

The Visitor

prayer concerns

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

March 1, 2017 Volume 63, Number 3

Please Pray For:

- Dale Grime, recovering from shoulder surgery on February 23rd.
 - Barb Sigg, recovering from a broken nose, scrapes and bruises suffered in a fall on February 22nd.
 - Kris Short, upon the death of her step sister, Stacy Carlin.
 - Nate Meyer, recovering from shoulder surgery on February 9th.
 - Randy Layton, recovering from shoulder surgery.
 - Jayson Lindsay, recovering from shoulder surgery.
 - Joanne Spotts, home recovering from a broken hip.
 - John Lovejoy, Paul & Joan Lovejoy's son, who will start another round of chemo to target remaining 20% of cancer the first round didn't remove.
 - Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety.
- Serving from our church are:

Brenden Bostelman (Army)

701 Quartermaster Rd. #1185
JBER, AK 99505

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)

(Stationed at Fort Gordon, GA)
4050 Brownstone Dr., Apt. 919
Evans, GA 30809

Cpt. Jared R. Kuntz (Army)

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

Donny Richardson (Marines)

Deployed to Okinawa, Japan in February

Steven Schink (Coast Guard)

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

AJ Short (Marines)

Graduated from basic training on February 24th
Leaves for North Carolina on March 5th for
9 weeks of infantry training

Kollin Woolace (Marines)

Basic Training - Parris Island, SC

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

Shirley Wyse, #124

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

Lois Heer, Room #238

Jane Short, Room #208

Pauline Short, Room #205

Wyse Commons, 550 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502

Wayne & Susanne Spiess, Apt. #309

Independent Living, 600 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502

Rosemarie Schmidt, Apt. #112

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 Justin Pursel and
Kelsey Weirauch
who were married in
Pettisville on Feb. 18th.
Their new address is:
1639 County Rd 17,
Wauseon, Ohio 43567.



CONGRATULATIONS

to Dustin and Kathy
Buckenmeyer, upon the
birth of their son, Oliver
James, on February 1st.
He weighed 5 lbs., 10 oz.
and was 19-3/4" long.
Grandparents include Dean
Buckenmeyer.



pastor's letter

Thoughts from Pastor Erich . . .

Following my sermon drawn from Zechariah 8 on February 19th, Jim Grieser stopped me in the hallway and shared that he had a thought about the scripture. Jim referred to how Zechariah the prophet had worked to encourage the people to restart their work of rebuilding the temple, since their energy and efforts had waned over time, eventually grinding to a halt. Zechariah's message included aspects of hope and promise for the future. Jim thought it would be a good lesson in relationship to our Imagine Your Faith Building Campaign, and I agree with him! And it's a good lesson for many aspects of our ministry and mission.

We cannot let our spiritual fervor wane, but with perseverance and fortitude we must rely upon the words of Paul I quoted in my sermon, from Philippians 3:12-14: "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

The Season of Lent is upon us, a blessed time of 40 days to press on, taking hold of what Christ intends for us, straining toward the goal of eternal salvation.

I encourage you, as I will myself, to spend more time in prayer in these coming days, praising God and listening for his wisdom, giving energy to strengthening our spiritual faith relationship with Jesus Christ our Lord.

I'm reminded of how Jesus came out of his forty day journey in the desert to face temptation from Satan, and he responded with the power and authority of scripture. Can we be encouraged to read and memorize a new verse or passage each day, or one a week, during Lent? What temptations are we facing? What scripture can we discover that will give us strength to say "no"?

May this Lenten Season be one of encouragement, one of deepening of faith, and one of praising and thanking our Glorious God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessings in Christ...

ERICH

preschool corner

At the beginning of February, we finished talking about Zoo Animals/Noah's Ark. The following week was all about Valentine's Day, and extended into the next week with our Valentine parties! We made valentines for friends and family at the Art Table and Writing Center, and the older children learned to fold paper and cut out hearts at the Fine Motor center. The older children also completed a fun art activity, as they used the warming tray to melt crayons and make butterflies. We spent a few days talking about Dental Health, and how important it is to take care of our teeth. The younger children made "Healthy Smiles" collages, while the older children made a model of a tooth on paper, labeling the parts. The children played a "roll and cover" dice game in the Math Center, filling a mouth with playdough 'teeth', and the Sensory Table was busy with little dentists 'flossing' Mega Blocks 'teeth' with yarn. We also painted at the easel with toothbrushes! The last two weeks of the month were spent talking about Community Helpers. This unit is always a favorite of the children, as we talk about the people in our town who help us! Among our visitors were a police officer and his K-9 partner and a baker from Lange's bakery. Our Dramatic Play area was set up like "St. John's Sandwich Shop" one week, and the children enjoyed taking orders, making sandwiches and using the cash register. The last week of the month, they used their hair styling skills in "St. John's Hair Salon/Barber Shop".

Our Bible verse for the month was "A friend loves at all times." Proverbs 17:17

A special "thank you" to those who continue to support this ministry with prayers and "Fish Bowl" donations from our hallway donations board!!

congregational news

cont.

On Sunday, February 19th, we celebrated the dedication of Liam Ericson Yoder at our 10:30 service of worship. Liam's parents are Eric and Anna Yoder, and he has an older brother, Finn. Grandparents



include Dale and Sharon VonDeylen, and Liam's sponsors were Aaron and Bri Jenkins.

congregational thank you's

Thank you for all the flowers, prayers, cards, memorials and meals that were provided during this difficult time. We also appreciated Pastor Erich and Pastor Alex for their visits.

The family of Junior Grime



I am well taken care of by the nurses and aides here at Fulton Manor, and the food is good. Thank you for all the letters, cards and pictures I have received, as well as those who stop by to visit and chat. All is very much appreciated.

Bernice Rice



I want to thank everyone who has been so kind to send me cards, notes, etc. since my transition to my Fairlawn apartment. A special thanks to all who transport me to church, the grocery store, etc.

And a very special thanks to our Pastors for their concern for me. All of this makes living alone easier.

Josephine Short



Thank you, Pastor Erich, for conducting the memorial service, and to the congregation of St. John's for allowing us to have the memorial meal in the parish hall.

The family of Thomas Conner

mission corner

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Altlink (Langsdorfs), for our gift of \$120.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$125.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$365.
- Church World Service, for our gift of \$545.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$125.

- Mighty in the Land Ministries, for our gift of \$150.
- Reliant (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$190.
- Reliant (Matt Pardi), for our gift of \$40.
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission, for our gift of \$50.



WOW oh wow, has February been busy! I traveled to Texas with my mom during the first weekend, helped host my sister's bridal shower the second weekend, and helped lead our annual women's retreat where over 500 college women came together for worship!

It may have been an exhausting few weeks, but God certainly moved in big ways. The number of women at retreat alone is enough to fill an entire letter! Six of our girls attended "Real Hope for Real Life" where they spent their weekend digging deeper into their identity in Christ. Worship was beautiful, conversations deep, and hope restored. It was an honor watching my girls' hearts open to Jesus a little more with each passing hour.

Another opportunity we had through She Has a Name (an organization fully devoted and passionate about justice and restoration being brought to our world through raising awareness for human trafficking) was to send students to Life Beyond the Streets: a nonprofit in Columbus that lives up to it's name - giving women hope and life beyond prostitution and trafficking. Our students helped assemble "love" bags (hygiene items) to pass out to women living in some of the hardest places in Columbus, and their eyes were opened as they saw first-hand women facing the struggle and intensity of human trafficking. Although painful, God used this experience to give these students more of a heart to serve in this ministry. I'm blessed beyond measure to get to team up with these organizations and provide opportunities for students to get connected with social justice issues in our city. God is restoring and He is using us to play a role in Columbus.

Coming in March we have our spring break trips! Over 200 students are signed up to spend their week with H2O! How cool?! Steve (my husband) and I are helping lead a trip to the Smoky Mountains where we will focus our week on scripture and learning how to connect with God through His Word. Roughly 50 students are signed up to attend.

I cannot believe we are halfway through the semester already, and then another school year will be over! Aside from our trip to the Smokies, Steve and I will make our way to North Carolina for my sister's wedding in March.

I'm incredibly thankful for your generosity, kindness and support. I hope you know how loved you are, and how big of a role you are playing in what God is doing in the next generation. Please feel free to reach out with questions or prayer requests. I love hearing from you!

Always, Whitney Varnau, Reliant Ministries

mission corner cont.

March Mission-A-Month - Friendship House:



The Friendship House is an Archbold ministry supported by area churches and coordinated by Cecily Rohrs. This two story home, located near downtown Archbold, is set up to house one or two family units at a time. The home provides shelter for individuals and families until they are able to become self-sufficient. The home is almost always occupied and has been a tremendous help to numerous residents. The Friendship House is endorsed by the Archbold Area Ministerial Association and is coordinated by a volunteer board.

The main need of the Friendship House at this point is further financial support for operating expenses. This month we ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this community ministry that strives to care for those in need of a place to stay and have a fresh start in life.

2017 Summer Habitat Mission Trip:

A week has been reserved at Tower Hill Church Camp for June 11-16, 2017. That's the place of lodging for this annual time of service with the LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity. Bob Long, Executive Director of that local HFH affiliate, is looking forward to having a group from SJCC help them start the next build project. Tower Hill is about a two hour trip northwest of Archbold, located in Sawyer, Michigan, while the build sites are located around Michigan City, Indiana – two time zones to contend with!

There is room for up to 13 people to participate in this trip, 14 years of age and older. The group leaves Sunday afternoon, June 11, and arrives at Tower Hill after enjoying dinner along the way. Monday thru Friday, the group eats breakfast in the camp dining hall, then heads to the build site for a day of framing. Work ends late afternoon, when the group heads back to the camp for the evening meal in the dining hall once again, though normally one meal during the week

is enjoyed at a local restaurant. Lunches are provided at the work site. Work ends early afternoon on Friday, with the group returning to Archbold a few hours later.

Habitat for Humanity is designed to equip unskilled volunteers learn various skills, while also welcoming skilled volunteers too. Past participants to talk with include Mike Meyer, Greg Walker, Kelly Ducey, Tammy Nofziger and Duane & Linda Hayes.

Cost of the trip, covering lodging, transportation and most meals is \$125 per person.

Back Bay Mission Trip:

The group returned to Archbold on Friday, February 17th, after spending three days working to restore a home and half a day working at the Back Bay Mission House. The bus trips down and back were uneventful! The group stayed in Cullman, Alabama for a night on the way down, and stayed in Bowling Green, Kentucky on the way home. The trip down was timed perfectly to eat Sunday lunch at “The Shed” – a well-known local barbeque place (The Shed used to have their own cooking reality show, and has been featured on Diners, Drive-ins and Dives!). Then after shopping for groceries at Wal-Mart, the group settled in at the mission house for the week. Mike Meyer soon appeared and we enjoyed spending the week with him – he's doing well and enjoying his volunteer work with all of the groups who've come to work at BBM. Sunday dinner featured boiled shrimp, homemade crab cakes, salad and French bread!

The group shared the mission house with a group from Federated Church of Charlton, Massachusetts for the week. After orientation and safety training on Monday morning, the group drove 20 minutes up the coast to a home in Gulfport. A group the week before had begun the work of gutting the home, having removed all of the flooring, wall drywall and insulation – filling up two dumpsters in the process. Our group filled up two more – with materials from removing three room additions to the home, the ceiling drywall and insulation and damaged framing. After three days of work, most of the termite damaged framing had been replaced and the home was ready for new electrical and plumbing work. Thursday the group made several repairs to the mission house, before heading home shortly after noon.

The week featured good conversation and fellowship, plenty of new stories to laugh about, and friendships were created and deepened.

Craig Steenkamp, the staff person in charge of the home restoration and construction program, is hoping that BBM will be ready to build two new houses come

October, counting on SJCC volunteers to frame the walls of the two houses in a week's time! That trip is scheduled for October 7-14.

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

web site - www.reliant.org

e-mail - kyle.chase@nlcweb.org

Matt Pardi, Reliant

web site - www.reliant.org

e-mail - matt.pardi@reliant.org



Whitney Varnau, Reliant

web site - www.reliant.org

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



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

The Agape Family Life House

website - www.agapeflh.org

Jason & Becky Suon, Freedom International Ministries

web site - www.itisforfreedom.com

e-mail - JasonSuon@itisforfreedom.com

e-mail - BeckySuon@itisforfreedom.com

ministry happenings

Christian Education

Mid-Week Children's and Youth Ministries:

LOGOS – Themes for the month of March are:
March 1 - Ash Wednesday Night (altered schedule);
March 8 - Spring Forward Night; March 15 - Purim Night;
March 22 - March Madness Night; March 29 - NO LOGOS due to Spring Break.

Junior Choir sings on Sunday, March 12th at the 10:30 service of worship.

JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship) – This month we've had fun playing various games, studying the Bible, praying for our troops, and planning for the annual Congregational Movie Night. We'll be showing a movie for younger kids at 4PM titled Moe & The Big Exit (Veggie Tales), and then will be starting the feature movie, God's Not Dead 2, around 5:30PM. The movie tells the story of students, teachers and pastors who live out their faith in the midst of a culture that is antagonistic toward their beliefs. Pizza will be served between the movies, approx. 5-5:30PM.

SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship) – Last month we finished our series through the story of the Old Testament, which paralleled St. John's sermon series. This month, beginning on March 8, we're starting a new series in which we'll be talking about various spiritual disciplines, especially prayer and studying God's Word. But we won't just be talking about these disciplines...we'll be taking time each night to apply what we've learned. As the old proverb goes, "Give a man a fish, and you'll feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you'll feed him for a lifetime."

SYF Mission Trip Announcement – We will be having a meeting in the Youth Room on March 5th at 2PM for all who are going on the mission trip. We will go over required paperwork and begin talking more about our ministry in West Virginia.

Life Planning – Remember to mark on your calendars Sunday, March 19th (3PM in kitchen), for our special Life Planning event, where we will be leading the services at Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission.

Events / Activities

Community Meal Ministry:

The calendar is filling out for this weekly ministry of food and fellowship. A dedicated crew of volunteers from SJCC helps with set-up and clean-up each week, and we're always looking for others to assist with clearing tables, washing dishes, and putting everything away. It's a very worthwhile time of service, for an hour-an-a-half each Tuesday!

Man Camp:

Steaks, bacon, hatchets, and fire. Need we say more? The date of this fun-filled, spiritual weekend is April 7th – 9th at Miracle Camp. The cost is \$125 which includes lodging and meals. Check with Bruce Wooley if you have questions or visit www.miraclecamp.com/mancamp. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board – the earlier you sign-up, the better your accommodations might be!

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>8:00AM Worship 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation 10:30AM Worship</p>	<p>Mission-A-Month— Friendship House Elder of the Month— Joyce Kinsman</p>		<p>1 Ash Wednesday 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 6:00PM LOGOS Meal 6:30PM Junior Choir 7:00PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:00PM SYF 8:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 9:00AM Mending @ Fairlawn 6:00PM 4th Grade Basketball 6:00PM Preschool T-Th AM Class Mom's Night 7:00PM Mission Comm.</p>	<p>3 5:30PM Non-Member Wedding Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 10AM HS Girls Bible Study 3:00PM Non-Member Wedding (Sanctuary)</p>
<p>5 2PM SYF Mission Trip Meeting</p>	<p>6 11:15AM Staff Meeting 4:00PM YFC Basketball Practice</p>	<p>7 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Capital Campaign</p>	<p>8 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Junior Choir / JYF 7:00PM Lenten Service 7:00PM Life Planning 7:00PM SYF Renix 8:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9 9:00AM Mending @ Fairlawn 6:00PM Scouts District Meeting</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 9AM Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby 10AM HS Girls Bible Study Daylight Savings Time Begins Tomorrow (set clocks ahead 1 hour)</p>
<p>12 Daylight Savings Time Begins 10:30AM Junior Choir Sings</p>	<p>13 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Preschool MWV AM Class Dad's Night</p>	<p>14 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 6:30PM Cub Scouts Den Migs. 6:30PM Tiger Cubs (Parish Hall) 7:00PM Evangelism Comm. 7:00PM Property Committee 8:00PM Praise Band Reh.</p>	<p>15 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Bells / Chimes / JYF 7:00PM Lenten Service 7:00PM SYF 8:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16 9:00AM Mending @ Fairlawn 6:00PM 4th Grade Basketball</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 10AM HS Girls Bible Study</p>
<p>19 3:00PM TGRM Chapel & Meal (Life Planning Grp.) 3:00PM Joan Griesser Piano Recital 4:00PM JYF Movie Night (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>20 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 6:30PM Preschool MWV PM Class Dad's Night 7:30PM Consistory</p>	<p>21 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal</p>	<p>22 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Bells / Chimes / JYF 7:00PM Lenten Service 7:00PM SYF 8:00PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>23 9:00AM Mending @ Fairlawn</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 10AM HS Girls Bible Study Non-Member Wedding (Chapel)</p>
<p>26 12:00PM Private Party (Parish Hall/Kitchen) 3:00PM Alex Young's Ordination Service</p>	<p>27 11:15AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>28 9:15AM Bible Study 1:30PM Bingo @ Fairlawn 5:00PM Community Meal 8:00PM Praise Band Reh.</p>	<p>29 7:00PM Lenten Service 7:30PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30 9:00AM Mending @ Fairlawn</p>	<p>31</p>	

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

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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Camden Warncke
- 2 Cameron Yoder
- 3 Cindy Sauder, Rosemarie Schmidt
- 4 Mary Jo Britt
- 5 Roger & Kay Merillat, Brent & Lynda Schnitkey
- 6 Keith & Nici Wyse
- 7 Jeff Nofziger, Aimee Roth, Aiden & Owen Storrer
- 8 Brad Enderle, Meridith Short
- 10 Ann Grime
- 11 Julie Buehrer, Lindsay Wyse
- 12 Katie Layton, Dawsyn Martinez, Lucas & Carrie Nofziger
- 13 Bud & Tootie Beck, Kenny Cowell, Bryson Martinez
- 16 Rachel Kinsman, Ron Rice
- 17 Raegan Rutledge
- 18 Molly Rutledge
- 19 Ben & Sue Buehrer, Jeremy & Sarah Kinsman
- 21 Jenna Storrer
- 22 Sandy Frazier
- 23 Sue Grieser, Brent Winzeler
- 26 Bo Krukowski, Jacob Nofziger, Esther Rice
- 27 Jon Rupp
- 28 Jamie Beck, John Beck, Jodi Beltz
- 29 Carson Baden, Cagnee Grime, Leah Nafziger
- 30 Dean & Lou Ann Beck, Dorothy Miller, Mark Nofziger, Jeremy Neuenschwander, Jeff & Cathy Nofziger, Wyatt Overmier
- 31 Brayden Hall

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

ministry happenings

cont.

Vacation Bible School (VBS):

Directors of this year's VBS are Amy Baden, Mindy Gruenhagen and Carrie Nofziger. The week of VBS this year will be June 25th thru 29th. They are working on curriculum and theme selection!



Christian Resources International:

Christian Resources International 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 - that you no longer use, please donate them to this project. There is a box labeled to receive literature in the chapel narthex. If you have a large amount of literature, please contact Gloria Lauber

(419-445-7882) or Norma Fish (419-799-9172). Also note any books can be donated. Christian Resources International works with another company that gathers secular books to redistribute, and that company donates Bibles and Christian literature they receive to Christian Resources International. See that Christian material you no longer need or use continues to be useful in getting The Word out!

Easter Flowers & Memorials:

Sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board for ordering Easter flowers (deadline March 26th) and giving Easter memorials (deadline April 5th). Flowers available for \$9 each are daffodils, lilies, hyacinths (blue, pink and white), mums (pink, yellow and white) and tulips (red, pink, purple and yellow). Memorials can be given in any amount. Memorial and flower sponsorships will be listed in Easter Sunday bulletins, and flowers will be available for pick up after the 10:30 service of worship on Easter Sunday.



Instant Church Directory Online:

To download the mobile app, visit: <http://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/appl/>.

We continue to work on getting a printed version of the church directory. Pages are being configured and information being input. There is still time to submit a picture (high res digital image is preferred, but we can also scan pictures). Please contact Sue in the church office with any questions or to submit a picture.

College / Grad School / Military Prayer Calendar

Day of Month	College	Address		City	State	Zip	School
1	Beck, Marissa	Fenn Tower 0605	2450 Euclid Ave	Cleveland	OH	44115	Cleveland State University
2	Garza, Grace	26619 County Rd EF		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSSCC
3	Grieser, Bailey	407 W Holland St		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSSCC
4	Hires, Brooke - 334	Spring Arbor University	106 E Main St	Spring Arbor	MI	49283	Spring Arbor University
5	Kinsman, Matthew	Room 531	204 Beach Rd	Ames	IA	50013-0025	Iowa State University
6	Lehman, Jenny	527 Wittenberg Avenue		Springfield	OH	45504	Wittenberg University
7	Mann, Jeremy	Oakwood Hall, Room 315		Mishawaka	IN	46545	Bethel College
8	McCandless, Morgan	Apt 1308B		Youngstown	OH	44502	Youngstown State Univ
9	Notziger, Delaney	Apt 102		Grand Rapids	MI	49505	Acquinas College
10	Notziger, Dustin	1592 Co Rd 16		Wauseon	OH	43567	NW State Comm College
11	Notziger, Jacob	Kreischer Compton, Room 437C		Bowling Green	OH	43403	Bowling Green State Univ
13	Rice, Dinah	813 West St		Archbold	OH	43502	BCGSU & Online Classes
14	Salinas, Alicia	1321 A Villa Way		Charlottesville	VA	22903	University of Virginia
15	Schnitkey, Tyson	Copper Beech Townhomes, Unit 4F	2057 Napoleon Road	Bowling Green	OH	43402	Bowling Green State Univ
16	Short, Ashley	44 E Frambes Ave		Columbus	OH	43201	Ohio State University
17	Short, Casen	334 Centennial Hall	1101 E Wooster St	Bowling Green	OH	43403-4003	Bowling Green State Univ
18	Short, Meridith	4549 Steinbeck		Ames	IA	50014	Iowa State University
19	Smith, Kinsey	Apt 129	652 N Interprise St	Bowling Green	OH	43402	Bowling Green State Univ
20	Walker, Cayla	803 Buckeye St		Archbold	OH	43502	Defiance College
21	Walker, Michael	1601 South 8th St		Goshen	IN	46526	Goshen College
22	Walters, Mondesi	Tuckey 108	1001 Bethel Circle	Mishawaka	IN	46545	Bethel College
23	Warncke, Ethan	Apt 1814K Bedspace B	1814 N Westwood Ave	Toledo	OH	43607	University of Toledo
23	Wyse, Katie	333 Carr Hall	97 South Green Dr	Athens	OH	45701	Ohio University
24	Zamudio, Nireya	202 Park St		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSSCC
							Branch of Military
25	Pvt. Bostelman Brenden L	701 Quartermaster Rd. #1185		JBER	AK	99505	Army
26	Stg. Benjamin Chapman	Box 516		APO	AI	89898	Army National Guard
27	AB Collins Taylor	268 Luke Ave., Box 700	Joint Base Anacostia	Bolling	DC	20032	Airforce
28	Ducey, Kyle	4050 Brownstone Dr, Apt 919		Evans	GA	30809	Navy
29	Jared Kuntz	HHB 2-1, ADA BN	Unit 15754 Box #409	APO	AP	96369	Army
30	Mr & Mrs Steven R Schink	150 Dewey Ave		Groton	CT	6340	Coast Guard
30	AJ Short	No Current Address Available			NC		Marines
31	Kolin Woolace	No Current Address Available		Paris Island	SC		Marines
31	Kolitin Zimmermann	Fort Campbell		Oak Grove	KY		Army

worship

March Worship Information:

2017 Season of Lent:

This year's Lenten journey begins on March 1st, the day we know as Ash Wednesday, and will continue through our Holy Week services, culminating with the celebration of Easter on April 16th. Our Sunday morning worship will follow the Revised Common Lectionary readings of Year A, with our 7PM Wednesday Lenten services exploring the practices and themes of Lent.

- March 1st 7:00PM Ash Wednesday Service
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Special Music – “Welcomed Home Again” – Mixed Quartet
Scriptures – Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Sermon – “Lenten Practices, Lenten Devotions” – Pastor Erich
- March 5th First Sunday of Lent
Scriptures – Genesis 2:15-17, Matthew 4:1-11
Sermon – “Temptation: Will It Ever End?” – Pastor Erich
10:30 Praise Band
10:30 Special Music – Chancel Choir – “Seek Ye First”
Mission Announcement – The Friendship House – Cecily Rohrs
- March 12th Second Sunday of Lent
Scriptures – Psalm 121, John 3:1-21
Sermon – “A Time for Questions” – Pastor Erich
10:30 Special Music – Junior Choir – “Don’t Worry About Tomorrow”
- March 19th Third Sunday of Lent
Scriptures – Psalm 95, John 4:1-42
Sermon – Pastor Alex
Pastor Erich will be preaching at West Clinton Mennonite Church
10:30 Praise Band
10:30 Special Music – “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”
- March 26th Fourth Sunday of Lent
Scriptures – Psalm 23, John 9:1-41
Sermon – “Skepticism and Doubt” – Pastor Erich
10:30 Special Music – Chancel Choir – “Wonderful, Magnificent God”

Wednesday Evening Services During Lent:

Each Wednesday (March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th) at 7PM, adults are invited to gather in the sanctuary for a time of worship and teaching as we explore the themes and practices of the Lenten season.

Lenten Coin Folders:

Youth and adult Lenten coin folders are available on a table in the sanctuary narthex. Please feel free to pick yours up today! These offerings will be collected on Easter Sunday (April 16) and will be divided equally between the Aroles and Back Bay Mission.

housekeeping

E-mailing the Church Office and Pastors:

There might be two e-mail addresses floating around in cyberspace for e-mailing Sue Grieser or Pastor Erich or Pastor Alex. Addresses with “rteexpress.net” will work, but our primary e-mail addresses have “stjohnsarchbold.org” in them. There is no need to e-mail both types of addresses – using office@stjohnsarchbold.org, pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org or pastoralex@stjohnsarchbold.org will work!

consistory/committees

Consistory Minutes of February 20, 2017:

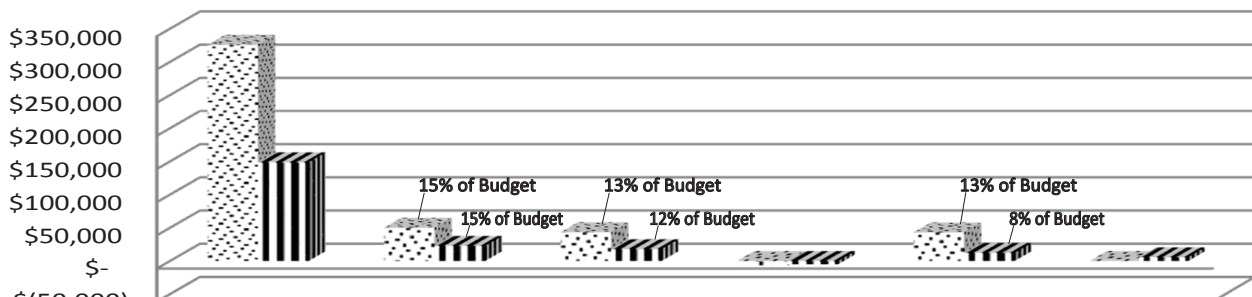
Meeting opened with devotions by Amy Baden, reading from Hebrews 3:4 and talking about building up our faith. Members shared in a time of getting better acquainted, responding to one of three questions: share favorite Bible Story, share favorite hymn or song, or share favorite place you like to go to and pray. A communion server sign-up for March 1st was passed around and filled out. Minutes of the February Consistory meeting were approved.

Committee Reports included:

- Budget & Stewardship Committee** – Joyce Kinsman shared that Alex’s HSA benefits are being caught up now that his account is in place. Everything seems to be in line. Motion to approve: Dean Sauder and 2nd by Carrie Wooley, reports approved.
- Mission Committee** – David Stuckey shared the disbursements of FISH Pantry - \$1,500, Bluestreak Bags - \$1,000, Bethel College (Jeremy Mann) - \$500, Total Disbursements \$3,000
- Property Committee** – Eric Nafziger reported that Betsy Redd has volunteered to coordinate the playground bids. Playground will be kept where it currently sits. Quotes hopefully to come at the next Consistory meeting. Landscape lights outside – possible upgrade to LED lights.
- Spiritual Council** – Pastor Erich reported the council spent time in prayer over the congregation and pastoral concerns. The council reviewed the Elder job description. Reviewed the Ecclesiastical council interview process for Pastor Alex’s Ordination. In the process of filling vacant spots on the Pastoral Care Committee. Spent 30 minutes studying scripture as a start of reviewing the process used for electing officers and consistory members in the church.
- Pastor’s Report** – Pastor Erich is working to schedule a Leadership Retreat and will e-mail out potential evenings and poll the Consistory members. Erich shared a report about the sanctuary organ, which needs some expensive repairs. SJCC has a history of maintaining the building. Would removing the organ benefit space issues for the piano and to accommodate praise band? Organ renovation is not on the capital campaign list of things to do, quotes were obtained after the need list was made. Consistory members could ask around and feel out members of SJCC to see if the organ is vital during worship. A vote of the congregation may be necessary to determine if it should be kept. Congregation needs to be aware of the organ issues and why it’s not being used currently. Larry Beck has been asked to help provide information about the organ. Consistory will wait to hear from him concerning his ideas about the organ. Chapel Organ hasn’t been played in at least 15 years, does it need kept? Owner of the business that sold us that organ is no longer in business, and had no ideas as to how to maintain it today. Pastor Erich will check the memorial notebook as to who it was purchased by, or given by. A request from a neighbor of the church to use the Parish Hall and kitchen for a birthday party for her mother. Not a member, just a neighbor, can she use it? No established cost for use of Parish Hall. \$50.00 rental was approved.
- Associate Pastors Report** – Pastor Alex is moving forward with Mission Trip. 6 students and 3 adults signed up so far. Initial deposit was sent in.

stewardship

2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of Feb 20, 2017



	2017 Budget	2017 Budget % of year (9/52 wks)	2017 YTD Receipts	Receipts Comp to YTD Budget	YTD Expenses	2017 YTD Receipts Comp to Expenses
Operating	\$325,850	\$50,131	\$43,453	\$(6,677)	\$43,294	\$160
Missions	\$148,800	\$22,892	\$18,068	\$(4,824)	\$12,385	\$5,684

St. John's Christian Church - 2016 Missions Budget Report

As of January 31, 2017		2017 Goals	2017 YTD Inc	2017 YTD Exp
1	Beginning Balance Missions Fund (1/1/17)		\$ 41.14	
2	Undesignated Missions Fund Income		\$ 5,688.00	
3	Farm Rental / Second Mile Interest Income		\$ 500.47	
4	Agape Family Life House (Wyse/China)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 25.00	
5	Altlink (Langsdorfs - The Islands)	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00
6	Aroles - CRHP - Jamkhed, India	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 395.00	
7	Aroles - CRHP - Lenten	\$ 1,000.00		
8	Back Bay Mission - Biloxi	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
9	Back Bay Mission - Lenten	\$ 1,000.00		
10	Back Bay Mission - Trips	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 250.00	
11	Cherry Street Mission - Toledo	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 285.00	\$ 285.00
12	Christmas Cheer - Fulton Cty	\$ 2,500.00		
13	Church Camp Registrations	\$ 2,000.00		
14	Church World Service - Blanket	\$ 1,000.00		
15	Church World Service - Clean Up Kits	\$ 500.00	\$ 545.00	\$ 545.00
16	College Scholarship	\$ 6,000.00		
17	Community Meals	\$ 4,000.00		\$ 352.10
18	Crossroad - Fort Wayne	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
19	Crossroad - Advent	\$ 2,000.00		
20	Cru (Waanders)	\$ 1,000.00		
21	Evangelical Association	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
22	FISH Panty - Archbold	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 490.00	\$ 1,206.40
23	Foods Resource Bank - Local	\$ 2,300.00		
24	Foods Resource Bank - Thank Offerings	\$ 500.00		
25	Freedom International Ministries (Suons - DR)	\$ 1,000.00		
26	Friendship House - Archbold	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
27	Reliant - Kyle Chase (UM)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 190.00	\$ 190.00
28	Reliant - Matt Pardi (UT)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
29	Reliant - Whitney Varnau (OSU)	\$ 1,000.00		
30	Habitat for Humanity - Fulton Cty	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 79.50
31	Habitat for Humanity - Michigan City	\$ 1,500.00		
32	Hands of Grace - Fulton Cty	\$ 2,000.00		
33	Kajiado Children's Home (Rupps)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 160.00	
34	Kajiado Child Sponsorships	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 223.00	
35	Love Fund (Members)	\$ 1,000.00		
36	Mighty in the Land (Robert Rogers)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
37	Operation Christmas Child - Fulton Cty	\$ 1,000.00		
38	Outback Youth Center - Archbold (YFC)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
39	Pioneers (Doriots - Chicago)	\$ 2,000.00		
40	Shepherd's Circle - Archbold	\$ 1,500.00		
41	Sparrow's Nest - Toledo	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00
42	Sparrow's Nest - Thank Offerings	\$ 500.00		
43	St. John's Christian Preschool	\$ 3,000.00		
44	St. John's Evangelism Outreach	\$ 2,500.00		
45	SYF - Mission Trip Support	\$ 2,250.00		
46	SYF - Next Year Trip Deposit	\$ 750.00		
47	Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
48	Urgent Mission Outreach	\$ 3,500.00		
49	Walk In Assist Program (Non-members)	\$ 2,000.00		
50	WMTR Radio Pause for Praise	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 380.00
51	World Team (Franks - Brazil)	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 310.00	
52	Youth Leadership Training	\$ 2,000.00		
53	Totals	\$ 148,800.00	\$ 9,862.61	\$ 5,298.00

IYFB Campaign Total Receipts as of January 30, 2017 - \$455,643.09

March 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 A False Start -----	Joshua 2:1-16	17 The Proclaimers -----	Joshua 8:30-35
2 An Unexpected Savior -----	Joshua 2:17-24	18 The Medium is the Message -----	Hebrews 1:1-14
3 The Lord Leads the Way -----	Joshua 3:1-17	19 Can you Help Me? -----	Psalm 54
4 The Need to Remember -----	Joshua 4:1-9	20 The Son Superior to Angels -----	Hebrews 1:5-14
5 Your Faithful People -----	Psalm 52	21 Listen Up! Look Up! -----	Hebrews 2:1-9
6 Right Understanding -----	Joshua 4:10-24	22 One of the Family -----	Hebrews 2:10-18
7 An End to the Exodus -----	Joshua 5:1-12	23 On the Move -----	Hebrews 3:1-6
8 A Drawn Sword -----	Joshua 5:13-15	24 The Sacrament of Now -----	Hebrews 3:7-19
9 Waiting for God to Act -----	Joshua 6:1-11	25 Into the Boardroom -----	Hebrews 4:1-11
10 Disobedience in Judgment -----	Joshua 6:12-19	26 Betrayed! -----	Psalm 55
11 Jericho Finally Falls -----	Joshua 6:20-27	27 Don't Give Up! -----	Hebrews 4:12-16
12 The Action of God -----	Psalm 53	28 Perfect in Every Way -----	Hebrews 5:1-10
13 Trust Issues -----	Joshua 7:1-9	29 Time to Grow Up -----	Hebrews 5:11-6:3
14 Jesus Equals Everything -----	Joshua 7:10-26	30 No Room for Complacency -----	Hebrews 6:4-12
15 Man With a Plan -----	Joshua 8:1-17	31 The Anchor for the Soul -----	Hebrews 6:13-20
16 Holy Patience -----	Joshua 8:18-29		

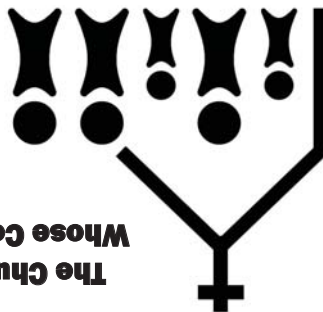
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 Website www.stjohnsarchbold.org
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 Sunday School 9:15AM

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St. John's Christian Church
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Archbold, OH 43502

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together
 Holy Communion:
 New Year (1/8), Ash Wednesday (3/1), Maundy Thursday (4/13),
 Pentecost (6/4), Mid-Summer (7/16), 1st Sunday in October (10/1),
 1st Sunday of Advent (12/3)



The Church on the Corner
Whose Cornerstone is Christ

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 Archbold, OH
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