

# The Visitor

## prayer concerns

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

May 1, 2017 Volume 63, Number 5

### Please Pray For:

- Jason Suon, who suffered head trauma in a construction accident (Jason & Becky Suon are missionaries in DR we recently began supporting).
- Mert Kinsman & family, upon the death of Mert's sister-in-law, Judy Kinsman.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander, as he enters into treatment of the cancer that has returned to his liver.
- John Lovejoy, Paul & Joan Lovejoy's son, undergoing chemo treatments.
- Gary Frazier, undergoing chemo treatments.
- 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 Lynchburg, VA

#### 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

#### Donnie Richardson (Marines)

Stationed in Okinawa, Japan

#### Steven Schink (Coast Guard)

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

#### AJ Short (Marines)

Infantry Training in North Carolina

#### Kollin Woolace (Marines)

Stationed in North Carolina for advanced training

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 #177

David Lightner, Room #138

Esther Rice, Room #116  
Cathy Spiess, Room #153  
Carolyn Walker, Room #399 (Memory Care Unit)  
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  
Swanton Valley Center, 401 Airport Hwy., Swanton, 43558  
Marlene Nofziger, Memory Support Unit

## congregational news



CONGRATULATIONS to Carrie & Lucas Nofziger on the birth of their first child, son Owen Lucas Nofziger, on April 13th. Owen weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz. and was 21" long. Owen's grandparents include Joel Wanemacher.

## congregational thank you's

Brian & Kristin Short & family would like to thank the congregation for the plant sent in memory of Brian's father James "Jim" Short.

Also, a heartfelt thank you for the cards of sympathy when Kris's sister, Stacy passed away and the get well cards and messages that were sent after Kris's surgery. We are so grateful for our church family and have felt your prayers. Thank you again.



Thanks for all the ways you've welcomed and supported me as your new pastor! I'm grateful for all those who were able to attend my ordination service, and for the cards and congratulations you offered in celebrating with me. I'm especially grateful for your prayers as I continue to grow into this new role and join in the various ministries of this church.

Grateful to God for you all!

Pastor Alex

## pastor's letter

### Thoughts from Pastor Erich . . . "Getting After It"

As Major League Baseball opened up the 2017 season, the Cleveland Indians were at the center of a new commercial. Showing pictures of the coach and several players, the ad offered this narration: "This season on baseball. The Cleveland Indians aren't thinking about what they could've done differently. Nope. They're not thinking about pitch counts or some pitching change. They're not thinking about that stranded runner or that missed opportunity. No. The only thing they're thinking about now is getting after it." Whether you're a Cleveland fan or not, the ad is about the new season, not the past. Last season, the Tribe lost the World Series in game seven to the Chicago Cubs. But that's the past and the team is focused on the season ahead.

"Getting after it" – that's a phrase I've heard many times, mostly in terms of getting after the work before us when I worked construction. Whether it was the start of a new day, coming off a break time, or coming back from lunch, the foreman often got it started by yelling, "it's time to be 'getting after it.'"

Following the crucifixion, burial, resurrection and ascension of his Lord, Peter was focused on "getting after it." Beginning in Acts 1:15, scripture shares how Peter took charge in finding someone to become a witness with them, filling the vacancy left by Judas. Then in Acts 2:14, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd. Acts 3 relates how Peter and John were "getting after it."

Peter and the Eleven weren't focused on the past, they weren't sitting around bemoaning the absence of Jesus. Instead of looking back or wasting time, they were "getting after it." Knowing the words and lessons from Jesus, equipped to be the leaders of the Church and filled with the Spirit, those followers became leaders, those disciples became apostles, and the Christian Church continues to be the "body of Christ" (1 Corinthians 12:27).

I encourage you to be one of those "getting after it" – reading the Bible and praying, saying no to temptation, meditating upon the laws of God day and night, and investing time and talents in the Kingdom of God. Let us continue the ministry and mission of Christ, "getting after it" in the weeks ahead! I pray the joy and power of Jesus' resurrection invigorates us with enthusiasm and devotion to the work of the Church.

ERICH

## preschool corner

Spring is here, and Preschool Graduation is just around the corner! April was a busy month of celebrating Palm Sunday and Jesus's Resurrection. We used "Resurrection Eggs" to tell the story of Christ's death on the cross, which moved many of the children. They couldn't believe the soldiers could treat Jesus that way, and one child said, "Pastor Erich should know about this!" The younger children made beautiful "stained glass" crosses for the southeast entrance doors, while the older children used hand prints, white paint and glitter to make the larger crosses in the hallway (one of my favorite art projects EVER!). We also did the "Bunny Hokey Pokey" in the gym and made a variety of Easter egg and basket projects. Our next theme was "Farm Animals," which we could have extended for a few weeks! The children loved this theme, since many have a family connection to someone who lives on a farm. We learned about various tasks that happen on a farm, such as plowing fields, milking cows and cleaning hay out of the barn. "Backwards Day" was a lot of fun for the older children, as we wore clothes (and even hair!) backwards and we had lots of surprises throughout the day, as we changed up our schedule a bit. The last week of the month, we cuddled teddy bears for "Teddy Bear Day" and our grandparents for "Grandparents Day"! Grandparents came from far and wide to join us for a special time in the Parish Hall. We made graduation hats, played with Play-Doh, read books, and had a special snack of ice cream!



Sue MacDonald  
Director



Joan Wyse  
Aide

## mission corner

### Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Altlink (Tom & Megan L), for our gift of \$230.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$680.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$475.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$35.
- Cru (Robert & Jennifer McMahan), for our gift of \$500.
- Defiance Youth For Christ (Outback), for our gift of \$40.
- Evangelical Association, for our gift of \$572.
- Pioneers (Doriots), for our gift of \$40.
- Reliant (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$120.
- World Team (Franks), for our gift of \$740.

### Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

To St. John's Mission Committee,

Thank you for supporting Back Bay Mission! Everyday people in need walk through our doors looking for help. Thanks to you, we can make sure they get what they need. From Mississippi's only client-choice food pantry to the best housing rehabilitation ministry on the Gulf Coast, we're transforming lives because you're behind us. As a member of the Board of Directors, I want to let you know how much your support means to me personally and to the people we serve. Thank you.

Grace and Peace,  
Mary Ruth, Board Member  
Back Bay Mission

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Thank you for the help in the build of our new home and for providing meals for the builders.

The Jones Family on Bassett, HFH

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Dear St. John's Church Family,

Thank you so much for your continued support of The Friendship House. Almost every month, we receive a check from St. John's. You are a blessing.

In His Name,  
Gloria Lauber, The Friendship House

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Tony & Leila Frank, World Team, write:

Good Friday is distinct from all other Fridays of the calendar year. We remember it is Good Friday because when Jesus endured the cross with all the suffering involved, he paid the price for all our offences we have committed against our Benevolent Creator. That is what makes this Friday "Good." The proof of this spiritual truth, God forgiving us of our sins, is Jesus' bodily resurrection from the dead, the empty tomb. His rising from the dead affirms us that he has in fact "sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." If the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ had not occurred, Good Friday would just be another Friday, the last day of the week before another weekend. **HE IS RISEN!**

Praises:

- We're grateful for being able to see many of our ministry partners in North America.
- We praise the Lord for the safe trip (3/7/17) back to Brazil. We hit the ground running with the beginning of an academic year.
- We're grateful for an encouraging opening conference of the Bible College (3/10-12).
- We praise the Lord for the 13 students enrolled in the first official year of SBS.

Prayer Requests:

- For wisdom as both Leila and Tony have new responsibilities with the Bible Church in Estancia Velha and with our roles at the Bible College.
- That the 13 students will persevere in their studies.
- That those we are ministering to, as well as ourselves, will grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus.

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Robert & Jenni McMahan, Cru (BGSU) - March, 2017:

Remember the Cookies? You might ask what do cookies and sharing the gospel have in common? Not much, but what college student doesn't text, enjoy a homemade cookie, and at zero effort or cost to them? Not many! Enter BGSU Cru's annual Text 4 Cookie event.



As we seek to WIN students at Bowling Green to Christ, and BUILD students up in Cru with ways to live out their faith, Text 4 Cookie is an opportunity to equip Cru students with experience in sharing their faith, while inviting others to explore and pursue a relationship with Jesus Christ! Evangelism can have several negative connotations which can make it scary, but this is an opportunity for students to take a step of faith.

Here's a recap of Text 4 Cookie just a few weeks ago from Lauren Tibbs, one of our staff interns on campus this year:

"We used this awesome software that allowed students to text a pre-made number, answer our survey with the kind of cookie they wanted, the dorm room they were in, and a question they had about God or spirituality. Then we would take homemade cookies (that we made!) right to their door and ask them if they wanted to talk about their question. Some students were interested in engaging about their questions. It was so cool to meet students where they were at, hear what they believed and then get to share what I believe with them as well! Many of our younger students also participated in the cookie delivery process and it was amazing to watch them step outside their comfort zone and talk to their peers about real things. Over the entire campus, about 300 spiritual conversations were had in about 6 hours over two nights! It was so cool to experience God moving through such a fun event."

Prayer Requests:

- Guidance towards connection with new partners.
- Opportunities to foster relationship in Bowling Green.
- Boldness and vision-driven ministry.

## mission corner cont.

### May Mission-A-Month - Cherry Street Mission Ministries:

Cherry Street was founded on Biblical principles in 1947, and remains a Biblically-based, Christ centered organization today. Their Spiritual Advocates consist of both staff and volunteers that lead Bible studies daily and mentor guests through their migration with Christ. Cherry Street has a Men's Division, Women's Division (Sparrow's Nest) and food services.

Each night, Cherry Street provides safe, free shelter for nearly 230 men and women who would otherwise sleep on the street or remain in an abusive situation. For some, it's the first night they've slept safely in a very long time.

Cherry Street is more than food, clothing and shelter. Their redemptive programming is built around one on one discipleship. They care more about who a person is, rather than what a person has become.

Cherry Street is the only organization in the region to offer 3 meals a day, 7 days a week, free of charge to anyone who needs them. Cherry Street gratefully accepts financial donations and gift-in-kind donations (anything donated that is not cash). More information about this Mission-A-Month can be found online at [www.cherrystreetmission.org](http://www.cherrystreetmission.org).

People may donate monetarily to these ministries by marking their envelope or check with "May M-A-M (mission-a-month) or by dropping off donated items in the white box across from the chapel.

### October 7-14, 2017 – Back Bay Mission Trip to Biloxi, Mississippi:

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! **We'll need many hands for this endeavor!**

### 2017 Summer Habitat Trip:

The vision of all Habitat for Humanity organizations around the world is "a world where everyone has a decent place to live." Habitat for Humanity's role in realizing that vision is expressed in its mission: "Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope." When families have a stable, affordable home, they can:

- Provide stability for their children
- Gain improved health, physical safety, and security
- Increase educational and job prospects

- Be engaged in their communities
- Housing is important to the quality of life, health and economic prosperity of the entire community

Details of the summer mission trip with the LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity are:

- June 11-16, 2017, Sunday afternoon through Friday afternoon
- Lodging in a very comfortable retreat center at Tower Hill Church Camp in Sawyer, MI.
- Work will be Monday thru Friday, framing a new home
- Cost of the trip is \$125 per person, with the trip supported through the mission budget, too.
- Ask questions of Mike Meyer, Greg Walker, Kelly Ducey, Tammy Nofziger, Duane & Linda Hayes

### Mission Experiences:

St. John's offers several experiences that provide opportunities for people to deepen the depth of their Christian faith while sharing the love and light of Christ with others. Last month's Visitor article about missions drew upon Ephesians 2:8-10 and Matthew 25:31-46 in demonstrating the Biblical mandate for engaging in mission efforts. Acts 1:8 is often referred to when addressing the reasoning behind local, national and world efforts of missions – "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

The three regions can illustrate local, state and national and overseas efforts of the church to share the light and love of Christ with others. Upcoming opportunities to engage in such efforts include:

- TGRM Chapel & Meal – May 21
- Summer Mission Trip – June 11-16
- SYF Summer Mission Trip – June 18-23
- Book Bag Bash – August
- TGRM Chapel & Meal – September 10
- Cherry Street Mission Ministry Fall Banquet – September 28
- Back Bay Mission Trip – October 7-14
- Operation Christmas Child Collection – October
- TGRM Chapel & Meal – November 19
- Christmas Cheer Hospitality – December

### Burger Bash Sunday Noon, May 21:

Sunday, May 21 we hope you'll stop by for a hamburger by Brookview Meats between 11 and 1. It's the 14th annual Burger Bash in the Ruibley Park Pavilion. Area cattlemen have again raised a pen of steers for our faith-based community mission outreach. Volunteers donate feed and care for the steers and

when they are sold every penny after expenses goes to a wonderful International Program, Foods Resource Bank. Archbold's own Jim Rufenacht is now on that board and has been to see the difference our local efforts make half-way around the world. The Burger Bash ends one project year and kicks off another. Our community has averaged a gift of over \$25,000 each of the last 13 years to a project we select locally from the global list provided. Please show your support by joining friends and family at the Burger Bash on the 21st. A free will donation covers your picnic lunch.

#### **Missionary Contact/Prayer Request Information:**

##### **Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP**

web site - [www.jamkhed.org](http://www.jamkhed.org)



##### **Robert & Jenni McMahan, Cru (BGSU)**

web site - [www.give.cru.org](http://www.give.cru.org)

e-mail - [robert.mcmahan@cru.org](mailto:robert.mcmahan@cru.org)

e-mail - [jennifer.mcmahan@cru.org](mailto:jennifer.mcmahan@cru.org)

##### **Matt & Paige Waanders, Cru (Brazil)**

web site - [www.give.cru.org](http://www.give.cru.org)

e-mail - [matthew.waanders@cru.org](mailto:matthew.waanders@cru.org)

e-mail - [paige.stamm@cru.org](mailto:paige.stamm@cru.org)

##### **Kyle Chase, Reliant (Univ. of Michigan)**

web site - [www.reliant.org](http://www.reliant.org)

e-mail - [kyle.chase@nlcweb.org](mailto:kyle.chase@nlcweb.org)



##### **Matt Pardi, Reliant (Univ. of Toledo)**

web site - [www.reliant.org](http://www.reliant.org)

e-mail - [matt.pardi@reliant.org](mailto:matt.pardi@reliant.org)

##### **Whitney Varnau, Reliant**

web site - [www.reliant.org](http://www.reliant.org)

e-mail - [whitney.varnau@h2osu.org](mailto:whitney.varnau@h2osu.org)

##### **Tony & Leila Frank, Sapiranga, Brazil**

web site - [www.worldteam.org](http://www.worldteam.org)

e-mail - [tony.frank@worldteam.org](mailto:tony.frank@worldteam.org)



##### **Tom & Megan, The Islands, Africa**

web site - [tmislands.blogspot.com](http://tmislands.blogspot.com)

e-mail - [tmislands@fastmail.net](mailto:tmislands@fastmail.net)

##### **Robert Rogers - Mighty in the Land Ministry**

web site - [www.mightyintheland.com](http://www.mightyintheland.com)

e-mail - [hello@mightyintheland.com](mailto:hello@mightyintheland.com)

##### **Larry & Linda Rupp, Kajiado Children's Home**

website - [www.hope4kajiado.com](http://www.hope4kajiado.com)

e-mail - [kajiadochildrenshome@gmail.com](mailto:kajiadochildrenshome@gmail.com)

##### **Cheryl Wyse - The Agape Family Life House**

website - [www.agapeflh.org](http://www.agapeflh.org)

##### **Jason & Becky Suon, Freedom International Ministries**

website - [www.itisforfreedom.com](http://www.itisforfreedom.com)

e-mail - [JasonSuon@itisforfreedom.com](mailto:JasonSuon@itisforfreedom.com)

e-mail - [BeckySuon@itisforfreedom.com](mailto:BeckySuon@itisforfreedom.com)

## **ministry happenings**

### **Christian Education**

#### **Mid-Week Children's and Youth Ministries:**

**JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship)** – Our April service activity was sponsoring the Easter Egg hunt, which included packing 450 eggs full of candy and hiding them throughout the church for children to find on Easter morning. For our big event, we enjoyed going to hear TobyMac and other Christian bands perform in Toledo. We had various parents come in to help with JYF throughout the month of April, our last month of JYF for the year, and they brought lots of fun games that we had a blast playing (for an example, ask us about Hungry, Hungry Hippo!).

**SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship)** – We're celebrating the end of the school year with a cookout at Justin and Carrie Yoder's on May 31st. We continue to study the book of 1 John and have conversations about how this book gives encouragement to believers, and also how it challenges us to be living out our faith.

**Life Planning** – Last month, we enjoyed an Easter-themed lesson and activity (a blind-folded Easter Egg hunt). We're celebrating our last Life Planning gathering this year on May 10.

#### **Vacation Bible School (VBS):**

This year's theme, Maker Fun Factory, has our VBS directors, Amy Baden, Mindy Gruenhagen and Carrie Nofziger, excited and working very hard to make this VBS a memorable, imaginative, creative adventure!



Online registration should be available by May 15th, and there is a board in the Chapel narthex for adults and older youth to sign up and help fill our VBS staff needs

#### **Events / Activities**

##### **Men's Prayer Breakfast - May 13th, 7:40AM:**

Men of any age are invited to what is hoping to be a monthly prayer breakfast. The first prayer breakfast will be held on Saturday, May 13th at 7:40AM in the Parish Hall. Men of the congregation are encouraged to invite a friend or two. This time of breakfast, prayer and fellowship is being coordinated by Bruce Wooley, with breakfast provided by Elaine Winzeler on the 13th!

# ministry happenings

cont.

## Community Meal Ministry:

As a member of the Archbold Area Ministerial Association (AAMA), Pastor Erich has helped coordinate these community meals since their inception in 2011. Area churches, schools, agencies and businesses have been very supportive of these meals, providing a variety of tasty meals and offering a pleasant time of table fellowship. Whenever there is a date on the schedule that no one has volunteered to host, the AAMA normally takes on the hosting of that day's meal. However, there are two dates coming up which are affected by holiday weekends – Tuesday, May 30th and Tuesday, July 4th.

May 30th will be a typical meal and Erich is sure that folks of St. John's will be in place to host the meal that night!

The meal on July 4th, on the other hand, hopes to be a bit more – a July 4th picnic! Erich will be asking for twenty willing volunteers of the congregation to help grill, serve and clean up the meal, as well as help with picnic games.

## 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. 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!

## Confirmation Class Pictures of Past Classes:

As part of their efforts to lead our "Imagine Your Faith Building" Campaign, the Capital Campaign Committee continues to plan for the future of the campaign, which has included looking at the past history of the congregation. The historical faithfulness of the congregation remains as a vital illustration of being a church whose cornerstone is Christ, continuing

to support an array of ministries and missions in carrying out the great commission of Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20.

One aspect of looking at the past has included remembering the people who have been a part of the congregation, including those who have been confirmed through the ministry of St. John's. To help us remember the past, we're asking for people to bring in photographs of past confirmation classes. Pictures can be scanned and e-mailed to the church office ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org)) or brought in and the office staff will scan them and return the original. Your help with this would be greatly appreciated!

## Adult Faith & Fellowship (AFF) – 9:15AM Sunday Mornings in the Parish Hall:

- May 7th Faith Discussion with Pastor Erich
- May 14th Faith Discussion with Pastor Erich
- May 21st Faith Discussion with Pastor Erich
- May 28th Faith Discussion with Pastor Erich

# worship

## May Worship Information:

- 7th Scriptures – 1 Cor. 2:9-10, Luke 24:13-35 –  
On the Road to Emmaus  
Sermon – "In the Fog" – Pastor Erich  
10:30AM Chancel Choir –  
"O For A Thousand Tongues"
- 14th Mother's Day  
Scriptures – Romans 12:9-16  
Sermon – "Each for the Other" – Pastor Alex  
10:30AM Special Music –  
Kindergarten & Preschool Children!
- 21st Confirmation / Graduate Recognition Sunday  
10:30AM Rite of Confirmation  
Scriptures – Acts 2:36-39, Romans 10:1-13 –  
Jesus is Lord  
Sermon – "I Believe – The Apostles' Creed" –  
Pastor Erich  
10:30 Chancel Choir –  
"Jesus, Savior, Lord I Adore You"
- 28th Memorial Weekend  
Scriptures – Psalm 9:7-10, Ecclesiastes 3:1-15  
Sermon – "Seasons of Faith" – Pastor Erich  
10:30 Chancel Choir – "Lead On O King Eternal"

# May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>8:00AM Worship</b> <b>9:15AM Sunday School</b> <b>9:15AM Faith Village</b> <b>9:15AM Confirmation</b> <b>10:30AM Worship</b>	<b>1</b> 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:30PM Pastors Mtg. 3:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital Reh.	<b>2</b> 9:15AM Bible Study 10:00AM Bus Inspection (Maumee) 3:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital Reh. 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) 7:00PM Capital Campaign	<b>3</b> 8:30AM Mom's in Prayer 3:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital Reh. 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir	<b>4</b> 3:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital Reh. 7:00PM National Day of Prayer Service	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7AM-Noon FCHC Auxiliary Geranium Sale Pickup 10AM HS Girls Bible Study
<b>7</b> 9:15AM Faith & Fellowship Faith Disc. w/Pastor Erich 11:45AM Special Congregational Meeting 7:00PM Lynne Christman Piano Recital	<b>8</b> 11:00AM Staff Meeting 2:00PM Pastors Meeting 4:00PM Worship Planning 7:00PM Mission Committee	<b>9</b> 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) 7:00PM Evangelism Comm. 7:00PM Preschool Board Mtg. 7:00PM Property Comm. 8:00PM Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 8:30AM Mom's in Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 7:00PM Life Planning 7:00PM SYF Remix 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	<b>11</b> 6:00PM Scouts District Mtg.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:40AM Men's Prayer Brkfst.. 10AM HS Girls Bible Study
<b>14 Mother's Day</b> 9:15AM Faith & Fellowship Faith Disc. w/Pastor Erich	<b>15</b> 11:00AM Staff Meeting 2:00PM Pastors Mtg. 4:00PM Worship Planning 6:15PM Sp. Council 7:00PM Preschool Graduation 7:30PM Consistory	<b>16</b> 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion)	<b>17</b> 8:30AM Mom's in Prayer 5:30PM Confirmation Pract. & Pictures 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10AM HS Girls Bible Study
<b>21 Rite of Confirmation</b> 9:15AM Youth Breakfast 9:15AM Faith & Fellowship Faith Disc. w/Pastor Erich 12:00PM Private Party (Parish Hall) 3:00PM TGRM Chapel & Meal	<b>22</b> 11:00AM Staff Meeting 2:00PM Pastors Meeting 4:00PM Worship Planning	<b>23</b> 7:00AM Mental Health Aware- ness Seminar (Parish Hall) 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) 8:00PM Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 8:30AM Mom's in Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:30AM Private Party Set Up 5—9PM Private Party (Parish Hall / Kitchen)	<b>27</b> 10AM HS Girls Bible Study 11AM—6PM Private Party (Parish Hall / Kitchen)
<b>28 Graduate Recognition</b> 9:15AM Faith & Fellowship Faith Disc. w/Pastor Erich 12:00PM Private Party (Parish Hall)	<b>29 Memorial Day                      (Office Closed)</b>	<b>30</b> 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion)	<b>31</b> 6:30PM Chancel Choir Dinner	<b>Mission-A-Month—                      Cherry Street &amp;                      Sparrow's Nest                      Elder of the Month—                      Joyce Kinsman</b>		

## MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Chris & Toni Neuenschwander<br>2 Marvin & Norma Fish<br>3 Bill Overmier<br>4 Suzette Nafziger<br>5 Dean Buckenmeyer<br>6 Willie & Donna Buehrer, Rich & Jane Lesniak<br>7 Ed & Julie Ruffer<br>8 Craig Grieser, Greg & Deb Weddelman<br>9 Braden Martinez, Missy Warncke, Deb Weddelman<br>10 Michelle Short<br>11 Lynne Christman<br>13 Jack Hurst<br>15 Betty Calvert, Tyler Hurst<br>16 Lori Rohrs<br>18 Gary Mann, Judy Sears<br>19 Bill & Judy Overmier, Tyler & Traci Rupp, Coral<br>Melms, Tyler Wyse | 20 Marissa Beck, Brie Grime, TJ Rice<br>21 Burdell Nofziger<br>22 Tyson Schnitkey<br>23 Silas Whiteman, Elaine Winzeler<br>24 Lucas Lantz, Dean Smith, Bryce Winzeler,<br>Eric & Anna Yoder<br>25 Connie Bostelman, Kent & Shiela Short<br>26 Ryan & Devin Bernath, Bo & Bri Krukowski,<br>Dave & Paige Miller, Mindy Enderle & Gabe<br>Smith<br>27 Tiffany Johnston, Charlene LaFountaine, Mindy<br>Enderle & Gabe Smith, Richard Spiess<br>28 Kasey Grime, Ollie & Lauren Short<br>29 Ian Grime, Tony & Missy Warncke<br>30 Nanette Buehrer<br>31 Gary Frazier |
|--|--|

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

# consistory/committees

## Consistory Minutes of April 17, 2017:

- a. Budget & Stewardship – Joyce Kinsman – Budget/Stewardship/Investment Committee Meeting with Engler, Garrow and Roth (EGR): Current balance at EGR is \$1,820,856 with a yield of 6.93% since 9/3/15. Since inception of our account, the amount on deposit with EGR is \$1,667,780. Next meeting with EGR is July 10th @ 4PM. Motion to approve: Ann Fether, 2nd the motion Paige Miller, motion approved.
- b. Capital Campaign – April 23 Worship Presentation – This presentation will be in place of a Sunday school hour event. Brad Roth will be speaking from the historical standpoint, Eric Nafziger will share about current property, and Jim Grieser will speak from a future perspective. These speakers will be presenting at both services on April 23rd.
- c. Farm Committee – New Committee Members – Dean Smith and Dale Grime (terms starting this year); Program – Committee approved bid from Andre Land Forming, in amount of \$8,621. Jon Rupp has asked to step down from being the Chair, but would like to remain on the committee.
- d. Mission Committee – David Stuckey – \$1,000 – Cherry Street Missions; (Only disbursement – holding other available funds for scholarship applicants)
- e. Property Committee – Eric Nafziger – Playground Update – Warranty on the playground is a limited lifetime warranty (15+ years). A permit is not needed, we will pay \$1,100 to a supervisor from Game Time to oversee the installation. Per Insurance adjuster, no signage is needed around the playground. Total for the playground includes the wood fiber mulch, structures, curbing @ \$32,643.99. If paid in the full amount, an \$808 savings will be credited off the bill. Fencing options: Freedom Fence is proposed by the property committee, it's an aluminum premium grade fencing. Black colored fencing is proposed and will have two latching gates. Fencing bid came in at \$7,810.00. Total of playground, fencing (with pay in full credit) is \$39,645.03. Primary colors were proposed for the playground equipment. An addition of heavy duty large wear mats to be placed at the end of the slides is added for \$645.00. Concrete will be needed for the posts. 10-12 volunteers and an 8-9 hour day will be needed for installation, and will be overseen by a Game Time employer. Funding for this project could come from:

1. Fundraising;

2. Buehrer Estate Legacy Fund;
3. Legacy Fund; or
4. Operating Savings Fund.

Hope is to have this project completed by the fall season, for the start of Preschool. Congregational meeting set for May 7th after the 10:30 Service. \$41,000.00 will be proposed to the Congregation as funds needed for this project. Consistory proposes the monies come from the Operating Savings fund, and any contributions made by the congregation would be contributed back to the Operating Savings Fund. Motion to approve: Ann Fether, 2nd the motion Amy Baden, motion approved. Chapel, long hallway and Sanctuary Painting project – Quoted at \$4,990.00, by Lucas Burkholder. Property budget can't handle that expense, so what account is available to fund this project? Consistory approves this expense to come from the Operating Savings Fund. Proposed \$6000.00 to cover the full cost of the painting. Motion to approve: Gloria Lauber, 2nd the motion David Stuckey. Painting is preferred to be done after VBS. Motion approved. Bell Tower - Has had several issues, has been worked on several times by members of the property committee from time to time. Keep in mind work will be needed on those.

- f. Spiritual Council – Pastor Erich – Had a good discussion on the nomination/election process of filling the ballot.
- g. Pastor's Report – Pastor Erich – Leadership Retreat – April 24 & 25 (7 to 9PM promptly) Documents were handed out in preparation for the leadership retreat. Sanctuary Organ – Deb Schnitkey has a phone number of another organist to come in and check things out. Chapel Organ – Memorial Cabinet had records from back in April 1976 - January 1977, various memorials were given to the Chapel Memorial Fund. Several (11 families) members contributed to this fund. Chapel Organ hasn't been played in 15 years. Community Meal – July 4th need 20 volunteers to throw a July 4th picnic out on the lawn with games and activities.
- h. Associate Pastor's Report – Pastor Alex – May 4th is the National Day of Prayer. Community service has been put together for here at SJCC @7PM on Thursday May 4th, small groups praying together with various pastors leading times of prayer.
- i. Old Business – Response from Boy Scouts? They are able to meet through the end of this program year, and will find a new facility to hold meetings for the fall.
- j. New Business – Pastor Erich – brief discussion about contracting with high school or college age youth for summer employees/workers. Organizing the Library, Historical Records, etc.



**Capital Campaign Committee:**



**“Imagine Your Faith Building” Pocket Change Challenge**  
 From Memorial Day to Labor Day  
 How much change can be turned in?

What happens to your pocket change?

- 1) It gets lost in the cushions of your easy chair.
- 2) It ends up on the pavement when you get out of your car.
- 3) You give it to your kids/grand kids for their sweet tooth.
- 4) **It goes in the coin bank for the Imagine Your Faith Building Capital Campaign!**

Imagine if every household of our congregation committed to throwing their pocket change into a coin bank at the end of every day, for 90 days!



There are 97 days between Memorial Day and Labor Day. There are 272 Giving Units in the Congregation. The numbers add up like this:

<u>Households</u>	<u>\$0.25/Day</u>	<u>\$0.50/Day</u>	<u>\$1/Day</u>	<u>\$1.50/Day</u>	<u>\$2/Day</u>
50	\$1,212.50	\$2,425.00	\$4,850.00	\$7,275.00	\$9,700.00
100	\$2,425.00	\$4,850.00	\$9,700.00	\$14,550.00	\$19,400.00
150	\$3,637.50	\$7,275.00	\$14,550.00	\$21,825.00	\$29,100.00
200	\$4,850.00	\$9,700.00	\$19,400.00	\$29,100.00	\$38,800.00
250	\$6,062.50	\$12,125.00	\$24,250.00	\$36,375.00	\$48,500.00

**IYFB Campaign Total Receipts as of April 30, 2017 - \$474,023.09**

**Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, May 7, 2016,  
 11:45AM – New Playground Consideration:**

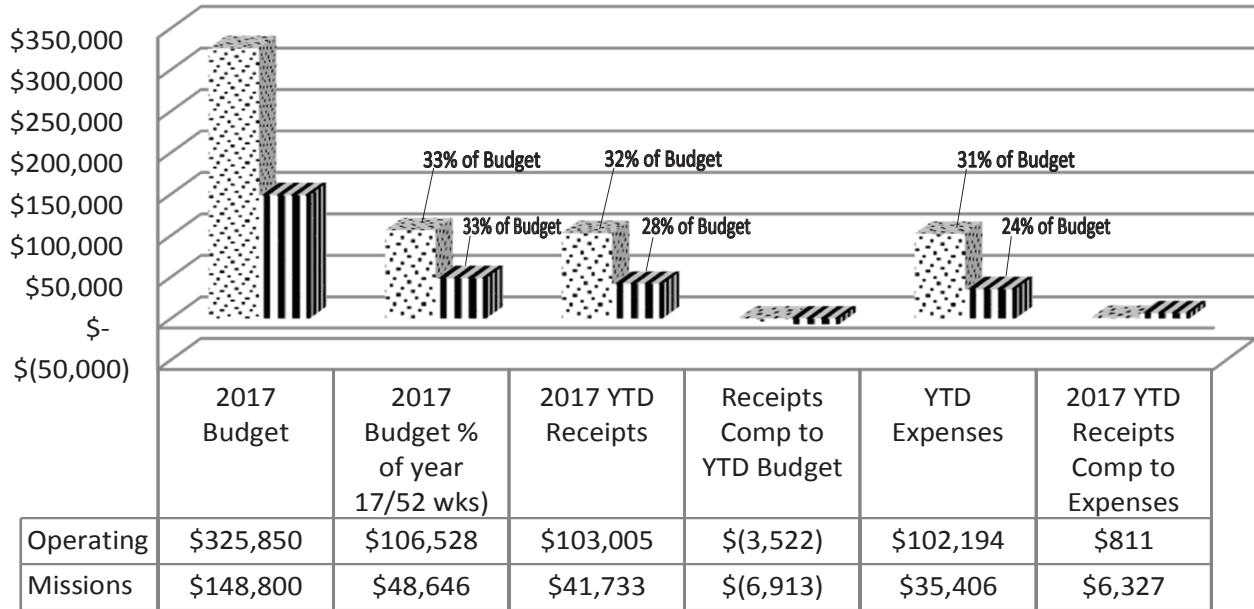
At their April 17th meeting, Consistory approved the recommendation of the Property Committee to contract with GameTime for the installation of a new playground and to contract with Freedom Fence for the installation of a new fence around the playground. Several issues have developed with the current playground structure. Total cost of the project is not to exceed \$41,000, with funds coming from the Operating Savings Fund, which has a balance of \$130,482.10 as of March 31st. Key aspects of the project include:



1. GameTime is a reputable company and was endorsed by Archbold Parks and Recreation
2. Playground is designed for children ages 2 to 5 and 5 to 12 years of age
3. Seen in the image above, the playground will have: PowerScape Play Structure; Discover Cave with Primary Grips; A Clifford Spring Rider; Two Seater Fire Chief Car; Spinning Sensory Wave Seat; 6' Bench; Wood Fiber base at 10" depth; 12" Playground Curb around complete area; HD Large Wear Mats at slides
4. Volunteers of the congregation will be tasked with removal of the existing playground structure, fence and pea gravel.
5. The contract provides for supervision of installation from GameTime – one of their staff supervising a crew of 15 to 20 volunteers to install the structure in a 9 hour day, with site work and holes done prior to the day of installation.

# stewardship

2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of April 24, 2017



## community news

### Black Swamp Benefit:

The annual Black Swamp Benefit is June 16 & 17 this year at the Fulton County Fairgrounds in Wauseon. This annual benefit, which draws upon the traditions of the former Sunshine Bazaar & Quilt Auction and the current MCC Relief Sales, was created in 2001. To date, nearly two million dollars has been raised! Support comes from more than 40 churches, civic groups, quilt guilds, individual donors and volunteers. Nearly all of the items that are sold at the event—whether an elaborate bed quilt, a wooden trivet, or a bag of noodles—are handmade.

Featured attractions for the annual event are food and quilt booths, a silent auction, the main auction, musical performances, pancake and sausage breakfast, Bullfrog 5K Run, Children’s Run, Cornhole Tournament, a children’s auction, and other children’s games and activities.

There is something for everyone in the family to enjoy at the Black Swamp Benefit, so mark your calendars and plan to attend. Additional information can be obtained by visiting [www.blackswampbenefit.org](http://www.blackswampbenefit.org) or by calling 491-335-3763, ext. 5012. These contacts can also be used to obtain information about making donations as well.

### St. John’s Christian Church Leadership:

- Congregation President.....Brent Winzeler
- Congregation Vice-President .....Betsy Ducey
- Congregation Secretary.....Sarah Nafziger
- Elders ..... Betsy Ducey, Ann Fether, Ann Grime, Joyce Kinsman, Gloria Lauber, Paige Miller
- Deacons/Deaconesses ..... Amy Baden, John Graber, Josh Grime, Nate Meyer, Eric Nafziger, Lynne Roth, Dean Sauder, David Stuckey, Carrie 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 Ministry .....Deb Schmitkey
- LOGOS Director..... Kim M. Walker
- Associate Pastor ..... Rev. Alex Young
- Pastor.....Rev. Erich Christman

## St. John's Christian Church - 2017 Missions Budget Report

As of March 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		\$ 15,715.00	
3	Farm Rental / Second Mile Interest Income		\$ 2,119.56	
4	Agape Family Life House (Wyse/China)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 25.00	
5	Altlink (Langsdorfs - The Islands)	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
6	Aroles - CRHP - Jamkhed, India	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 680.00	\$ 1,680.00
7	Aroles - CRHP - Lenten	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 330.25	\$ 330.25
8	Back Bay Mission - Biloxi	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 1,050.00
9	Back Bay Mission - Lenten	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 330.25	\$ 330.25
10	Back Bay Mission - Trips	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,552.79	\$ 3,191.43
11	Cherry Street Mission - Toledo	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 765.00	\$ 765.00
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	\$ 460.00	\$ 1,140.66
18	Crossroad - Fort Wayne	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00
19	Crossroad - Advent	\$ 2,000.00		
20	Cru (Waanders)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
21	Evangelical Association	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 572.00	\$ 2,072.00
22	FISH Panty - Archbold	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 1,902.00	\$ 4,118.40
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	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
26	Friendship House - Archbold	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 1,245.00	\$ 1,245.00
27	Reliant - Kyle Chase (UM)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 460.00	\$ 460.00
28	Reliant - Matt Pardi (UT)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
29	Reliant - Whitney Varnau (OSU)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 540.00
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	\$ 733.00	\$ 733.00
34	Kajiado Child Sponsorships	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 409.00	\$ 409.00
35	Love Fund (Members)	\$ 1,000.00		
36	Mighty in the Land (Robert Rogers)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
37	Operation Christmas Child - Fulton Cty	\$ 1,000.00		
38	Outback Youth Center - Archbold (YFC)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
39	Pioneers (Doriots - Chicago)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00
40	Shepherd's Circle - Archbold	\$ 1,500.00		
41	Sparrow's Nest - Toledo	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 255.00
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		\$ 900.00
46	SYF - Next Year Trip Deposit	\$ 750.00		\$ 750.00
47	Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 175.00
48	Urgent Mission Outreach	\$ 3,500.00		\$ 2,000.00
49	Walk In Assist Program (Non-members)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 563.32	\$ 243.02
50	WMTR Radio Pause for Praise	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 1,235.00
51	World Team (Franks - Brazil)	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 740.00	\$ 1,740.00
52	Youth Leadership Training	\$ 2,000.00		
53	Totals	\$ 148,800.00	\$ 32,273.31	\$ 27,082.51

# May 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 Farewell, Princess ----- Genesis 23:1-20         | 17 The Wrestler ----- Genesis 32:22-32         |  |
| 2 Is She "The One?" ----- Genesis 24:1-28          | 18 Transforming ----- Genesis 33:1-20          |  |
| 3 Embracing the Big Picture ----- Genesis 24:29-67 | 19 The Rebrand ----- Genesis 35:1-20           |  |
| 4 Rejecting the Big Picture ----- Genesis 25:1-34  | 20 Wake Up Smiling ----- Ephesians 1:1-14      |  |
| 5 Life for All ----- Genesis 26:1-25               | 21 Talking to Yourself ----- Psalm 62          |  |
| 6 The People God Uses ----- Genesis 27:1-40        | 22 "Our Father" ----- Ephesians 1:15-23        |  |
| 7 On Shaky Ground ----- Psalm 60                   | 23 Real Life ----- Ephesians 2:1-10            |  |
| 8 Hope for our Failures ----- Genesis 27:41-28:9   | 24 Two Become One ----- Ephesians 2:11-22      |  |
| 9 Present ----- Genesis 28:10-22                   | 25 Cosmic ----- Ephesians 3:1-13               |  |
| 10 Backstage ----- Genesis 29:1-14a                | 26 A Great, Big God ----- Ephesians 14-21      |  |
| 11 Man in the Mirror ----- Genesis 29:14b-30       | 27 "Peace Be With You" ----- Ephesians 4:1-16  |  |
| 12 If ----- Genesis 29:31-30:24                    | 28 Thirsting for God ----- Psalm 63            |  |
| 13 He's Got Your Back ----- Genesis 31:1-42        | 29 All Change! ----- Ephesians 4:17-32         |  |
| 14 A Prayer for Protection ----- Psalm 61          | 30 Lighten our Darkness ----- Ephesians 5:1-20 |  |
| 15 Treaty ----- Genesis 31:43-55                   | 31 To Have and to Hold ----- Ephesians 5:21-33 |  |
| 16 What Will it Cost? ----- Genesis 32:1-21        |  |  |

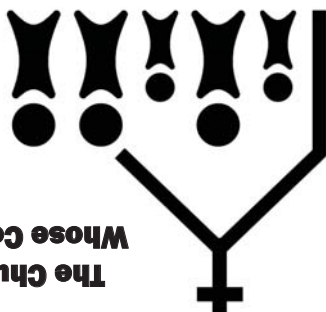
Sunday School 9:15AM  
 Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM  
 Website [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org)  
 Phone 419-446-2545

**Security** Richard Spiess  
**Custodians** Nick Rice  
 Dean Buckenmeyer  
**Treasurer** Roger Miller  
**Director** gkwalker@rtceexpress.net  
**LOGOS** Kim M. Walker  
**Ministry** Cell Ph. 419-583-6356  
**Music** deb\_schnitkey@yahoo.com  
**Dir. of** Deb Schnitkey  
**Assistant** office@stjohnsarchbold.org  
**Admin.** Sue Grieser  
**Pastor** pastoralex@stjohnsarchbold.org  
**Assoc.** Rev. Alex Young  
**Pastor** Cell Ph. 419-551-0401  
 pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org  
 Rev. Erich Christman

**St. John's Christian Church**  
**700 S. Defiance Street**  
**Archbold, OH 43502**

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)

**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