

The Visitor

prayer concerns

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

August 1, 2017 Volume 63, Number 8

Please Pray For:

- Sharon VonDeylen, home recovering from surgery.
- Bob Bostelman, home recovering from surgery on July 20th.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander, doing very well in his cancer treatments.
- John Lovejoy, Paul and 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)

Stationed in CA for advanced training

Kyle Stuckey (Army) (grandson of Nan Neill)

Stationed at Fort Benning, GA
Boot Camp and Basic Training

Kollin Woolace (Marines)

Stationed in Fort Leonard Wood, MO

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, #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

Pauline Zimmerman, Room #223

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

The Resignation of Deb Schnitkey:

Deb Schnitkey has tendered her resignation from her positions of Director of Music Ministry, Organist/Pianist and Chancel Choir Accompanist. Deb has made the decision to move to Columbus, where her two daughters (and several of her grandchildren) live. While we will certainly miss her music ministry she's offered for so many years here at St. John's, may our prayers be with her in this time of transition. Deb's last day on our staff will be July 30th, though we may see her occasionally thereafter.

congregational thank you's

Thank you to everyone for all the thoughts, prayers and cards during my most recent health struggles. A special thanks to Pastors Erich and Alex for their visits and prayers as well. Everything was very much appreciated.

Velma Overmier



We wish to thank everyone for their thoughts, cards and prayers in the loss of our beloved daughter, Kristina. May God bless each and everyone of you.

Ken & Shirley Nafziger

pastor's letter

Thoughts from Pastor Alex . . .

Last month I had an issue with my cell phone that in the end caused me to lose most of my contacts. I was able to recover many of them from the last time I had backed up my phone, but did end up losing a lot of my contacts from the church. If you have a cell phone, would you please text me your name and number? Perhaps you could include one other thing about yourself, such as a favorite Bible verse or hymn, or a prayer request? If you don't have a cell phone, and still want to share something about yourself with me, would you consider sending me an e-mail or giving me a call this month?

This space is always dedicated to a letter to you from one of your pastors, and so for some time I debated whether it would be appropriate to use this place to request you to contact me with the above information. But in the end, I found it most appropriate indeed. One of my favorite verses I learned while volunteering with Young Life (a ministry focused on reaching out to unchurched high school students) is 1 Thessalonians 2:8, which says "Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well." My job as your pastor is to preach the gospel of God to you. But it's also to share my life with you. As I strive to grow into my role as one of your pastors, I ask: send me your favorite Bible verses or something else you'd like to share with me, that I might better get to know you, and send me one of your prayer requests, that I might better serve you in my prayers for you.

In closing, I do want to preach the gospel to you, so know this: my growing love for you as one of your pastors is just a reflection of our Good Shepherd's great love for you. Our God loves you so much, that he is delighted to share with you the gospel, and even his life! Consider these Words of our Lord, just a taste of his great love for you: "The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing" (Zephaniah 3:17). Can you picture God exulting over you with loud singing? Maybe you can't yet picture it...but he can! And he does! And one day, you won't only be able to picture it, but you'll be able to see it with your own eyes, and hear it with your own ears! Oh what a day it will be when we hear our God sing his love for us!



Amazed by His Love,

Alex

congregational thank you's

cont.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the playground project in any way. Many hands do make light work. Because of your dedication and hard work the project went smoothly even though we had a rain delay. Your efforts and time were greatly appreciated and will not go unnoticed by many children in the future. "God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think." Ephesians 3:20.

On behalf of the Property Committee I thank you.

Eric Nafziger



Spiritual Council & Congregation,

Thank you for the beautiful planter, and for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated.

The Family of Buzz Ziegler



Thank you for awarding me the college scholarship! The money is greatly appreciated as I continue with my education and pursue my Masters of Health and Human Services.

Thank You!

Morgan McCandless

mission corner

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Altlink (Tom & Megan), for our gift of \$1,070.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$1,075.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$250.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$80.
- Defiance YFC (Outback), for our gift of \$545.
- Mighty in the Land Ministry, for our gift of \$477.12.
- Pioneers (Doriots), for our gift of \$140.
- Reliant (Chase/Pardi/Varnau), for our gift of \$70.
- World Team (Franks), for our gift of \$675.

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

Thankful - that's what we are for your prayers and your financial gift. Your hearts are big and so is our thanks!

Shepherd's Circle
Nancy Rupp - Treasurer



Tom & Megan, The Islands - June, 2017:

We wanted to send a small update out to you, especially all of you who joined us in the important work of praying throughout this month (June) of fasting.

This month of fasting is very special to us. We have had more discussions of truth and life this month than we have had since we arrived back on the islands! Many good friends have heard the Good News in their own language through the story of the 2 kingdoms: the kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness. Some highlights include:

Nanasi, a long time friend with whom we've found it difficult to share in the past, listened patiently to the story, nodding her agreement throughout.

Mimba, another old friend, is a crafty character who is often up to no good. He came by looking for a handout. He received some food and a telling of the two kingdoms. Mimba listened carefully. He really liked what he heard. He told us he would think about what we said. Seeing us in the street the next week, he asked if we could talk about it again - he had not forgotten.

Bweni, a sister, came by the house with her cousin. "Could you give her a copy of The Book, because she keeps borrowing mine." We shared the 2 kingdoms story with her and promised to look for a book for when she comes to visit the next time.

We have news from another island that a woman has hear the Good News and accepted it. May her new life be blessed and may her family be powerfully changed by this truth.

The night of the holiday we were able to share the story of the 2 kingdoms with our neighbor, Twama and an English student friend.

These are just a few of the blessings we've seen this month. Please join us in praying for all these and many more who have heard the Good News.

Thank you for all your prayers. We hope you are encouraged by these stories as much as we are! It is a great work you are doing, and it is such a privilege to share with all of you in this great work!

Blessings & Love,
Tom & Megan

August Mission-A-Month – Back Bay Mission Trip:

Back Bay Mission has a simple mission: to strengthen neighborhoods, seek justice, and transform lives. All of their programs transform lives. Whether helping a homeowner keep their home, mentoring a single mother as she plans her path out of poverty, or working with an intern who is thinking about a career in social work, they are making the lives of the people they serve better.

This month you have an opportunity to support our upcoming trip to Biloxi (Oct. 7-14) through donations to help cover fuel, lodging and supply costs.

Donations of support for the mission trip may be marked on line 12 of your weekly offering envelopes, writing "BBM Trip" or marking checks with "BBM Trip" on the memo line.

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

It's time to send out the call! Echoing the call of Isaiah 6:8: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?""

And who will respond, as Isaiah did, saying, "Here am I. Send me!"

We have space for 16 people to share in this week long service and mission experience. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board across from the church office. Sixteen voices saying, "Here am I. I will go!"

If you are thinking about saying, "Here am I," but have some questions, please feel free to talk to Pastor Erich!

Mission Experiences:

Upcoming opportunities to engage in aspects of our congregation's mission ministry include:

- 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

Thank Offering Containers

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



mission corner cont.

Archbold SuperValu (ASV) Receipts Collected:

Are you aware we collect ASV receipts and turn them into ASV periodically for a 1% rebate on the total sales? The rebate helps fund our Walk In Assistance Program, set up to help Archbold area non-members with various living expenses. Each request for assistance is handled by Pastor Erich. Turn in your receipts to the church office.

Missionary Contact/Prayer Request Information:

Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP

web site - www.jamkhed.org



Robert & Jenni McMahan, CRU (BGSU)

web site - www.give.cru.org

e-mail - robert.mcmahan@cru.org

e-mail - jennifer.mcmahan@cru.org

Matt & Paige Waanders, CRU (Brazil)

web site - www.give.cru.org

e-mail - matthew.waanders@cru.org

e-mail - paige.stamm@cru.org

Kyle Chase, Reliant (Univ. of Michigan)

web site - www.reliant.org

e-mail - kyle.chase@nlcweb.org



Matt Pardi, Reliant (Univ. of Toledo)

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

Cheryl Wyse - The Agape Family Life House

website - www.agapeflh.org

Jason & Becky Suon, Freedom International Ministries

website - www.itisforfreedom.com

e-mail - JasonSuon@itisforfreedom.com

e-mail - BeckySuon@itisforfreedom.com

ministry happenings

Christian Education

Summer Mid-Week Youth Ministries:

SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship) – On August 5, from noon to 6PM, we're planning a trip to Camp Palmer's brand new high ropes challenge course. Pray the Lord will use this activity to draw our teens closer together and serve as an illustration to them of how God has designed us for community and team work. Also on our calendar is Ultimate Frisbee, August 2 at 7PM. Call Pastor Alex for location and other details: 330-206-8762.

Events / Activities

Book Bag Bash – Sunday, August 6th:

The 2017 Book Bag Bash will be held from 4PM to 6PM. Sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board for volunteers and cookie donations. Please mark checks or envelopes with "BBB" for all monetary donations, which are all greatly appreciated!

Men's Breakfast – August 12th, 7:40AM:

A monthly time to gather, enjoy breakfast, fellowship, hear a testimony, share joys and concerns, and pray together. Please let Bruce Wooley, Pastor Erich or Pastor Alex know if you have any questions about what the Men's Prayer Breakfast is all about!

The Alpha Course:

Alpha is a practical introduction to the Christian faith, a place where people have an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in a relaxed, friendly setting. Alpha meets once a week for 10 to 13 weeks, depending upon a retreat day in the middle of the course. In each session people enjoy a meal together while laughing and learning about the teachings of Jesus in a friendly atmosphere where no question about life or God is seen as too simple or too hostile.

Alpha is an evangelistic tool, often defined as "evangelism for ordinary people." Alpha is worthwhile for anyone: those who are not Christians, those who are not churchgoers, those who are new Christians, those who want to brush up on the basics, those new to church.

To truly be evangelistic, the expectation and hope is that people of the congregation would invite someone outside the church and both would attend the course. To truly be effective in bringing blessing and change to people's lives, it's necessary for us to share Christ and share our faith as we invite people to Alpha.

Alpha Course Details:

- Starting Wednesday, September 13th
- Evening sessions from 6PM to 7:30/8:00PM
- Held in the Fireside Room
- Coordinated by John Graber and Pastor Erich

ministry happenings

cont.

Community Meal Ministry:

This community-minded ministry strives to connect people, be a Christian witness of God's love, and witness to the unity of local churches serving in partnership with each other. Any community member/family who desires assistance with food OR who longs for fellowship and conversation OR who doesn't feel like cooking OR who simply wants to come and eat with people of the community are invited to these meals.

Through September 26th, we're always in need of willing hearts and hands:

- Kelly Ducey leads a crew to set up tables and chairs, and set the tables
- Jim Grieser and Judy Grime lead a crew to take down tables and chairs, and sweep the floor
- Sue Grieser, Gary Mann, Sue Henry and Pastor Erich lead a crew to wash, dry and put away the dishes and pots & pans, and clean up the kitchen each week
- Extra hands are always needed to help in one way or another!
- Let Kelly, Jim, Sue, Gary or Erich know if you'd like to help – each week, once a month, or for the first hour or the last hour!

Confirmation Class Pictures of Past Classes:

They keep trickling in – one picture two weeks ago, three pictures last week – people are finding pictures of when they or family members were confirmed here at St. John's! We're scanning each picture brought in for our records, and hope to put them on display in the near future! Original



Confirmation Class of 1958

pictures will be returned to the owners! Digital pictures can be e-mailed to the church office (office@stjohnsarchbold.org).

Care Groups:

SJCC Care Groups – a fellowship ministry offering a small group dynamic within our larger congregational family. Care Groups provide a way for people to be regularly involved in church fellowship while stimulating the congregation in their love for God and each other. Care Group gatherings will include devotions, prayer and fellowship in pursuing mutual care on a personal and practical level. Care Groups may

vary according to age, special needs/interests, location, ministry, family orientation, etc., and each Care Group will be unique, due to the blend of gifts, interests and personalities of group members and leaders. Each Care Group will be led by one or two leaders as worked out through the Evangelism Committee.

The message of Hebrews 10:23-25 undergirds our Care Group Ministry: "Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵ Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another -- and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

This will be the second resurrection of this blessed care group ministry here at St. John's, having originated back in the 1980's, and then resurrected in the early 2000's and now once again in 2017! People involved in the past will remember the blessed times of fellowship, sharing, food and togetherness this ministry fostered.

Watch for further information, and you are invited and encouraged to sign up on the bulletin board, or by calling or e-mailing the church office.

Help Wanted:

Deb Schnitkey has announced her plan to move to Columbus to be near family. We all wish her well and pray for peace and health in her new chapter of life. St. John's needs to fill the positions of Director of Music Ministry and Accompanist. Let's get the word out and see who God sends. If you are interested, or know someone who may be, pass along this information. You never know when God is using you to connect a ministry to the gifted person seeking the opportunity to serve.

Director of Music Ministry:

"St. John's Christian Church in Archbold, OH is seeking a part-time (12 - 14 hours) Director of Music Ministry. The ideal candidate is responsible for planning and leading the church's music ministry in the worship of God with traditional and contemporary resources. Strong organizational and communication skills are required, technology skills preferred. Must be able to be on site Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. If this is your calling, send your resume to St. John's Christian Church 700 S. Defiance St., Archbold, OH 43502 or office@stjohnsarchbold.org, Attn: Personnel."

Accompanist:

"St. John's Christian Church in Archbold, OH is seeking a talented musician with the ability to play piano and/or organ as well as a desire to serve in a musical capacity within a worship setting. Candidate needs to be comfortable with blended and contemporary styles of worship as well as traditional. If this is your calling, send your resume to St. John's Christian Church

700 S. Defiance St., Archbold, OH 43502 or office@stjohnsarchbold.org, Attn: Personnel.”

“COME, LET US SING FOR JOY TO THE LORD;.....”

“.....let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.” Psalm 95:1-2

The chancel choir is on the lookout for people who enjoy doing what Psalm 95 states. What is needed are people who enjoy music, singing, worshipping and fellowshiping together with a desire and commitment to have a church choir.

Tentatively, rehearsals will be on Wednesdays at 7:30PM (a starting date has not yet been determined yet for 2017-18). The choir then participates in the 10:30AM worship service approximately 2-3 times a month, depending on the scheduling of other special music.

Take time to prayerfully consider your part in this ministry of your church and Come Join Us. Any questions or communication can be directed to Lynne Christman (419-267-5610).

Christian Resources International:

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). See that Christian material you no longer need or use continues to be useful in getting The Word out!

Instant Church Directory Online:

To download the mobile app for our online church directory, visit: <http://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/appl/>.

worship

August Worship Information:

- Aug 6th Scriptures – Mark 12:42-44, Phil. 2:1-4
Sermon – “Giving to Others”
Pastor Erich
Book Bag Bash Blessing
Mission Moment – Jeremy Mann
Thailand Experience
Special Music – “More Precious Than Silver”
Lynne Christman & Sarah Nafziger
Emma Nafziger, Piano Accompanist
- Aug 13th Scriptures – 1 Cor. 1:10, Heb. 10:19-25
Sermon – “It’s Rally Time Again”
Pastor Erich
Organist – Larry Beck
- Aug 20th Rally Sunday
Sermon – “Serving the Poor” Pastor Alex
Special Music – Todd Nafziger
- Aug 27th Scriptures – Psalm 67, 1 Kings 19
Sermon – “It’s Not Time to Rest Yet”
Pastor Erich
Special Music – Annie Foote, Deb Schmidt,
Deb Schnitkey
2nd Offering received for our
Imagine Your Faith Building Campaign

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Julie Ruffer
- 4 Dale & Sharon VonDeylan, Braiden Eichler
- 5 Mary Beck, Bettie Perry, Jack & Barb Stover
- 6 Lynne Roth, Cameron & Kristen Ruffer, Dave & Karen Walker
- 7 Roger & Jean Beck, Gary & Sandy Frazier, Tom Lovejoy, Cayla Walker
- 8 Amanda Walker
- 9 Mika Johnson, Mike & Rachel Kinsman, Rollin & Suzette Nafziger, Marlene Nofziger, Larry Woolace, Curtis Wooley
- 10 Heather Sears, Paul Sigg
- 11 Jacob & Esther Rupp
- 12 Bob & Carol DeVries
- 13 Darby Stevens
- 14 Deb Kauffman, Kyle & Alicia Jackson, Toni Neuenschwander, Dianne Wyrick, Silas Rupp
- 15 Erich & Lynne Christman, Randy & Kathy Layton, Justin Lesniak, Doris Rupp
- 16 Jim Redd
- 17 Tyler Bechstein, Lois Heer, Gavin Walker, Tony Warncke
- 18 Bonnie Grieser, Sandy Miller, Eric Yoder
- 20 Brennan Schink
- 21 Jill Nafziger, Burdell & Janice Nofziger, Janice Nofziger
- 22 Dale & Lori Flint
- 23 Tom Johnson, Jon & Deb Rupp
- 24 Kathryn Graber
- 26 Brad Roth
- 27 Josh Grime, Jeremy Kinsman, Morgan McCandless, Bruce & Carrie Wooley
- 29 Jeremy Mann, Nancy Ries
- 30 Jocelyn Bechstein, Don LaFountaine
- 31 Bill & Judy Barnhart

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

August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:00AM Worship 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation 10:30AM Worship	Mission-A-Month— Back Bay Mission Trip Elder of the Month— Ann Grime	1 6:30AM Women's Summer Small Group 7:00PM Capital Campaign	2 7:00PM SYF Ultimate Frisbee at Spengler Field	3 7:00PM Mission Comm.	4	5
6 4:00PM Book Bag Bash	7 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:00PM Pastors Meeting 7:00PM SYF Leaders Meeting	8 6:30AM Women's Summer Small Group 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Preschool Board 7:00PM Property Committee	9 9:00AM Carpet Cleaning 10:00AM W. Haven Bible Study	10 6:00PM Scouts District Meeting	11 9:00AM Carpet Cleaning 2:00PM Set up for Private Party (Parish Hall Kitchen)	12 7:40AM Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00AM Private Party (Parish Hall/ Kitchen)
13	14 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:00PM Pastors Meeting	15 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	16	17	18	19
20 Rally Sunday 11:45AM Fellowship Meal	21 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:00PM Pastors Meeting 6:30PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	22 9:15AM Bible Study 1:30PM Bingo at Fairlawn 5:00PM Community Meal 6:00PM Preschool Orientation (M-W-F Class)	23 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 10:00AM W. Haven Bible Study	24 6:00PM Preschool Orientation (T-Th Class)	25	26
27 9:15AM CE Parent/Volunteer Session	28 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:00PM Pastors Meeting	29 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	30 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 6:30PM CE Parent/Volunteer Session	31		

consistory/committees

Sanctuary Pipe Organ:

The Consistory has compiled information into an eight page document regarding some of the history, the current status, necessary improvements and the future of the pipe organ. Such information has come from church records, the Lima Pipe Organ Company, four organists, a featured newspaper article and current staff.

The pipe organ was serviced in the month of June, and its conditioned remains stable. There are concerns about specific parts of the organ, with those two repairs estimated at a cost of \$11,000, but the organ still plays and sounds well. Doing these two repairs makes no sense, according to the experts, if the leather valves are not rebuilt, which could cost between \$200,000 and \$250,000. While the valves could go at any time, the organ remains stable.

A further aspect to the future of the pipe organ is finding trained organists to play the instrument in our

worship services. There is a nation-wide shortage of organists, and churches from large cities to rural areas are struggling with a lack of organists. The pipe organ remains a part of our worship here at St. John's, but we are currently limited in its use because of a lack of trained organists.

Over the course of the coming months, the Consistory will continue to offer updates with points of information about the pipe organ. The intent is to seek a consensus from the congregation at the Congregational Annual Meeting in January, that consensus being about the use of the pipe organ as a vital instrument in our worship of God.

While the needed replacement of the leather valves in the pipe organ carries a large price tag, as a point of reference, consider the capital maintenance and improvements made to our facility in just the past 21 years: 2017 – \$41,000 Playground, 2016 – Cleaning/

Tuckpointing/Sealing of the Building – \$52,100, 2015 – \$94,215 – Storage Building, 2009 – Sanctuary A/V System – \$68,000, 2007 – Roof Replacement – \$116,800, 2005 – Chapel Seating/Carpet – \$12,500, 2003 – Carport Drive / Sidewalk – \$12,000, 2001 – Steeple/Pillar Repairs – 35,588, 2000 – Land Purchase – \$500,000, 2000 – A/C Replacement – \$13,848, 1999 – Window Phase 2 – \$48,850, 1997 – Service Door Replacement – \$12,900, 1997 – Doors & Windows Phase 1 – \$86,000, 1995 – Landscaping – \$25,000, 1989 – Cleaning/Tuckpointing/Sealing – \$16,000, 1989 – Land Purchase (East Lot) – \$8,500, 1989 – Roof Replacement – \$86,000, 1987 – Redecorating – \$168,500, 1986 – Concrete Parking Lot – \$62,000 – that’s a total of \$1,460,401.

Nomination Process in Preparation for the Annual Election of Congregational Leadership:

Here’s the first of several installments from the Spiritual Council in their discerned efforts towards improving the nomination and election process of our congregation. As the Nominating Committee, the Spiritual Council will be entering into their annual time of prayer and discernment at their September meeting. Coming this fall will be some opportunities of leadership development as we prepare for a healthy and vital future of ministry and mission here at St. John’s. The congregation can be in prayer over the offices of elder and deacon/deaconess, which have the following qualifications and terms:

Elder – Basic Qualifications:

1. An elder must be a member of the congregation of St. John’s Christian Church, having been a member for at least six years.
2. An elder must be a Christian person who is earnestly devoted to living as a disciple of Jesus Christ and whose faith is evident in how they conduct themselves in thought, word and deed.
3. An elder must be an active participant in and supporter of the ministries of the church, and in full communion with the church’s faith and beliefs.
4. An elder must be willing to perform the duties required by the office.

Deacon/Deaconess – Basic Qualifications:

1. A deacon/deaconess must be a member of the congregation of St. John’s Christian Church, having been a member for at least three years.
2. A deacon/deaconess must be a Christian person who is earnestly devoted to living as a disciple of Jesus Christ and whose faith is evident in how they conduct themselves in thought, word and deed.
3. A deacon/deaconess must be an active participant in

and supporter of the ministries of the church, and in full communion with the church’s faith and beliefs.

4. A deacon/deaconess must be willing to perform the duties required by the office.

Term of Office for Elder and Deacon/Deaconess:

1. Term of office is for three years.
2. Term begins upon election at annual meeting, or appointment (in case of filling a vacancy).
3. Term ends at conclusion of annual meeting of the year the term expires.

Consistory’s Work of Congregational Visioning:

After identifying twenty-seven aspects of our ministry that the Consistory put forth through their efforts of visioning, the members of Consistory ranked the following items as the top five they wanted to address in the near future:

1. Post High – Address This Gap in Our Ministry
2. Engagement of Members – Engaged in Faith, Deeply Committee to Christ
3. To Know All by Name – Increase the Awareness of Who Everyone is in Our Congregation
4. Volunteerism – Servant Hood – Addressing the Need for Leaders, Teachers and Servants
5. Bigger Bathrooms – Accessibility and Location

Consistory is now engaged in the process of creating both goals and objectives for these five items. Goals are the stated purposes of our endeavors in these areas, and the objectives will be out we reach those goals.

Capital Campaign Committee:

Pocket Change Challenge – there’s just one month to go in our Summer Pocket Change Challenge! Continue to fill up your coin bank, or if you need one, they are on tables near the east and south entrances! The banks will be collected on September 3rd and 10th – providing further funds towards our Imagine Your Faith Building campaign.

IYF Building Campaign – 2nd Offering:

Beginning on the 4th Sunday of August, and on the 4th Sunday of each month thereafter, a special second offering will be received – with the offering directed towards our Imagine Your Faith Building Campaign. Once the ushers have passed the plates down the pews for the support of our operating, ministry and mission budgets, the ushers will come back through, passing the plates a second time for our once a month second offering. People may use the colored building fund envelopes that are in the pew racks for this second offering.

consistory/committees

cont.

Consistory Minutes of July 17, 2017:

Meeting began with Ann Fether sharing a devotional, "A Story About a Soldier and a Deck of Cards"

Committee Reports

1. Budget & Stewardship Committee – Joyce Kinsman – Reports as of June 30th. Current Balance at EGR is \$1,818,248.83 with a yield of 7.02% since 9/3/15. Since inception of our account, the amount on deposit with EGR is \$1,633,477.81. This includes \$41,000 coming out for the playground and \$19,000 coming out for the office renovation, plus scheduled disbursements from Second Mile (missions) Fund, Bible Fund and Springer Scholarship Fund. Next meeting with EGR will be October 4th @ 4:30pm. Motion to approve the financials, Ann Fether motion to approve, Amy Baden 2nd the motion. Motion approved.
2. Evangelism Committee – Sarah Nafziger – BBB is Aug 6th from 4-6pm. Plans are underway to serve around 100 children with school supplies and book bags.
3. Mission Committee – David Stuckey – month's disbursements were: Aroles - \$1,000, Back Bay Mission - \$1,000, Kajiado Children's Home - \$1,000, Shepherd's Circle - \$200.
4. Personnel Committee – Amy Baden – Deb Schnitkey has resigned from her position as of July 8th. Personnel has been asked to send a thank you to Deb. Her last date of employment will be July 30th. She has been offered to volunteer her time or be paid, if she would like to come back and accompany for services. Committee is meeting on Thursday, July 20 to discuss the position and begin the process of filling the three positions she has held: Director of Music Ministry, Chancel Choir Accompanist and Organist/Pianist.
5. Property Committee – Eric Nafziger – Playground Update – after a rain delay, the playground is in. Fencing has been installed. There are plans to bring top dirt in and taper the sides to finish the project. A dedication service is planned for Rally Sunday, with the possibility of the Children's Moment being held at the playground. Thank you, Eric Nafziger and all those that helped in so many ways with this project! Interior Painting - Finished up last week, the same color paint was used as before. Exterior Lighting and Timers – Four new digital timers were ordered today for approximately \$1,700.00. Timers will run the parking lot lights, outdoor lights, lighted sign and bell tower. The goal is to have this project complete by the time LOGOS begins.

6. Spiritual Council – Pastor Erich – Nomination Process – working on education of the congregation. Biblical qualifications of leadership. This information will be in the issues of the Visitor. Prayer and discernment process will begin in September. Confirmation Program – Confirmation will remain on Sunday mornings through 2017-2018 for Confirmands. The incoming Confirmands for 2018-2019 will then begin on Wednesday evenings (switching from Sundays), if all works out. Stephen Ministry – a pastoral care ministry is being researched, with committee members speaking with other churches around the area that use this ministry to gain more information. Acolyte attire concerns were brought up. Awareness that not everyone thinks the same about worship attire during the acolyte process. Ideas are being discussed regarding possibilities concerning attire for acolytes.
7. Pastors Report – Pastor Erich – Sanctuary Organ – Larry Beck played the organ during worship on July 9th. Larry hopes to play again in August. Erich will be working to share information with the congregation, with plans to discuss the organ in detail during the January Congregational Meeting. Global Leadership Conference (August 10 & 11, New Hope Church, Bryan, Ohio). Engaging our Aging Conference (October 28, Grace Church, Hudsonville, MI)
8. Associate Pastor's Report – Pastor Alex – SYF Mission Trip Review – The SYF Mission trip went well. 11 people went all together (7 teens and 4 adults). Students worked with two different families during their week away. Seeds were planted that week and God is stirring in many lives through this Mission trip.
9. Old Business – Leadership Development – Setting Short Term Goals – Rankings from the Leadership retreat were noted and passed out on a tally sheet. Top 5 Rankings: 1) Post High – Addressing a gap in ministry (possible Life Planning Mentors keeping in contact with their youth and have an "alumni" get together to get these College aged youth back into the church); 2) Engagement of Members; 3) To know all by Name; 4) Volunteerism – Servant Hood; 5) Bigger Restrooms
10. New Business – Evangelical Association Reformation Event (Saturday, October 7, 9-5PM). Pastor Erich is meeting with other EA pastors to plan this event. SJCC has been asked to handle registrations and mailings for this event. This event will be held in Berne, Indiana.
11. Associate Pastor Home Loan – Pastor Alex moved into his new home this past Saturday. The \$10,000 check for a down payment loan has been given to Pastor Alex and has been processed.

Silent Auction – Playground and Other Items:

Now that the new playground has been installed, it's time to find a new home, or homes, for the old playground equipment, along with some other items that have been in storage for a while. We'll be taking silent bids on the items, with bids being written on paper and turned into the church office, or they may be e-mailed to Sue at office@stjohnsarchbold.org. Please include full name, contact information, item(s) bid on and amount of bid(s). During the week of August 7th thru 11th, interested people may check out the items that will be displayed in the church parking lot. Separate pieces and other items will be numbered, and people may bid on individual items. Bids should be to the office by 5PM on Friday, August 11th.

Online Giving

Online giving is available through our church web site. Please contact Sue in the office to be assigned an Online Giving (OLG) number if you are interested in taking advantage of this service. Utilizing this online service portal is easy and convenient. Set up automatic payments (weekly, bi-monthly, monthly, quarterly, annually) and take the added cost and time out of manually writing checks. If you have questions or don't have access to a computer but would like to take advantage of this new online giving feature, feel free to contact the church office for further assistance.

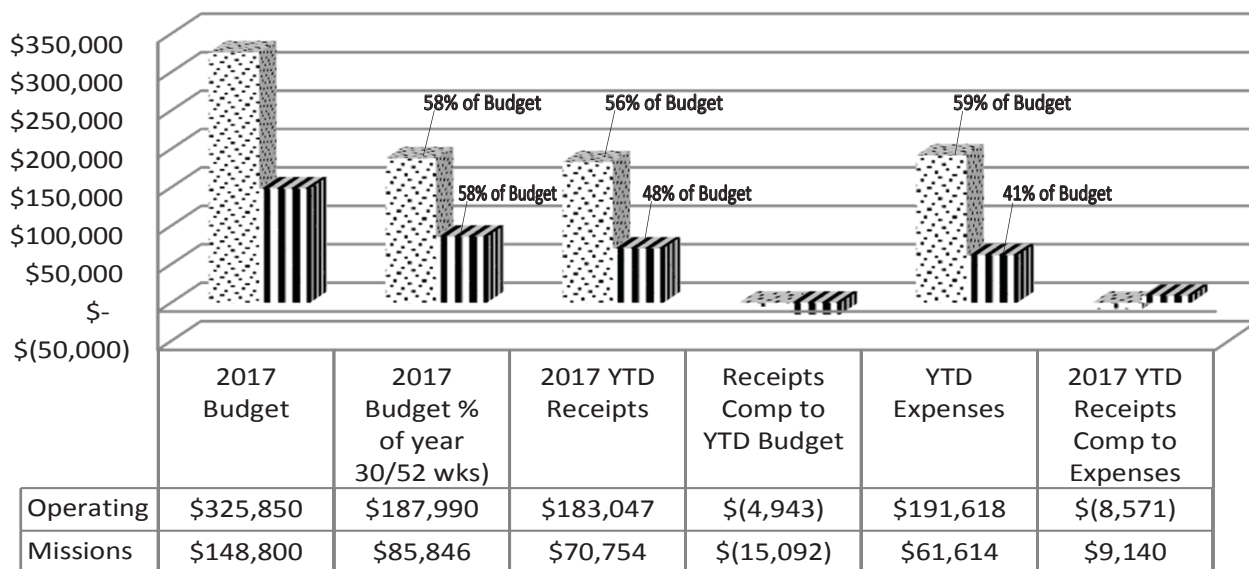
St. John's Christian Church Leadership:

- Congregation President.....Brent Winzeler
- Congregation Vice-PresidentBetsy 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
- LOGOS Director..... Kim M. Walker
- Associate Pastor Rev. Alex Young
- Pastor.....Rev. Erich Christman

IYF Building Campaign Total Receipts as of
 July 24, 2017 - \$486,173.67

stewardship

2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of July 24, 2017



August 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 Loving Justice -----	Joshua 20:1-9	17 Tantrums! -----	Judges 14:1-20
2 Lead Like Joshua -----	Joshua 23:1-11	18 Yet More Revenge -----	Judges 15:1-20
3 Truthfully Speaking -----	Joshua 23:12-16	19 The Comeuppance -----	Judges 16:1-22
4 Now Therefore -----	Joshua 24:1-15	20 How Long, O Lord? -----	Psalm 74
5 A Greater Joshua -----	Joshua 24:16-33	21 Eyeless in Gaza -----	Judges 16:23-31
6 The Eternal King -----	Psalm 72	22 The Quiet Place -----	Mark 6:30-44
7 Conquering the Inner Kingdom -----	Judges 1	23 Take Courage! -----	Mark 6:45-56
8 A Typical Story -----	Judges 2:6-23	24 The Challenge -----	Mark 7:1-13
9 Not One but Two -----	Judges 4:1-24	25 The Continuing Response -----	Mark 7:14-23
10 A New Champion is Made -----	Judges 6:1-24	26 A Kingdom for All -----	Mark 7:24-30
11 A Proper Altar -----	Judges 6:25-40	27 Engaging with God 24/7 -----	Psalm 75
12 The Numbers Game -----	Judges 7:1-14	28 From the Many to the One -----	Mark 7:31-37
13 Slippery Ground -----	Psalm 73	29 Nothing to See Here? -----	Mark 8:1-13
14 A Psychological Warfare -----	Judges 7:15-24a	30 Listen Carefully -----	Mark 8:14-21
15 Oh Dear! -----	Judges 8:22-35	31 I Can See Clearly Now -----	Mark 8:22-26
16 Enter Sampson -----	Judges 13:1-25		

Phone 419-446-2545
 Website www.stjohnsarchbold.org
 Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM
 Sunday School 9:15AM

Pastor Rev. Erich Christman
pastoreich@stjohnsarchbold.org
 Cell Ph. 419-551-0401

Assoc. Rev. Alex Young
pastoralex@stjohnsarchbold.org
 Cell Ph. 330-206-8762

Admin. Sue Grieser
office@stjohnsarchbold.org

LOGOS Kim M. Walker
kwalker@tceexpress.net

Director Roger Miller

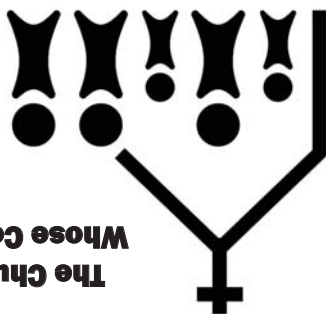
Treasurer Dean Buckenmeyer

Custodians Nick Rice
 Richard Spieß

Security

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**

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