

The Visitor

prayer concerns

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

September 1, 2016 Volume 62, Number 9

Please Pray For:

- Emily Walker, who is scheduled for hip surgery on September 2nd in Michigan.
- Gary Frazier, who had surgery at UTMC on August 23rd to remove a tumor.
- John Graber, who had successful quadruple bypass surgery on August 22nd at Toledo Hospital, and is now in rehab at Fulton Manor.
- Sonny Wyse, who is a resident at Heartland in Wauseon, being treated for an infection.
- Rich Lesniak, who had foot surgery in August.
- Dean Beck, who continues to recover from open heart surgery.
- Velma Overmier, who is recovering from a broken shoulder/upper arm.
- Larry Woolace, who is recovering from injuries sustained in a fall.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander, who is home recovering from surgery and praising God that the one active spot of cancer was successfully removed.
- Nancy Storrer, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- Our Search Committee Members – Betsy Ducey, John Graber, Jed Grime, Leah Hall, Nate Meyer, Sarah Nafziger, Betsy Redd, Nancy Rupp, Greg Walker and Pastor Erich.
- Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety. Serving from our church are:

Pvt. Bostelman Brenden (Army) New Address

B Co. 305th MI BN
Attn Blood Hounds
Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613

Sgt. Benjamin Chapman (Army Nat'l. Guard)

(Stationed in Qatar)
Box 516
APO, AI 09898

AB Collins Taylor D (Air Force)

268 Luke Ave., Box 700
Joint Base Anacostia
Bolling, DC 20032

Kyle Ducey (Navy)

Naval Technical Training Center
712 Underwood Ave., Apt. 802A
Pensacola, FL 32504

Cpt. Jared R. Kuntz (Army)

Wife, Maria & children, Silvette & Elias
Jared Kuntz, HHB 2-1, ADA BN,
Unit 15754 Box 409, APO AP 96260

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

David Lightner, Room #138

Esther Rice, Room #116

Cathy Spiess, #153

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

Lois Heer, Room #238

Jane Short, Room #208

Pauline Short, Room #205

Fairlawn Asst. Living, 550 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502

Wayne & Susanne Spiess, Apt. #309

Fairlawn Asst. Living, 600 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502

Josephine Short, Apt. #116

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

Robert Kuntz, Room #225-2

Bernice Rice, Room #224-2

Myrl & Pauline Zimmerman, Room #505

Northcrest, 240 Northcrest Dr., Napoleon, 43545

Irene Short, Room #100

congregational news

CONGRATULATIONS to Travis and Lindsay Wyse on the birth of their second child, Brody Guilio Wyse, born August 7, 2016. 8 lbs. 3 oz. 20 inches long. Brody has a 2 year old brother, Grady, and his grandparents include Sue Ruffer.



CONGRATULATIONS to Jay Zimmerman and Ashley Reyes, who were married in our sanctuary on August 27th.

pastor's letter

Thoughts from Pastor Erich . . .

Igniting Passion for God and His Word – that's the focus of upcoming sermons I've formulated after much reading of scripture, much prayer, and much contemplation of modern culture.

I trust it would be a true statement that everyone who has joined the membership of St. John's has believed in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Whether by adult confession of faith or through our confirmation program, adults and youth are asked to confess Jesus Christ as their Lord. By such confessional belief, I trust that every member has been blessed with the gift of God's Holy Spirit, which Paul writes of in 2 Timothy 1, and of which I preached of on August 28th.

It is with that beginning awareness, that people of our congregation believe in Jesus and have been blessed with the gift of God's Holy Spirit, it is with that beginning awareness that I put forth this preaching theme – Igniting Passion for God and His Word. Paul reminded Timothy to fan into the flame this gift of God. Smoldering or burning within each of us is this gift – a faith belief in Jesus Christ and the desire to honor God in our living through the power of God's Spirit.

I am aware of many folks whose gift from God is burning brightly. I am aware of many folks whose gift from God is being ignited. And I pastorally believe there are many folks whose gift from God is smoldering, as I've had those times in my life too.

This year's call is for each of us to fan into flame our gifts from God. To deepen our desire to live holy lives, as Paul writes in 2 Timothy 1:9. There are many definitions people give to what constitutes a holy life – in igniting a passion for God's Word I am praying that we will gain a greater awareness of scripture's definition of what a holy life is and looks like. I invite you and encourage you to join in this movement towards Igniting Passion for God and His Word.

I'll be preaching on this theme each Sunday for several weeks. I'm working with several lay members who have a passion to help ignite the passion in others, and though we're behind in our fall planning, we're striving to offer ministry settings which will provide assistance in fanning into the flame our gift and gifts from God.

For now, igniting this passion begins with each one of us. Read through 2 Timothy 1. Let Paul's words settle into your mind. Renew a commitment to put God first, honoring in him in all that you do. Prepare to be directed and encouraged by God's Spirit, His special gift of power and might, revelation and counsel.

ERICH

preschool corner

Very soon the halls will be filled with laughter, singing, artwork, and everything 'preschool.' As many of our little ones will be away from mom and dad for the first time, please pray for the children and their parents. This can be a tough transition for all! Please ask for guidance and patience for the two of us, as we lead these little ones to a better understanding of Jesus, and let them know that He is their friend. Thank you so much!

Some of you may have noticed that the preschool "Fish Bowl" in the hallway is once again filled with fish!! If you would like to help out with needed items, take a fish and place the item listed into the blue plastic tub near the coat rack by the preschool room. Thank you so much for your generosity!! It is greatly appreciated!!

"All your children shall be taught by the LORD,
and great shall be the peace of your children."

Isaiah 54:13

Sue MacDonald & Joan Wyse

congregational thank you's

St. John's Church Family,

A belated thank you to all for the many cards, prayers, visits and phone calls following my June surgery. Much appreciated and thankful for your caring concerns.

Bill Bostelman



Church Family,

Thank you for helping me with my college expenses through the church scholarship. It is much appreciated.

Cayla Walker



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for my Bible. I was so excited to get it! I can't wait to use it in Faith Village and LOGOS!

Love,

Evy Roth



St. John's Friends,

Thank you so much for my Bible! I am so excited to read it at home and to be able to use it in church!

Love,

Avery Roth

John 15:13 “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”

Our hearts are full of gratitude! First and foremost to our Heavenly Father for wrapping his arms around us all during the car accident and protecting our family from what could have been so much worse. Thank you, Jesus! I also thank the members of St. John’s. You people know how to love BIG! The phone calls, texts, facebook messages, meals, cards, visits, prayers, hugs and so much more, we thank you. By all of your care, concern and loving hearts, our hearts are filled with peace today. It is incredible to us to see a “family” come together when tragedy strikes, and YOU all did! We are Blessed to call you all family! We can’t say thank you enough for your thoughts and prayers. Your prayers are carrying us through this emotional time as our bodies heal and our hearts mend. Thank you, St. John’s! Each and every one of you are precious gifts to our family.

The Nafziger’s
Eric, Sarah, Emma and Leah

mission corner

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Altlink (Tom & Megan), for our gift of \$1,055.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$170.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$385.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$160.
- Pioneers (The Dorjots), for our gift of \$600.
- Reliant (Matt & MaryLynn Pardi), for our gift of \$1,010.
- Reliant (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$10
- World Team (Franks), for our gift of \$500.

Dear Pastor Erich & St. John’s,

As one of my past updates noted, I was recognized as an overseer/pastor at New Life Church about a year ago (August, 2015). My responsibilities include chairing our Direction Team (3 pastors from our team of 8 who champion the development and communication of vision and strategy for our staff team and church) and overseeing our campus teaching.

Our summers in Ann Arbor are really about discipling college students through our Leadership Training programs (also known as LT).

This summer I had the privilege of speaking at two Colorado LT programs (Winter Park and Estes Park) to students from Texas A & M, Texas State, Ball State, BGSU, Illinois State, Kent State, Toledo University, University of Cincinnati, Ohio State and Missouri State. Their summer

theme was “the King & The Conquerors” where the main text was Romans 8. I spent a week in Colorado speaking on Romans 8:28-30 and giving leadership talks to students and staff, including a 4-hour practicum on preaching and teaching for some church-planters in training. I also spoke to OSU students at the Columbus LT program in July. These opportunities were such a gift and a joy!

The rest of my summer was invested in Ann Arbor serving our local LT program and ministering to students from the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Wayne State University, and the College for Creative Studies in Detroit.

God has been doing beautiful things in the lives of college students in Ann Arbor and beyond. I feel so grateful to be part of it and so grateful for the generous support of the saints at St. John’s. May the Lord bless you and keep you, and make His face to shine upon you!

Grace & Gratitude,
Kyle Chase, Reliant (formerly GCM)

“Grateful . . . Thankful . . . Appreciative . . . that’s what Shepherd Circle is for your prayers and financial support! Words simply do not do justice! Thank you, thank you . . . and blessings!

Shepherd Circle
Nancy Rupp, Treasurer

September Mission-A-Month – Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission (TGRM):



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!

mission corner cont.

2016 Mission Trips/Opportunities – Annual Dates:

- September 11 – TGRM Chapel & Meal
- September 22 – Cherry Street Mission Ministries Fall Banquet
- November 20 – TGRM Chapel & Meal
- December 13 – Christmas Cheer Hospitality

Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission (TGRM) Chapel & Meal Sunday, September 11th:

Tammy Nofziger is organizing our next time to lead chapel and serve the evening meal at TGRM. Darby Stevens will be sharing the message, Mike Meyer will be leading the singing, and Lynne Christman will be accompanying. Let Tammy know if you'd be interested in sharing in this ministry experience – we hope to have up to a dozen folks serve on the 11th. Normally the group leaves from SJCC around 3PM Sunday afternoon. Chapel service begins at 5PM, with the meal being served between 5:30 and 5:45PM, with a return to SJCC around 7:30PM.

Cherry Street Mission Ministries (CSMM) Fall Banquet:

The CSMM Fall Banquet will be held once again in our parish hall, on Thursday, September 22nd. The banquet features both a delicious meal (prepared by local vendors and the CSMM kitchen staff and served by volunteers from St. John's) and presentations by Rev. Dan Rogers, CSMM guests, and a special guest speaker. The banquet is free, but RSVP's must be made, through either the church office or the CSMM web site. Doors will open at 6PM. We'll need about twelve volunteers to be present by 5:30PM for final meal prep. Let the church office know if you could help serve!

Fall Mission Experience to Back Bay Mission Has Been Canceled:

Many of the frequent participants of the trips to Back Bay Mission have agreed to shift the destination of the fall mission experience this year – traveling to a destination much closer to home – Wauseon! See the next article!

Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County, Ohio – Project Build in Wauseon:

HFH of Fulton County is moving forward in their mission to provide affordable housing, committing to a second home build this year. The project build in Swanton is nearing its final stages, as the drywall finishing should be completed in the first week of September. With a second partner family completing the necessary preparations, it's working out financially to build a home for them this fall.

With HFH of Fulton County's construction manager, Bob Sauder, working to complete the Swanton build while he awaits hip surgery, Pastor Erich, now a board member of the HFH of Fulton County, has volunteered to coordinate the construction of the Wauseon home build. Erich will manage the construction from excavation through the home being closed in, serving on his days off and Saturdays.

The hope is to have a blitz build week in Wauseon during the week of October 10-14, the week SJCC normally would have a group go to Biloxi. The hope is that more of the congregation will be able to volunteer with this project before, during and following the blitz build week.

The construction schedule is being put together now, so be watching for further details!

Thank Offering Containers

Thank Offering containers will be available for pick up beginning Sunday, September 4th on a table in the sanctuary narthex. The suggestion is to save your loose change for the next several months in this coin container. This special offering is collected at the end of November and will be divided equally between The Sparrow's Nest and The Foods Resource Bank.



Mission Month During October:

The Mission Committee is working to organize an emphasis on missions during the month of October. Sunday morning worship services will include several special presentations, including some missionary speakers, and there will be some interactive questions shared each Sunday morning.

Missionary Contact/Prayer Request 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, Reliant (formerly Great Comm. Min.)

web site - www.gcmweb.org

e-mail - Kyle.Chase@gcmweb.org

Matt Pardi, Reliant (formerly Great Comm. Min.)

web site - www.h2ochurch.com

e-mail - matt.pardi@gcmweb.org

Whitney Varnau, Reliant (formerly Great Comm. Min.)

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

Robert Rogers - Mighty in the Land Ministry
web site - www.mightyintheland.com
e-mail - hello@mightyintheland.com

Larry & Linda Rupp, Kajiado Children's Home
website - www.hope4kajiado.com
e-mail - kajiadochildrenshome@gmail.com

Keith & Cheryl Wyse - The Agape Family Life House
website - www.agapeflh.org
e-mail - k.wyse@agapeflh.org

ministry happenings

Christian Education

Mid-Week Children's and Youth Ministries:

LOGOS, under the coordination of our LOGOS Director, Kim M. Walker, will begin on September 14th. Information about LOGOS is available on the church's website or from the LOGOS bulletin board outside the Chapel. Parents may register their 4 year old through 12th grade youth for LOGOS on-line at www.stjohnsarchbold.org!



JYF activities until 8PM. Mike Whiteman and Pastor Erich are coordinating JYF this year and will soon be getting information to parents and youth.

JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship) is our mid-week ministry for 6th through 8th graders and will begin on September 14th, too. Youth may register for the LOGOS meal, enjoyed each Wednesday of LOGOS from 6PM to 6:45PM, or youth may come at 6:45PM to enjoy

SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship) will begin on September 7th. A team of adults will be coordinating SYF this year, including Brandon & Nicole Lehman, Ricky Ruscigno, Ryan Christman and Pastor Erich (we're looking for some additional leaders!). The evening will start at 7pm in the upstairs youth room!



Life Planning (LP) will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, with Kim Hines and Karen Walker coordinating this ministry in the coming year. September 14th, 7:00PM, will be the first LP event of the new program year.

Membership Orientation:

Orientation Sessions will be held on three consecutive Wednesday evenings in September – the 14th, 21st and 28th. Sessions will begin at 7:00PM and will last one hour in length. These sessions are open to anyone who wants to learn more about St. John's – its current mission and ministries, its history, and how to become a member of the congregation. Sharing in these orientation sessions prepares people to become members, but attending these sessions does not require people to become a member. Let the church office know if you'd be interested in attending these sessions, which will be led by Pastor Erich.

Events / Activities

Current For Women Event This Fall:

If you missed this local event last fall, you are blessed to have another chance to attend this fall! And if you didn't miss it, you will be excited to know it is being offered again this year! Slated for November 11th & 12th at Pettisville Missionary Church, it gives women of all ages (13 and up) a chance to pause for a moment, listen for God's voice, and receive His touch. Learn more about what is offered by visiting www.fullsail.org. This year's theme is "Living Hope" and discounted tickets (\$59 ea.) are available through SJCC - sign up on the bulletin board or contact the church office.



ministry happenings

cont.

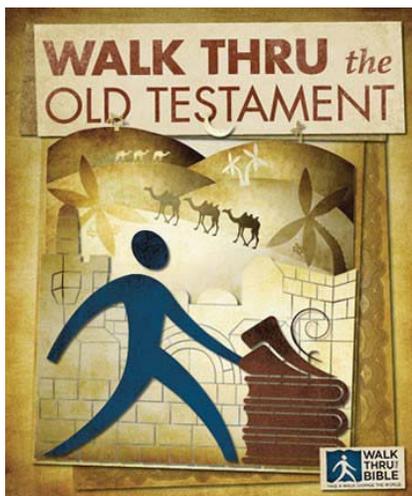
Save the Date! Walk Thru the Old Testament Live Event:

Friday evening, November 11th – 7 to 9PM
Saturday morning – November 12th – 9AM to Noon
Sign-up on the bulletin board or register on-line at stjohnsarchbold.org (under the “Events” pull down tab)
\$26 fee covers workbook, refreshments & partial event cost

Experience an event that unveils God’s Word as you’ve never known it before. As you walk through the Old Testament, you’ll realize that the Bible is coming to life and your knowledge of its people, places, and themes is rapidly increasing. In just a few short hours, you’ll see the big picture of God’s Story and how it fits together. Like many others, you may walk away saying, “I never understood the Bible like this before!”

Most of all, you’ll develop a deeper connection with the God who wants you to know Him and will never stop pursuing your heart. The more you understand His story, the more you’ll realize it’s your story too. And the more you realize it’s your story, the more His words will change your life.

- Experience the story of the Bible in a way that makes God’s Word come alive.
- Learn 77 hand signs designed to help you understand the big picture of the Old Testament.
- See beyond the facts of the Bible and spark a passion for God’s Word in your life.
- This live event will be a highly engaging, dynamic and memorable event!
- A certified instructor will guide participants on a virtual “walk” through the OT
- There is no age limit for the event – though there will be future events designed more age appropriate for children and youth
- Childcare will be available – make sure you note number of children and their ages on the sign-up sheet or when you register online.



small groups

Couples Small Group:

Several of the past participants are working to coordinate this small group for the coming year. Schedule, lesson focus and



leadership will soon be shared as we welcome any and all couples of the congregation to join in this Monday evening small group ministry.

Seekers Small Group:

Seekers will hold their first gathering on Sunday evening, September 18th at 6PM, at a location yet to be determined! Pastor Erich will continue to shepherd this lively group of middle aged (45 to ?) adults!

Sister Chicks:



Sister Chicks will be starting on Monday evening, October 3rd, 7:00PM at the home of Nancy Rupp (St. Rt. 2, Stryker). We will be studying

Angela Thomas-Pharr’s recently released “Redeemed: Living Every Day Better Than Before.” The moment you believe Jesus died to save you, you are redeemed. But it doesn’t stop there. Redemption is a lifelong journey of slowly being transformed into His image. A redeemed woman grows in the grace of Christ, and He calls her to extend that same grace to others. We will explore the practical side of redemption, inviting others to lean upon Jesus for their real help and hope. All women are warmly welcome to join us! Call Nancy (419-682-1102) to reserve a book by Friday, September 9th. If you need a ride, we’ll find one for you...just come and join us! We love new and former faces!

Men’s Ministries:

Jeff Rutledge and Mike Whiteman have volunteered to help lead some ministries for men in the coming year. As soon as plans are set, they’ll get the word out. Plans could include an early morning Wednesday gathering, a Wednesday evening gathering, Sunday morning gatherings during the Sunday school hour, or a series of special events.

September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:00AM Worship 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation 10:30AM Worship	Mission-A-Month— Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission (TGRM) Elder of the Month— Ann Grime			1 9:00AM Mending/Fairlawn 7:00PM Mission Comm.	2	3
4	5 Labor Day (Office Closed)	6 Junior Fair Day 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Capital Campaign 8:00PM Praise Band Reh.	7 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	8 9:00AM Mending/Fairlawn	9	10
11 Christian Education Sunday 12:30PM Private Party (Parish Hall / Kitchen) 3:00PM Depart for TGRM Chapel & Meal	12 Preschool Begins 11:15AM Staff Meeting	13 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Evangelism Comm. 7:00PM Property Committee	14 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM West Haven Bible St. 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM Junior Choir 6:45PM JYF 7:00PM LP / SYF Remix 7:00PM Member Orientation 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	15 9:00AM Mending/Fairlawn 6:00PM Scouts District Meeting	16 6:00PM Non- Member Wedding Rehearsal	17 2:30PM Non-Member Wedding
18 Blanket Sunday 6:30PM Hymn Sing at Fairlawn	19 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	20 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	21 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM Junior Choir 6:45PM JYF 7:00PM Member Orientation 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	22 9:00AM Mending/Fairlawn 6:30PM Cherry Street Mission Banquet	23	24
25 Chicken BBQ 10:30AM Outdoor Worship 11:30AM Chicken BBQ 6:00PM Seekers Sm. Group	26 11:15AM Staff Meeting	27 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	28 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM West Haven Bible St. 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM Junior Choir 6:45PM JYF 7:00PM Member Orientation 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	29 9:00AM Mending/Fairlawn	30	

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, 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, Maddox Gruenhagen, 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 | |

worship

September Worship Information:

Worship in September will continue to focus on the theme of "Igniting Passion for God and His Word."

- 4th Scriptures – Acts 4:1-22, Nehemiah 9:1-6
Sermon – "Against the Odds"
- 11th Scriptures – Joshua 24:1-24, Acts 2:22-24 at
Sermon – "For the People"
Special Music – Chancel Choir
10:30 – Praise Band
- 18th Blanket Sunday
Scriptures – Revelation 3:1-16
Sermon – "For the Church"
Special Music – Chancel Choir
- 25th 8:00 – Worship in the Sanctuary
10:30 – Outdoor Worship & Fall Festival
(on the east lawn)
The Covenant Players at each service
Scriptures – Deuteronomy 26:1-15
Sermon – "Coming Before God"
Special Music – Chancel Choir
11:45 – Annual Chicken BBQ

Outdoor Worship & Chicken BBQ Sunday, September 25th:

Having enjoyed outdoor worship so much last September, plans are well underway for an outdoor service of worship once again. The porch on the storage building will be the "chancel area" for this special service, with the congregation sitting in the chairs and on the blankets they bring north of the porch. The Covenant Players will be present to share some biblically based dramas as we praise God under the sky and trees!

Following our worship of the Lord, we'll enjoy our annual chicken barbeque meal in and around the building!

Worship Techs – Sound, Video and Easy Worship Techs Needed:

We are looking for a few additional people to help staff our tech booth for worship, weddings and funerals. James Grime and Angie Neuenschwander run our sound board. Kelly Ducey and Ricky Ruscigno set up our worship screen presentations. Kelly, Ricky, Brian Roth and Becca Grieser run the worship presentations. Dean Sauder runs our video system. We will be holding a few training sessions in September for people who would be willing to give it a try – September 8th & 15th at 7PM, in the sanctuary!

consistory/committees

Associate Pastor Search Committee Update:

In keeping with the desire to communicate the search process, the committee shares this update while continuing to ask for your prayers. The total number of resumes received is now over 50, with resumes coming from church staffing websites, seminary website postings, posting on the Evangelical Association website, posting on our own website, and by word of mouth.

Two of the initial applicants had wonderful resumes and the Search Committee was very interested in them, but they must have been further along in their own search as they accepted ministry positions even before we could schedule an interview with them. As more applicants were considered, and the number of applicants increased, the Search Committee conducted Skype interviews with five applicants, having a second interview with two of those five.

The Search Committee invited one candidate to come to Archbold on August 31st for a visit and a third interview, this time face to face with the committee. Even while they waited for that interview to occur, another candidate was being interviewed for the second time, with interest in scheduling a third interview depending on how the face to face interview went on the 31st. And more resumes, a couple with good promise, continued to come in.

The Search Committee is feeling blessed with God's supply of potential candidates, and is thankful for the Spirit's guidance throughout this process.

Once the Search Committee comes to agreement on a candidate for the associate pastor position, and that candidate confirms their interest, the Search Committee will make a recommendation to the Consistory. If the Consistory approves of the recommendation, they will schedule a congregational meeting and the candidate will be invited to St. John's for an open house on a Saturday and for preaching and leading in worship on a Sunday, with a congregational meeting being held after each service of worship on that Sunday.

Office Renovation Project:

The project has continued to move along step by step. Following a couple of weeks of demolition, the dividing walls were erected so that the air conditioning duct work and controls could be installed, which

was completed by August 26th. Electrical work was the next step in the process, following which the insulation, soundboard and drywall were to be installed by September 7th or so. Once the drywall is installed, the finishers will arrive to install the new stucco ceiling and finish the drywall.

Pictorial Directory:

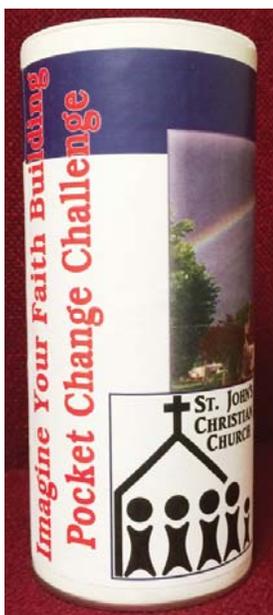


Production of the directory has obviously taken longer than originally expected, primarily due to our change in staffing, but Sue Grieser and Pastor Erich are working on

the project. As so much time has gone by since we began collecting photos for the directory, we will be making a final concerted effort to contact everyone who hasn't submitted a photo yet, or checking to see if anyone wants to submit an updated photo. We have some volunteers who will soon begin making those contacts.

Imagine Your Faith Building Campaign - Pocket Change Challenge:

September 5th is the end of the challenge – from Memorial Day to Labor Day – so the Capital Campaign Committee invites everyone to bring in their banks on Sunday, September 11th and add their Pocket Change to the collection vehicle which will be located in the sanctuary narthex. All change, bills and checks are welcome donations as we celebrate the results of the Pocket Change Challenge!



Imagine Your Faith Building Campaign - Church Coin Banks:

On the fourth Sunday of each month, children are invited to bring their church coin bank to worship, whether full or not, and deposit their coins in the

designated plastic container in the sanctuary narthex. There are small cards beside the container if you wish to note your name and the mount (recorded on your annual giving report) and drop it in the offering plate on in the church office. Additional banks are available in the sanctuary narthex.



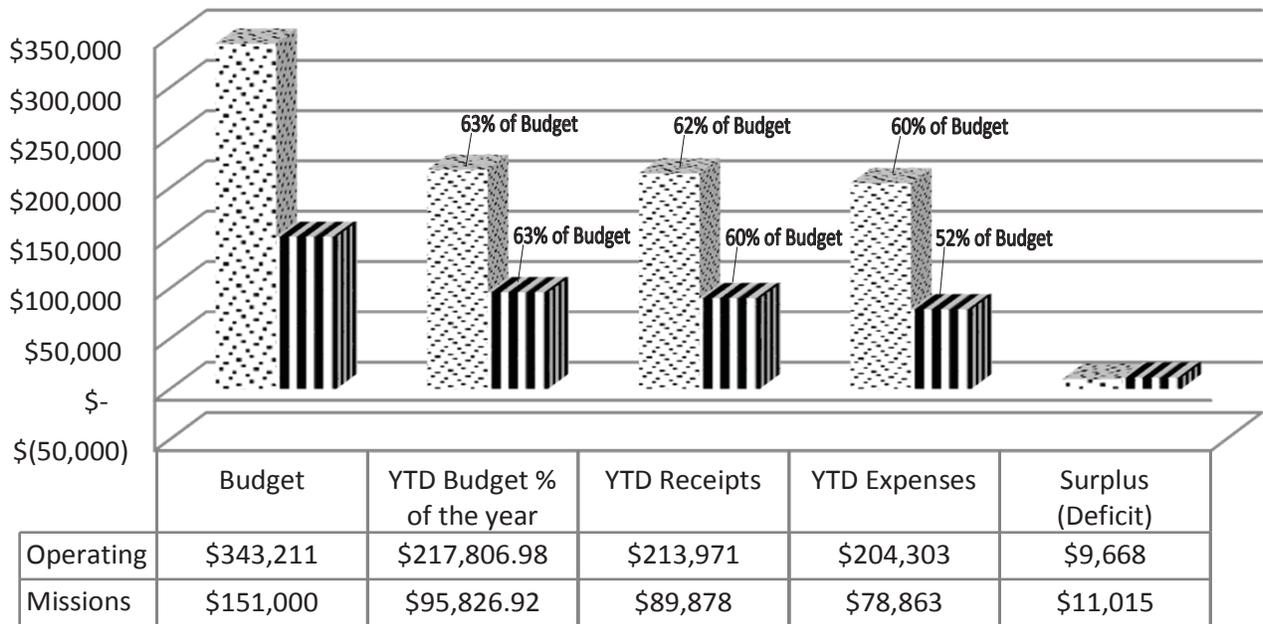
St. John's Christian Church Leadership:

Congregation President.....Brent Winzeler
Congregation Vice-President Jim Redd
Congregation Secretary.....Betsy Redd
EldersBetsy Ducey, Ann Grime, Kim Hines,
Joyce Kinsman, Paige Miller, Jim Redd
Deacons/Deaconesses Amy Baden,
Jim Grieser, Josh Grime, Nate Meyer,
Eric Nafziger, Brad Roth, Lynne Roth,
David Stuckey, Bruce Wooley
Church Treasurer..... Roger Miller
Custodians.....Dean Buckenmeyer, Nick Rice
Security Person Richard Spiess
Christian Preschool Staff Sue MacDonald,
Joan Wyse
Administrative Assistant..... Sue Grieser
Director of Music MinistryDeb Schmitkey
LOGOS Director..... Kim M. Walker
Pastor.....Rev. Erich Christman



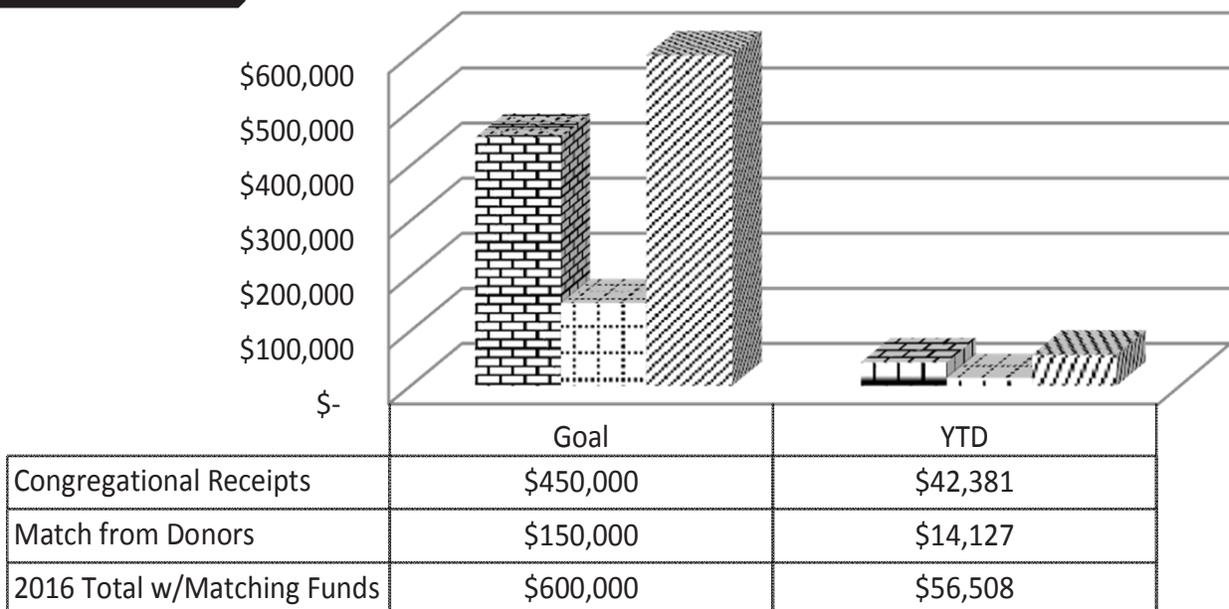
stewardship

2016 Operating & Missions Funds as of August 25, 2016



\$407,619 left to \$450,000 goal

Imagine Your Faith Building Campaign 2016 Matching Gift



IYFB Campaign Total Receipts as of August 28, 2016 - \$357,705.86

Online Giving Available:

Online giving is available through our church web site. Please contact Sue in the office to be assigned an OLG number if you are interested in taking advantage of this service. Several members of our congregation currently utilize online giving and have found it to be easy and convenient. If you have questions or don't have access to a computer but would like to take advantage of the online giving feature, feel free to contact the church office for further assistance.

community news

Opportunity for Support:

We received the following announcement and were asked to share it with the congregation. There have been times in the past when the community has rallied around an individual or family, including a few situations involving people of our own congregation. May people donate as the Lord leads.

Can you help? Individuals, families, Sunday school classes and congregations are asked to consider a donation to possibly help restore speech to an Archbold father. Chief of Police, Joe Wyse, suffered a massive stroke last September and after almost a year of prayers, physical therapy, hyperbaric treatment and pure grit, he has far surpassed what his doctors first considered possible.

Now, if as a community we could raise \$20,000 - \$30,000 for Joe, he could begin an intensive 3-4 week speech program at the University of Michigan. Since insurance won't cover it, and since the family has already felt so much support from the community, they didn't want to consider asking for more support.

But just as Joe isn't a quitter, neither are the people of this community. Let's pull together and get Joe the help he needs before the window of maximum effectiveness of the speech therapy closes.

Checks can be made to our non-profit partner, Shepherd's Circle and sent to 528 Quail Run, Archbold. All the check needs to say is Joe Wyse on the memo line. Your gifts are tax deductible. For questions or more details, contact Joan Aschliman at @ 419 572 1018 or aschliman@rtcexpress.net.

Passion of the Christ, Stations of the Cross:

This is a one-day bus trip to St. John, Indiana – September 8th, 2016. Cecily Rohrs is running this event as she stopped there recently and it was so impressive the decision was made to run a bus there so others could experience the power of the bronze life-sized sculptures set in the impressive setting.

- 8AM: Leave from St. Martin's Lutheran Church parking lot
- 10AM: Stop in Elkhart for a light brunch at Linton's Enchanted Gardens, a garden center like you've maybe never seen before, time to browse after lunch.
- 1:30PM: Arrive at Passion of the Christ, St. John, IN – paved walkway, allow 2+ hours
- Return: Soup and Salad Bar at Potawatami Inn, Pokagon State Park, Angola
- Back: In parking lot at 9:00PM
- Cost: \$100 for bus transportation, 2 meals, gratuities included
- Info: Check websites for Passion of the Christ, St. John, IN, and Linton's Enchanted Gardens
- Register: Make check payable to Cecily Rohrs and mail to her at V314 Co. Rd. 19, Archbold, OH, 43502. Include your name, phone number and address.
- Questions: Contact Cecily at 419-267-5502 or cecily@rtcexpress.net

housekeeping

Lost and Found:

We have two areas for lost and found articles here at St. John's. One is a large blue bin located inside the north handicap entrance off our east parking lot. The other is on the southwest counter in the kitchen. If you feel you may have articles in either of these two places that belong to you, please check and take them home. Every couple of months we clean these areas out and either take the items to Care-N-Share or discard them. Thank you.

Church Family Database:

We keep a digital database for all our church family members. It includes contact information such as addresses, land line and cell phone numbers, and e-mail addresses, as well as birth dates, anniversaries, baptisms, confirmations, etc. We ask that you keep the church updated on any changes or updates to your contact information. Thank you.

GoodSearch.com and GoodShop.com:

Did you know you can earn extra funds for St. John's by logging into GoodSearch.com whenever you need to search on the internet, or by logging into GoodShop.com when you need to purchase items on the internet. Just select St. John's Christian Church, Archbold, Ohio when you create your account - it's that easy!

September Daily Scriptures

(From "Discovery" Daily Devotional)

Discovery® is a daily Bible reading guide that provides clear Bible explanation, prayers and relevant application questions. You can access this guide online at <http://www.scriptureunion.org/Bible%20Reading/Discovery>.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Those Who Know ----- Daniel 11:1-45 | 16 The Big Picture ----- Galatians 6:1-18 |
| 2 Stars in the Heavens ----- Daniel 12:1-13 | 17 Sins of the Fathers ----- Nehemiah 1:1-11 |
| 3 Straight to the Point ----- Galatians 1_1-10 | 18 What do you Really Want? ----- Psalm 28:1-9 |
| 4 Lord of the Present ----- Psalm 26:1-12 | 19 In at the Deep End ----- Nehemiah 2:1-10 |
| 5 Who Says? ----- Galatians 1:11-24 | 20 Night Maneuvers ----- Nehemiah 2:11-20 |
| 6 Standing His Ground ----- Galatians 2:1-10 | 21 With All My Heart ----- Psalm 24:1-108 |
| 7 Reviewing the Situation ----- Galatians 2:11-21 | 22 Your Money or Your Life ----- Nehemiah 4:1-23 |
| 8 Saved by Faith ----- Galatians 3:1-14 | 23 Standing Firm ----- Nehemiah 5:1-19 |
| 9 A Promise is a Promise ----- Galatians 3:15-22 | 24 Family Ties ----- Nehemiah 6:1-14 |
| 10 Back Where we Belong ----- Galatians 3:23-4:7 | 25 A Great Big God ----- Psalm 29:1-11 |
| 11 Our Champion ----- Psalm 27:1-14 | 26 Hearing the Word ----- Nehemiah 7:4-8:12 |
| 12 A Cry From the Heart ----- Galatians 4:8-20 | 27 Simply Living ----- Nehemiah 8:13-18 |
| 13 Children of Grace ----- Galatians 4-21-31 | 28 Nearer to Thee ----- Nehemiah 9:1-21 |
| 14 Guard Your Freedom! ----- Galatians 5:1-15 | 29 Ups and Downs ----- Nehemiah 9:22-38 |
| 15 The Choice is Ours ----- Galatians 5:16-26 | 30 Going Back ----- Nehemiah 13:1-31 |

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

Church Ph. 419-446-2545
 Website www.stjohnsarchbold.org

Nick Rice

Cell Ph. 419-551-1105

Dean Buckenmeyer

Cell Ph. 419-583-6356

debshmitkey@yahoo.com

Deb Schmitkey

office@stjohnsarchbold.org

Sue Grieser

Cell Ph. 419-551-0401

Residence Ph. 419-267-5610

pastor@stjohnsarchbold.org

Rev. Erich Christman

Pastor

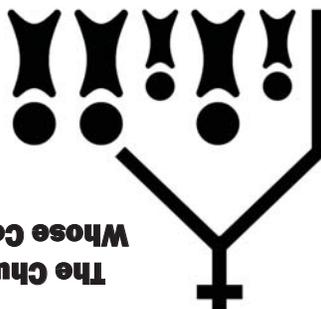
Archbold, OH 43502

700 S. Defiance Street

St. John's Christian Church

Holy Communion:
 New Year (1/3), Ash Wednesday (2/10), Maundy Thursday (3/24),
 Pentecost (5/15), Mid-Summer (7/17), 1st Sunday in October (10/2),
 1st Sunday of Advent (11/27)

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