

The Visitor

prayer concerns

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

December 1, 2015 Volume 61, Number 12

Please Pray For:

- Deb Schnitkey, who will be having surgery on December 14th, and will be on medical leave from December 13th through January 3rd. Please pray for Deb as she prepares personally for the surgery, and pray for her as she works ahead on the many aspects of the music ministry here at St. John's.
- Jordyn Pursel, who will be leaving January 12th for Lausanne, Switzerland, where she will be in the YWAM Discipleship Training School for 5 months.
- Stacie Britsch, sister of Sarah Nafziger, is adopting a 16 month old girl from China, whose name is Audrey. Stacie, along with Sarah and Eric, left for China on Nov. 13th to meet Audrey, and brought her home on November 28th.
- Tyson Schnitkey, who had surgery on Nov 20th to repair his labrum, a piece of fibrocartilage attached to the rim of the shoulder socket. As a result, Tyson will miss the spring, summer and fall baseball seasons, as he is a pitcher at the University of Dayton.
- Norma Fish, who is recovering from a broken ankle.
- Bea Briggs, who is now home, and will return to Cleveland every 3 weeks for chemo treatments.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander's cancer continues to shrink, yet the doctor wants to wait until January to do surgery as there is new technology coming that will make it better for Jeremy to heal. Let us pray that it is totally gone by then.
- Bob and Connie Bostelman, as Bob continues three more months of chemo treatments; scans show tumor is 90% gone.
- 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

Martinez, Braden (Army Reserves)

Wife, Brittany & daughters Madison & Claire
404 Murbach St., Archbold, OH 43502

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

Maggie Leupp

Myrl & Pauline Zimmerman, Room #505

Northcrest, 240 Northcrest Dr., Napoleon, 43545

Irene Short, Room #100

congregational thank you's

Dear Members of St. John's Christian Church,

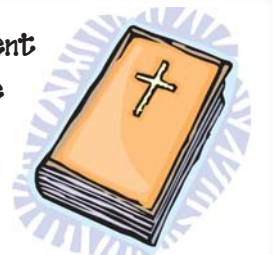
Thank you for letting us use your beautiful facility for our annual piano festival.

Sincerely,

Hyla Sharrock

Music Teachers Assoc. of NW Ohio

Be sure to pick up the current
Discovery Bible Guide in the
literature rack and join our
congregation in reading and
studying God's Word daily.



pastor's letter

Thoughts from Pastor Adam . . .

“Dad! Dad! Dad! Dad! Dad!” At least once or twice a day that parade of words comes from one of my children combined with a tug or pull on my leg or shirt. These requests are something familiar to most of us parents. We all choose different ways of responding but the same desire remains. They want and need our attention. As a father I want to give all my attention to them, but I also have many other roles in life that require my attention. So how do we discern and determine who and / or what gets our attention? Do we decide? Does God? Does someone or something else?

In the month of December many extra things vie for our attention. We have Christmas parties and events. We have family gatherings and vacations. We have shopping, gifts, decorations, and Christmas cookies. It seems like a month that should go slower and more peaceful ends up being life on fast forward. What is to be done?

When we think of the birth of Jesus, we remember that most of the people traveling back to Bethlehem were thinking about the census. Maybe they were thinking about the Romans and why they were pushing them around. But as the majority were giving their attention to the world's king, a quiet husband and wife gave birth to the real King, Jesus. The simple and humble shepherds traveled to give their attention to this King. They didn't miss out.

We all have our attention to give. Where will your attention be given this Christmas season? Jesus desires your attention, but he doesn't force it. It has to be our choice. Maybe this is a time to set a new pattern, a new habit. Sit with Jesus in the stable and quietness of that Bethlehem night. Worship the Christ-child, Immanuel, God with us. May your soul be strengthened and may your walk have more purpose for His Kingdom.

Merry Christmas!

ADAM



Hoping and Praying for a Peaceful Season of Advent, from Pastor Erich . . .

The prophet Zechariah, in speaking of the Messiah, the king who would come, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey, in 9:10 Zechariah prophesied: “He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.”

What a blessed, comforting truth, that the Messiah would come to proclaim peace. During Advent, as Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of the Christ child and await the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, may our prayers for the peace of Christ abound.

I picture the setting of Christmas Eve's candlelight service, with the candles all aglow, and the congregation softly singing “Silent Night” – it's a very peaceful setting. I imagine returning home late on Christmas Eve, as the darkness of night surrounds the house while the Christmas lights offer a soft glow, and our home is warm, quiet and cozy. I visualize Christmas morning, with Lynne, Ryan and Amy, each of us adults now, so there's less hustle and bustle, and a more relaxed, peaceful setting.

Peace. At rest, at ease, physically, emotionally, spiritually feeling good and comfortable. No worries, no fears, no anxieties. Peace.

May our prayers for the peace of Christ abound, for there seems to be so little peace these days. The threat or thought of terrorism, the security measures designed to safeguard travel, the barrage of media reports about violence, brutality and war – all speak to unrest, strife and worry. Retaliation and revenge are so quickly mentioned. Scripture offers different methods for bringing about peace.

- Romans 12:18 – “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”
- Hebrews 12:14 – “Make every effort to live in peace with all people and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.”

As we pray for the peace of Christ to abound, may we each also be working to live at peace, to exude peace, extolling the peace and love of Christ. May the seasons of Advent and Christmas usher in greater levels of peace and calm, in the world around us and in our very own hearts within us.

Peace be with you,

ERICH

preschool corner

The month of November was all about Fall and Thanksgiving! Our Bible verse for the month was “Give thanks to the Lord.” Psalm 136:3. The older children took a nature walk and learned about 3 different types of leaves—birch, maple and hickory. The Tues-Thurs classes chose from those to make leaf people puppets. We also did two different types of leaf resist projects at the easel. With both classes we talked about fall changes. The last week and a half, we learned about the relationships between the Pilgrims and the Native Americans, and how the Pilgrims came to America so they could worship and pray to God. We made a couple different types of turkey art projects, and talked about what we would eat at a feast! The highlight of the month for the older children was riding on our parade float in the Festival of Lights Parade!

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.

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

mission corner

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Altlink (Tom & Megan), for our gift of \$95.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$325.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$75.
- Mighty in the Land Ministry (Robert Rogers) for our gift of \$500.
- Pioneers (Doriots), for our gift of \$100.
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission, for our gift of \$50.

I’m humbly “blown-away” by your church’s gracious gift of \$500 once again to Mighty in the Land Ministry. Thank you, thank you, thank you, St. John’s! God bless you all with the richness of His favor, grace, and peace.

Please know that I am praying regularly and fasting weekly your church family and all your special intentions. We serve a great God – who is well able.

Robert Rogers

St. John’s Friends,

Because of your prayers and financial support, others are discovering that every day is a day to hope for the very best, to believe that prayers are being heard, and to have faith that good news is on its way. May God bless you for your generous hearts!

Nancy Rupp, Treasurer
Shepherd Circle

December Mission-A-Month - Crossroad:

We will be collecting school supplies and personal items for Crossroad of Fort Wayne, a non-profit treatment center for emotionally troubled youth. Crossroad was founded in 1883 as “The Reformed Orphans Home of Fort Wayne, Indiana” by the Reformed Church, was later named Fort Wayne Children’s Home, and is now Crossroad. People are encouraged to bring any of the following items to the church and place them in the white collection box in the narthex area outside the Chapel:

School Supplies – 2-Pocket Folders, Art/Sketch Pads, Art Chalk, Dictionaries, Colored Markers, Scotch Tape, Batteries (AA, AAA, 9V), and blank non-wire Journals.

Personal Supplies – Bath Towels, Wash Cloths, Beach Towels, Lotions, Shower Gel, Perfume and Body Spray, Men’s Cologne, Shampoo and Conditioner, Toothbrushes and Paste, Combs and Hairbrushes, Deodorant, Socks. Tape, Batteries (AA, AAA, 9V), and blank non-wire Journals.

Please note that Kyle Zanker from Crossroad will be in the Chapel on Sunday, December 6th from 9:15-10:15AM sharing about this ministry.



Wishing You A Very Merry Christmas



“For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given,”
Isaiah 9:6

& A Happy New Year!

*Erich, Adam, Sue, Roger, Dean, Nick,
Deb, Sue M., Joan, & Richard*

mission corner cont.

Christmas Cheer Hospitality:

As people gather in the early morning hours of Wednesday, December 9th for their Christmas Cheer shopping at the Jr. Fair Building at the Fulton County fairgrounds, folks from St. John's are there to greet them with a friendly "hello" and a hot beverage! This short time of expressing God's love and care is one way of many to wish people a Merry Christmas. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board, looking for people to sign up for one or more of the two shifts still available – 6:45 to 8:15AM, 8:15 to 10AM (5:00 to 6:45AM shift filled). We are looking for four people per shift – please consider serving in this blessed way.

Back Bay Mission Trip – February 13-20, 2016:

Back Bay Mission requires us to make participant reservations 60 days prior to the trip, so our first deadline is December 14th! If you can make a commitment by then, great, but if you need another month or so to consider, it always works out to have enough space!

The trip participants will meet at 8AM on the 13th to load the bus, spend time in prayer and then depart, picking up participants from First Christian Church, Ashland, KY along the way, then overnight at a motel near Cullman, Alabama.

Important details to know:

- We will arrive in Biloxi early Sunday afternoon, settle into the mission house, enjoy worship, stock up food supplies for the week, enjoy dinner at a coastal restaurant, and have group orientation before going to bed
- Monday through Friday – group members can work on a home renovation project, spend time serving in the Micah Day Center homeless shelter, work in the food pantry, or serve at the local soup kitchen
- The mission house has beds for 40, a lounge area, commercial kitchen and plenty of dining space, with outdoor screened porches
- Cost of the experience is \$200, with \$75 going for lodging at the mission house, \$50 for work camp supplies, and the rest for fuel and food.

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board!

Holiday Home Tour – Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County, Ohio:

Featuring homes and churches in Delta, this year's tour will be held on December 13th from 2:00–6:00PM. Spend time touring various locations in the Delta community and enjoying the Christmas spirit shown through each location's holiday décor and unique

home styles, while supporting the mission of Habitat for Humanity in Fulton County, Ohio. Included in the tour will be complimentary refreshments, a silent auction, 50/50 drawing and door prizes. Presale tickets for the tour are \$10.00 and can be purchased in the SJCC office or at all Farmers and Merchants State Bank branches in Fulton County. Tickets purchased the day of the event will be \$12. Tickets, maps and shoe booties will be available beginning at 1:30PM on the 13th at the Delta Church of Christ, 500 Providence Street, Delta.

Missionary News and Contact Information:

Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP

web site - www.jamkhed.org

Matt & Paige Waanders, CRU

web site - www.give.cru.org

e-mail - matthew.waanders@cru.org

e-mail - paige.stamm@cru.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

Whitney Varnau, Great Commission Ministries

web site - www.h2ochurch.com

e-mail - whitney.varnau@h2osu.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

www.soddo.org

e-mail - juddmc@abwe.cc

e-mail - becmc@abwe.cc

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

Jessica Lindsay - Mennonite Mission Network
10-1/2 Month Leadership Service Program
e-mail - jess_4246@hotmail.com

Mackenzie Nofziger - Bangkok, Thailand
Teaching @ Bangkok International Christian School
e-mail - mmmnofziger@gmail.com

ministry happenings

Christian Education

LOGOS – Our Wednesday Evening Ministry for Children & Youth:



The fall semester will have its final night on December 2nd with the nightly theme of “Everest” (from our summer VBS program). Wednesday evenings at St. John’s are filled with the energy and sounds of, on average, sixty-one four year olds through fifth graders, twenty-four JYF youth, twenty-four SYF youth and over fifty adult leaders! Each evening is comprised of a family time meal, worship skills, bible study, youth fellowship and some play time at the end. What a joy to experience the ministry of the church!

The spring semester of LOGOS will begin on Wednesday, January 13th. For an even richer experience for the children and youth, we continue to seek even more adult leaders for this ministry program – adults to be the second person in our worship skill groups and bible study groups – check out the LOGOS bulletin board outside the chapel!

Junior Church:

Children in kindergarten thru 5th grade are invited to join us for another great Sunday of kids worship in Junior Church on December 20th. We’ll be singing and learning about the birth of Jesus our Messiah.

Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF):

The JYF would like to thank all those who purchased a poinsettia this year. Pick up will be Sat., Nov. 28th beginning at 10AM in the Parish Hall. JYF follows the LOGOS schedule, so their last meeting of 2015 is on Wednesday, December 2nd. Merry Christmas!

Senior Youth Fellowship (SYF):

Our December calendar includes Dec. 2nd – Engage Part 4; Dec. 9th – SYF Remix; Dec. 16th – An SYF Christmas Extravaganza; Dec. 23rd and 30th – No SYF. We share the exciting news that the 2016 SYF mission trip will be to New York City from June 5th-11th. We are partnering with the youth mission trip organization Center of Student Missions (CSM). This is the group we partnered with for our Washington D.C. trip back in 2012.

Senior Youth Fellowship (SYF) Bake Sale:

Cookies, brownies, caramel apples, and all sorts of other goodies! On Sunday December 13th, Senior Youth Fellowship will be having a bake sale after both services. All baked goods will be available for a free-will donation. Thank you for supporting the SYF!

Life Planning:



The next Life Planning meeting will be Wednesday, December 9th at the home of Kenny and Sandi Cowell located at 911 Olds Lane, Archbold. We’ll begin at 6:30PM so please bring a dish to share. All mentors and youth will enjoy this festive night that will include a focus on Jesus – the reason for the season.

Adult Faith & Fellowship – 9:15AM Sundays (In the Parish Hall unless noted otherwise):

December 6th – Crossroad (Fort Wayne) - Kyle Zanker (In the Chapel)

December 13th – Brent Winzeler - Planned Giving

December 20th – Brent Winzeler - Planned Giving

ministry happenings

Events / Activities

cont.

Nursery Care During 10:30 Worship:

Volunteers are needed to help provide nursery care for infants and pre-kindergarten age children during our 10:30 worship. Please contact Amy Baden, our nursery care coordinator, via e-mail if you can assist with this (baden.amy@gmail.com). Thank you!

Birthday Party for Jesus:

Our annual Birthday Party for Jesus will be held in the Parish Hall on Sunday, December 6th during the Sunday School hour. Children preschool age through the 6th grade are invited to attend this fun event, hosted by the Fellowship Committee.

Children's Christmas Program:



Our children's Christmas program, involving our two year olds through our sixth graders, will be part of our 10:30AM service of worship on Sunday, December 13th. Practice for the program will be:

Two & Three Year Olds and Four & Five Year Olds –
During Sunday school on 11/29, 12/6, & 12/13
Kindergarten thru Sixth Grade – Wednesday, 12/9 at
6:30 to 8:00PM, and Sunday, 12/13 at 9:15AM

Trip to Bethlehem Marketplace:

The Evangelism Committee is organizing a trip to Bethlehem Marketplace at Fairview Missionary Church in Angola on Sat., Dec. 5th. This is an indoor walk-through drama of Bethlehem the day after Christ was born and consists of a cast of 200-plus. There is no admission charge. We will depart the church parking lot at 2:00PM. We will have dinner in Angola before heading back to Archbold. Sign-up sheet is posted on the board across from the office; please designate if you would like to ride the church bus.

Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner:

Don't forget to sign up on the bulletin board (or call the church office) for this delicious Christmas Dinner served by our Fellowship Committee on Wednesday, December 9th at 5:30M, with entertainment to follow the meal. A free will offering will be taken at the door.

Men's Fraternity – The 33 Series:

Hey Men! We are going to begin a new 6-week series called "A Man and His Story." This is a continual from the fall session, but can be attended by any man that desires to grow. This second series covers some of the topics as presented in Men's Fraternity but with new material and format. The series will begin on Wednesday, January 13th 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.

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. 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. 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.

Stjohnsarchbold.org:

Our church website has a lot of information and resources available. The website holds information on upcoming events, current and past Visitors and bulletins, and many parts of our worship services including sermons, music selections and testimonies. Sharing the website with neighbors and friends can be a great way of introducing people to St. John's.

December 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— Jan Lindsay Mission-A-Month— Crossroad	1 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Capital Campaign 8:30PM Praise Band Reh.	2 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM JYF 6:45PM Bells & Chimes 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir	3 7:00PM Mission Comm.	4	5 2PM Bethlehem Marketplace Departure
6 Sermon In Music 9:15AM Birthday Party For Jesus 10:30AM Bells & Chimes Play 1:00PM—6:00PM Private Event in Parish Hall 6:00PM Seekers Small Grp.	7 11:15AM Staff Meeting	8 9:15AM Bible Study 1:30PM Bingo - Fairlawn 5:00PM Community Meal 6:00PM SMART Mtg. 6:30PM Cub Scouts Den Meetings 7:00PM Property Comm.	9 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:30PM Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner 6:30PM Children's Christmas Program Practice K thru 6th grade only 6:30PM Life Planning 7:00PM SYF Remix 7:30PM Chancel Choir	10 6:00PM Scouts District Meeting	11 5:00PM Non-Member Wedding Rehearsal	12 3:30PM Non-Member Wedding
13 9:15AM Children's Program Practice 10:30AM Children's Program (during Worship) 6:30PM Hymn Sing at Fairlawn Chapel	14 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Couples Small Group 7:00PM Sister Chicks	15 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 8:30PM Praise Band Reh.	16 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir	17	18	19
20 10:50PM Junior Church 2:00PM Caroling (meet here) 6:00PM Seekers Small Grp.	21 10-11AM Preschool Christmas Party in Parish Hall 11:15AM Staff Meeting 2-3PM Preschool Christmas Party in Parish Hall 6:00PM Consistory	22 9:15AM Bible Study 10-11AM Preschool Christmas Party in Parish Hall 2-3PM Preschool Christmas Party in Parish Hall 5:00PM Community Meal	23 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study	24 Christmas Eve 7:00PM Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Day OFFICE CLOSED 11:00AM Christmas Day Service 12:30PM Caroling at Fairlawn Chapel	26
27 Memorial Sunday	28 11:15AM Staff Meeting	29 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	30	31		

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Casey Nofziger, Katie Whiteman | 15 Alyssa Mann, Crissi Stuckey, Mike & Katie Whiteman |
| 2 Sandi Cowell, Jeff & Stacy Rutledge | 18 Andy & Meridith Redd, Shiela Short |
| 3 Mert Kinsman | 20 Chad & Michelle Short |
| 5 Bob Bostelman, Deb Overmier, Betsy Redd, Joyce Kinsman, Kyle Storrer | 21 Dean & Darlene Sauder, Nici Wyse |
| 6 Dudley & Deb Beaverson, Wendy Beck, Denny Hornish, Kim M. Walker | 22 Dudley Beaverson, Ian Redd |
| 7 Matt Jacoby, Keith Meller, Ed & Deb Overmier | 23 Don & Charlene LaFontaine |
| 8 Colt Knipp, Jim Liechty, JoAnn Short, Aiden Warncke | 25 Guy Jennings, Deb Schnitkey |
| 9 Scott & JoAnn Short | 26 Rodney Kinsman |
| 10 Alexa Martinez, Greg Walker, Elizabeth Whiteman | 27 Klaire Kern, Paul Lovejoy, Joanne Spotts |
| 11 Doug Rupp | 28 Josh & Kasey Grime, Phyllis Miller |
| 12 Paul & Joan Lovejoy | 29 Maggie Enderle, Nicole Buehrer |
| 13 Linda Heer, Tony MacDonald | 30 Dean Beck |
| 14 Kathy Bechstein, Travis & Mindy Gruenhagen, Mike Kinsman, Jean Stamm | 31 Alice Leatherman, Eric & Laura Rini |
- ☼ Please let us know if we do not have your special day correct. Thank you.

College / Grad School / Military Prayer Calendar

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, Marli	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	Mennonite Mission 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	Nofziger, Delaney	1712 N. Greenfield Circle	Apt. 101	Grand Rapids	MI	49505	Acquinas College
13	Nofziger, Dustin	1592 Co Rd 16		Wauseon	OH	43567	NW State Comm College
14	Pursel, Jordyn	YWAM Discipleship School		Lausanne		Switzerland	YWAM Discipleship School
15	Rice, Dinah	10328 42nd Ave	Apt. 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	BGSU
21	Sonnenberg, Ellie						
22	Walker, Cayla	503 Buckeye St.		Archbold	OH	43502	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	414 True House	134 South Green Dr.	Athens	OH	45701	Ohio University
28	Zamudio, Mireya	202 Park St.		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
29	Ducey, Kyle	10175 Park Meadows Dr.	#5-326	Lone Tree	CO	80124	Navy
30	Jared Kuntz	HHB 2-1, ADA BN	Unit 15754 Box #409	APO	AP	96369	Army
30	Martinez, Braden	404 Murbach St		Archbold	OH	43502	Army Reserves
31	Mr & Mrs Steven R Schink	150 Dewey Ave		Groton	CT	6340	Coast Guard
31	Koltin Zimmerman	Fort Campbell		Oak Grove	KY		Army

worship

Advent Services This Year:

In addition to our Sunday morning Advent services, the following activities are on the schedule for this year:

Saturday, December 5th – 2:00PM – Bethlehem Market Place

Sunday, December 13th – 6:30PM – Hymn Sing at Fairlawn's Chapel

Sunday, December 20th – 2:00PM – Caroling Party – traveling to various homes & care centers

Friday, December 25th – 12:30PM – Christmas Day Caroling at Fairlawn

December Worship Information:

- 6th Second Sunday of Advent – The Candle of Peace
8:00 Service – Traditional Advent Service of
Worship in Chapel
10:30 Service – 44th Sermon in Music in Sanctuary
Scriptures – Luke 1:68-69, Luke 3:1-6
Sermon – “A Voice of One” – Pastor Erich
- 13th Third Sunday of Advent – The Candle of Joy
8:00 Service – Traditional Advent Service of
Worship
10:30 Service – Feat. Children’s Christmas Program
Scriptures – Zephaniah 3:14-20, Luke 3:7-18
Sermon – “The Extra Mile” – Pastor Erich
- 20th Fourth Sunday of Advent – The Candle of Love
Scriptures – Micah 5:2-5, Luke 1:39-45
Sermon – “Visiting with Mary & Elizabeth” –
Pastor Erich
Chancel Choir – “Glad Tidings of Great Joy”
- 24th Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 7:00PM
Led by several of our College students
Advent Wreath – The Christ Candle
Scriptures – Isaiah 9:2-7, Luke 2:1-14
Sermon – “The Glory of the Lord” – Pastor Erich
Chancel Choir – “Glory, Glory, Glory”
- 25th Christmas Day – 11:00AM
Scriptures – Psalm 98, Luke 2:8-20, John 1:1-14
Sermon – “Precious Gifts” – Pastor Erich
- 27th Memorial Sunday
Scriptures – Psalm 16:7-11, John 5:16-30
Sermon – “I Tell You the Truth” – Pastor Adam
Special Music

44th Sermon in Music December 6, 2015 at 10:30AM

Our annual celebration of Christmas through the wonderful melodies of vocal and instrumental music! With congregational singing, lighting of the Advent candle of Peace, and expressions of Advent preparations, our worship of God on this special day will ring with joy and blessing.

Pre-Service Music

Ann Fether, Piano
Matt Hines, Andrew Rohrs, Ed Ruffer, Brass Trio

Vocal Selections

Joel & Annie Foote
Ava Genter
Men’s Ensemble
Norm Fether
Lynne Christman, Annie Foote, Sarah Nafziger,
& Deb Schnitkey
Annie Foote, Deb Schnitkey, Mike Meyer,
& Joel Foote
Chancel Choir
Praise Band

Instrumental Selections

Lynne Christman and Deb Schnitkey
Children’s Hand Bell Choir
Children’s Hand Chimes Choir
Emma Nafziger, piano
Ed Ruffer, trombone

consistory/committees

Highlights of November 16th Consistory Meeting:

1. Financial reports were reviewed and approved, noting that the current operating fund budget deficit continues to decrease week by week, though as of November 12, the deficit is at \$11,473.
2. Following current policy, the Consistory acknowledged a gift of stock to the Building Fund and approved cashing out the stock through Engler, Garrow and Roth.
3. Heard reports from the church committees: Capital Campaign, Evangelism, Fellowship, Mission, Preschool and Property.
4. Prepared for the financial audit of the various accounts of the church, to be accomplished by the December Consistory meeting.
5. Approved depositing cash land lease income from the Buehrer Farm into the Imagine Your Faith “Building” Campaign, beginning in 2016. A tithe of the annual cash land lease income will continue to be given to the benevolent fund, and a \$5,000 balance will be maintained in the Buehrer Estate Checking Account to cover annual farm expenses.
6. Gave support to the continued involvement of St. John’s in the Community Meal ministry.
7. Began a discussion to determine the appropriateness of promoting community events and fundraisers in which any form of alcoholic beverage is included in the event publicity and/or served at the event itself. Consistory will continue the discussion at future meetings.

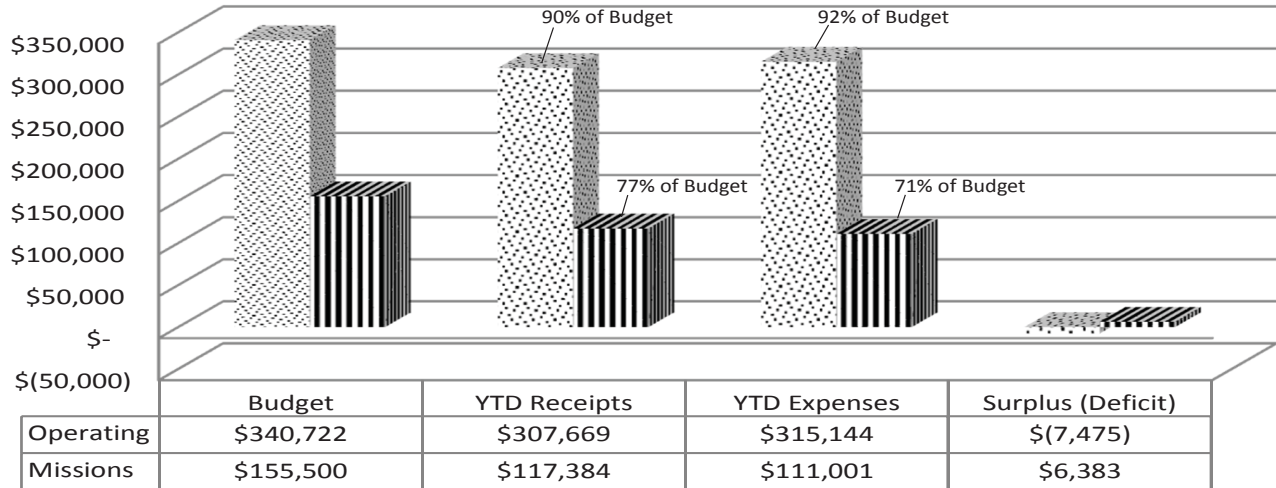
Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, January 17th, 2016:

9:30AM Worship Service
10:00AM Children’s Ministry (Kind. – 5th Grade)

11:15AM Annual Meeting
12:15PM Congregational Meal – Served by SYF

stewardship

2015 Operating & Missions Funds as of November 20, 2015



Action at a congregational meeting on April 13, 2014 saw approval given to enter into a capital campaign to raise \$4.5 million towards an eventual building project, and people began to donate towards this project the following week, even before a Capital Campaign Committee was formed to coordinate the efforts in raising the necessary funds.

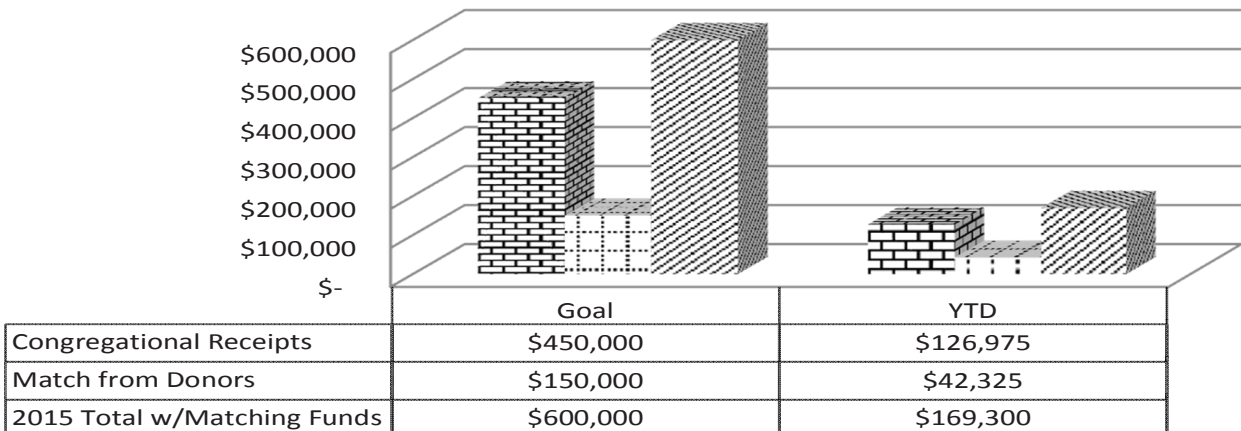
As the Capital Campaign Committee laid the groundwork for a capital campaign and prepared for a Capital Campaign Kick-Off on April 12th, 2015, anonymous donors made a generous offer in January of a matching gift: in 2015, for every dollar donated to the Imagine Your Faith “Building” Campaign through December 25, 2015, the Building Fund will receive 33 cents from the anonymous donors, with the stipulation that giving to the Current Operating Fund must meet or exceed the 2015 Expense Budget of \$340,771

The following graph details: 1) the giving to the capital campaign since April 13, 2014, and giving to the matching gift since January of this year.

May everyone continue to prayerfully consider God’s direction in the support of our current and future ministries.

Only 4 more Sundays to give to the 2015 Matching Gift

Imagine Your Faith Building Campaign 2015 Matching Gift



IFY Building Campaign Total Receipts as of November 16, 2015 - \$179,283.29 (no matching funds included)

St. John's Christian Church - 2015 Missions Budget Report

As of October 31, 2015		2015 Goals	2015 YTD Inc.	2015 YTD Exp.
1	Beg. Bal. Missions / 2nd Mile Funds		\$ 1,060.32	
2	Missions Funds Undesignated		\$ 53,371.30	\$ 2,600.00
3	Farm / Inerest / 2nd Mile Income		\$ 7,634.34	
4	ABWE (Judd & Becky M - Ethiopia)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 400.54	\$ 1,539.14
5	Agape Family Life House (Keith W - China)	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 500.00
6	Altlink (Tom & Megan L - The Islands)	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 2,325.00
7	Aroles - CRHP - Jamkhed, India	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,951.30	\$ 5,826.30
8	Aroles - CRHP - Lenten Coin	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 581.50	\$ 581.50
9	Back Bay Mission - Biloxi	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 2,062.00	\$ 4,412.00
10	Back Bay Mission - Lenten	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 581.50	\$ 581.50
11	Back Bay Mission - Trips	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,140.00	\$ 4,614.46
12	Cherry Street Mission - Toledo	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,125.87	\$ 3,891.37
13	Christmas Cheer - Fulton Cty	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 1,000.00
14	Church Camp Registrations	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 382.00	\$ 879.50
15	Church World Service - Blanket	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 657.00	\$ 1,507.00
16	Church World Service - Clean Up Kits	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 490.00	\$ 1,490.00
17	College Scholarship	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 994.06	\$ 5,999.96
18	Community Meals	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 814.00	\$ 3,989.98
19	Crossroad - Fort Wayne	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 845.93	\$ 2,145.93
20	Crossroad - Advent	\$ 2,000.00		
21	Evangelical Association	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
22	FISH Panty - Archbold	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 5,253.16	\$ 8,838.00
23	Foods Resource Bank - Local	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 730.00	\$ 1,830.00
24	Foods Resource Bank - Thank Offerings	\$ 500.00		
25	Friendship House - Archbold	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 3,200.00
26	Great Comm - Kyle/Matt (BGSU/UT/UM)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,120.00	\$ 3,120.00
27	Habitat for Humanity - Fulton Cty	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
28	Habitat for Humanity - Michigan City	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 850.00
29	Hands of Grace - Fulton Cty	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
30	Kajiado Children's Home (Larry & Linda R)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,342.43	\$ 8,071.43
31	Kajiado Child Sponsorships	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,087.00
32	Love Fund (Members)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,740.00	\$ 1,940.00
33	Mighty in the Land (Robert Rogers)	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 500.00
34	New Life Inter. (Brian & Jamie R - Haiti)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 525.00
35	Operation Christmas Child - Fulton Cty	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 454.00	\$ 729.00
36	Outback Youth Center - Archbold (YFC)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 590.00	\$ 1,090.00
37	PET Project (Dallas Andrews)	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 250.00
38	Pioneers (Jon & Rachel D - Papua)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 330.00	\$ 830.00
39	Shepherd's Circle - Archbold	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 620.00	\$ 1,120.00
40	Sparrow's Nest - Toledo	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 902.00	\$ 1,902.00
41	Sparrow's Nest - Thank Offerings	\$ 500.00		
42	St. John's Christian Preschool	\$ 3,000.00		
43	St. John's Evangelism Outreach	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 195.00	\$ 1,009.23
44	SYF - Mission Trip Support	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 393.50	\$ 2,250.00
45	SYF - Next Year Trip Deposit	\$ 750.00		
46	TEAM (Mackenzie N - Thailand)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 550.00
47	Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,040.00	\$ 2,040.00
48	Urgent Mission Outreach	\$ 3,500.00		\$ 1,250.00
49	Walk In Assistance Program (Non-members)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 427.42	\$ 877.77
50	WMTR Radio Pause for Praise	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 4,085.00
51	World Team (Tony & Leila L - Brazil)	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 2,411.50	\$ 6,611.50
52	Youth Leadership Training	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 1,653.40
53	Totals	\$ 155,500.00	\$ 111,340.67	\$ 104,592.97

December Daily Scriptures

(From "Discovery" Daily Devotional)

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 Gospel Friendship ----- | Philippians 1:7-11 | 17 Setting the Stage ----- | Luke 1:1-10 |
| 2 Gospel Progress ----- | Philippians 1:12-26 | 18 Take it by Faith ----- | Luke 1:11-25 |
| 3 Gospel Citizenship ----- | Philippians 1:27-30 | 19 Possible Impossibility ----- | Luke 1:26-38 |
| 4 Gospel Togetherness ----- | Philippians 2:1-4 | 20 Who Else? ----- | Psalm 142:1-7 |
| 5 Gospel Lord ----- | Philippians 2:5-11 | 21 But Is It True? ----- | Luke 1:39-45 |
| 6 Poison's Antidote ----- | Psalm 140:1-13 | 22 Rejoicing! ----- | Luke 1:46-56 |
| 7 Gospel Calling ----- | Philippians 2:12-18 | 23 What's in a Name? ----- | Luke 1:57-66 |
| 8 Gospel Servants ----- | Philippians 2:19-30 | 24 Promises, Promises ----- | Luke 1:67-80 |
| 9 Priceless ----- | Philippians 3:1-11 | 25 What a Day! ----- | Luke 2:1-7 |
| 10 Athletic Training ----- | Philippians 3:12-21 | 26 A Secret Song ----- | Luke 2:8-14 |
| 11 Keep Going! ----- | Philippians 4:1-9 | 27 Thirst for God ----- | Psalm 143:1-12 |
| 12 Gratitude and Generosity ----- | Philippians 4:10-23 | 28 Let's Go ----- | Luke 2:15-20 |
| 13 A Loving Rebuke ----- | Psalm 141:1-10 | 29 Waiting Rewarded ----- | Luke 2:21-35 |
| 14 God-Shaped Void ----- | Ecclesiastes 1:1-11 | 30 God's Reassurance ----- | Luke 2:36-40 |
| 15 Spiritually Short-Sighted ----- | Ecclesiastes 1:12-18 | 31 A Taste of Things to Come ----- | Luke 2:41-52 |
| 16 Unpleasing Pursuits ----- | Ecclesiastes 2:1-16 | | |

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

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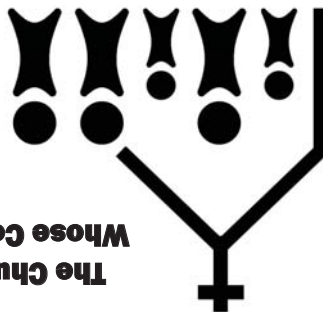
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St. John's Christian Church
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Holy Communion:
 New Year (1/4), Ash Wednesday (2/18), Maundy Thursday (4/2),
 Pentecost (5/25), Mid-Summer (7/19), 1st Sunday in October (10/4),
 1st Sunday of Advent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

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together



The Church on the Corner
Whose Cornerstone is Christ

Return Service Requested

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