbold area community helpers who took time out of their busy schedules to help the children understand what they do. The children had fun pretending in the "Sandwich Shop" and "Hair Salon/Barbershop" in our Dramatic Play areas. During the fourth week of the month, we celebrated Easter. The children learned about the importance of Palm Sunday and the death and resurrection of Jesus, as well as joined in some other aspects of the holiday when they hunted for eggs in the classroom and made adorable Easter bunnies with their own photos and footprints! Check out their beautiful 'stained glass' crosses on the east doors.

We would like to extend a special 'THANK YOU' to all of the following church members who visited our classroom to read and/or talk about their jobs: Pastor Erich, Pastor Adam, Nancy Rupp, Linda Rutledge, Stacy Rutledge, and Carrie Yoder.



Gwen has her tool belt and is ready to work with Dad!



Busy day at St. John's Preschool Hair Salon!

mission corner

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Altlink (Tom & Megan), for our gift of \$60.
- Aquinas College Peru Service Learning Program (Delaney Nofziger), for our gift of \$250.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$1,339.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$1,000.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$55.
- Defiance YFC (The Outback), for our gift of \$20.
- GCM (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$550.
- GCM (Matt & MaryLynn Pardi), for our gift of \$250.
- TEAM (Mackenzie Nofziger), for our gift of \$500.
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission, for our gift of \$50.
- World Team (The Franks), for our gift of \$1,000.



Dear Friends, February 26, 2015

Your recent work camp time spent at the Back Bay Mission was a blessed event for many! Undoubtedly, there was a good impact on both our clients' lives as well as yours. We trust whenever you reflect on that time, it will summon a smile. It surely does for those you helped. Your selfless acts of kindness and service restore a comfort and are a breath of hope for many in need on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Every one of us at Back Bay Mission extends our deepest gratitude for your support of our mission. Regardless of which program you chose to give your time and service to, you aligned with and helped support our vision "to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God."

We look forward to the day you can join us again and continue the giving. May God bless you in your journey of faith!

Gratefully,
Craig Steenkamp & the Back Bay Mission Staff



Greetings All,

It is generally between 55 and 75 degrees here but the sun is brilliant and makes it seem much warmer during the day. The air is thick with dust, as there has been no rain since October. The short rains should begin in March.

We continue with our language studies; words are starting to sound more familiar but we struggle to put our thoughts into Amharic. Our attempts to communicate are a source of humor to many, especially to the hundreds of children we encounter on our walks to school.

Becky has had some good opportunities to network with other family physicians. There is a lot being done here by many organizations, but there are huge challenges.

Our current living situation is much easier; our "landlords" are a delightful couple who hail from Idaho. That being said, we can go days without water service, and electricity and internet service is spotty as well.

We have made some great friends here and continue to enjoy safety and health, all of which are blessings we do not take for granted.

The International Evangelical Church we have been attending has been a source of encouragement and admonition. Recently while worshipping there and studying 1 Corinthians, we were reminded that God does not call us to be successful but to be faithful. Many of the writings of Paul have become much more understandable in our current context.

Becky's five year medical license came. We, along with the hospital staff, are praising God and rejoicing in its arrival! Now we are working on filing for our work and residence licenses. We are told these should not be as difficult to obtain, but please pray we receive them in a timely manner. Finally we also need to apply for a driver's license. There are dangers whether driving or walking here, but we continue to be grateful knowing that God is in control.

Please continue prayers for our health, wisdom, stamina, language studies, and that all our documents will be finalized! To receive our group e-mail, please e-mail our home church: fbcwauseon@embarqmail.com.

Lots of love,
Judd and Becky



April Mission-A-Month – Foods Resource Bank:

Foods Resource Bank (FRB), a Christian response to world hunger, was organized in 1999 to help provide the resources needed to support smallholder, agricultural food security programs in some of the world's poorest villages.

FRB does not ship grain or food overseas. Rather, they assist smallholder farmers and communities in the developing world with seeds, animals, tools, instruction, water supply - whatever is needed to produce ample food to feed themselves and their families, with enough left over to share, barter or sell to purchase staples, basic medicines, and send their children to school.

April gives us an opportunity to donate toward the planting, tending and harvesting of the community growing project we help sponsor in cooperation with the Church of the United Brethren and First Lutheran Church (both of Stryker). The fifteen acre field of beans/corn will be planted at the corner of St. Rt. 34 and Co. Rd. 22.75, southeast of Stryker. At harvest time, the crop will be sold and the proceeds given to FRB.

mission corner cont.

2015 Mission Events:

- Detroit Navigators Weekend Work Project –
Friday & Saturday, April 24 & 25
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission –
Chapel and Meal - Sunday, May 17
- Summer Mission Trip – June 7 thru 12
- Youth Mission Trip – June 4 thru 19
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission –
Chapel and Meal - Sunday, September 13
- Back Bay Mission Trip – October 10 thru 17
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission –
Chapel and Meal - Sunday, November 15

April Mission Experience – The Navigators, Detroit, Michigan:

Matt and Bev Hale continue to engage in community ministry through the ministry of the Navigators. They are constantly building relationships with neighbors, welcoming new people into the neighborhood, and opening up their home and family for meals, bible studies and more. They have asked if we could send some volunteers to help with their neighborhood rehab projects, so we are looking for volunteers for Friday and/or Saturday, April 24 & 25th. We'll meet in the parking lot at 7AM Friday, for the 2 hour drive to the neighborhood. A group can also leave from the parking lot at 7AM on Saturday and join the fun! Meals and lodging will be provided. We are awaiting word on what the projects might be! A sign up sheet is posted.

Summer Mission Trip:

This annual mission excursion to the LaPorte County, Indiana area is scheduled for June 7th through 12th. In recent years, while lodging at Tower Hill Church Camp in Sawyer, MI, the group has worked with LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity to frame a new home. This year, LaPorte County is not able to build a new home and regrets that they don't have a project for St. John's to work on this summer.

New plans are being made to lodge and work at Tower Hill – no travel time this year! Kim Bosse, the camp director, is lining up projects for the group, including the following:

- Build an extension to the dining hall porch to create an outside eating area and rebuild the accessible ramp.
- Build a covered deck platform in the woods adjacent to the archery & climbing wall area for group use.
- Cottage 6 windows need to be replaced.
Details for the week are as follows:
- Trip Leaders/Recruiters – Mike Meyer, Greg Walker, Kelly Ducey
- Departure – the group will leave from the church mid to late afternoon on Sunday, June 7th, arriving

at Tower Hill after stopping for dinner at a local restaurant.

- Lodging – in the comfortable St. Philippus Retreat Center at Tower Hill, which has a mix of single and multiple bedrooms, several bathrooms, a well equipped kitchen, comfortable gathering room and air conditioning throughout.
- Meals will be enjoyed in the camp's dining hall, with the group eating out one evening.
- Return – the group will leave the camp following Friday's lunch and will return to the church mid-to-late afternoon.
- Cost – the anticipated cost will be about \$125, which will include transportation, lodging and camp meals.
A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board – sign up soon in case we need to reserve more space!

Missionary News and Contact Information:

Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP

web site - www.jamkhed.org



Kyle Chase, Great Commission Ministries

web site - www.gcmweb.org

e-mail - Kyle.Chase@gcmweb.org

Matt Pardi, Great Commission Ministries

web site - www.h2ochurch.com

e-mail - matt.pardi@gcmweb.org

Tony & Leila Frank, Sapiranga, Brazil

web site - www.worldteam.org

e-mail - tony.frank@worldteam.org



Tom & Megan, The Islands, Africa

web site - tmislands.blogspot.com

e-mail - tmlangsdorf@msn.com

Judd & Becky McClarren, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

juddmc@abwe.cc; becmc@abwe.cc; soddo.org

Larry & Linda Rupp, Kajiado Children's Home

web site - www.hope4kajiado.com

e-mail - kajiadochildrenshome@gmail.com

Brian & Jamie Rauschenberger, Haiti

New Life International

web site - www.WaterForTheWorld.com

e-mail - Brian@WaterForTheWorld.com

e-mail - Jamie@WaterForTheWorld.com



Keith & Cheryl Wyse - The Agape Family Life House

web site - www.agapeflh.org

e-mail - k.wyse@agapeflh.org

Jon & Rachel Doriot - Pioneers, Papua

web site - www.pioneers.org

e-mail - kalepa@linkmail.org

Mackenzie Nofziger - Bangkok, Thailand

Teaching @ Bangkok International Christian School

e-mail - mmnofziger@gmail.com

ministry happenings

Christian Education

LOGOS - Wednesday Evening Youth Program:

LOGOS themes for the month of April are: April 1st - NO LOGOS due to spring break; April 8th - All Smiles & Laughs Night; April 15th - Fiesta Night; April 22nd - Under the Sea Night; April 29th - LOGOS Celebration Night (last night of LOGOS for this school year). Wednesday evening activities begin with a meal in the parish hall at 6PM.

Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF):

JYF will wrap up the 2014-2015 year in April. The last night of JYF will be April 29th. April 8th will be our last special event night - Bring a Friend for Bingo. Pick a friend who doesn't usually go to church and invite them for an evening of fun. Thank you parents for all of the snacks which you sent with your kids this past year. The students are a great group of bright and fun-loving kids.

Senior Youth Fellowship (SYF):

In April we are celebrating the flowers of spring and the resurrection of Jesus on Easter morning. April's calendar: April 1st - No SYF because of Spring Break; April 5th - Easter Morning Pancake Breakfast; April 8th - Life Planning / SYF Remix; April 15th - Spiritual Warfare; April 22nd - Prayer; April 29th - Relationships.

Youth will be making and serving pancakes on Easter morning for our annual Easter Pancake Breakfast.

Senior Youth Fellowship (SYF) Mission Trip:

The SYF Mission Trip is scheduled for the week of June 14th-19th. The 2015 mission trip will be to Nashville, Tennessee with Group's Week of Hope. We have partnered with Group Week of Hope for four other trips (2010 - Indianapolis; 2011 - Bay City; 2013 - Cincinnati; 2014 - Kenosha). Mission trip applications are available in the youth room.

Senior Youth Fellowship (SYF) Pancake Breakfast:

The SYF will be hosting a pancake breakfast for the congregation on Easter morning at 8AM following the Sunrise service. SYF youth enjoy making various delicious pancakes, some with chocolate chips, plain and fruit toppings. Join us as we celebrate the resurrection together.

Life Planning:

The next Life Planning time will be on April 8th at 7PM. We will talk about the topic of service and why we are called to serve.

Events/Activities

Men's Breakfast:

On the 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings of the month, several men from St. John's join together at the Home Restaurant from 6:15-7:15AM. We spend time in fellowship and then read and discuss some scripture together. In April we'll continue studying John's Gospel. This is open to all men in the church.

Two Chairs - May Adult Sunday School Class:

How do you cultivate a relationship with someone you don't see? Join us in May for a Sunday school class covering the topic of sitting down and growing in a relationship with Jesus. We'll look at various biblical examples from scripture and explore some church history practices of connecting with God. Contact Pastor Adam if you have questions.

Senior Citizens:

The Fulton County Senior Center's mission is to enhance the quality of life for seniors by encouraging their continued involvement in the community.

The Archbold location is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00AM to 2:00PM at the Ruibley Park Scout Cabin. Seniors gather for games and conversation from 9 to 11. A program is usually offered at 11AM. Lunch is served at noon. Monday mornings feature a Bible study at 10:30AM led by local pastors.

Brochures of all of the programs of the Senior Center are located on the welcome table outside the chapel and also posted on the bulletin board across from the church office. Further information is available by calling 419-337-9299.



Jim Redd on the high ropes course at Man Camp March 20-22



Mike Whiteman and his dad, Bruce, get ready to enjoy the high ropes course as well

ministry happenings

Chapel of the Cross – Good Friday: cont.

Spend some time in the Chapel of the Cross on Good Friday this year. On Friday, April 3rd, the Chapel will be set up to walk, sit and experience the stained glass Way of Sorrows. A guided reflection book will take you thru the various scriptures and journey of Jesus that final week.

NAMI Sponsors Mental Health Trainings:

The first training will be geared to church volunteers who work with youth, such as Sunday school or vacation Bible school teachers, pre-school classes and other youth activities. The three-hour workshop will focus on learning and practicing specific strategies for children who have problems such as ADHD or other behavioral issues that don't respond well to traditional learning approaches. The workshop will be presented Saturday morning, April 18, from 8:30-11:30AM on the Defiance college campus by Dr. Clarissa Barnes, the director of the college's Hench Autism Studies Program.

The other training is a day-long program called Mental Health First Aid. Its focus is to teach a five step action plan that will help clergy and lay leaders assess persons who are experiencing a mental health crisis by listening non-judgmentally, giving reassurance, information, encouraging the person and/or family to seek appropriate professional help, and then encourage self-help and other support strategies. This training will be taught by Tonie Long, a therapist with Four County Family Center, on Thursday, April 30 from 8AM-4:30PM at the Archbold United Methodist Church.

Both trainings are free, but pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, please contact Lou Levy, NAMI secretary at louandrene@artelco.net or 419-399-0952.

NAMI Basics class to start April 11th:

NAMI will be offering a free education class for parents, grandparents, and care-givers of children and adolescents with emotional, behavioral and mental health issues this month.

The six week class, called NAMI Basics, will start Saturday morning, April 11 at the Four County ADAMhs Board office at T-761 State Route 66 south of Archbold. The 2 ½ hour classes start at 10AM and last for six weeks. NAMI Basics is a professionally developed education program that is taught by trained teachers who are also parents of children with an emotional, behavioral or mental health problem.

The goals of NAMI Basics are (1) to give the parent information necessary to take the best care possible of their child, (2) help the parent cope with the impact that mental illness has on the child and the entire family, and (3) provide the parent with the tools that will help them make the best possible decisions for their child.

Different topics are covered each week, including: information about most major disorders (ADHD, depression, bipolar, conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, anxiety disorders and substance abuse), stages of emotional reaction of the family to the illness (crisis, shock, denial, grief and acceptance), treatment information for the disorders, working with the various systems that the child is involved with such as schools, and more.

For more information or to register for the class, please call the class instructor: Lisa Holley at 419/438-7384 or Kathy Yevtich at 419/822-5212.

Five Things to do Instead of Complain:

1. Practice gratitude. Research shows that when we count three blessings a day, we get a measurable boost in happiness that uplifts and energizes us. It's also physiologically impossible to be stressed and thankful at the same time. Two thoughts cannot occupy our minds at the same time. If you are focusing on gratitude, you can't be negative. You can also energize and engage your co-workers by letting them know you are grateful for them and their work.
2. Praise others. Instead of complaining about what others are doing wrong, start focusing on what they're doing right. Praise them and watch as they create more success as a result. Of course, point out their mistakes so they can learn and grow, but make sure you give them three times as much praise as criticism.
3. Focus on success. Start a success journal. Each night before you go to bed, write down the one great thing about your day. The one great conversation, accomplishment or win that you are most proud of. Focus on your success and you'll look forward to creating more success tomorrow.
4. Let go. Focus on the things that you have the power to change and let go of the things that are beyond your control. You'll be amazed that when you stop trying to control everything it all somehow works out.
5. Meditate. Research indicates that meditation reduces stress, boosts positive energy and promotes health, vitality and longevity. When you are faced with the urge to complain or you are feeling stressed to the max, stop, be still and recharge.

April 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| 8:00AM Worship 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation 10:30AM Worship | Elder of the Month— Jim Redd Mission-A-Month— Foods Resource Bank | | 1 6:15AM Men's Breakfast 8:00AM Girl Scouts Lock-In in Parish Hall | 2 Maundy Thursday 9:00AM Mending at Fairlawn 6:30PM Seder Meal 8:00PM Ch. Choir Reh. | 3 Good Friday 7AM-9PM Reflection In Chapel 7:00PM The Passion of Our Lord | 4 |
| 5 Easter Sunday 7:00AM Sunrise Service 8:00AM Easter Breakfast 8:45AM Easter Egg Hunt 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation 10:30AM Worship | 6 11:15AM Staff Meeting 7:00PM Sister Chicks | 7 9:15AM Bible Study 3:15PM SYF Explore 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Capital Camp. Committee | 8 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 8:30AM Preschool Grandparents Day 9:00AM W. Haven Bible St. 5:50PM LOGOS 6:30PM JYF 6:45PM Junior Choir 7:00PM Life Pl. / SYF Remix 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh. | 9 8:30AM Preschool Grandparents Day 9:00AM Mending at Fairlawn 6:00PM Scouts District Meeting 7:00PM Mission Comm. | 10 | 11 |
| 12 10:30AM Junior Choir Sings 11:45AM Cap Campaign Kick Off / Meal 6:00PM Seekers | 13 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Couples Small Group | 14 9:15AM Bible Study 3:15PM SYF Explore 5:00PM Community Meal 6:00PM Cub Scouts Den Meetings 7:00PM Property Comm. | 15 6:15AM Men's Breakfast 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS 6:30PM JYF 6:45PM Bells & Chimes 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh. | 16 9:00AM Mending at Fairlawn | 17 | 18 9AM Set up in Parish Hall 11:30AM Ryan Smith / Chelsi Keegan Wedding 1PM Reception In Parish Hall |
| 19 10:50AM Junior Church 6:30PM Hymn Sing at Fairlawn | 20 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory | 21 9:15AM Bible Study 3:15PM SYF Explore 4:30PM CE Team 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Cub Scouts Comm. 7:00PM Cub Scouts Pack | 22 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible St. 5:50PM LOGOS 6:30PM JYF 6:45PM Bells & Chimes 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh. | 23 9:00AM Mending at Fairlawn | 24 | 25 |
| 26 6:00PM Seekers | 27 11:15AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Lynne Christman Piano Recital Reh. 6:30PM Couples Small Group | 28 9:15AM Bible Study 3:15PM SYF Explore 3:30PM Lynne Christman Piano Recital Reh. 5:00PM Community Meal | 29 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 3:30PM L Christman PR Reh. 5:50PM LOGOS 6:30PM JYF 6:45PM Bells & Chimes 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh. | 30 9:00AM Mending at Fairlawn 4:00PM Lynne Christman Piano Recital Reh. | | |

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2 Kelby Beck | 18 Dale VonDeylen |
| 3 Eric Buckenmeyer, Dencel Miller | 19 Marvin Fish, Dale Flint, Vern Nemire |
| 4 Eileen Meller | 20 Travis Westfall |
| 6 Bryce Beltz, Tim Smith | 21 Kendal Pursel, Kylie Lantz |
| 7 Norma Fish, Ashley Rosenberger, Cameron Ruffer | 22 Bill & Kathy Bostelman, Thelma Bartley, Susanne Spiess, Hailey Wooley |
| 8 Jude Rutledge, Sonny & Shirley Wyse | 23 Crystal Beck, Mark & Jodi Beltz |
| 10 Lynda Herman, Tom & Peg Hines, Charlie Nofziger | 24 Kenley Lantz, Jessica Lindsay, Karla Pursel |
| 11 Mike Overmier | 26 Renee Liechty |
| 13 James Grime | 27 Matt & Kim Hines |
| 15 Sara Just, Keith Kern | 28 Bill Metz, Dale Grime, Vond Hall |
| 16 Kreighton Sims | 29 Kim Hines |
| 17 Dean Sauder | |

☼ Please let us know if we do not have your special day correct. Thank you.

College / Grad School / Military Prayer Calendar

Administrative Assistant - office@stjohnsarchbold.org
Director of Music Ministry - daschmitkey@yahoo.com

Pastor - pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org
Associate Pastor - pastoradam@stjohnsarchbold.org

| Day of Month | Name | Address | | City | St | Zip | School |
|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|----|------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Bechstein, Tyler | Fulton St. East | Apt. 393 | Grand Rapids | MI | 49503 | Grand Valley State Univ |
| 2 | Buckenmeyer, Alicia | 1018 St. Clair Ave. | | Charlottesville | VA | 22901 | University of Virginia |
| 3 | Buckenmeyer, Eric | 15 S. Shafer St. | Unit #1404 | Athens | OH | 45701 | Ohio University |
| 4 | Christman, Amy | Malone University Box #975 | 2600 Cleveland Ave NW | Canton | OH | 44709 | Malone University |
| 5 | Fryman, Mari | 400 Ditto St. | | Archbold | OH | 43502 | NWSCC |
| 6 | Garza, Grace | 26519 County Rd EF | | Archbold | OH | 43502 | NWSCC |
| 7 | Lehman, Jenny | Wittenberg Univ Box 3541 | 734 Woodlawn Ave | Springfield | OH | 45501 | Wittenberg University |
| 8 | Lindsay, Jennifer | Ashland University Box 1567 | 401 College Ave | Ashland | OH | 44805 | Ashland University |
| 9 | Mann, Jeremy | 1001 Bethel Circle | Oakwood 204 | Bethel | IN | 46545 | Bethel College |
| 10 | McCandless, Morgan | 91 Wick Oval | Apt. 1308B | Youngstown | OH | 44502 | Youngstown State Univ |
| 11 | Neuenschwander, Trevor | 428 North Main St. | | Ada | OH | 45810 | Ohio Northern Univ |
| 12 | Notziger, Charlie | 1247 E. Siena Dr. | Mailbox #306 | Adrian | MI | 49221 | Siena Heights University |
| 13 | Notziger, Delaney | Fulton House 104 | 1607 Robinson Rd. S.E. | Grand Rapids | MI | 49506 | Acquinas College |
| 14 | Rice, Dinah | 4310 Ravine Center Dr. | Apt. A-6 | Allendale | MI | 49401 | Grand Valley State Univ |
| 15 | Schnitkey, Tyson | Marycrest Hall - Room 490 | P. O. Box 8802 | Dayton | OH | 45401-8802 | University of Dayton |
| 16 | Sears, Heather | 58 E. Daniel St. | Apt. A4 | Champaign | IL | 61820 | University of Illinois |
| 17 | Short, Ashley | 2065 Baker Hall East | 93 W. 12th Ave. | Columbus | OH | 43210 | Ohio State University |
| 18 | Short, Olley | 25515 County Road E | | Archbold | OH | 43502 | Univ of NW Ohio |
| 19 | Smith, Kinsey | 46 E. Green Dr. | 279 Jefferson Hall | Athens | OH | 45701 | Ohio University |
| 20 | Sonnenberg, Ellie | CPO 1359 | P. O. Box 10060 | Chicago | IL | 60610 | Moody Bible Institute |
| 21 | Walker, Collin | | | Toledo | OH | | Univ of Toledo |
| 22 | Walker, Michael | 700 College Ave. | | Goshen | IN | 46526 | Goshen College |
| 23 | Walters, Mondesi | 1001 Bethel Circle | Shupe 106 | Bethel | IN | 46545 | Bethel College |
| 24 | Winzeler, Bryce | 4850 A Hollingbourne Dr. | | Columbus | OH | 43214 | Law School |
| 25 | Zamudio, Mireya | 202 Park St. | | Archbold | OH | 43502 | NWSCC |
| 26 | Ducey, Kyle | 10175 Park Meadows Dr. | #5-326 | Lone Tree | CO | 80124 | Navy |
| 27 | Capt. Jared Kuntz & Maria | 3857B Moss Circle | | Fort Sill | OK | 73503 | Army |
| 28 | Mr & Mrs Dennis LaPorte | 107 Nebraska St. | | Travis AFB | CA | 94535 | Air Force |
| 29 | Lesniak, Jacob LCpl | 5901 Aztec Avenue | Apt. 159 | Twentynine Palms | CA | 92277 | Marines |
| 29 | Martinez, Braden | 610 E. South St. | | Bryan | OH | 43506 | Army Reserves |
| 30 | Mr & Mrs Steven R Schink | 150 Dewey Ave. | | Groton | CT | 06340 | Coast Guard |
| 30 | Zimmerman, Koltin | Fort Lee | | | VA | | Army |

worship

Holy Week Worship:

Palm Sunday, March 29th – Palm Processional at each service

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, 6:30PM – We will celebrate the Passover through a Christian presentation of the traditional Jewish festival – the seder will be served in the parish hall that evening, with communion served following the meal

Good Friday – April 3rd, 7AM to 9PM - Time of Reflection in Chapel of the Cross
7PM - Traditional Service of Tenebrae

Easter Sunday – April 5th - 7AM Sunrise and 10:30AM Easter Worship

consistory & committees

Consistory Highlights – March, 16, 2015:

1. Budget & Stewardship Committee – Tom Hines, committee chairperson, noted that the 2015 Current Fund Expense Budget is on target, though the expense for the new copier needs to be coded from the Current Fund Savings account rather than the Current Expense Budget. The year-to-date Current Fund income and expense balance reports a \$20,000 deficit for the year so far; \$8,000 of which is the copier expense, and several Sunday's in the first two months of the year resulted in low worship attendance due to icy and snowy weather conditions. The consistory approved the motion to name the company of Engler, Garrow & Roth as the church's institutional investment advisor. Tom will oversee the transition from our current investors to the new advisor.
2. Capital Campaign Committee – Jeff Rutledge reported that a challenge gift has been extended to the committee, with the following parameters: Capital Campaign 2015 Challenge Gift – Through December 25, 2015, 33% of every dollar given to the Capital Campaign will be matched by an anonymous donor up to \$150,000, as long as the operating budget for the Church is met. If the gifts to the Capital Campaign Fund total \$450,000, then the anonymous donor will give \$150,000 to the Capital Campaign Fund. The consistory approved the motion to accept recommended changes to the non-designated gift policy (see separate article).
3. Mission Committee – Greg Walker, committee chairperson, reported on the following February/March Disbursements, totaling \$9,435: ABWE – \$1,140, Church World Service – Clean Up Kits – \$1,000, Urgent Mission Outreach – Delaney Nofziger – \$250 (Service Trip to Peru), Altlink (Tom & Megan) – \$500, Aroles \$1000, Mighty in the Land – \$500, Back Bay Mission – \$850, PET – \$250, Cherry Street – \$500, Sparrows Nest – \$500, FISH – \$945, TEAM – \$500, GCM – \$250 for Matt, \$250 for Kyle, World Team – \$1,000
4. Personnel Committee – Jan Lindsay, committee liaison, reported that Linda Heer has agreed to serve a three year term on the committee, and that the committee is reviewing the vacation policy for staff.
5. Preschool Committee – Justin Yoder, chairperson, reported that the committee is researching playground improvements and indoor recreational equipment.
6. Property Committee – Jim Grieser, chairperson, reported more money is needed to fill cracks, seal and stripe the parking lot. \$2500 was budgeted, \$3210 more is needed. Consistory approved the recommendation. The tuck pointing, cleaning and waterproofing estimate of the exterior of the building from Grunwell Cashero was \$47,300. Two other bids were received that were much higher than this bid. Consistory approved a recommendation to call a congregational meeting for action upon this proposed project, with funding coming from the Legacy Fund. Jim also reported that work on the drawings and licensing for construction of the storage shed continues.
7. Spiritual Council – Pastor Erich Christman reported that the council had good discussions about a review of the membership roll and a beginning assessment of the spiritual depth and ministries of the congregation.
8. Pastor Erich reminded everyone of the upcoming Evangelical Association Spring Meeting being held on May 9th at Cross Community Church in Berne, IN. We are awaiting registration and workshop information.
9. The consistory gave permission to a neighbor bordering the farm property to cut down some dead trees in the woods bordering their property.
10. The consistory offered a “no action” response regarding a question from a potential buyer of a nearby property.

Undesignated Gift Policy – St. John’s Christian Church:

The Consistory recently approved changes to the language of The Legacy Fund, which includes wording about the practical application of designated and undesignated gifts. The updated policy is as follows:

1. If an individual or family desire to make a special or estate gift to St. John’s, we need to make them aware that they may stipulate that the gift may be placed in the Second Mile Fund, the Legacy Fund, the Building Fund or designate its use in some other fashion according to the wishes of the donor.
2. When a gift is received for the Second Mile Fund, it will be disbursed according to the 40-40-20 percentages that are current policy.
3. When a gift is received for the Legacy Fund, 10% - a tithe - will be used for a special or immediate mission project, to be decided upon by the Consistory (perhaps with input from the Mission Committee). The remaining 90% will be invested in the Legacy Fund.
4. When a gift is received for the Building Fund, it will be deposited into the Building Fund.
5. When a gift is received which is not stipulated for any fund or purpose, it will go into the Building Fund until the Capital Campaign Goal is reached.
6. The Consistory, with assistance by the Budget and Stewardship Committee, will oversee the management of the funds of the congregation and will recommend to the congregation any disbursement of its principal and/or interest.

Capital Campaign Financial Accounting:

As the Capital Campaign continues, be aware of:

- o Donations intended for the Building Fund should be designated on the offering envelope, on the check or through direction to the Administrative Assistant as to on-line donations, as “Building Fund” or “Capital Campaign”
- o Donations marked as “Legacy” will be deposited into the Legacy Fund

Capital Campaign Committee:

The committee just mailed the initial campaign mailing to members and friends of the congregation, inviting everyone to attend the Capital Campaign Kick Off Event on Sunday, April 12th beginning at 11:45AM in the Parish Hall. The committee and the Fellowship Committee will be hosting a delicious meal, with former member and congregational president Joe Long speaking after the meal. A program for children will be held in the nursery and chapel following the meal.

Imagine Your Faith “Building”:

As the Capital Campaign gets closer to the April 12th Kick Off Sunday, we want to keep you informed on the progress towards the \$4.5 million goal set by the Congregation. This is a FAITH campaign and we need your prayers.

As of March 23, 2015, the total blessings are \$47,153.40 towards Imagine Your Faith “Building”! Thank you to all who are praying for and supporting the Capital Campaign! If you want more information about the Capital Campaign, please contact John Beck (419-572-1186), Jim Redd (419-445-5309), or Jeff Rutledge (567-341-0048).

small groups

Small Groups Currently Meeting at St. John’s:

2nd & 4th Sunday Evenings - Seekers Small Group

6:00 - 8:00PM - Keith & Kelli Kuntz’s,
733 W. Leggett St., Wauseon

2nd & 4th Monday Evenings - Couples Small Group

6:30 - 8:30PM - Youth Room

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

9:15 - 10:15AM - Fireside Room

Tuesday Afternoons - SYF Explore

3:15 - 4:15PM - Youth Room

1st & 3rd Wed. of Month - Men’s Ministry Breakfast

6:15 - 7:15AM - The Home Restaurant, Archbold

Wednesday Mornings - Mom’s In Prayer

8:30 - 9:30AM - Upstairs SS Classroom

2nd & 4th Wednesday of Month - Bible Study

9:00 - 10:00AM - West Haven, Fairlawn

community news

2015 Community Awards Celebration:

At this annual community banquet, held at St. Caspar’s Church in Wauseon, The United Way of Fulton County and Healthy Choices Caring Communities recognized various organizations and individuals for their involvement in community work. Healthy Choices Caring Communities honored St. John’s Christian Church as the Coalition Champions of the Year for our involvement in planning and hosting parental awareness events in 2014. Attending the banquet and receiving the award on the church’s behalf were Kyle & Jenna Storrer. The plaque is on display in the parlor.

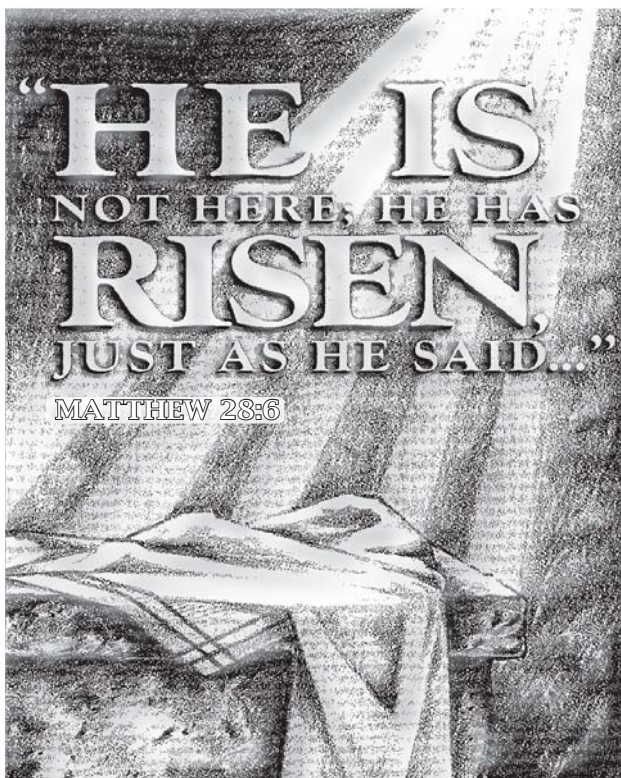
stewardship

Offering Information:

| Sunday | Worship Attend. | Current Fund Actual Offering | Current Fund Weekly Budget | Current Fund Actual/Budget Difference |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3/1/15 | 222 | \$ 5,310.07 | \$ 6,553.29 | \$ (1,243.22) |
| 3/8/15 | 227 | \$ 4,793.00 | \$ 6,553.29 | \$ (1,760.29) |
| 3/15/15 | 288 | \$ 5,496.21 | \$ 6,553.29 | \$ (1,057.08) |
| 3/22/15 | 250 | \$ 6,010.00 | \$ 6,553.29 | \$ (543.29) |
| Avg / Total | 247 | \$ 21,609.28 | \$ 26,213.16 | \$ (4,603.88) |
| As of March 26, 2015 | | Total Income | Total Expenses* | Difference |
| YTD Totals | | \$ 68,053.31 | \$ 82,128.11 | \$ (14,074.80) |

*Total Current Fund Expenses include \$8,133.21 for purchase of new office copier

| Sunday | Benevolent Fund Offering | Benevolent Fund Weekly Budget | Benevolent Fund Actual/Budget |
|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3/1/15 | \$ 2,839.98 | \$ 2,990.39 | \$ (150.41) |
| 3/8/15 | \$ 2,164.93 | \$ 2,990.39 | \$ (825.46) |
| 3/15/15 | \$ 2,363.54 | \$ 2,990.39 | \$ (626.85) |
| 3/22/15 | \$ 1,692.00 | \$ 2,990.39 | \$ (1,298.39) |
| Total | \$ 9,060.45 | \$ 11,961.56 | \$ (2,901.11) |



St. John's Christian Church Leadership:

- Congregation President.....Jeff Rutledge
- Congregation Vice-President Jim Redd
- Congregation Secretary.....Betsy Redd
- EldersAnn Grime, Kim Hines, Jan Lindsay,
Paige Miller, Jim Redd, Ed Ruffer
- Deacons/Deaconesses Amy Baden,
Jim Grieser, Tom Hines, Nate Meyer,
Brad Roth, David Stuckey, Greg Walker,
Bruce Wooley, Justin Yoder
- Church Treasurer..... Roger Miller
- Custodians.....Dean Buckenmeyer, Nick Rice
- Security Person Richard Spiess
- Christian Preschool Staff Sue MacDonald,
Joan Burkholder
- Administrative Assistant..... Sue Grieser
- Director of Music MinistryDeb Schnitkey
- Director of Christian Education..... Jenna Storrer
- Associate Pastor..... Rev. Adam Just
- Pastor.....Rev. Erich Christman

April Daily Scriptures

(From "Discovery" Daily Devotional)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Torn In Two ----- | Matthew 27:11-26 | 16 Trusting a Holy God ----- | Numbers 20:1-13 |
| 2 "He Trusts In God" ----- | Matthew 27:27-44 | 17 Brothers at War ----- | Numbers 20:14-29 |
| 3 Love's Extremity ----- | Matthew 27:45-56 | 18 High and Lifted Up ----- | Numbers 21:1-9 |
| 4 Public Service ----- | Matthew 27:57-66 | 19 Lifting Up the Lowly ----- | Psalm 113:1-9 |
| 5 He Is Risen! ----- | Matthew 28:1-20 | 20 Better Than I Deserve ----- | Jeremiah 31:1-22 |
| 6 These Are The Generations ----- | Numbers 3:1-13 | 21 Chosen and Dearly Loved ----- | Jeremiah 31:27-40 |
| 7 "God Will Get Back To You" ----- | Numbers 9:1-14 | 22 A God of His Word ----- | Jeremiah 33:1-26 |
| 8 Follow That Cloud ----- | Numbers 9:15-23 | 23 True Grit ----- | Jeremiah 36:1-32 |
| 9 "If Only We Had . . ." ----- | Numbers 11:1-15 | 24 Cisternitis ----- | Jeremiah 38:1-28 |
| 10 The Spirit and The Struggle ----- | Numbers 11:16-35 | 25 Because You Trust in Me ----- | Jeremiah 39:1-18 |
| 11 Mouth To Mouth ----- | Numbers 12:1-16 | 26 The God of the Exodus ----- | Psalm 114:1-8 |
| 12 Godlike Beings ----- | Psalm 112:1-10 | 27 Come, Lord Jesus ----- | Jeremiah 40:1 - 41:3 |
| 13 Conflicting Pictures ----- | Numbers 13:1-3, 17-33 | 28 My Will Be Done ----- | Jeremiah 41:16 - 42:22 |
| 14 Now Listen Here, God . . . ----- | Numbers 14:1-25 | 29 He Is the Lord ----- | Jeremiah 43:1-13 |
| 15 Second-Guessing God ----- | Numbers 14:26-45 | 30 The Sternness of God ----- | Jeremiah 44:1-30 |

Church Ph. 419-446-2545
 Web Site www.stjohnsarchbold.org
 Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM
 Sunday School 9:15AM

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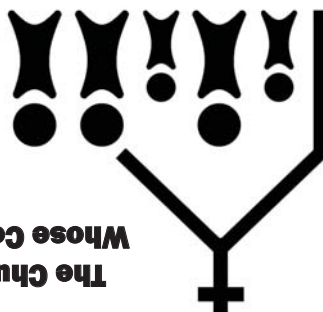
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Music Ministry
 Dean Buckenmeyer
 Cell Ph. 419-551-1105

Custodians
 Nick Rice

Holy Communion:
 New Year (1/4), Ash Wednesday (2/18), Maundy Thursday (4/2),
 Pentecost (5/25), Mid-Summer (7/19), 1st Sunday in October (10/4),
 1st Sunday of Advent (11/29)

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together



**The Church on the Corner
 Whose Cornerstone Is Christ**

St. John's Christian Church
700 S. Defiance Street
Archbold, OH 43502

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