

The Visitor

prayer concerns

Please Pray For:

- Please continue to keep Bea Briggs in your prayers. Bea underwent surgery at the Cleveland Clinic on August 31st to remove squamous cell carcinoma, skin cancer. Surgery was long - approx. 16 hours total - but she is recovering at the Clinic (address: Room G71-08, 9500 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44195). Bea has family in Cleveland helping her navigate through this journey, as well as family and friends tending to things at home. Her mother has moved to Lakes of Monclova Nursing Home.
- Sandy Miller, who had outpatient surgery at Parkview on August 26th, awaiting test results.
- The family of Richard Neill, who passed away peacefully on August 24th at the Defiance Inpatient Hospice Care Center.
- Jessica Lindsay and her family as she left August 29th for a 10-1/2 month leadership service program with Mennonite Mission Network.
- Kelly Ducey and family, as Kelly's mother, Betty Ducey, passed away on August 18th.
- Bud Beck, who continues to recover from having kidney stones.
- Emily Walker, who is recovering from hip surgery.
- Susie Enderle, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander, whose chemo treatments continue.
- Dale VonDeylen, home receiving intravenous treatments for two different infections.
- Bob and Connie Bostelman, as Bob's treatment continues.
- Roger Roth, who is in St. Vincent's Hospital with heart related problems.
- Kreighton Sims, whose father, Greg Sims, who return to Texas the end of June for tests.
- Annie and Joel Foote, as Annie continues with 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:
Jared Kuntz, HHB 2-1, ADA BN,
Unit 15754 Box #409, APO AP 96269

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

September 1, 2015 Volume 61, Number 9

Lesniak, Jacob LCpl (Marines)

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

Martinez, Braden (Army Reserves)

Wife, Brittany & daughters Madison & Claire
404 Murbach St., Archbold, OH 43502 (New!)

Steven Schink (Coast Guard)

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

Koltin Zimmerman (Army)

Fort Campbell, Oak Grove, Kentucky

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 #113

Mary Jo Britt, Fairlawn Haven, Room #206

Valeria Hornish, Room #174A

David Lightner, Room #117

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

Thanks to everyone for all the prayers, thoughts & concerns for our granddaughter, Chloe. During this last year, she was very strong as she faced many days and nights in the hospital, and had many tests, procedures, Proton Therapy, and many rounds of chemo therapy. Her latest CT scan was clear. The many prayers helped her to remain strong and fight this disease.

Roger & Kay Merillat

pastor's letter

Thoughts from Pastor Erich . . .

I have invited the Spiritual Council and the Consistory of St. John's Christian Church to enter into a time of prayer and discernment regarding two challenging issues. It is through prayer and discernment that the church's leadership will prepare to further discuss any ramifications of these issues.

On Friday, June 26, 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states cannot ban same-sex marriage, establishing a new civil right.

On Monday, July 27, 2015, the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America ratified a resolution that removes the national restriction on openly gay adult leaders and employees. Chartered organizations will continue to select their adult leaders and religious chartered organizations may continue to use religious beliefs as criteria for selecting adult leaders, including matters of sexuality.

Historically, as a whole, the faith beliefs of St. John's congregation can be defined as drawing direction from Romans 1:18-32, a passage addressing sexual impurity – here are the final four verses of the passage:

“Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. 29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.”
Romans 1:28-32

People might wonder why a time of prayer and discernment, that these two issues can only be seen in one light – they're wrong, contrary to scriptural teaching – and that our response should be clear, which it is – to respond in the ways of Jesus. In Matthew 9 we read that Jesus ate with sinners, that he came not to call the righteous, but sinners (9:13).

With prayer and discernment we must seek to discover how God wants us to respond to these challenging issues. How do we continue to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in ways that change the hearts of sinners, just like our own hearts have been changed through the grace of Jesus?

Our wedding policy states that in a Christian wedding service a man and a woman are united by God in holy marriage. If a same-gender couple wants to be married at St. John's, we are able to deny their request based on our religious beliefs. Church leaders across the nation are unclear if such refusal is still valid since the latest Supreme Court ruling. Some churches are responding by ending any use of their facilities and ministries to outside groups, seemingly “hiding their light under a bowl” rather than letting it shine for all to see. Such changes are meant to protect the church from litigation.

St. John's spent twenty years in discussion with the denomination over theological differences before withdrawing in 2005. Similar discussions are now occurring regarding our chartering of a Cub Scout pack. The discernment is not about the truth of scripture, but how best to live by and share that truth, realizing scripture teaches us not to condemn or judge, as well as to first consider the “plank in our own eye.” (Matthew 7:3-5)

So please join us in prayer and discernment. Ask questions of your pastors and Consistory members, share with them your thoughts. Together, let us seek God's will for us as a congregation as we continue to be “The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ.”

With much thought and prayer, *ERICH*

preschool corner

Preschool Corner- It's hard to believe another school year is upon us. Sue MacDonald and Joan Burkholder are so excited to get started and to meet another group of children and parents, as well as welcoming back our re-enrollees from last year! Everyone always grows and changes so much over the summer. Please keep the preschool in your prayers. Fifty-seven children will be attending our preschool to learn about how much Jesus loves them and to prepare for the many years of education ahead. We are so blessed to be able to share with so many children! Preschool will be starting on Monday, September 14, so once again the hallways will be filled with laughter, learning, (and a few tears!).

congregational thank you's

Thank you for all the prayers and cards. We are very appreciative of you recognizing our well being and birthdays. It was nice for Pastor Erich and Pastor Adam to visit us in the hospital and rehab center. Also a big thank you to everyone who visited and helped us in any way.

Thanks again, Don & Audrey Smith



Dear Church Family,

I am very grateful for all the prayers and support you have given to me in preparation for this service adventure. I am so thankful for a loving, close-knit church family that has brought me to this point over these past nineteen years. I will keep you updated through the year and look forward to hearing from you. My e-mail is jess_4246@hotmail.com and my address will be 3135 Franklin Ave. SE, Albany, Oregon 97322.

With love and appreciation,
Jessica Lindsay



St. John's Christian Church,

Thank you for the planter you sent for our mom/grandma. We appreciate all the prayers, cards and words of encouragement during this time.

Thanks to Erich and Adam (and families) for coming to calling hours. We belong to an amazing, caring church family.

Kelly & Betsy, Nick, Kyle & Morgan Ducey



We would like to say thank you to everyone for their cards, visits, and prayers during and after Emily's surgery. A big thank you to the ladies for the making of Emily's prayer shawl. Also, thank you to Erich and Adam for stopping by and praying for Emily before we left for the hospital. We are very blessed with a great church family.

Steve, Kim, Adam and Emily Walker



Scholarship Committee & St. John's Family,

I just wanted to thank you for the generous scholarship you have provided me with for my future. I would also like to thank you for the pocket-size bible. I can't forget to mention the constant support, Welcoming Spirit, encouragement, and love I have received from this church. I can't imagine growing up anywhere else. You all have provided me with the best faith base I could ask for to take on the world. I appreciate everything. Thank you all.

Love, Bailey Grieser

congregational news

Resignation of Jenna Storrer as the Director of Christian Education:

The Personnel Committee shares that Jenna Storrer has resigned from the position of Director of Christian Education, which was effective on August 16th. We appreciate all the efforts and activities of ministry Jenna has shared over the past four years. The Consistory, Personnel Committee and pastoral staff will be having



discussions in the coming weeks regarding the Director of Christian Education position. Jenna continues to be active in serving as one of our worship leaders, and she and Kyle will continue serving as SYF leaders. For now, the pastors are once again coordinating our Christian Education ministries, and are thankful for the many volunteers who serve in leadership and teaching roles.

mission corner

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Altlink (Tom & Megan), for our gift of \$85.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$135.
- Cherry Street Mission Ministries, for our gift of \$230.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$910.
- GCM (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$150.
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission, for our gift of \$550.



Blessing! Blessing! Blessing! Blessings . . . that's what St. John's is to us. Thank you for your prayers and financial gift!

Nancy Rupp, Treasurer
Shepherd Circle



St. John's Mission Committee,

We enjoyed the opportunity to meet with you and share about our ministry. We are so grateful for your willingness to partner with our ministry with a gift of \$600. Thank you for being a part of furthering God's kingdom at Ohio State.

In Christ,
Matt & Paige Waanders

mission corner cont.

September Mission-A-Month - Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission:



September's Mission of the Month is the Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission (TGRM). TGRM men's shelter and Rebekah's Haven women's shelter provide for the spiritual, physical and material needs for homeless persons in the Toledo area. We support them prayerfully, financially and with material donations, as well as by preparing and sharing meals and chapel services with their guests.

They ask for continued prayer for the residents in the men's and women's shelters, that they would seek and find relationship with God and begin to put their lives here on earth back together and be productive citizens again.

Usually by the end of the summer the shelves at TGRM are looking rather bare. Please place donated non-perishable food items in the white mission box outside the chapel area. You may also give monetary donations by marking TGRM on your offering envelopes. Thank you for your support in caring for God's people!

Back Bay Mission Trip – October 10-17:

If our records are correct, this week in October will mark the 31st trip to Biloxi since 2000 – it's quite the committed and passionate partnership St. John's has with Back Bay Mission. The sign-up sheet is posted, waiting for further volunteers to jump into this week of faith, fellowship and fun (that's what work is called on these trips!). Back Bay Mission provides the staff and projects for the week, and we provide the volunteers and the funding – \$75 for 5 nights of lodging and \$50 for work project supplies. In addition to the \$125 we give to Back Bay Mission, there is an additional \$75 per person to cover the cost of bus transportation and lodging to and from Biloxi, and the meals for the week.

A week away from daily routine provides unique opportunities for faith and fellowship, spending significant time with a group of disciples eager to serve the Lord. Pastor Erich invites people to be praying about this opportunity!

Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County Ohio:

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen complications with acquiring the property, the fall time line to construct a Habitat home in Swanton has been pushed back to next spring.

2015 Mission Events:

- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission – Chapel and Meal - Sunday, September 13
- Cherry Street Ministry Fall Banquet – September 24
- Back Bay Mission Trip – October 10 thru 17
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission – Chapel and Meal - Sunday, November 15
- Christmas Cheer Hospitality – December 9

Missionary Partner Updates:

At its August meeting, the Consistory approved a recommendation from the Mission Committee to support two campus ministries.

Matt & Paige (Stamm) Waanders are serving on the Ohio State University campus with Cru, the name of the U.S. ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ. Serving as interns for the coming year, on a daily basis, Matt & Paige will help college students by being a spiritual resource. This will involve mentorship times with students, planning and leading Bible studies, planning events like retreats and outreaches, and doing whatever else is necessary to help college students grow in their relationship with God. They are both so passionate about helping college students to find true meaning and purpose for their lives during a time of life that can be very difficult and confusing. Paige is a granddaughter of Lenny & Jean Stamm. They will receive \$600 from our mission fund, which will enable them to complete their fundraising, as they have a strong network of supporters.

Whitney Kindell is serving with the h2o church on the Ohio State University Campus. Whitney shares that despite her deeply religious roots, Jesus was just a character in a story and the Bible never connected to her heart. After coming to Ohio State in the fall of 2010, Whitney found herself living a double life; chasing shots on Friday, blacking out on Saturday, and worshipping at h2o on Sunday. Thankfully, Jesus captivated Whitney's heart during her junior year of college when she entered recovery for her battle with an eating disorder. The Lord gave Whitney a passion for reaching out to the men and women of the Greek community at OSU and through h2o church, God graciously gave her the opportunity to serve the sororities and fraternities after she graduated in December 2013. Whitney is a close friend of Morgan Ducey. Whitney will be receiving \$1,000 from our mission fund.

Further support of both the Waanders and Whitney will be considered as the 2016 Mission Fund budget is created.

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 - tmislands@fastmail.net

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

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

(Home for rest and revitalization in June and July)

Teaching @ Bangkok International Christian School

e-mail - mmnofziger@gmail.com

ministry happenings

Christian Education

Wednesday Evening LOGOS Ministry:

Our weekly children's and youth ministry will "Kick Off" the fall semester on September 16th! LOGOS is a ministry for preschool children (ages 4, 5 and K), first through fifth grade children, middle school students and high school students. The Wednesday evening schedule is:

5:50-6PM Children and Youth arrive
Preschool gather in Christian Preschool Room
1st – 5th graders gather in Chapel
Middle School Youth gather in Parlor
High School Youth gather in Youth Room

6:00PM Gathering Activities
6:15PM LOGOS Meal
6:45PM JYF / SYF / Bells, Chimes or Jr. Choir
6:50PM Worship Skills
7:20PM Bible Study
7:50PM Closing
8:00PM Departure

Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF):

Steve Walker, Josh and Kasey Grime, and Mike and Katie Whiteman will be helping lead our JYF ministry this year. JYF will be studying the 10 commandments and will be following the LOGOS calendar for meeting dates, with September 16th being the first JYF gathering. There will be plenty of special events and opportunities for our JYF participants to serve the congregation.

Steve, Josh, Kasey, Mike and Katie would be thankful to welcome any other adults who would like the opportunity to serve in the JYF ministry, so please feel free to contact them or one of the pastors if interested. God will bless you through these kids!

Senior Youth Fellowship (SYF) Kick Off:

Welcome to Senior Youth Fellowship! SYF kicked off the year back on August 19th. Our theme this year is "I AM." We'll be looking at having an extraordinary relationship with Jesus this year, who is the I AM. SYF is each Wednesday night at 7PM in the youth room.

Life Planning:

Life Planning is our high school youth mentoring program, where a youth is partnered up with an adult from the church to form a mentoring relationship. Life Planning begins September 9th at 7PM. If you are interested in participating in Life Planning please contact Pastor Adam, Kim Hines or Karen Walker.

Events / Activities

Young Adults – Harambee:

Harambee is a new young adult group (18-25 age range) that will meet together beginning towards the end of September. We desire this group to be a place for authentic, transparent and encouraging relationships with each other and with God. Please connect with Pastor Adam if this sounds interesting to you. *Harambee is a Swahili word for "let's pull together."

Men's Fraternity – The 33 Series:

Hey Men! We are going to begin a new 6-week series called "A Man and His Design." This first series covers some of the topics as presented in Men's Fraternity but with new material and format. The series will begin on Wednesday, September 23rd from 6-7:30AM and will have a \$15 cost for the training guide. You can discover more about this at www.authenticmanhood.com or talk with Pastor Adam.

ministry happenings

cont.

Sunday School Opportunity for Adults:

A new opportunity for adults on Sunday mornings will be launched on September 13th during the 9:15 AM educational hour. This "Adult Faith & Fellowship" program will be held in the parish hall and will consist of a varied schedule of four to six week courses and guest speakers. People may come early and enjoy conversational fellowship and refreshments. September and October's schedule looks like this:

- 9/13 The Film Learning Experience "God Provides" led by Jeff Rutledge
- 9/20 The Film Learning Experience "God Provides" led by Jeff Rutledge
- 9/27 The Film Learning Experience "God Provides" led by Jeff Rutledge
- 10/4 The Film Learning Experience "God Provides" led by Jeff Rutledge
- 10/11 The Film Learning Experience "God Provides" led by Jeff Rutledge
- 10/18 Nanette Buehrer sharing about Fairlawn Retirement Community
- 10/25 Cecily Rohrs sharing about Christmas Cheer and Shepherd Circle

"God Provides" offers a rich, dramatic journey through five theater-quality epic short films, followed by discussion through the use of an accompanying companion guide. Throughout history, people have wrestled with the concept of trusting God to meet their needs versus relying on their own efforts, other people, money, or other things society has to offer. Through stirring accounts and parables found in the Bible, God reveals how He wants to be our Provider above anything else.

Come and enjoy this dramatic learning experience and celebrate that God is your provider!

Church Pictorial Directory:

We are continuing to put together an updated church pictorial directory using the online company Instant Church Directory. Instant Church Directory allows members to access our pictorial directory through an online website, an app using a tablet or smartphone, or a printed booklet similar to what we printed in 2010. The use of an online resource will allow for our pictorial directory to remain up to date with the current and correct information that we have on file in the church office. Each church family member will get to choose and submit their own family or individual picture. Please e-mail the church office

with a picture or drop off a picture to be scanned. For those who would like a new picture to be taken, each Sunday in September we will have a picture station set up by the chapel after each service to take new pictures for the directory. Contact Pastor Adam if you have any questions.

Here are some other important details:

1. The church directory is using the name, address and phone number information that is printed in our year book. If any information needs updated please e-mail office@stjohnsarchbold.org.
2. Each family or individual is asked to submit a photograph. All photos need to be approved by the church office. Once a photograph is approved, it will then be added to the online directory. Submit a photo to office@stjohnsarchbold.org.
3. If you would like to receive a printed booklet once the directory is completed, please sign up on the bulletin board.
4. To download the mobile app visit: <http://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/app/>. When you open the application you will be asked to enter your e-mail address to receive a security code. Your current e-mail address must be submitted to the office for you to receive the security code and have access granted.
5. Let the office know if you prefer not to participate or have your information available in the pictorial directory.

Fall Festival September 27th:

Mark your calendars for Sept. 27, 2015. The Fellowship committee is planning a fun filled day for everyone of all ages. We will not be having the Gong Show this year so please come out and join us for a fun filled packed day where fellow Christian friends will gather. We will be using our new storage building.

Plans are being made for outdoor worship service at the 10:30 service. Corn Hole, Ladder golf, Volleyball and GaGa ball are a few of the fun games being planned.

There will be kids face painting and an inflatable to enjoy. Bring your family along too because we will be having a family kickball game beginning around 1:30PM. Don't think your too young or too old to come and enjoy the day. Nancy Rupp has something up her sleeve for our more "mature" family members. Now you can't have a gathering without having a few games of BINGO....Right!!! We will wrap up the day around 4:00PM with a hymn sing and closing words.

The Fellowship Committee will be providing a picnic style luncheon for everyone with serving to start

at 11:45AM. So no excuses mark your calendars!!

It's looking to be a very fun and exciting day. If you are an early church attendee please mark your calendars and come back to spend the afternoon with us beginning around 11:45AM.

Hope to see everyone on the 27th!!

Book Bag Bash Follow Up:

St. John's Evangelism Committee would like to thank all who helped by contributing to or working on August 2nd at our 6th annual Book Bag Bash. A total of 115 book bags were handed out, and attendees enjoyed hot dogs, popcorn, and playing on inflatables.

Clothing Swap:

If anyone is cleaning out closets or has leftover children's clothing or coats and would like to donate them to the Fall Clothing Swap, please contact Katie Whiteman (phone 614-706-0062 or e-mail 6nhkids@gmail.com) or the church office. The swap will be held on Saturday, October 24th in the parish hall from 9AM - 4PM!

Senior Center Bible Study:

Beginning September 14th, a Monday morning senior citizen bible study will be held weekly from 10:30AM to 11:00AM. Meeting at the Scout Cabin, Archbold's Senior Center, these half hour studies are led by Pastor Erich, or when he's unavailable, by Pastor Adam or a pastor from an area church. Weekly lessons are based on Discovery Guide devotionals. Following the bible study, seniors are welcome to stay and enjoy a special program and then share in lunch – drop by the Senior Center for more information.

Current For Women (C4W):

Ladies, exciting news about a Current for Women (C4W) event coming to our area this fall. Jill Ludlow, along with her husband, Geoff, started Full Sail Ministries in 1999 - an organization using art in culturally relevant ways to reach the hearts of people of every race, age and socioeconomic background with the Good News! C4W is a Full Sail Ministries women's retreat offered as a time to pause for a moment, listen for God's voice, and receive His touch. C4W will take place at Pettisville Missionary Church on Friday and Saturday, November 6th and 7th (visit www.fullsail.org/current-for-women.php to learn more about this exciting opportunity coming to our area). Hours of this event are as follows:

Fri, Nov. 6th - 6-9PM (refreshments included)

Sat, Nov. 7th - 9AM - 4PM (lunch included)

We will receive a discounted price (\$54/ticket) by ordering tickets as a group, so please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office.

Necessary Conversations – September 13, 5PM or September 14, 10AM:

A special presentation on the importance of conversations between adult children and their aging parents. Gerald and Marlene Kaufman, co-authors of the book, *Necessary Conversations*, draw from nearly 40 years as counselors to offer practical suggestions for dealing with the difficult topics of finances, medical care, driving, and living arrangements. For further information, call 419-445-3075 or check the website – www.fairlawnarchbold.com.

The presentations will be held in the Fairlawn Chapel, 407 E. Lutz Road. The events are sponsored by Fairlawn Retirement Community and Everence Financial.

Mental Health Awareness:

NAMI Four County offers a message of understanding, encouragement, support and hope for individuals and their families who struggle with the symptoms of mental illness.

Diseases of the brain are among the most common illnesses affecting our communities – impacting men and women, young and old without regard to economic or social standing and faith or lack thereof. One of every four adults have symptoms of a diagnosable mental illness and at least one in ten children and adolescents have symptoms as well. However, only about one-third of those with symptoms ever seek the medical help that can be very effective in managing the disorders. For some, they don't understand what's wrong, and for others...they are ashamed to seek help for a mental illness – fearing what others may think.

Two upcoming events offered by NAMI Four County:

- NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program – provides comprehensive information about mental illness, and the support and acceptance that families frequently need even more when they have a loved one with a mental illness.
 - o Classes will start on Mondays, 6 to 8:30PM, at the First Church of God, Wauseon
 - o Call Roger or Sharon Weaver, 419-335-1099 for further information
- Candlelight Vigil for Mental Health – Sunday, October 4, 6PM, at St. John United Church of Christ, Defiance – contact Pastor Erich for further information.

September 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— Ann Grime Mission-A-Month— Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission	1 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 5:30PM Alpha Course 7:00PM Cap. Campaign	2 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir	3 7:00PM Join Cub Scouts 7:00PM Mission Comm.	4 5:00PM Set Up for Sunshine Game Night 6:00PM Sunshine Comm. Game Night	5
6	7 LABOR DAY Church Office Closed	8 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Evangelism Committee 7:00PM Property Comm. 8:30PM Praise Band Reh.	9 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 9:00AM West Haven Bible Study 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir	10	11	12
13 Christian Ed Sunday 3:00PM Leave for TGRM Chapel & Meal	14 11:00AM Staff Meeting	15 9:15AM Bible Study 4:30PM CE Team 5:00PM Community Meal	16 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM JYF 6:45PM Jr. Choir Reh. 7:00PM Life Planning 7:00PM SYF Remix 7:30PM Chancel Choir	17 6PM Scouts District Mtg	18	19
20 Blanket Sunday 10:50AM Junior Church	21 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:00PM Sister Chicks INC 7:30PM Consistory	22 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 8:30PM Praise Band Reh.	23 6:00AM Men's Fraternity 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 9:00AM West Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM JYF 6:45PM Jr. Choir Reh. 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir	24 3:00PM Set Up for Cherry St. Mission Banquet 6:30PM Cherry Street Mission Banquet	25	26
27 Fall Festival 11:30AM Fall Festival Meal	28 11:00AM Staff Meeting 7:00PM Sister Chicks INC	29 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	30 6:00AM Men's Fraternity 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM JYF 6:45PM Jr. Choir Reh. 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir			

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Adam & Sara Just | 16 Phil Buehrer, Willie Buehrer, Ruhama Just, Angie Neuenschwander |
| 2 Krayton Kern | 17 David Lightner, Ashley Short |
| 3 Jon & Lorinda Brader, Steve Knipp, Brent & Elaine Winzeler | 18 Larry & Kathy Bechstein, Kade Kern, Sue Ruffer |
| 5 Colin Lehman, Karsen Pursel, Kelsey Wyse | 20 Deb Beaverson, Kelly Ducey, Rayne Kinsman, Dencel & Phyllis Miller, Ethan Warncke |
| 6 Bob DeVries, Brianna Jenkins | 21 Kim Kern, Sadonna Spiess, Melva Woolace |
| 7 Scott Short | 22 Kathy Bostelman, Rachel Grieser |
| 8 Gloria Lauber, Darlene Sauder, Toby Walker | 23 Sara Greek |
| 9 Judy Barnhart, Barb Stover | 24 Jacob Layton |
| 10 Avery Roth, Evynn Roth, Tim & Dawn Smith | 25 Lorinda Brader, Kelli Kuntz, Tara Meyer, Keith Wyse |
| 11 Kenny & Shirley Nafziger, Wayne & Susie Spiess | 26 Roger Merillat, Esther Rupp |
| 12 Bill Barnhart, Jr. & Arlene Grime, Jay & Karla Pursel, Bernice Rice | 27 Alicia Jackson, Roxanne Heer, Jordyn Pursel, Brad & Aimee Roth, Steve & Ashley Schink |
| 13 Gretchen Heer, Shirley Nafziger, Audrey Smith | 28 Mike Whiteman |
| 14 Bill Bostelman, Josie Grieser, Linda Hayes, Roger Miller, Isaac Rosenberger | 30 Rodney & Joyce Kinsman, Rebecca Smith, Richard & Cathy Spiess, Curt & Kay Stamm |
| 15 Eric & Sarah Nafziger, Ed & Dianne Wyrick | |

small groups

Seekers Small Group:

This friendly group of disciples will gather on Sunday, September 20th, 6:00PM, for their first gathering of the new program year. While enjoying the 50's, 60's and 70's of life, group members enjoy faithful fellowship, prayer and study of God's Word. The Seeker's usually meet in the home of Keith and Kelli Kuntz, 733 W. Leggett Street in Wauseon. The 20th will feature a potluck meal, with the grilled meat and beverages being provided by the hosts! The Seekers welcome any and all to come and enjoy the joys of Christian fellowship.

Sister Chicks INC Small Group:

After much thought, the study for Sister Chick's this fall will be Liz Curtis Higg's "The Girl's Still Got It." Take a walk with Ruth and the God who rocked her world....now I am reading some of your minds...."Nancy, we did a "Ruth" study about 3 or 4 years ago"...and you are one sharp cookie...we did indeed! Liz, however, approaches the story of Ruth and Naomi a bit differently. Liz gives us a narrated, thought-provoking tour of the entire saga, making the reader feel as if she is right there in the story, walking beside (or maybe behind) Ruth and Naomi. In Liz's conversational yet hilarious style, incredible truths are revealed as you see the amazing plan of a Sovereign God unfold, and you realize that there's a little bit of Ruth in all of us. The "It" in "The Girl's Still Got It" refers to value, significance, and worth - which God reaffirmed in Ruth's life. No matter where you've come from or what you've done, God still loves you, and He has a plan for your life. You will feel a longing for a kinsman redeemer as you read of Boaz, Ruth's redeemer. Tenderness, mercy, kindness, self-confident, protective, all the things we long for are all wrapped up in Boaz and in our ultimate Kinsman Redeemer, Jesus. ALL women are invited to participate. Chicks meet each Monday evening (7:00PM to 9:00PM), starting September 21, and we will finish the study on or before December 7th, beginning a new study after the holidays. Join us as we travel through age-old avenues of scripture, prayer and girly fellowship, revisiting a story we have heard multiple times. We always welcome new faces! Please let Nancy Rupp know by September 9th so books can be ordered. Call 419-682-1102 or Nrupp47@yahoo.com.

"If any of you would like to join the group, but would rather not drive at night, A CHICK WILL PICK YOU UP AND TAKE YOU HOME...no problem!"

worship

September Worship Information:

During the month of September, our worship will focus on sharing the gospel, living out the great commission of Jesus to "...make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:20).

- Sept 6th Sermon – "In The Same Boat"
Scriptures – Romans 7:15-25
Special Music – Joel & Annie Foote
- Sept 13th Sermon – "Human Trickery"
Scriptures – Eph. 4:25-28, Colossians 2:6-8
Special Music – Men's Ensemble singing "Beautiful Savior"
Blessing of our LOGOS Ministry
- Sept 20th Sermon – "The Beginning of a Good Work"
Scriptures – Ephesians 2:1-10
Chancel Choir – "God Will Be Exalted"
- Sept 27th Fall Festival Celebration Sunday
8:00AM Worship in the Sanctuary
9:15AM Sunday School
10:30AM Outdoor Worship in our East Lot
Sermon – "Let All Creation Sing"
Scriptures – Ps. 93, Ps. 96, Matt. 6:25-34
Hymn Sing, Praise Songs, Special Music
Blessing of Faithfulness
11:45AM Picnic Lunch followed by
Family Activities

consistory & committees

Property Committee:

The project to tuck point, clean and seal the exterior stonework of the church should begin by the end of September.

The concrete floor of the new storage building was poured on Friday, August 28th, in addition to some concrete repairs in the parking lot. The remaining metal siding was being held off until the concrete was poured, so that will soon be finished, then a rear egress door must be installed, the electrical work must be completed, and final grading and grass seeding will then be completed.

College / Grad School / Military Prayer Calendar

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

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

Day of Month	Name	Address		City	St	Zip	School
1	Bechstein, Tyler	1008 Bridge St. NW	Apt. 1	Grand Rapids	MI	49504	Grand Valley State Univ
2	Buckenmeyer, Alicia	948 Huntwood Lane		Charlottesville	VA	22901	University of Virginia
3	Buckenmeyer, Eric	15 S. Shafer St.	Unit #1404	Athens	OH	45701	Ohio University
4	Fryman, Maril	3045 Residence Dr	Room 5303C	Toledo	OH	43606	University of Toledo
5	Garza, Grace	26619 County Rd EF		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
6	Grieser, Bailey	4157 Baker West	129 W. 12th Ave.	Columbus	OH	43210	Ohio State University
7	Kern, Hannah						
8	Lehman, Jenny	1019 N. Fountain		Springfield	OH	45504	Wittenberg University
9	Lindsay, Jessica	3135 Franklin Ave. SE		Albany	OR	97322	Network
10	Mann, Jeremy	1001 Bethel Circle	Oakwood 113	Bethel	IN	46545	Bethel College
11	McCandless, Morgan	91 Wick Oval	Apt. 1308B	Youngstown	OH	44502	Youngstown State Univ
12	Notziger, Delaney	1712 N. Greenfield Circle	Apt. 101	Grand Rapids	MI	49506	Acquinas College
13	Notziger, Dustin	1592 Co Rd 16		Wauseon	OH	43567	NW State Comm College
14	Pursel, Jordyn						
15	Rice, Dinah	10328 42nd Ave #11		Allendale	MI	49401	Grand Valley State Univ
16	Schnitkey, Tyson	Room 3E Campus South	311 Irving Ave	Dayton	OH	45409	University of Dayton
17	Short, Ashley	44 Frambes Ave	Apt. D	Columbus	OH	43201	Ohio State University
18	Short, Casen	803 W Holland St		Archbold	OH	43502	NW State Comm College
19	Short, Meridith	4594 Friley-Palmer		Ames	IA	50012	Iowa State University
20	Smith, Kinsey	652 N. Interprise St.	Apt. 129	Bowling Green	OH	43402	BSU
21	Sonnenberg, Ellie						
22	Walker, Cayla	Mailbox #134	701 N. Clinton St	Defiance	OH	43516	Defiance College
23	Walker, Michael	1700 S. Main St.		Goshen	IN	46526	Goshen College
24	Walters, Mondesi	1001 Bethel Circle	Shupe 111	Bethel	IN	46545	Bethel College
25	Warncke, Ethan	Honors Academic Village #4420D	2125 Campus Rd	Toledo	OH	43606	University of Toledo
26	Winzeler, Bryce	4850 A Hollingbourne Dr		Columbus	OH	43214	Capital Law School
27	Wyse, Katie	364 Wray Hall	134 South Green Dr.	Athens	OH	45701	Ohio University
27	Zamudio, Mireya	202 Park St.		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
28	Ducey, Kyle	10175 Park Meadows Dr.	#5-326	Lone Tree	CO	80124	Navy
28	Jared Kuntz	HHB 2-1, ADA BN	Unit 15754 Box #409	APO	AP	96369	Army
29	RCT Lesniak, Jacob D	5901 Aztec Ave	Apt 159	Twentynine Palms	CA	92277	Marines
29	Martinez, Braden	404 Murbach St		Archbold	OH	43502	Army Reserves
30	Mr & Mrs Steven R Schink	150 Dewey Ave		Groton	CT	6340	Coast Guard
30	Kolfin Zimmerman	Fort Campbell		Oak Grove	KY		Army

stewardship

Offering Information:

Sunday	Worship Attend.	Current Fund Actual Offering	Current Fund Weekly Budget	Current Fund Actual/Budget Difference
8/2/15	261	\$ 4,915.09	\$ 6,553.29	\$ (1,638.20)
8/9/15	212	\$ 5,281.06	\$ 6,553.29	\$ (1,272.23)
8/16/15	266	\$ 4,126.00	\$ 6,553.29	\$ (2,427.29)
8/23/15	243	\$ 7,503.26	\$ 6,553.29	\$ 949.97
8/30/15	232	\$ 4,907.21	\$ 6,553.29	\$ (1,646.08)
Avg / Total	243	\$ 26,732.62	\$ 32,766.45	\$ (6,033.83)
As of August 31, 2015		Total Income	Total Expenses	Difference
YTD Totals		\$ 221,719.81	\$ 242,497.94	\$ (20,778.13)

Sunday	Benevolent Fund Offering	Benevolent Fund Weekly Budget	Benevolent Fund Actual/Budget
8/2/15	\$ 1,976.00	\$ 2,990.39	\$ (1,014.39)
8/9/15	\$ 2,723.00	\$ 2,990.39	\$ (267.39)
8/16/15	\$ 1,357.00	\$ 2,990.39	\$ (1,633.39)
8/23/15	\$ 1,584.00	\$ 2,990.39	\$ (1,406.39)
8/30/15	\$ 1,815.00	\$ 2,990.39	\$ (1,175.39)
Total	\$ 9,455.00	\$ 14,951.95	\$ (5,496.95)

Stewardship of God's Resources:

Giving to St. John's Christian Church

1. Donations intended for the Building Fund should be designated on the offering envelope or check or through direction to the Administrative Assistant as to on-line donations, as "Building Fund" or "Capital Campaign."
2. People giving special or estate gifts to St. John's may stipulate that the gift be placed in the Building Fund, Legacy Fund, Second Mile Fund, or designate its use according to their own wishes.
3. When a gift is received for the Building Fund, it will be deposited into the Building Fund, which is the current Capital Campaign going towards the 2014 Facility Report and Proposal.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.

Imagine Your Faith "Building" Campaign:

- Keeping 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 August 31, 2015, the total blessings are \$148,995.29 towards our Imagine Your Faith "Building" Campaign! (No matching gift amount is included in this total).

September Daily Scriptures

(From "Discovery" Daily Devotional)

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Amazing Love ----- | 2 Samuel 1:17-27 | 16 Life Must Go On ----- | 2 Samuel 19:1-8a |
| 2 Be Patient ----- | 2 Samuel 2:1-7, 3:1 | 17 A Time for Peace ----- | 2 Samuel 19:8b-18a |
| 3 A New King ----- | 2 Samuel 5:1-12 | 18 In Strength or Weakness ----- | 2 Samuel 19:18b-30 |
| 4 Lord of the Dance ----- | 2 Samuel 6:1-23 | 19 Conflicting Claims ----- | 2 Samuel 19:31-43 |
| 5 A Great Covenant----- | 2 Samuel 7:1-17 | 20 All Woven Together ----- | Psalm 128:1-6 |
| 6 Song of Freedom! ----- | Psalm 126:1-6 | 21 Don't Stop Worshiping! ----- | Job 1:1-22 |
| 7 Heartfelt Thanks ----- | 2 Samuel 7:18-29 | 22 Realize It's God's World ----- | Job 2:1-13 |
| 8 A Promise Kept ----- | 2 Samuel 8:15, 9:1-13 | 23 Love: Fear's Antidote ----- | Job 3:1-26 |
| 9 Temptation Indulged ----- | 2 Samuel 11:1-27 | 24 Trust God's Justice ----- | Job 4:1-21 |
| 10 Found Out ----- | 2 Samuel 12:1-25 | 25 Share Your Pain with God ----- | Job 5:1-27 |
| 11 Prince Charming ----- | 2 Samuel 15:1-12 | 26 Treat Others Kindly ----- | Job 6:1-30 |
| 12 The Humbled King ----- | 2 Samuel 15:13-26 | 27 Down but Not Out ----- | Psalm 129:1-8 |
| 13 Empty Hands? ----- | Psalm 127:1-5 | 28 Ask for Help ----- | Job 9:1-35 |
| 14 Organized Chaos ----- | 2 Samuel 18:1-18 | 29 Remember Your Redeemer ----- | Job 19:1-29 |
| 15 Behind the Headlines ----- | 2 Samuel 18:19-33 | 30 Listen Humbly for God ----- | Job 38:1-41 |

Sunday School 9:15AM
 Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM

Church Ph. 419-446-2545
 Web Site www.stjohnsarchbold.org

Nick Rice

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 Dean Buckenmeyer
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Music Ministry
 Deb Schmitkey
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 Cell Ph. 419-583-6356

Dr. of Assistant
 Sue Grieser
office@stjohnsarchbold.org

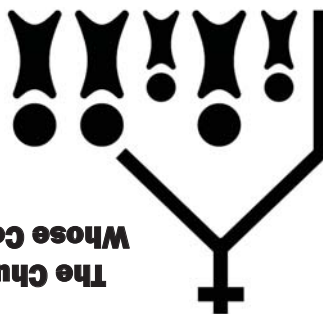
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St. John's Christian Church
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Holy Communion:
 New Year (1/4), Ash Wednesday (2/18), Maundy Thursday (4/2),
 Pentecost (5/25), Mid-Summer (7/19), 1st Sunday in October (10/4),
 1st Sunday of Advent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

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together



The Church on the Corner
Whose Cornerstone is Christ

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 Archbold, OH
 Permit #15