



John & Kathryn Graber

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together



*Emma Nafziger, Darby Stevens,
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Andee Grime*

Welcome to



**ST. JOHN'S
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**

**“The Church on
the Corner Whose
Cornerstone is Christ”**

We are a community of faith founded upon God's Holy Word, preaching salvation through believing in Christ as Savior. We seek to live in God's truth, being obedient to His Word and following in His ways.

Welcome to our Worship of God! “God’s Grand Story”

Lighting of the Altar Candles and Ringing of the Tower Bells	
Welcome, Scripture and Prayer	Exodus 15:1-2 (p. 68)
Prelude	“Come, Now is the Time to Worship”
† (8:00) Hymn – #43	“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”
† (10:30) Praise Songs	“My Life Is In You” “Lord, Reign In Me”
† Prayer	
† (8:00) Hymn Response – #52, vs. 1, 2, 3 & 6	“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”
† Passing the Peace of Christ	
Children’s Message	(#579, v. 1) “Jesus Loves Me”
Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer (debt/debtors)	
(10:30) Installation of 2017 Consistory and Officers	
Opening Sentences and Vows & Promises	
Congregation’s Pledge: <i>I pledge myself to be used by God, as a part of this congregation, to be at work in our church, our community, and the world. I will pray for these officers, elders, deacons and deaconesses, and all other workers and teachers who are a part of this fellowship; that Christ may find us to be faithful Christians, worthy of bearing his name. In faith I pledge. Amen.</i>	
Ordination of New Deacons/Deaconesses and Elders; Installation and Prayer	
Hymn Response – #357, v. 3	“Jesus Calls Us”
(10:30) Chancel Choir	“Rejoice in the Lord”
Scripture Reading	Exodus 14:5-31 (p. 67)
Sermon (notes on pg. 4)	“The God Who Delivers”
Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings of Gratitude	
Offertory	“Above All”
Doxology (#625) and Prayer of Dedication	
† Hymn – #47	“God Will Take Care of You”
† Spoken Benediction	
† Benediction in Song – #604	“Savior, Again To Thy Dear Name”
† Postlude	

Welcome . . .

Guests and Visitors

Welcome to our worship of God! Please take a moment to complete one of the info cards in the pew rack at each end of the pew and drop it in the offering plate once it is passed down the aisle in the service. We hope you will find our service to be an uplifting and pleasurable time of worship and that you will worship with us again. Learn more about us by visiting our Welcome Table at the south end of our building or our website at www.stjohnsarchbold.org.

Membership Orientation

This Wednesday, January 25, and Wednesday, February 1 and 8, from 6-7PM, St. John's will be offering orientation sessions to inform people about beliefs, ministries and the history of this local congregation. Please let Pastor Erich, Pastor Alex or Sue Grieser know if you would be interested in attending these sessions.

Mother's Room / Diaper Changing Station / Nursery Care

We have a Mother's Room located near our sanctuary – just ask an usher for its location. A diaper changing station is in our nursery room just down the hallway from our sanctuary. Nursery Care is offered during our worship service for infants and pre-kindergarten children.

Children's and Large Print Bulletins are available on a table in the sanctuary narthex.

Hearing Assistance is provided through our loop system for hearing aids with a "t" switch position.

This Week's Congregational Prayer:

Lord, thank you for freeing people from captivity, even knowing there are so many ways in which people can feel trapped. For my own captivity of sin, I confess my need for greater obedience, praying for your forgiveness and grace. I pray for the people I know who are trapped in unhealthy situations and relationships, praying that your light will shine ever brighter, and I pray that you will give me strength and wisdom to walk alongside and be an instrument of change and growth. Thank you for your great redeeming power realized in Jesus Christ. Amen.

2016 Giving Statements – Last year's giving statements are in a designated box on a table in the sanctuary narthex, arranged alphabetically. The statements provided are a summary statement of each Sunday's total giving. More detailed statements are available – please contact Sue in the church office should you desire one.

Discovery* is a daily Bible reading guide that provides clear Bible explanation, prayers and relevant application questions. The Jan/Feb/Mar guides are available in the literature rack (suggested donation \$5.50 each). You can access this guide online at <http://www.scriptureunion.org/Bible%20Reading/Discovery>. Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

January 23 - Believing in God	Genesis 15:1-21
January 24 - The God who Sees Me	Genesis 16
January 25 - Long-Term Yours	Genesis 17:1-14
January 26 - Long-Term Plan	Genesis 17:15-27
January 27 - Long-Term Hope	Genesis 18:1-15
January 28 - Big-Time Praying	Genesis 18:16-33
January 29 - Praise and Thank God	Psalm 47

The God Who Delivers – Key Scripture: Exodus 14:5-31

1. God allows hardship and pain, but He also promises deliverance.

- He looked on Israel and had compassion.
- He heard their cries. He sent a deliverer.

Personal application: How do you respond to suffering? What attitudes do you have toward God when He seems distant?

What is God saying?

- Even when we think He doesn't care, He is watching closely with compassion.
- He hears us when we pray and walks with us through our trials.
- He has a solution for whatever problem we face. He knows the way out.

2. Deliverance comes at a cost

- The captor doesn't give up easily.
- The people rebelled against the process.
- God will do whatever it takes to free His people, even at the cost of lives.

Personal application: In what ways does the captor keep trying to enslave you? Why is freedom such a messy process? What promise does God give about freeing us?

What is God saying?

- We also have been captive—in sin, in a broken and fallen world—and our captor doesn't like to lose. He keeps coming after us.
- When we experience hardship, it's not a sign that God isn't working on our behalf.
- God will finish what He started. He doesn't leave us behind.
- God paid an enormous cost for this deliverance, but it was only a shadow of the greater deliverance to come—Christ crucified as the Passover sacrifice.

3. God initiates and accomplishes deliverance; we enter into it by responding

- Moses and the Israelites simply followed God. He led them to an impossible place.
- “Stand still and see”; “tell them to move” (14:13-14 vs. 14:15)
- God didn't just provide an escape; He completely eliminated the enemy's threat.

Personal application: How would you feel if God led you directly into what looked like a worst-case scenario? What impossible situations do you need deliverance from?

What is God saying?

- No matter how impossible a situation looks, it isn't too difficult for Him. Sometimes He even guides us into a place of impossibility before He shows His power.
- When God delivers, it isn't partial. It's thorough and complete.

Conclusion: Whatever situation you're in, God knows the way out and will intervene to provide it for you. It is not His desire for His people to live in any kind of captivity. We have even been freed from our greatest captivity, the sinful condition, and He is leading us into the fullness of His promises.

Let's Talk About It - This Week in Our Children's and Youth Education:

Pre-K Class: We continued our study of Jesus's miracles. Today we learned about how Jesus healed a blind man. Did you like the color we chose to color the blind man's new eyes? Ask us about our yummy snack ☺.

Faith Village: We are using Luke 6:27-31 and Matthew 5:38-47 to learn how Jesus wants us to "Love our Enemies". Do you have someone that you think of as your enemy? Say a prayer tonight for that person.

Confirmation: The class studied the stained glass windows of the chapel and sanctuary, exploring the Bible stories depicted in each of the windows. What story stood out to you? If you were to create your own stained glass window art, which Bible story would you recreate?

Senior High Sunday School: This morning we looked at John 13, where Jesus washed his disciples' feet. This was the ultimate object lesson for them, and Jesus explained that they too were to put the needs of others before their own, that they were to humble themselves in order to love and serve others. With your family, talk about one way that you could serve each other, a neighbor, or another family.

LOGOS: Third Grade: The 3rd grade began the study of Moses, they learned of his birth, youth and how God called him via a burning bush to do a very hard job. God promised to help Moses with the difficult assignment as He helps us with difficulties in our lives. Fourth Grade: The fourth graders continued to look at and talk about "God's Grand Story" throughout the Bible. We talked about Abraham, Noah, Moses, and other people in the Bible who were called upon to prove their faith in God. We each shared what faith means to us and how we practice faith through prayer.

JYF: This week at JYF, the leaders and youth prayed for our military service members. Also, Steve and Kim Walker led an activity about the Old Testament books of the Bible. Next week, parents of our JYF youth are invited to join us for an evening of board games and fun. Parents can have dinner with us, or join us at 6:45PM in the Fireside Room. We look forward to having Mom's and Dad's join us next week! Also, JYF has an all church movie night scheduled for Sunday, March 19th. Watch future bulletins and newsletters for further details.

Life Planning: This week mentors and youth paired together to serve St. John's by completing various chores for the church, such as installing new cabinets and moving things from storage back into the renovated offices.

SYF Remix: This week we enjoyed playing board games, grapes and other snacks, and of course... each other's company!

SYF Summer Missions Trip – Pastor Alex will be holding an informational meeting about the upcoming SYF Summer Missions Trip for interested teens and parents next Sunday, January 29th at 2PM. The tentative dates for the summer trip are June 18-23. If you are unable to attend the meeting but are still interested in going on the trip, be sure to inform Pastor Alex so that he can know if there's enough interest to make the necessary reservations for our group.

WEEK OF JANUARY 22ND AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Adult Faith & Fellowship / Confirmation / Faith Village / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Mon	6:00PM	Seekers Small Group (Footé's, 732 W. Leggett Street, Wauseon)
	11:15AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
	6:00PM	Consistory Potluck / Meeting (Parish Hall / Fireside Room)
Tues	8:00PM	Spiritual Council (Fireside Room)
	9:15AM	Bible Study – Genesis 16 (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal – AAMA (Parish Hall / Kitchen)
Wed	7:00PM	Cub Scouts Pack Meeting (Fireside Room)
	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Upstairs Sunday School Classroom)
	9:00AM	West Haven Bible Study (Fairlawn)
Thur	5:50PM	LOGOS Meal – Chinese New Year Night (Parish Hall / Kitchen)
	6:00PM	Member Orientation Session (Pastor Erich's Office)
	6:45PM	Junior Choir (Sanctuary)
	6:45PM	JYF – Board Games with Parents (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Adult Bible Study (Parlor)
	7:00PM	SYF (Youth Room)
	7:30PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Sun	6:00PM	4th Grade Basketball (Parish Hall)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Adult Faith & Fellowship / Confirmation / Faith Village / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Next Sunday – January 29 - Third Sunday after Epiphany

Sermon – “Taking Ground for the Kingdom” by Pastor Erich Christman; Scripture – Joshua 1:1-9

Adult Faith & Fellowship in Parish Hall – We continue our group Bible study based on the current worship sermon series titled “God’s Grand Story: His Word. Your Life.” This group Bible study will meet from 9:15–10:15AM and be led by either Pastor Erich or Pastor Alex. A Guidebook will be utilized during each Sunday morning session, providing the material and focus of the Sunday school hour discussions. Anyone is welcome to attend any or all of these Sunday school hour sessions.

2017 Offering Envelopes – There are still a few boxes of offering envelopes to be picked up. They are arranged alphabetically by last name. Should you not find a box with your name on it and would like one, please contact Sue in the church office.

As a reminder, we also have online giving available through our church web site. This can be done using any current bank checking or savings account in your name with no extra fees involved (credit card transactions are not available). To receive information and a number to create an online account, please contact Sue in the church office.

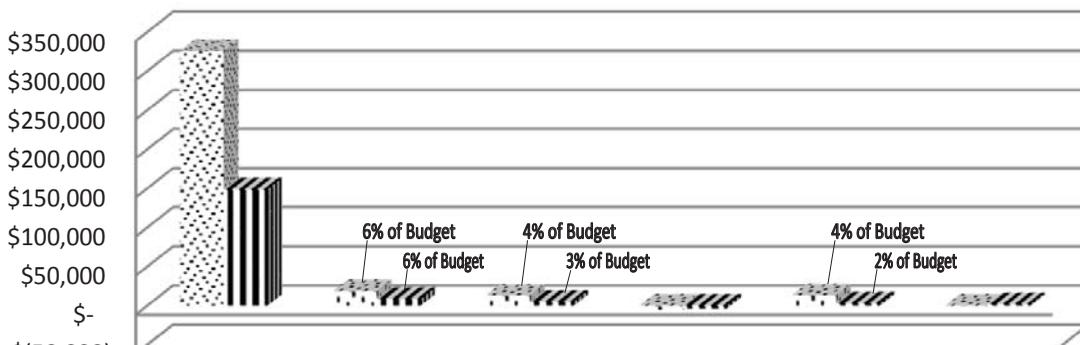
Valentine’s Day Potluck – Mark your calendars and plan to attend a Valentine’s Day Potluck hosted by the Fellowship Committee on Sunday, February 12th. It will be held in the Parish Hall after the 10:30 service of worship. BBQ chicken sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, refreshments and table service will be provided - please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share and enjoy great food and fellowship!

Volunteers Needed – We are always in need of people to assist with the many ministry activities that take place here at SJCC. We are currently in need of people to sign up for our Sunday morning usher and greeter ministries. Sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board across from the church office. Should you have any questions, please let us know and we can provide a detailed list of the duties involved with these positions. Thank you for continuing to help us be the hands and feet of Jesus!

Christian Resources International (CRI) – CRI is an organization in Fowlerville, Michigan that sends containers filled with Bibles and Christian literature around the world and to prisons. Our church has taken material to them, and we believe this to be an excellent Christian activity. If you have any Christian literature (Bibles, devotionals, Sunday school papers or books) you no longer use, please donate them to this project. There is a box labeled to receive literature in the chapel narthex. Please contact Norma Fish (419-799-9172) or Gloria Lauber (419-445-7882) if you have a large amount of literature.

Community Meal Ministry – The Archbold Area Ministerial Association is once again coordinating these weekly meals. Zion Mennonite Church will be co-hosting the meals again this year along with us. We will host the 1st (Jan – March) and 3rd (July – September) quarters, while Zion will host the 2nd (April – June) and 4th (October – December) quarters. Volunteers from the St. John’s congregation are needed! We continue to have two meal teams that will each serve five meals during the year, and people are needed to help prepare, serve and clean-up each time one of our meals teams host. We also need help with setting up tables and chairs, and setting tables each week during the quarters we host.

2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of January 16, 2016



	2017 Budget	2017 Budget % of year (3/52 wks)	2017 YTD Receipts	Receipts Comp to YTD Budget	YTD Expenses	2017 YTD Receipts Comp to Expenses
Operating	\$325,850	\$18,799	\$13,456	\$(5,343)	\$13,722	\$(266)
Missions	\$148,800	\$8,585	\$5,052	\$(3,533)	\$3,028	\$2,024

January Mission-A-Month - Church World Service Emergency Clean Up Kits

Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests - Please Pray For:

- Kris Short, who had back surgery on Friday.
- Randy Layton, recovering from shoulder surgery.
- The family of Jr. Grime, who went to his heavenly home on Friday.
- Joanne Spotts, at the Rupp Rehab Center in Fairlawn recovering from a broken hip.
- Kreighton Sims, recovering from a broken ankle.
- Jayson Lindsay, recovering from shoulder surgery.
- Ed Ruffer, recovering from foot surgery.
- John Lovejoy, Paul and Joan Lovejoy's son, who has completed chemo and radiation treatments for esophageal cancer. Further testing will determine next step in treatment.
- Gary Frazier, as he continues to recover at home.
- Benjamin Chapman, stationed in Qatar.
- Brenden Bostelman, at Fort Benning, Georgia for airborne training for several weeks, then will be transferred to Alaska.
- Taylor Collins, stationed in Bolling, DC.
- Kyle Ducey, stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia.
- Jared Kuntz, stationed in South Korea.
- Steve Schink, stationed at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.
- AJ Short, in basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina.
- Koltin Zimmerman, stationed at Fort Campbell, Oak Grove, Kentucky.
- All our home bound and care center residents.

Today's Worship Servants

Acolytes	(8:00) Josie Grieser	(10:30) Emma Nafziger
Ushers	(Head) Greg Walker	
	(8:00) Ron & Karen Rice	
	(10:30) Cayla, Toby, Adam & Kim Walker	
Greeters	(10:30) Tim & Sue Grieser, Nancy Ries, Phyllis Swietzer	
Nursery Staff	(10:30) Chris & Amy Baden	(Jan 29) Travis & Mindy Gruenhagen
Sound Tech	(8:00) Angie Neuenschwander	(10:30) James Grime
Video Tech	(10:30) Dean Sauder	
Computer Tech	(8:00) Kelly Ducey	(10:30) Brian Roth
Song Leader	(Both) Lynne Christman	
Praise Band	(10:30) Chris Baden, Lynne Christman, Norm & Ann Fether, Brandon Lehman, Sarah Nafziger, Todd Nafziger, Deb Schnitkey	
Accompanist	(Both) Deb Schnitkey	

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Pastor Rev. Erich Christman (Cell 419-551-0401)

Associate Pastor Alex Young (Cell 330-206-8762)