

# The Visitor

## prayer concerns

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

February 1, 2017 Volume 63, Number 2

### Please Pray For:

- Kollin Woolace, grandson of Larry & Mel Woolace, left for Parris Island, SC, the week of January 22nd to begin serving in the US Marines.
- Kris Short, home recovering from back surgery on January 20th.
- The family of Jr. Grime, who went to his heavenly home on January 20th.
- Randy Layton, who had shoulder surgery the week of January 8th, facing 8-12 weeks of recovery.
- Jayson Lindsay, recovering from shoulder surgery on January 13th.
- Suzette Nafziger and family, upon the death of her father, Orval Wyse, on January 12th.
- Joanne Spotts, in rehab at Fairlawn recovering from surgery for a broken hip suffered in a fall.
- Kreighton Sims, recovering from a broken ankle.
- Ed Ruffer, recovering from foot surgery.
- Tony MacDonald and family, upon the death of his brother, David MacDonald, on December 31st.
- Gary Mann and family, upon the death of his father, Leon Mann, on December 30th.
- John Lovejoy, Paul & Joan Lovejoy's son, who has completed chemo and radiation treatments for esophageal cancer. Further testing will determine next step in treatment.
- Gary Frazier, as he continues to recover at home.
- Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety. Serving from our church are:

#### Pvt. Bostelman Brenden (Army)

Fort Benning, Georgia for airborne training for several weeks, then will be transferred to AK

#### Sgt. Benjamin Chapman (Army Nat'l. Guard)

(Stationed in Qatar)  
Box 516  
APO, AI 09898

#### AB Collins Taylor D (Air Force)

268 Luke Ave., Box 700  
Joint Base Anacostia  
Bolling, DC 20032

#### Kyle Ducey (Navy)

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

#### Cpt. Jared R. Kuntz (Army)

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

#### Steven Schink (Coast Guard)

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

#### AJ Short (Marines)

Basic Training - Parris Island, SC

#### Kollin Woolace (Marines)

Basic Training - Parris Island, SC

#### Koltin Zimmerman (Army)

Fort Campbell, Oak Grove, Kentucky

Please consider sending these people cards letting them know that we continue to lift them up to God in prayer, that He will guide, comfort and sustain them through these times.

#### **Home Bound/Care Facility Residents:**

Cards, phone calls and visits to our home bound would be a wonderful blessing:

Fairlawn Haven, 407 E. Lutz Rd., Archbold, 43502

Florence Augustine, Room #113

Mary Jo Britt, Fairlawn Haven, Room #206

David Lightner, Room #138

Esther Rice, Room #116

Cathy Spiess, #153

Shirley Wyse, #124

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

Lois Heer, Room #238

Jane Short, Room #208

Pauline Short, Room #205

Wyse Commons, 550 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502

Wayne & Susanne Spiess, Apt. #309

Independent Living, 600 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502

Rosemarie Schmidt, Apt. #112

Josephine Short, Apt. #116

Fulton Manor, 723 S. Shoop Ave., Wauseon, 43567

Robert Kuntz, Room #225-2

Bernice Rice, Room #224-2

Myrl & Pauline Zimmerman, Room #505

Northcrest, 240 Northcrest Dr., Napoleon, 43545

Irene Short, Room #100

## congregational news

### CONGRATULATIONS

to Josh and Kasey Grime on the birth of their son, Reese Augustus, on January 23rd. Reese weighed 9 lbs., 13 oz. and is welcomed into their family by older siblings, Andee, Josee, Ian and Cagney.



# pastor's letter

## Thoughts from Pastor Alex . . .

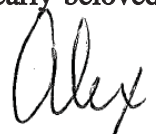
Through this month we will be continuing our studies through the story of the Old Testament in our sermon series and in various classes. We're covering a period of about 600 years, starting with the coronation of Saul in 1050 BC, and concluding with the ministries of Ezra and Nehemiah until about 433 BC. Even though Ezra and Nehemiah form the chronological end of the Old Testament, they are presented with the other Historical Books (Joshua through Esther). The Old Testament ends with the Prophetic Books, which serve both as an exhortation toward godly living and as an encouragement of the deliverance God had promised his people.

These 600 years of history are quite tumultuous. In 930 BC, we see the kingdom of Israel split into two kingdoms. The Northern Kingdom (Israel) persists in rebellion for 200 years, during which the Lord sends his prophets to call them back to himself. After spurning him and all his messengers, the Lord raises up the kingdom of Assyria to execute his judgment against his rebellious people and Israel is conquered in 722 BC and the Israelites are exiled from their land. The Southern Kingdom (Judah) has brief seasons of faithfulness, but ultimately follow Israel's example in rebelling from the Lord and spurning his prophets. Over a period of 20 years they face a series of three deportations by the Babylonians, culminating in the destruction of Jerusalem (and of the Temple) and the third and final deportation from the Southern Kingdom in 587 BC.

But in 539 BC, the Lord raised up Cyrus, King of the Persians, to overthrow the Babylonians. Under his rule, the Israelites are permitted to return to their homeland and are given permission to rebuild the Temple of the Lord. The Israelites fall into old patterns of sinfulness and rebellion from the Lord, and the Lord sends his prophets to warn them of coming judgment. As we read, we sigh in exasperation. When will they ever learn?! But this time, something remarkable happens. This time the Israelites heed the warnings of the Lord's prophets, repent from their sins, and turn back to God. And we see that the work of the Lord during these hundreds of years of history has borne fruit. This generation of Israelites has learnt from their ancestors' stubborn rebellion and have been granted the gift of repentance unto life.

From all these events, we learn of the Lord's sovereignty over all of history and over every nation. We can take comfort knowing that even today he reigns over all the nations, and is at work throughout the whole world that all might know the depths of his love and turn to him in repentance. And we can take comfort knowing that this all-powerful God who sovereignly rules over all the universe loves us deeply, considers his people his dearly beloved children, and is sovereignly ruling over the details of our lives for our good (Romans 8:28).

Grace and Peace,



## preschool corner

Registration for next fall is in full swing, with morning sessions already full! We still have space in both afternoon sessions, so children who will turn 3 by August 1, 2017 are eligible for our program!

We hope you have been enjoying our artwork in the hallways! We started January learning about "Winter" followed by "Beach/Ocean Animals" and then talked about "Pets" and finally, "Zoo Animals/Noah's Ark." We will be completing our animal unit in February.

The younger classes made puffy paint with shaving cream and glue, and used it to make polar bear faces. Those classes also made walrus out of paper plates, brown paint, yarn, and popsicle sticks. Did you know that a group of walrus is called a "herd?" The older classes used collage materials to construct snowmen – each was truly unique! We read Penguins to the Rescue by Tony Mitton, and learned many interesting facts about penguins, as well as some new vocabulary words. Both classes participated in an interactive story, The Mitten, by Jan Brett. We made a larger-than-life mitten in the gym, and ALL of the children fit in it!

We thought we would warm up with our "Beach/Ocean Animals" theme, and what a great time the children had riding a real surfboard, taking a picnic lunch to the "beach," wearing life jackets and sunglasses, and playing in the sand!

During our "Pets" theme, we pretended to have a pet shop in our Dramatic Play area. We also had visits from several types of pets, including a dog, a hedgehog, and a lizard. The older children made a book called My Pets, which will circulate to everyone's house. Each child drew a picture of a real pet or a pet they wished to have, and we wrote down their responses to some questions about their pet.

Our Bible verse for January was, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8

## congregational news

cont.

On Sunday, January 29th, we celebrated the baptism of JD Holdgreve, son of Ryan and Jill Holdgreve, who was born on April 23, 2016. Lainey is JD's older sister, and his grandparents include Dale and Ann Grime. Great-grandparents include Arlene Grime.



## congregational thank you's

Thank you so much for all of your support during Phil's illness and subsequent death. We appreciate all of the cards, visits, and memorial gifts in his name. We also want to thank those who provided food and helped serve the wonderful lunch. St. John's was such an important part of his life for many years and we are happy to be part of such a caring church family.

The family of Phil Buehrer

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, a funeral spray, or spoke kind words, or just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much. And thank you for the beautiful planter.

Dean & Darlene Sauder & the family of Paul Sauder

Dear Pastor Erich & St. John's Christian Church,

Thank you so much for your wonderful help with Gary's dad's funeral. We appreciate Erich's consultation and visit. We are grateful for the plant, and thought Gary's mom would enjoy it in her room. Please communicate our thanks to others who helped us in some way.

In Christian love,  
Gary & Teresa Mann

Thank you to those who thought of us, maybe said a prayer or sent a card, and to Erich for his hospital visit. A big thank you to Nancy and Doug for all of their encouragement as Larry healed from a broken back in two places, a dislocated elbow and broken arm, and my very sudden open heart surgery. We truly know that God and the angels were looking after both of us as we went through some really rough times the last 6 months. God is indeed a healing and good God.

Larry & Mel Woolace

Thank you to my church family for all of the cards of encouragement and many prayers.

Gary Frazier

## mission corner

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

- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$100.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$235.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$2,046.
- Defiance Youth for Christ (Outback), for our gift of \$300.
- Hands of Grace, for our gift of \$400.
- Mighty in the Land Ministries, for our gift of \$650.
- Reliant (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$290.
- Reliant (Whitney Varnau), for our gift of \$40.
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission, for our gift of \$1,125.
- World Team (Franks), for our gift of \$885.

St. John's Christian Church,

As we look back at 2016, the Archbold FISH Pantry is grateful for the incredible support from the area churches who contributed canned goods, financial donations, service hours, winter coats . . . and the list goes on. Because of you, the Archbold FISH Pantry was able to offer help and hope to the area households in need in our community.

It is the goal of the pantry to assist low-income families on a short-term basis, particularly those in a crisis situation, and to share God's love and care. It certainly takes a community to make that happen, and the pantry can only offer help and hope to those in need because of the generous support of area businesses, churches, organizations and individuals. So thank you for your continued support of our ministry

Lynn Lehman, FISH Pantry Coordinator

Dear Friends, and Family of St. John's,

We want to sincerely thank you for your continued support of the Lord's ongoing work in Kenya. It is now 26 years since we were first called to Kenya. Now it is going on 21 years since we received our first group of orphaned children. Some of these grown children serve on our Kenyan management board!

All those we've received have touched our hearts and lives. Their Christian training and upbringing at Kajiado Children's Home will not return void.



May the Lord bless each of you abundantly!

By His grace, in His service,  
Larry & Linda Rupp

## mission corner cont.

Dear Foods Resource Bank Friends,

The 2016 Bean Project in which you participated in is complete. The harvest was very good, and we are celebrating with you the many mission projects that can be completed around the world. Thank you for your support of \$2,808 which, when added to all other inputs, allowed us to send \$9,909.79 to FRB from this year's growing project.

From it's meager beginnings, FRB's mission continues to be able to alleviate world hunger by globally connecting local communities through agriculture.

Again, we thank you for your continued support.

In Christ,

Marvin Fish (Project Manager) & Larry Stuckey



Grateful . . . Thankful . . . Appreciative . . . that's what Shepherd Circle is for your prayers and financial support! Words simply do not do justice! Thank you, thank you . . . and blessings!

Shepherd Circle  
Nancy Rupp, Treasurer



### February Mission-A-Month - FISH Food Pantry:

February is the month we contribute items and monetary donations to the Archbold FISH Pantry. The number of families visiting the pantry for food has been continually increasing and the shelves continue to empty quickly after the pantry has been open. Below is a current list of needed items (\* denotes desperately needed items) at the pantry, although all items are willingly accepted:

Food Items – Canned meat; canned tuna\*; canned pineapple, mandarin oranges and fruit cocktail\*; canned peas, potatoes and corn; canned tomatoes – diced, stewed, paste, sauce; sugar; Spaghettios, Raviolios; kids' cereal

Personal Items – Deodorant\*; 2-in-1 shampoo/conditioner\*; body wash\*; feminine products; diapers (size 4, 5, and 6); toothbrushes; toothpaste

Cleaning Supplies – Paper towels; multi-purpose cleaner; dish soap\*; facial tissue; toilet paper

Winter Outerwear (new or gently used) – Hats, gloves, scarves, coats (especially children's and XL adults)

Donated items can be placed in the white mission box in the chapel narthex. You can also give monetary

donations through your weekly offering envelopes or in the church office weekdays from 8AM–5PM. Monetary donations allow the pantry to purchase needed items in bulk.

### Out of Box Experience:

With the Archbold FISH Food Pantry as our February Mission-A-Month, we are offering the "Out of Box Experience" once again! People are invited to gather in the chapel at 3PM on Sunday, February 19th to begin this mission adventure. Individuals, couples, families, children, youth and adults – all are welcome! We'll divide into shopping groups, then head out to the stores to shop for items for the pantry. After shopping, everyone will meet at the pantry to learn how it operates and we'll stock the shelves with the items just purchased. It's a mission/fellowship experience all rolled into one event!

### Back Bay Mission Trip:

Ten people from SJCC will join four folks from other churches for a short week of service in Biloxi, MS. The group will leave early Saturday morning, February 11th and return Friday afternoon, February 17th. Participating in the trip for the first time will be Mike and Silas Whiteman, who will join past trip participants: Betsy Ducey, Kim Walker, Tom Johnson, James Grime, Jim Grieser, Ryan Christman, Gloria Lauber and Pastor Erich. Please pray for travel safety, enjoyable group fellowship, faith enriching experiences and, of course, good weather for the work projects!

### 2017 Summer Mission Experience:

A week has been reserved at Tower Hill Church Camp for June 11-16, 2017. That's the place of lodging for this annual time of service with the LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity. People are invited to save these dates on their calendar as further information becomes available in early 2017.

### Missionary Contact/Prayer Request Information:

Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP

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



Matt & Paige Waanders, CRU

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

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

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

Matt Pardi, Reliant

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)

The Agape Family Life House

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

Jason & Becky Suon, Freedom International Ministries

web site - [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:

LOGOS – Themes for the month of February are:  
February 1 - Souper Bowl of Caring Night, February 8 - St. John's Has Talent Night, February 15 - Valentine's Night, February 22 - F.R.O.G. Night.

Hand Chimes and Bells play at 10:30AM service of worship on Sunday, February 19.

JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship) – This month the Junior Youth Fellowship is continuing their series on the story of the Old Testament. The JYF will be sponsoring a congregational movie night on Sunday, March 19th. Stay tuned for more information!

SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship) – In January, the SYF sponsored the luncheon that followed the annual congregational meeting and raised approximately \$300 for their mission trip this summer to West Virginia. Thank you for your support! This month the teens are continuing to work through their lesson series on the story of the Old Testament.

Last month, the SYF threw a "thank you"/"good bye" party for Ricky Ruscigno on his last Wednesday serving as an SYF leader. Additionally, Brandon and Nicole Lehman announced the exciting news that Nicole has been accepted to Ohio State to pursue her master's degree in social work. They will be

continuing to volunteer with SYF until they move to Columbus in April. Ricky, Brandon, and Nicole, we are thankful for the opportunities we've had to get to know you, and have fun with you, and learn from you, and love you; and we wish you the best in what's to come!

Life Planning – Last month we devoted our group time to helping out with various chores around the church. This month we are going to play some challenging games and talk about ways various characters of the Old Testament were challenged and how they responded.

## Events / Activities

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

Pastor Alex is leading a group Bible study of God's Grand Story on the following Sunday mornings, from 9:15 to 10:15:

- February 5th..... United Kingdom
- February 12th.... Divided Kingdom
- February 19th ... Captivity & the Coming Kingdom
- February 26th.... God's Grand Story – Recap!

### Valentine's Day All-Church Potluck:

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

### Men's Ministry:

Beginning on March 11th, a New Men's Fellowship and Study Group will begin. Men are invited to come, and bring any men with you, to this fellowship and study time that will be held on the second Saturday morning of each month, beginning at 6:30AM at the Home Restaurant. Enjoy breakfast and fellowship, followed by a time of Bible study and prayer. Mike Whiteman is coordinating this new ministry with Pastor Erich's assistance.

### Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study:

- Time – 7PM to 8PM
- Location – the Parlor
- Study – Paul's Letter to the Romans
- Leader – Pastor Erich

### Instant Church Directory Online:

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

# February 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— FISH Food Pantry Elder of the Month— Paige Miller		1 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Bells / Chimes / JYF 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	2 6:00PM 4th Grade Basketball 7:15PM Mission Comm.	3	4 2-4PM YFC Basketball
5 Souper Bowl of Caring 9:15AM Adult Faith & Fellowship	6 11:15AM Staff Meeting	7 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 6:30PM Cub Scouts Den Meetings 7:00PM Capital Campaign Committee	8 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Bells / Chimes / JYF 7:00PM Life Planning 7:00PM SYF Remix 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	9 6:00PM Scouts District Meeting	10	11 Depart for Biloxi Mission Trip
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>Back Bay Mission Trip - Biloxi, MS</b>						
9:15AM Adult Faith & Fellowship 12:00PM Valentine's Day All Church Potluck	11:15AM Staff Meeting 10:00AM Preschool Valentine Day Party 2:00PM Preschool Valentine Day Party	9:15AM Bible Study 10:00AM Preschool Valentine Day Party 2:00PM Preschool Valentine Day Party 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Property Committee 8:00PM Praise Band Reh.	8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Bells / Chimes / JYF 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	6:00PM 4th Grade Basketball		11AM Set Up For B-N-Gold 6PM Blue-N-Gold Banquet
19 9:15AM Adult Faith & Fellowship 10:30AM Bells & Chimes Play 12:00PM Private Party (Parish Hall / Kitchen) 2:00PM Private Party (Parish Hall / Kitchen)	20 <b>President's Day</b> 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	21 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Preschool Board	22 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Sty. 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Junior Choir / JYF 7:00PM SYF 7:00PM Ash Wednesday Serv. 8:00PM Chancel Choir Reh.	23 6:00PM 4th Grade Basketball 6:00PM Preschool T-Th AM Class Mom's Night	24	25 9-10:30AM Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby Time Trials
26 Lenten Coin Folders Distr.	27 11:15AM Staff Meeting	28 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 8:00PM Praise Band Reh.				

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 John &amp; Mary Beck</li> <li>2 Bruce Wooley</li> <li>3 Bob &amp; Connie Bostelman</li> <li>4 Riley Kleck, Nancy Lightner, Karen Rice, Shirley Wyse</li> <li>5 Kaenan Layton, Dave Miller, Brittany Yaichner</li> <li>6 Rollin Nafziger</li> <li>8 Brandon Lehman</li> <li>9 Karen Walker</li> <li>10 Jason Pursel, Irene Short</li> <li>11 Mindy Gruenhagen, Jen Lindsay</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 Vern &amp; Mary Lou Nemire</li> <li>14 Sue Buehrer, Tucker Johnston, Keith &amp; Kelli Kuntz</li> <li>15 Teresa Mann</li> <li>16 Hannah Grieser, Ryan Kinsman</li> <li>17 Donna Buehrer, Rod Wyse</li> <li>18 Jilian Kuntz, Jared Kuntz, Andrew Wyse</li> <li>19 Erin Grieser, John Kauffman, Sue Kinsman, Judy Overmier, Ella Yoder</li> <li>21 Blake Grime</li> <li>24 Joe Short</li> <li>28 Amy Christman</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

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

# consistory/committees

## Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting, held on Sunday, January 15, 2017:

- A quorum was established with 106 members present.
- Jim Grieser moved and Tim Grieser seconded a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Motion approved.
- President Winzeler asked for any nominations from the floor. Having none, Norm Fether moved and Justin Yoder seconded a motion to accept the ballot as presented.
- John Beck moved and Jim Redd seconded a motion to approve all 2016 Financial Reports as presented. Motion carried.
- Personnel Committee – Laura Johnson gave an explanation of the proposed budget for non-pastoral staff, and Pastor Erich. (Pastor Alex's call agreement in November was already approved.)
- 2017 Proposed Budgets – Laura Johnson made and Jim Grieser seconded a motion to accept all three 2017 proposed budgets, (operating fund, mission, and capital improvements). Motion approved.
- Statistical Report – President Winzeler complimented the congregation on their faithful giving.
- Dave Walker made and David Stuckey seconded a motion to approve the printed reports as presented. Motion carried.
- Pastor's Report – Pastor Erich commented that 2016 was an interesting year due to the resignation of Pastor Adam, the search and call process which resulted in calling Pastor Alex Young, the time in between, and the much higher number of funerals in the past year. He noted there is always need for pastoral care among members. He spoke briefly about the Protestant Reformation, 500 years ago. He highlighted 5 Solas: Bible, Faith, Grace, Christ, and Glory of God.
- Church Membership Expectations – President Winzeler encouraged all to review and improve on our membership responsibilities.
- Congregational Question from Spiritual Council – President Winzeler polled those present about how to get enough names to fill the ballot as required by the constitution. Spiritual Council is wanting to know how to proceed. First question: Do you want to keep the constitution as it is? - 49 votes; Second question: Are you interested in Spiritual Council exploring another way to select officers? 49 votes. President Winzeler encouraged members to share their opinions with Spiritual Council.

## • Election Results

President – Brent Winzeler,  
Congregational Secretary – Sarah Nafziger  
Elder – Ann Fether, Gloria Lauber  
Deacon/Deaconess – John Graber, Dean Sauder,  
Carrie Wooley

## Consistory Minutes of January 23, 2017:

- Following a potluck meal, Brent Winzeler welcomed members, called the meeting to order and opened with devotions and prayer.
- Pastor Erich led the Consistory in a getting acquainted activity involving remembering and sharing happiest times from the past year.
- 2017 Consistory Organizational Items – Consistory Assignments, Contact Information, 2017 Meeting Schedule and Devotional Schedule were reviewed, with assignments being made as follows:
  - o Budget & Stewardship – Chair: Joyce Kinsman; Vice-Chair: John Graber
  - o Christian Preschool Board – Chair: Josh Grime; Vice-Chair: Ann Fether
  - o Evangelism Committee – Chair: Lynne Roth; Vice-Chair: Gloria Lauber
  - o Farm Operations Committee – Liaison – Nate Meyer
  - o Fellowship Committee – Chair: Ann Grime; Vice-Chair: Carrie Wooley
  - o Mission Committee – Chair: David Stuckey; Vice-Chair: Betsy Ducey
  - o Personnel Committee – Liaison – Amy Baden
  - o Property Committee – Chair: Eric Nafziger; Vice-Chair: Dean Sauder
  - o Congregation Vice President – Betsy Ducey
  - o Sacraments Chair – Paige Miller
  - o Spiritual Council Secretary – Ann Fether
  - o Capital Campaign Committee – Brent Winzeler
- Committee Reports
  - o Budget & Stewardship - Joyce Kinsman - Authorized Financial Representative for E,G,R annual form: Joyce as Budget & Stewardship Chair, Sue Grieser as Secretary, Brent Winzeler as President, Roger Miller as treasurer are authorized representatives. Form signed by Betsy Ducey, Vice President, Sarah Nafziger as Secretary of the congregation.
  - o Capital Campaign Committee - Brent Winzeler - Funds balance is \$10,000 greater than noted, as a matching gift was received after the first of the year.

## consistory/committees

cont.

### Consistory Minutes of January 23, 2017:

#### Committee Reports (cont.)

- o Property Committee - Eric Nafziger – Office Renovation project is close to being completed. Playground - current playground is in dire need of replacement, preschool board and property are working together to come to a solution. Pricing is being looked at currently. Before any movement can happen, we need to know of a budget. A religious playground style is preferred by the preschool staff. Could the idea of moving the playground across the parking lot be an option? Current playground has been in use for 27 years or so.
- o Spiritual Council - Pastor Erich - Pastor Alex's Ordination process is beginning. Once initial information is gathered, an Ecclesiastical Council will consist of local area church pastors and EA pastors. This Council will examine Pastor Alex to see if he is "fit" to be Ordained as a Pastor. Ecclesiastical Council will present recommendations to Consistory and affirm an Ordination service with fellowship time following.
- o Pastor's Report - Pastor Erich - Leadership Retreat (members are to come to the February meeting with calendars for available dates). Review of Safe Church policy - issue with some inappropriate contact at a community meal (not on site at SJCC); SJCC does not have a Safe Church Policy. A draft will be put together for a policy to be approved. Pastor Erich will be gone in Feb. for the Back Bay Mission Trip (2/11-2/17) and gone for a long weekend (2/22-2/25/17). A Pure Desire University flyer was handed out.
- o Associate Pastor's Report - Pastor Alex reported on Youth Ministries, LOGOS meal, JYF. SYF Mission Trip - West Virginia; details are being planned, meetings about the trip are upcoming. Trip is June 18-23.
- Old Business - Reports on Financial Audits, no issues or changes noted.
- New Business - Evangelical Association Annual Church Renewal - Joyce Kinsman moved, Eric Nafziger seconded the motion to approve the renewal at \$2.00 per member, motion approved. A \$1,500.00 check (to include per member and general donation) will be sent to the EA for 2017 annual renewal.

## worship

### February Worship Information:

The first three Sunday's in February will focus on the final three sessions of "God's Grand Story."

- 5th God's Grand Story – Episode 4  
Scriptures – 1 Sam. 13:14, 16:1-13; Ps. 16:7-11  
Sermon – "The Heart Matters" – Pastor Erich  
10:30 – Chancel Choir
- 12th God's Grand Story – Episode 5  
Scriptures – Amos 3:7, Joel 2:12-14; Ps. 62:5-8  
Sermon – "A Very Vocal God" – Pastor Alex  
10:30 – Chancel Choir
- 19th God's Grand Story – Episode 6  
Scriptures – Zechariah 8:1-17; Micah 4:1-5  
Sermon – "The Depths and Heights of Knowing God" – Pastor Erich  
10:30 – Junior Choir
- 26th Sermon – Pastor Alex  
10:30 – Chancel Choir

### 2017 Season of Lent:

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

## housekeeping

### Thrivent Financial - Thrivent Choice® Dollars:

With Thrivent Choice®, you can recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go. Since 2010, more than \$330 million has been distributed to churches and non-profits nationwide.

As a 501(c) non-profit church that meets Thrivent Financial's program eligibility rules, St. John's Christian Church is one of the organizations you can direct your Choice Dollars to.

So if you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you can direct your Choice® Dollars to St. John's Christian Church. We are listed on their web site as an option when you log into your account and direct your Thrivent Choice® Dollars. The church receives a notice when someone has directed funds, so we will contact you to determine where (operating/missions/building fund, etc.) you would like the funds directed.

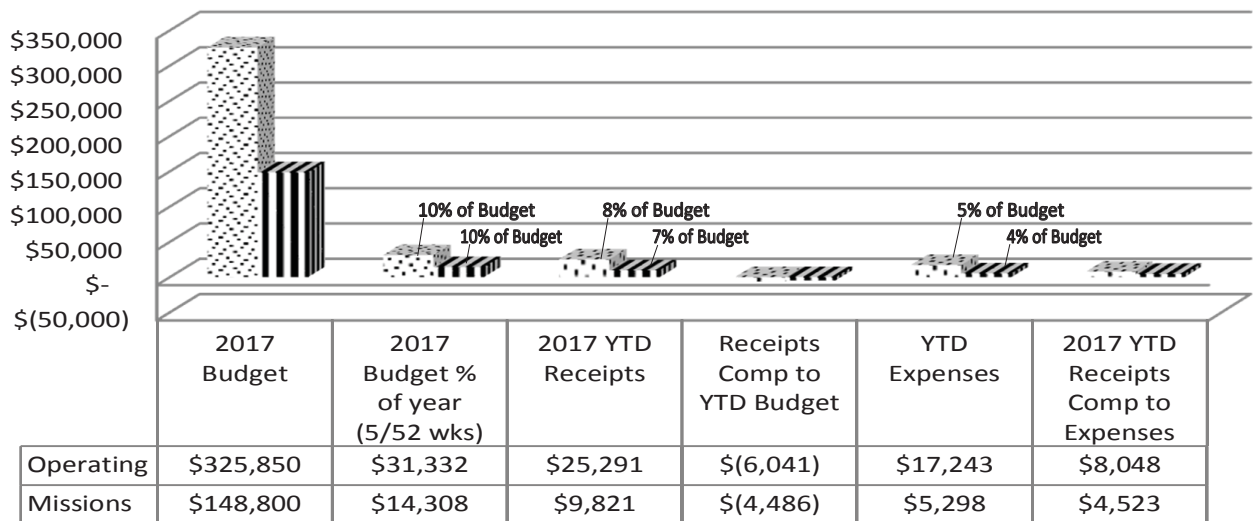


### College / Grad School / Military Prayer Calendar

Day of Month	College	Address		City	State	Zip	School
1	Beck, Marissa	Fenn Tower 0605	2450 Euclid Ave	Cleveland	OH	44115	Cleveland State University
2	Garza, Grace	26619 County Rd EF		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
3	Grieser, Bailey	407 W Holland St		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
4	Hines, Brooke - 334	Spring Arbor University	106 E Main St	Spring Arbor	MI	49283	Spring Arbor University
5	Kinsman, Matthew	Room 531	204 Beach Rd	Ames	IA	50013-0025	Iowa State University
6	Lehman, Jenny	527 Wittenberg Avenue		Springfield	OH	45504	Wittenberg University
7	Mann, Jeremy	Oakwood Hall, Room 315	1001 Bethel Circle	Mishawaka	IN	46545	Bethel College
8	McCandless, Morgan	Apt 1308B	91 Wick Oval	Youngstown	OH	44502	Youngstown State Univ
9	Nofziger, Delaney	Apt 102	1700 N Greenfield Circle NE	Grand Rapids	MI	49505	Acquinas College
10	Nofziger, Dustin	1592 Co Rd 16		Wauseon	OH	43567	NW State Comm College
11	Nofziger, Jacob	Kreischer Compton, Room 437C	325 N Mercer Rd	Bowling Green	OH	43403	Bowling Green State Univ
13	Rice, Dinah	813 West St		Archbold	OH	43502	BGSU & Online Classes
14	Salinas, Alicia	1321 A Villa Way		Charlottesville	VA	22903	University of Virginia
15	Schnitkey, Tyson	Copper Beech Townhomes, Unit 4F	2057 Napoleon Road	Bowling Green	OH	43402	Bowling Green State Univ
16	Short, Ashley	44 E Frambes Ave		Columbus	OH	43201	Ohio State University
17	Short, Casen	334 Centennial Hall	1101 E Wooster St	Bowling Green	OH	43403-4003	Bowling Green State Univ
18	Short, Meredith	4549 Steinbeck		Ames	IA	50014	Iowa State University
19	Smith, Kinsey	Apt 129	652 N Interprise St	Bowling Green	OH	43402	Bowling Green State Univ
20	Walker, Cayla	803 Buckeye St		Archbold	OH	43502	Defiance College
21	Walker, Michael	1601 South 8th St		Goshen	IN	46526	Goshen College
22	Walters, Mondesi	Tuckey 108	1001 Bethel Circle	Mishawaka	IN	46545	Bethel College
23	Warncke, Ethan	Apt 1814K Bedspace B	1814 N Westwood Ave	Toledo	OH	43607	University of Toledo
23	Wyse, Katie	333 Carr Hall	97 South Green Dr	Athens	OH	45701	Ohio University
24	Zamudio, Mireya	202 Park St		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
							<b>Branch of Military</b>
24	Pvt. Bostelman Brenden L	No Current Address Available			AK		Army
25	Stg. Benjamin Chapman	Box 516		APO	AI	89898	Army National Guard
25	AB Collins Taylor	268 Luke Ave., Box 700	Joint Base Anacostia	Bolling	DC	20032	Airforce
26	Ducey, Kyle	4050 Brownstone Dr, Apt 919		Evans	GA	30809	Navy
26	Jared Kuntiz	HHB 2-1, ADA BN	Unit 15754 Box #409	APO	AP	96369	Army
27	Mr & Mrs Steven R Schink	150 Dewey Ave		Groton	CT	6340	Coast Guard
27	AJ Short	No Current Address Available		Parris Island	SC		Marines
28	Kollin Woolace	No Current Address Available		Parris Island	SC		Marines
28	Koltin Zimmerman	Fort Campbell		Oak Grove	KY		Army

# stewardship

## 2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of January 30, 2016



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

# February 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 Believing is Seeing -----	Mark 1:14-20	15 Comprehending -----	Mark 4:1-9
2 Is God in Charge? -----	Mark 1:21-28	16 Understanding Secrets -----	Mark 4:10-20
3 Believing is Seeing (2) -----	Mark 1:29-34	17 More Secrets -----	Mark 4:21-34
4 Praying Like Jesus -----	Mark 1:35-39	18 Now Who's in Control? -----	Mark 4:35-41
5 God Makes Us Secure -----	Psalm 48	19 Into the Boardroom -----	Psalm 50
6 Going Beyond Duty -----	Mark 1:40-45	20 Among the Gravestones -----	Mark 5:1-20
7 What Friends are For -----	Mark 2:1-12	21 Amongst Disease -----	Mark 5:21-34
8 Our Mission Mandate -----	Mark 2:13-17	22 Amongst Death -----	Mark 5:35-43
9 New Responses -----	Mark 2:18-22	23 Amongst Unbelief -----	Mark 6:1-6a
10 Change the Culture -----	Mark 2:23-28	24 Among the Villagers -----	Mark 6:6b-13
11 Strength in Weakness -----	Mark 3:1-6	25 Among the Rulers -----	Mark 6:14-29
12 Riches and Wisdom -----	Psalm 49	26 The Long Walk Home -----	Psalm 51
13 Crowds and Calling -----	Mark 3:7-19	27 Big Shoes to Fill -----	Joshua 1:1-9
14 Who's in Control? -----	Mark 3:20-35	28 A Bold Beginning -----	Joshua 1:10-18

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

**Custodians**  
 Dean Buckenmeyer  
 Cell Ph. 419-551-1105  
 Nick Rice

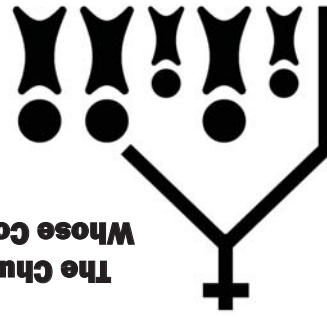
**Director**  
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 Deb Schmitkey  
 office@stjohnsarchbold.org

**Assistant Admin.**  
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 Alex Young  
 pastoralex@stjohnsarchbold.org  
 Cell Ph. 330-206-8762

**Assoc. Pastor**  
 Rev. Erich Christman  
 pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org  
 Residence Ph. 419-267-5610  
 Cell Ph. 419-551-0401

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



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 Whose Cornerstone is Christ**

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