



Dean & Lou Ann Beck

**Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together**



Gavin, Amanda & Ken Walker

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! Fifth Sunday of Lent

Lighting of the Altar Candles and Ringing of the Tower Bells

Welcome, Scripture and Prayer

Psalm 130 (p. 614)

Prelude

“I Know That My Redeemer Liveth”

† Call to Worship (L–Leader; *P–People*; A–All)

L: Creator of life, bring us light, we pray.

**P: Comforter in times of death, take away our grief, we pray.**

L: Refresher of dry lives, bind us to God forever, we pray, as we pray together,

**A: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

† (8:00) Hymn – #59

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

† (10:30) Praise Song

“Forever”

† Call to Reconciliation: If it is true that God has recorded our failings, we hope it will never be published. But in truth, if the book was opened, every page would be blank, for God forgives us of everything we have done, or failed to do, as we confess and seek His forgiveness. So, let us wait for God's mercy and grace, as we come with our prayers for forgiveness.

† Unison Prayer for Forgiveness: *We know we are set free by your saving grace, Generous God, yet we must confess how we are still bound by our pride and arrogance. We seem unable to throw off the grave clothes of our habitual sin. We cling to our fears, for they are so familiar and comfortable. Yet, there in every corner of our lives, in every shadow we fear, into the cold embrace of death itself, you come, O Steadfast Love. You break the bonds of sin and death, calling us to new life through the love and sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Forgive us, Heavenly Father, we pray. In the name of Jesus. Amen.*

† Assurance of Pardon

L: You can put your hope in God, dear friends, for God offers us that love which never fades, that life which never ends.

**P: We wait for God, and God does not fail us. God's hope, God's love, and God's grace are forever. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

† (8:00) Hymn Response – #201, v. 1

“Grace Greater Than Our Sin”

† (10:30) Praise Response

“We Believe”

† Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Message

(#580) “Jesus Loves the Little Children”

Prayers of the People

(10:30) Chancel Choir

“Bring Back the Springtime”

Scripture Reading  
Sermon (notes on pg. 4)  
Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings of Gratitude  
Offertory

John 11:17-37 (p. 1063)  
“It’s a Real Relationship”

† Doxology (#625) and Prayer of Dedication  
† Closing Hymn – #296  
† Spoken Benediction  
† Benediction in Song  
† Postlude

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”

“Go Now In Peace”

## 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 faithful 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](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org).

### **Membership Orientation**

St. John’s Christian Church offers periodic orientation sessions to inform people about beliefs, ministries and the history of this local congregation. Orientation includes three group sessions and one home visit by one of the pastors. Please let Pastor Erich, Pastor Alex or Sue Grieser know if you would be interested in attending future sessions offered.

### **St. John’s Christian Preschool**

A learning, Christian ministry geared for children 3-5 years of age. Four sessions offered: Tues/Thurs morning and afternoon, and Mon/Wed/Fri morning and afternoon; and run from September thru May. More information is available at [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org).

### **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, I want to thank you for your love, for the relationship you desire with me – with me! I admit I may not often remember you as my Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer. My prayers are often about what I want or what I need, or asking you to be a blessing in someone’s life. May I just spend time this week thanking you for the gift of life, for the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, and for the peace I experience as I trust in you. So, thank you, Lord, thank you, with all of my praise and honor and glory, for you alone are my God, my King, my Lord. Amen.

**Sermon – “It’s a Real Relationship”**  
**Scripture Text – John 11:17-37 (p. 1063)**

**John 9:3 and John 11:4 – for God’s glory, that the Son may be glorified**

**John 11:5 – Jesus loved Martha, Mary and Lazarus (3, 36)**

**John 11:15 – “so that you may believe”**

**John 11:17 – 4 days – popular belief – soul and body separated after 3 days – no hope**

**John 11:21-27 – Understanding and Belief**

**Forces belief or disbelief**

**John 11:33 – Jesus “was deeply moved in spirit and troubled”**

**Lazarus represents every believer who loves Jesus and is loved by him**

**Relationship:**

- **Foundation**
- **Support**
- **Balance**
- **Connection**



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

**Faith Village:** In the unit, "Symbols of Holy Week", we are learning about the events of Holy Week. We are using Matthew 21:1-17; 26-27; Mark 11:1-11; 14-15; Luke 19:28-40; 22-23; and John 12:12-19; 13-19. Nails and the Empty Tombs are some of the symbols of Holy Week. What part of the story of Holy Week do the Nails and Empty Tomb remind you of?

**Confirmation:** The youth considered the crucifixion of Jesus by exploring the south wall stained glass windows of the chapel, studying the Via Dolorosa – The Way of Sorrows. What window had the most meaning for you? What did it feel like to hold a crown of thorns? What did words of the prophet Isaiah have to say about the reasons Jesus was crucified? (Isaiah 53)

**Senior High Sunday School:** This week we looked at the "T" in the acronym "HABITS," describing the spiritual disciplines of Jesus followers. "T" stands for tithing, and so we talked about how the Lord instructs us to use even our money for the advancement of his kingdom. Parents and teens, have you talked together about how Christians can steward their money for God's glory? Set a time this week to continue the conversation.

**LOGOS / JYF:** There was no LOGOS or JYF due to Archbold area schools spring break last week. Both resume Wednesday, April 5th.

**SYF:** We enjoyed a night of playing games such as Spud, Dodgeball, and Protect the President. Our normal schedule resumes this week, with SYF starting at 7!

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## Celebrate Passover – A Christian Presentation of the Traditional Jewish Festival:

A Seder Meal will be observed on Maundy Thursday, April 13th. At the Last Supper, Jesus celebrated the Jewish Passover with his disciples and instituted the sacrament of communion. The Seder Meal is a re-enactment of the Passover meal, an annual memorial filled with great symbolism of God's faithfulness.

People are invited to gather in the parish hall at 6:30PM sitting at tables specially set for this symbolic feast. The Seder is a festival meal in which everyone present will be involved in reading, listening, singing and eating! The hope is that some of the excitement and awe of the first Passover in Egypt and the Passover Seder in the upper room in Jerusalem will be felt by all.

The Seder Meal will be our observance of Maundy Thursday, which will conclude with communion. There will be no 7PM service in the sanctuary this year. Complete below and place in offering plate or return to church office

----- Complete below and return if attending Seder Meal -----

Seder Meal – Maundy Thursday  
6:30PM, April 13th – in the Parish Hall

In order to be properly prepared for this special event, we need to know how many people plan on sharing in the Seder Meal. Please fill out this slip and drop it in the plate when our offerings are collected.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

## **WEEK OF APRIL 2ND AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Confirmation / Faith Village / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	6:00PM	Seekers Small Group (Kuntz's, 733 W. Leggett Street, Wauseon)
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting – Office Closed (Pastor Erich's Office)
	1:00PM	Worship Planning (Nursery)
	2:00PM	Pastors Meeting (Pastor Erich's Office)
	7:00PM	SYF Leaders Meeting (Youth Room)
Tues	9:15AM	Bible Study – Mark 14 (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Capital Campaign Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Upstairs Sunday School Classroom)
	5:50PM	LOGOS Meal – Joke and Riddle Night (Parish Hall / Kitchen)
	6:45PM	Hand Bells (Chapel); Hand Chimes (Parlor)
	6:45PM	JYF (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	Lenten Service (Sanctuary)
	7:00PM	SYF (Youth Room)
	8:00PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thur	5:00PM	JYF Departs for TobyMac Concert in Toledo (South Parking Lot)
	7:00PM	Mission Committee (Fireside Room)
Fri	3:00PM	Participants Depart for Man Camp (South Parking Lot)
Sat	10:00AM	High School Girls Bible Study (Youth Room)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Confirmation / Faith Village / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service – Hand Bells & Hand Chimes Play (Sanctuary)

### **Next Sunday – April 9 - Palm Sunday**

Sermon – “As We Approach” by Pastor Erich Christman; Scripture – Matthew 21:1-11

**Fairlawn Auxiliary Auction Donations Needed** – There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board for monetary donations needed for pork and pies for the auction. Please sign up and drop off cash or checks (made payable to Elaine Winzeler) at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

**Easter Memorials** – A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for Easter Memorials (deadline April 5th). 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 (extra flowers may be available for purchase - contact the church office if interested).

**Discovery\*** is a daily Bible reading guide that provides clear Bible explanation, prayers and relevant application questions. The Apr/May/June guides are available in the literature rack (suggested donation \$5.50 each). Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

April 3 - Getting Ready .....	Mark 14:12-26
April 4 - You've Been Warned .....	Mark 14:27-31
April 5 - The Hour Has Come .....	Mark 14:32-42
April 6 - The Bigger Picture .....	Mark 14:43-52
April 7 - Keeping Quiet–Sometimes! .....	Mark 14:53-65
April 8 - Warning Bells .....	Mark 14:66-72
April 9 - Sky Signing .....	Psalm 57

## **Missionaries Supported by Our Congregation and Their Current Prayer Requests:**

- † Africa – Tom & Megan – The Islands – Pray more islanders will seek to be good spouses. Pray for all the brothers and sisters on the islands that they could be a witness through strong and healthy marriages. Pray for an island neighbor who is pregnant because the OB has traveled to France so a midwife will need to handle any complications. She seems nervous and asks us to pray every time she sees us. And please pray for Tom’s sister who is pregnant.
- † Ann Arbor – Kyle Chase – Reliant Mission at Univ. of Michigan – Pray for Kyle as he continues to oversee the ministry and discipleship of North Campus students and staff, as well as oversee the teaching ministry of New Life Church.
- † Bowling Green – Robert & Jenni McMahan – Cru – pray for them as they continue to raise support as they join the staff of Cru on the BGSU campus this summer. The mission committee has given them \$500 for this year, and will discern further support at the end of the year.
- † Brazil – Matt & Paige Waanders – Cru – Florianopolis – See this month’s prayer feature below.
- † Brazil – Tony & Leila Frank – Pray for the light of discernment as Tony and Leila help the mission committee make decisions about a mission trip to visit with them in 2018.
- † Chicago – Jon & Rachel Doriot – Pioneers – Pray for Jon as he teaches a class on disciple making movements, and for both of them as they seek to do their best in demonstrating love, sharing Jesus through his Word and equip disciples to become disciples makers!
- † China – Cheryl Wyse – Agape Family Life House – Pray for discernment of the future of the work.
- † Columbus – Whitney Varnau – Reliant Mission at The Ohio State Univ. – Pray for students Molly, Courtney and Halley, that they will come to know Jesus deeper this semester; for students to invest their summer in Leadership Training; pray for the “She Has a Name Night of Jubilee” – praying for those affected by trafficking in Columbus.
- † Dominican Republic – Jason & Becky Suon – Freedom International Ministries – Pray as they prepare to return in a few weeks, enjoying a time of furlough and visiting at SJCC on May 14.
- † India – Dr. Shobha Arole & Mr. Ravi Arole – CRHP Jamkhed – Pray for the sustaining nature of this ministry, started in 1970, as they strive to be faithful to all who come their way.
- † Kenya – Larry & Linda Rupp – Kajiado Children’s Home – Pray for discernment about a trip to the home in September; pray for churches St. John’s can recruit to join the supporting efforts of KCH, and for additional sponsors so all children will be blessed with sponsorship.
- † Toledo – Matt Pardi – Reliant Mission at Univ. of Toledo – Pray as he continues to passionately minister with students who are tomorrows leaders who are passionate about serving Christ.

**Prayer for Matt & Paige Waanders:** Heavenly Father, as you sent Paul and Barnabas and Silas and Timothy, and so many other early missionaries out to the world, I thank you for sending Matt and Paige to Brazil. I pray for their health and strength, both physically and spiritually. As they continue to disciple college students, I pray you will give them the words, the boldness and the compassion to share your love with them. God, as Matt and Paige have asked us to pray for specific students, like Gaspar, Enrico, Elousie and Naira, I pray for the spiritual birth and wellbeing of these students – may they be receptive to Matt and Paige, and receptive to your light and love. Bless Matt and Paige with knowledge and wisdom and safety in these days. Amen.

# *April Mission-A-Month – Foods Resource Bank*

## **Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests - Please Pray For:**

- Crissi Stuckey, recovering from surgery to remove a lipoma from her shoulder.
- Mary Jo Britt, who is back at her apartment after an overnight stay at Defiance Hospital.
- Wayne Spiess, who is now home from the Rupp Rehab Center at Fairlawn.
- Myrl Zimmerman, who has returned to Fulton Manor.
- Dale Grime, recovering from shoulder surgery.
- John Lovejoy, Paul and Joan Lovejoy's son, undergoing chemo treatments.
- Gary Frazier, undergoing chemo treatments.
- Benjamin Chapman, who is returning home with his family to Lynchburg, Virginia by tomorrow.
- Brenden Bostelman, stationed in Alaska.
- Taylor Collins, stationed in Bolling, DC.
- Kyle Ducey, stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia.
- Jared Kuntz, stationed in South Korea.
- Donny Richardson, stationed in Okinawa, Japan.
- Steve Schink, stationed at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.
- AJ Short, who is in 9 weeks of infantry training in North Carolina.
- Kollin Woolace, in basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina.
- All our home bound and care center residents.

## **Today's Worship Servants**

Acolytes	(8:00) Karsen Pursel	(10:30) Hailey Wooley
Ushers	(Head) Steve Walker	
	(8:00) Brent Winzeler	
	(10:30) Jeremy & Jen Hurst, Kim & Adam Walker	
Greeters	(10:30) Ryan & Devin Bernath, Jed & Jen Grime	
Nursery Staff	(10:30) Jan Martinez	(Apr 9) Tammy Nofziger
Sound Tech	(8:00) Angie Neuenschwander	(10:30) James Grime
Video Tech	(10:30) Dean Sauder	
Computer Tech	(Both) Brian Roth	
Worship Leader	(Both) Linda Heer	
Song Leader	(Both) Elaine Winzeler	
Accompanist	(Both) Deb Schnitkey	

## **ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

700 S. Defiance Street • Archbold, OH 43502

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

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

Administrative Assistant Sue Grieser ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org))

Director of Music Ministry Deb Schnitkey ([debschnitkey@yahoo.com](mailto:debschnitkey@yahoo.com))

LOGOS Director Kim M. Walker ([gkwalker@rtecexpress.net](mailto:gkwalker@rtecexpress.net))

Preschool Administrator Sue MacDonald ([macfamily5@roadrunner.com](mailto:macfamily5@roadrunner.com))

# **Concept Narrative of Our Future Building Project**

## **Worship:**

- a. Worship services will continue to be held in the sanctuary, retaining its original character.
- b. The chancel area of the sanctuary, the platform area that lies between the first pews and the altar rail, could be modified for better accessibility and functional use.
- c. A lift system could be installed to make the chancel area accessible from the nave floor.
- d. The railing at the lectern and band area could be removed for better accessibility of all chancel floor space, giving more space for dramas, worship band, and similar worship pieces.
- e. The existing lectern and pulpit could be redesigned to make them portable, allowing for their quick removal for ministries such as Vacation Bible School, Children's Christmas Program, Worship Dramas, Hand Bells, Hand Chimes, Musical Cantatas, and Special Worship Activities. Such removal will provide both additional floor space and better sight lines.
- f. The steps may be redesigned to enhance their use as risers for the choirs.
- g. Improved lighting over the nave seating, as well as improved lighting of the chancel area.
- h. Incorporated in the facility concept is additional storage space for worship decorations, music equipment, drama equipment and worship resources.
- i. Spacing of pews could be altered for better accessibility, and some pews may be shortened to allow for additional places for wheelchairs or carts.
- j. When attendance at special services exceeds capacity, a closed-circuit television system could be used to display the service in the chapel or additional services could be added.

## **Fellowship:**

- a. Existing fellowship/parish hall could be re-purposed into administrative and meeting spaces.
- b. A larger multi-purpose fellowship hall could be constructed, with the potential to include a basketball/volleyball court, and improved lighting, acoustics and table/chair storage. Potential size of this space could accommodate seating 300 people comfortably at tables.
- c. Recognizing that each committee meeting is an opportunity for business, ministry and fellowship, two conference rooms designed to seat 20 people at tables are being considered.
- d. Additional rooms could be included to increase Sunday morning and Wednesday evening spaces for small groups and classes which include fellowship and discipleship components.
- e. The existing kitchen could be totally redesigned or a new kitchen could be added that might include a more accessible entrance from the fellowship hall, adequate storage space, plenty of counter space and commercial grade equipment.

## **Accessibility:**

- a. Building to the south maintains closest to the sanctuary accessible parking that is to the east.
- b. Additional accessible spaces could be installed at new entrances to the south.
- c. An accessible restroom could be located near the sanctuary.
- d. Accessible restrooms would be located along the first floor hallway, and additional accessible restrooms could be located in any proposed addition.
- e. Accessibility to worship and program spaces could be enhanced through construction of new

accessible entrances, an elevator to the second floor, accessible automatic door devices on all entrance doors, and appropriate sizes of doors and installation of railings.

- f. Accessibility specifications to allow for wheelchairs and motorized carts would be used.
- g. Room walls along the existing first floor hallway may be modified to provide space to stand, sit and walk in order to help alleviate the congestion from the sanctuary to the south entrance.

#### Child Care:

- a. Child care rooms would be designed to include equipment such as refrigerator, bottle warmer, cubbies for diaper bags, and a paging system to call parents to the child care area; as well as private space for nursing mothers, sign-in registration area, and storage for toys.
- b. Restrooms near the child care areas (nursery, preschool, and mother's room) could be designed to include infant changing areas, sinks and toilets accessible for children.
- c. A more developed playground could be installed for preschool and elementary children.

#### Christian Education:

- a. Potential space needs are addressed in the above Fellowship area.
- b. St. John's Christian Preschool classroom would be kept in proximity to the church offices.
- c. Aspects to be considered in re-designing any space for the St. John's Christian Preschool would include 35 sq. ft. per child, room visibility, one way observation windows, sub-dividable moveable walls, cubby storage, secure drop off / pick up area, work room space with counters, sink, cleaning needs, equipment storage and toy storage.
- d. Larger multipurpose rooms may be added for our JYF and SYF ministries, as well as for gathering and opening times for ministries like Faith Village and LOGOS.
- e. As stated in the Fellowship Aspect, any additional rooms added to increase our Sunday morning and Wednesday evening spaces for small groups and Sunday school classes would also be used for educational ministries like a computer lab and resource library.

#### Facility:

- a. Enhanced exterior signage could better identify our church name, address and ministries.
- b. A Welcome Center and gathering area, with mailboxes for each household and coat storage could be a part of any redesign or addition of the south entrance to the facility.
- c. Improved lighting in the hallways and classrooms.
- d. Improved heating and cooling systems throughout the facility.
- e. The electrical system throughout the facility would be updated.
- f. Airlocks added to entrances where feasible to better regulate interior temperatures.
- g. Consider increased office space for three full-time staff and four part-time staff.
- h. Office space to be designed for staff to be adjacent to each other with adequate size and design for pastoral duties, administrative duties, ministry duties and work room.
- i. Interior storage space could be added to provide for increased custodial needs, chairs and tables, seasonal displays, facility decorations, mission collections, audio-visual equipment, musical equipment, and program/educational supplies and equipment.
- j. Exterior storage space could be constructed for the church bus, trailers and equipment.