

# The Visitor

## prayer concerns

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

April 1, 2017 Volume 63, Number 4

### Please Pray For:

- Myrl Zimmerman, at FCHC for treatment of edema.
- Wayne Spiess, who has returned home after a brief stay at Rupp Rehab Center in Fairlawn.
- Justin & Kelsey Pursel, on the death of Kelsey's father, Doug Weirauch on March 23rd.
- Joan Grieser, recovering from out-patient knee surgery on March 21st.
- Crissi Stuckey, recovering from surgery at Bryan Hospital on March 27th to remove a lipoma from her shoulder.
- Dale Grime, recovering from shoulder surgery.
- 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)

Returning home to Lynchburg, VA with his wife and 3 children by April 3rd

#### 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)

Basic Training - Parris Island, SC

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

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 thank you's

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank everyone who called me, sent cards and prayed for me after my fall on February 22nd! I am so thankful for God's protection, and everyone who helped me.

With Christian Love,  
Barb Sigg



We would like to thank our church family for the prayers and cards during Randy's healing after shoulder surgery. He will be returning to work in April.

Thank You and God Bless,  
Randy & Kathy Layton

## mission corner

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

- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$680.
- Bethel College (Jeremy Mann), for our gift of \$500.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$60.
- Community Action (PATH), for our gift of \$190.06.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$15.
- Cru (Matt & Paige Waanders), for our gift of \$40.
- Evangelical Association, for our gift of \$500.
- Mighty in the Land Ministries, for our gift of \$150.
- Reliant (Chase/Pardi/Varnau), for our gift of \$2,060.
- Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission, for our gift of \$50.
- World Team (Franks), for our gift of \$1,000.

## **pastor's letter**

### **Thoughts from Pastor Alex . . .**

In the fourth century A.D., there lived a man who was such a gifted preacher of the holy gospel that he was known as John "Golden Mouth", or John Chrysostom. This is how he began his sermon on Easter: "Enter all of you, therefore, into the joy of our Lord, and, whether first or last, receive your reward. O rich and poor, one with another, dance for joy! O you ascetics and you negligent, celebrate the day! You that have fasted and you that have disregarded the fast, rejoice today! The table is rich-laden: feast royally, all of you! The calf is fatted: let no one go forth hungry! Let all partake of the feast of faith."

Maybe you've fasted this Lenten season as an expression of your love for the Lord, your longing for the distance between you to be reduced, and your prayer that your fellowship might be all the sweeter. This is what the season of Lent is all about. But maybe you're one who has disregarded this season of fasting. Maybe you haven't made any special effort to draw closer to the Lord who gave you life, and who gave his life for you. The good news is this: even if this describes you, even if you haven't sought the Lord in a special way this Lenten season, the Lord still loves you. And he still invites you to celebrate the gift of his grace this Easter Sunday.

You're invited to celebrate because Easter is not about your performance as a Christian; it's not about how well you are seeking the Lord and serving him. You're invited to celebrate because Easter is all about what God has done for you. The Lord Jesus Christ was condemned, tortured, and crucified on our behalf, so that all our wrongdoings have been paid in full by his suffering, so that we might be found "not guilty" in God's eyes, and be free from all punishment our wrongdoings merited. But being found "not guilty" and being punishment-free are not the only gifts of Easter. Jesus also clothes us with his righteousness, so that when God the Father looks at us, he sees us robed with the perfection of Jesus Christ, and his heart is filled with perfect love for us. But being seen as righteous and being loved by God still aren't the only gifts of Easter. The best gift of all, is that Jesus Christ, the love of our life, has been raised from the dead. His life and love fill our hearts with peace and joy and with great hope. One day, just as he has promised us, we who comprise his beloved church, will be reunited with him in festal joy, as great as the joy of a bride and groom on their wedding day, and we will indeed live together happily ever after, never again to part.

May your hearts be filled with God's grace, peace, hope, and joy this Easter Season!



## **preschool corner**

Is spring really here?? In the preschool room it is! We spent the month of March talking about different aspects of spring. The first week we talked about the more general signs and activities of spring. The older children made three-dimensional (3-D) umbrellas with paper plates and dot markers, and added raindrops with string and blue paper. The younger group made frog puppets with tissue paper, paper plates and egg carton eyes! (We love to recycle!) We had real birds' nests and a hornet's nest (thank you, Jim Grieser!) at the Science Table, and we learned that the hornet's nest is made from hornet saliva and wood pulp! We also started a worm farm in the Science area, and most of us LOVED touching the worms before we introduced them to their new home. We learned that worms are helpful, since they break up the soil for roots to grow. They like to eat tissues (!), newspaper, and fruit and vegetable scraps, but not oranges or lemons. The second week we focused on things that grow in the spring. We compared different types of seeds and sorted them in the Math Area, and also guessed what types of fruits and vegetables would grow from those seeds. We planted Forget-Me-Not flower seeds, and are anxiously waiting for them to sprout. We had "St. John's Flower Shop" in the Dramatic Play area, and the children enjoyed using vases to arrange the flowers for sale. In the Sensory Table, we had real dirt with flower pots, artificial flowers and shovels. We focused on bugs and butterflies during the third week of the month. We used a symmetrical painting technique to make beautiful butterflies in the Tuesday-Thursday classes, and the Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes learned about the butterfly life cycle and the parts of an insect. The Science table contained a 3-D bug book and 2 cases of mounted butterflies. God is truly an amazing artist! We mounted (pretend) ladybugs onto popsicle sticks at the Fine Motor table, and made patterns with rubber bugs at the Math Center. The last week of the month was Spring Break and we were able to spend time with our families. For a short month, it was a very busy one!

## mission corner cont.

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

To our friends at Forerunners Sunday School:

I want to thank you on behalf of the PATH Center for your ongoing support of our programs available to the community! Without those like yourselves, we would not be able to continue!

Jennifer Falke,  
PATH Program Manager



Dear St. John's Christian Church,

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



Hello team!

I'm excited to give you a little update on our partnership with She Has a Name (SHAN)! I accepted a support-based position as their Community Engagement Director! Practically speaking, I'll be giving trafficking awareness trainings throughout the city, coordinating volunteers and helping with their newsletter/communications. I am SO excited about this opportunity and even more excited because I get to do this while continuing my roles with H2O, and ask that you pray specifically for the following things:

1. In order to work with both H2O and SHAN, I'm increasing my ministry hours. I only need to raise about \$150 extra per month! Please pray with me that God will provide these extra funds each month.
2. Pray for a smooth transition as I work with both organizations.
3. As always, please pray that Jesus will be made known and that He will help me give voice to the voiceless!

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or prayer requests. Love you guys so much!

Whitney Varnau,  
Reliant (formerly GCM)

Matt & Paige Waanders - Florianopolis, Brazil:

The school year is officially underway on both of the campuses here in Florianopolis. It has been an exciting start to the year as we now have student leaders in the ministry on both campuses.

One new thing we are doing on campus this semester is offering a free English club to Brazilian students. The English language is a very valuable skill for Brazilians; if they can learn to speak in English it opens up new opportunities for education, work and travel.

We are hosting teams from Michigan State and Ohio State here in Brazil this month during their spring breaks from classes. They are visiting to help us build new relationships with students, and to gain a taste of Brazil so they can return to their campuses and invite others to pray for and consider coming to Florianopolis for a month-long or year-long ministry trip.

Through our new English club and hosting the teams from MSU and OSU, we got to meet new students, like Gaspar, a freshman student from Angola, who seems eager to learn English. Our connection with him through the club allowed us to engage him in conversation about God. And Enrico, a second year student studying Industrial Design, who we invited to take a survey about his life and spiritual beliefs. This opened up communication lines to be able to engage Enrico in conversation about Jesus and what Christians believe about him. The conversations we had and will continue to have with these two students, and hopefully many more like them, are very encouraging for us in our efforts to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We would be so grateful for your prayers for Gaspar and Enrico, as well as other students we are meeting on campus each day. Could you please pray for us to have endurance as we are busy with the new semester and hosting teams from the U.S.? Thank you for your prayers as well as your financial partnership with our ministry. We are very grateful for you.

Matt & Paige Waanders, Cru Brazil



### 2017 Summer Habitat Trip:

- June 11-16, 2017, Sunday afternoon through Friday afternoon
- Lodging in a very comfortable retreat center at Tower Hill Church Camp in Sawyer, MI.
- Working with LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity in 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 corner cont.

### Mission Experiences:

In Ephesians 2:8-10 Paul teaches 1) how it is by our faith in Jesus Christ that we are saved, not by the works that we do, and 2) we are created to do good works. Doing good works will not save us, but because we believe in Jesus as our Lord, we are called to follow his example of doing good for others. In part, Jesus teaches of this truth through the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats in Matthew 25:31-46.

I (Pastor Erich) first learned about faith and works while on a mission trip to the Uplands Retirement Center in Crossville, Tennessee, when I was a high school sophomore. Adult leaders on that trip were Jerry & Bonnie Faurote (one of Bonnie's brothers is Tom Johnson!) and Rev. Ed Lopeman. I got to work alongside Rev. Ed several times that week and while we washed windows and tended landscaping, he talked with me about faith and works and Jesus and faith and works and Jesus – we had much time together! I remain very grateful for his mentoring!

St. John's continues to offer several experiences each year that provide opportunities for people to learn and teach about faith and works and Jesus. These experiences include interactions with nearby Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission, Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County, FISH, to name a few. At a distance we travel to LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity and Back Bay Mission, as well as the summer SYF trip, and occasionally oversees to places like Kenya and India.

Each experience provides an opportunity to explore faith and works and Jesus, in a context of Christian fellowship and ministry.

### 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!**

### April Mission-A-Month - Foods Resource Bank:

Foods Resource Bank (FRB), a Christian response to world hunger, was organized in 1999 to help provide the resources needed to support smallholder, agricultural food security programs in some of the world's poorest villages.

FRB does not ship grain or food overseas. Rather, they assist smallholder farmers and communities in the developing world with seeds, animals, tools, instruction, water supply - whatever is needed to produce ample food to feed themselves and their

families, with enough left over to share, barter or sell to purchase staples, basic medicines, and send their children to school.

April gives us an opportunity to donate toward the planting, tending and harvesting of the community growing project we help sponsor in cooperation with the Church of the United Brethren and First Lutheran Church (both of Stryker). The fifteen acre field of beans/corn will be planted at the corner of St. Rt. 34 and Co. Rd. 22.75, southeast of Stryker. At harvest time, the crop will be sold and the proceeds given to FRB.

### 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:

LOGOS – Our mid week Wednesday evening LOGOS program finishes up for another year at the end of April. Here are the April themes: April 5 - Joke and Riddle Night; April 12 - Easter Night; April 19 - Go Green Night; and April 26 - Children's Day. Bells and Chimes play at 10:30 worship service on Sunday, April 9 (Palm Sunday), and Junior Choir sings at 10:30 worship service on Sunday, April 30.

JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship) – Last month we enjoyed a Friends' night playing Bingo and winning prizes, and we enjoyed our Congregational Movie Night where we ate pizza from Marco's and watched the feature movie, God's Not Dead 2, a movie about living out our faith in God and not being afraid to share with others the good news of what Jesus has done for us. April is the last month of LOGOS and JYF for the Spring and we will be studying 1 John in class together, and we'll be looking forward to the JYF trip to the Toby Mac Concert on April 6, and looking forward to sponsoring St. John's annual Easter egg hunt!

SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship) – This month we're continuing to talk about ways we can better study the Bible and different methods we can use to pray. One of these methods is the acronym ACTS, which stands for Adoration (our praise for God), Confession (confessing our sins to God and seeking his forgiveness), Thanksgiving (giving thanks to God for his forgiveness, for his many other blessings, and for the prayers he has answered on our behalf), and Supplication (the requests we bring before God in prayer).

Life Planning – Last month the teens involved in Life Planning and their mentors went to the Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission and helped lead a worship service, prepare a meal for the shelter's guests, and serve and share the meal with the guests. This month Life Planning will be meeting at the church on April 12th.

### Vacation Bible School (VBS):

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

## Events / Activities

### Community Meal Ministry:

Back in 2010, when the Archbold Area Ministerial Association envisioned this ministry, they did so with this vision in mind: To provide a community minded ministry that 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.

Yet there is an awareness that many people believe that these meals are meant for those who need just the food – their weekly budget needs to be supplemented by these meals. While it is true that the meals do help stretch a person's or a couple's or a family's food budget, it is so very evident that these meals offer a weekly opportunity for company and fellowship.

One way the kitchen crew has taken notice of the growing sense of fellowship is how slowly the dirty plates come back to the kitchen for washing – people are taking longer to eat their meals, enjoying table fellowship! While we joke about the slowness of the washing process, we praise God for the blessing of fellowship and table conversations!

An additional awareness is that more people could benefit from enjoying these meals – maybe you know of someone you could invite, pick up, and bring to the meals with you!

The community meals are switching to Zion Mennonite Church for April, May and June, and will be back at SJCC for July, August and September.

### Man Camp:

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

### Congregational Adult Bible Study:

Our Wednesday evening Bible study will resume on April 19th @ 7PM in the parlor – we'll pick up our study of the book of Romans. Adults are welcome to join the study group at any time.

### Instant Church Directory Online:

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

### Printed Church Directory:

Finishing touches are being put on the file for the printed version of our church directory.

# April 2017

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

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

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	8:00 & 10:30AM Worship 9:15AM SS/Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation		Mission-A-Month— Foods Resource Bank	Elder of the Month— Ann Grime			1 10AM HS Girls Bible Study 10AM Private Party (Parish Hall)
2	6:00PM Seekers Small Group	3 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:30PM Pastors Meeting	4 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) 7:00PM Capital Campaign	5 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM Bells / Chimes / JYF 7:00PM Lenten Service 7:00PM SYF 8:00PM Chancel Choir Reh.	6 5:00PM Depart for Toby/Mac Concert (JYF) 7:00PM Mission Comm.	7 Man Camp, Miracle Camp	8 10AM HS Girls Bible Study
9	Man Camp, Miracle Camp 10:30AM Bells & Chimes Play	10 <b>Columbus Day</b> 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:30PM Pastors Meeting 4:00PM EGR / Budget & Stewardship Mtg.	11 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) 6:30PM Cub Scouts 7:00PM Property Committee 8:00PM Praise Band Reh.	12 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible St. 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM Junior Choir / JYF 7:00PM Life Pl./SYF Remix 8:00PM Chancel Choir Reh.	13 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 6:00PM Cub Scouts District Mtg. (Youth Room) 6:30PM Maundy Thurs. Seder Meal in Parish Hall	14 <b>Good Friday</b> 7:00PM Service of Tenebrae	15
16 <b>Happy Easter!</b> 7:00AM Sunrise Service 8:00AM Breakfast 8:45AM Easer Egg Hunt	17 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:30PM Pastors Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	18 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion)	19 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM Junior Choir / JYF 7:00PM Adult Bible Study 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh. 7:30PM Presentation Pract.	20	21 10:00AM Preschool M-W-F AM Grandparents Day 2:00PM Preschool M-W-F AM Grandparents Day	22 10AM HS Girls Bible Study	
23 12:00PM Private Party (Parish Hall) 2:00PM SYF Mission Trip Training Movie 6:00PM Seekers Small Group	24 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:30PM Pastors Meeting 3:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital Practice 7:00PM Leadership Retreat	25 9:15AM Bible Study 3:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital Practice 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) 7:00PM Leadership Retreat 8:00PM Praise Band Reh.	26 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible St. 3:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital Practice 5:50PM LOGOS 6:45PM Junior Choir / JYF 7:00PM Adult Bible St./SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	27 10:00AM Preschool T-Th AM Grandparents Day 2:00PM Preschool T-Th AM Grandparents Day 3:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital Practice	28 10:00AM Preschool M-W-F AM Grandparents Day 2:00PM Preschool M-W-F AM Grandparents Day 5:30PM Layton/Helberg Wedding Rehearsal	29 9AM Presentation Practice 10AM HS Girls Bible Study 3PM Layton/Helberg Wedding	
30 <b>Presentation Sunday</b> 10:30AM Jr. Choir Sings 1:30PM L. Christman Piano Recital							



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3 Eric Buckenmeyer, Dencel Miller                     | 18 Ryan & Chelsi Smith, Dale VonDeylen                      |
| 6 Bryce Beltz, Tim Smith                              | 19 Marvin Fish, Dale Flint, Vern Nemire                     |
| 7 Norma Fish, Cameron Ruffer                          | 21 Kendal Pursel, Kylie Lantz, Finn Yoder                   |
| 8 Jude Rutledge                                       | 22 Bill & Kathy Bostelman, Susanne Spiess,<br>Hailey Wooley |
| 9 William Baden                                       | 23 Crystal Beck, Mark & Jodi Beltz, JD Holdgreve            |
| 10 Lynda Herman, Tom & Peg Hines, Charlie<br>Nofziger | 24 Kenley Lantz, Jessica Lindsay, Karla Pursel              |
| 11 Mike Overmier                                      | 26 Renee Liechty  |
| 13 James Grime  | 27 Matt & Kim Hines   |
| 15 Keith Kern   | 28 Bill Metz, Dale Grime, Vond Hall                         |
| 16 Kreighton Sims                                     | 29 Kim Hines  |
| 17 Dean Sauder  |   |

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

## worship

### Wednesday Evening Services During Lent:

Wednesday, April 5th, will be the final 7:00PM time of worship and teaching during Lent.

### April Worship Information:

- April 2nd 5th Sunday of Lent; Scriptures – Psalm 130, John 11:1-45  
Sermon – “It’s a Real Relationship” – Pastor Erich  
10:30 Chancel Choir – “Bring Back the Springtime”
- April 9th Palm Sunday – The Palm Processional  
Scriptures – Psalm 118, Matthew 21:1-11  
10:30 Special Music – Hand Bells and Hand Chimes  
10:30 Infant Baptism of Quinn Planson, daughter of Wade & Erin Planson
- April 13th Maundy Thursday – Passover: A Christian Presentation of the Traditional Jewish Festival  
A Seder Meal will be observed on this night. At the Last Supper, Jesus celebrated the Jewish Passover with his disciples and instituted the sacrament of communion. The Seder Meal is a re-enactment of the Passover meal, an annual memorial meal filled with great symbolism of God’s faithfulness.  
People are invited to gather in the Parish Hall at 6:30PM, sitting at tables specially set for this symbolic feast. The Seder is a festival meal in which everyone present will be involved in reading, listening, singing and eating! The hope is that some of the excitement and awe of the first Passover in Egypt and the Passover Seder in the upper room in Jerusalem will be felt by all.  
The Seder Meal will be our observance of Maundy Thursday, which will conclude with communion. There will be no 7PM service in the sanctuary this year.
- April 14th Good Friday – 7:00PM – The Service of Tenebrae – Pastor Alex Preaching
- April 16th Easter Sunday! Praise God! Christ has Risen!  
7:00AM Easter Sunrise Service  
8:00AM Easter Breakfast served by the SYF  
8:45AM Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the JYF  
9:15AM Sunday School and Faith Village  
10:30AM Easter Worship
- April 23 Presentation by the Capital Campaign Committee
- April 30 Presentation Sunday – Led by our 8th Grade Confirmands  
Josee Grime, Josie Grieser, Emily Hines and Kylie Sauder will assist the pastors in leading worship, and these four young ladies will share their faith presentations, too!

# worship cont.

## Lenten Coin Folders:

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

# consistory/committees

## Capital Campaign Committee:

A Reminder of How Our “Imagine Your Faith Building” Campaign Came To Be

### A Lesson from the Past

It was in 1945 that the consistory of St. John’s Church recommended to the congregation that the deacons be authorized to gather funds to enlarge the church. From this recommendation the congregation moved forward until on April 22, 1947 it was voted to build a new church. In 1949 the congregation acquired as a gift a three acre tract of land for the purpose of building a new church. From 1948 to 1952 over \$110,000 was raised for the new church building. A ground breaking service was held on November 27, 1955. On July 7, 1957 the St. John’s congregation dedicated the present building. Basic plans of the building were to provide good dry classrooms with plenty of daylight and to eliminate the necessity of climbing a flight of stairs to enter the sanctuary. A note burning service was held on July 5, 1962. On July 5, 1964 a ground breaking service was held for the fellowship hall, kitchen and chapel, with this addition being dedicated on November 28, 1965. A mortgage burning service was held on November 29, 1970. The cost of the present building was approximately \$500,000, roughly \$2.4 million in today’s dollars.

### The Process Which Brought About Our Current Capital Campaign

1. It was in the late 1990’s that the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) was formed to evaluate programmatic and physical needs of the church, following attention of the Property Committee to various building needs.
2. In 2001, a Facility Committee addressed needs identified by Long Range Planning Committee.
3. In 2003 the Facility Committee’s proposed building plan failed to receive congregational approval; tally was 185 votes against the proposal and 142 votes in favor of the proposal.

4. In 2008 to 2011, a Ministries Assessment and Planning Committee (MAP) evaluated programmatic and physical needs of the church; consolidated LRPC and 2003 Facility Committee data; evaluated programmatic changes made since 2003 and impact on needs; met with groups within the church to update and understand current and future needs; shared “MAP Needs Summary” with the congregation, with positive feedback to proceed with process; congregation approved engagement with architecture firm MartinRiley of Fort Wayne, Indiana to develop building concept and opinion of probable cost (OPC)
5. The years of 2011 – 2012 saw the formation of a new Facility Committee which worked intimately with MartinRiley to form a building concept, which included a \$4.2 million OPC; Facility Committee took concept and OPC to Consistory for possible action.
6. In the years of 2012 thru 2014, the Consistory formed a working group of Facility Committee and Consistory members to work through proposal presentation needs and potential funding of any proposed facility project; that working group formed a Facility Finance Task Force which studied financial information and recommended Consistory proceed with a capital campaign. Consistory agreed to present Facility Committee Report and Proposal to the congregation for approval to enter into a Capital Campaign to fund a building project.
7. The congregation approved entering into the “Imagine Your Faith Building” campaign at a congregational meeting held on April 13, 2014 with 81.5% of those voting in favor.

## Consistory Meeting Minutes – March 20, 2017:

- Meeting Minutes from 2/20/2017 – Gloria Lauber moved to approve, 2nd by Betsy Ducey, approved.
- Budget & Stewardship Committee – Joyce Kinsman made note of Bus Expenses (washer fluid pump, new tires), EA expenses. Budget Stewardship Investment Committee Meeting scheduled for April 10 @4PM. Joyce Kinsman moved to approve reports, 2nd by Nate Meyer, approved.
- Capital Campaign Committee – A presentation during worship on April 23 will speak about the Capital Campaign. Karen Walker has resigned from Capital Campaign, and the committee will bring nominee names to the April Consistory meeting for approval.
- Mission Committee – David Stuckey made note of the monthly mission support, as follows: \$1000 – Aroles CRHP, \$500 – Back Bay Mission, \$500 – Urgent



- Mission Outreach (Cru – Robert and Jenni McMahon at BGSU), \$500 – Reliant (formerly GCM), \$1000 – SYF Mission Trip, \$1000 – World Team (Franks). In addition, David moved to approve \$242 from Undesignated Mission Funds be sent to the Hope for Kajiado Sanitation Project (indoor plumbing), 2nd by Eric Nafziger, approved.
- Property Committee – Eric Nafziger reported on the proposed playground project. Betsy Redd called 3 different companies for new playground equipment, 2 replied. Game Time Playgrounds is the company Property Committee is recommending to Consistory. 45' x 60' are the dimensions of the current playground area. Sue MacDonald met with the Property Committee and gave her ideas and thoughts. \$25,600 is a rough cost for this playground structure. Property Committee is seeking approval to move forward with this playground structure. The current pea gravel is no longer an approved ground cover, so new “ground cover/surfacing” is needed. Options for surfacing are: Wood Fiber (\$6000), with maintenance needed every two or three years, or Synthetic Turf (\$40,000). Fencing is required around the playground due to insurance reasons. Fencing was quoted two years ago with white vinyl, \$7,500, at that time. New quotes are being gathered now for current fencing pricing. A locking gate must be installed, cost is slightly higher for a locking gate. Entire project is projected roughly at \$50,000, including a charge of \$1,100 (by Game Time) for a 9 hour day to have 10-12 members of the church to help assemble with instruction by Game Time employees. Summer assembly is the goal. Can we move forward with this approval? Is this a good investment for the church to be involved in? Funding could come from the Buehrer Estate Legacy fund or the Legacy fund. Nate Meyer moved to proceed with finalizing the playground proposal, 2nd by Joyce Kinsman, approved. Property Committee will have an exact proposal for approval at the April Consistory meeting, which will then be shared with the congregation at a special congregational meeting. Per a quote sought by the committee, the Spiritual Council has approved up to \$5000 from the Memorial Fund for replacement of the exterior landscaping lights. Upgrade will include LED light, with a estimate of bulb life 100,000 hours.
  - Spiritual Council – Pastor Erich shared that the council spent time in prayer over being grace-filled, stemming from a recent challenge to SJCC to not be a lukewarm church. We need to be people of grace and understanding. The truth will always triumph. Council prepped for the Ordination and Installation of Pastor Alex @ 3PM on Sunday (3/26) afternoon.
  - Pastor’s Report – Erich reminded everyone about the Leadership Retreat on April 24 & 25, 7-9PM. Sanctuary Organ: Larry Beck (organist) offered options as to what to do with the organ. The music personnel of SJCC must be a part of the process, otherwise the equipment may not be used effectively. Is there a way we could possibly have the organ played to its capacity, so the congregation can hear the issues with the organ? Deb Schnitkey is looking into further information about the organ, including finding an organist. Chapel Organ: Pastor Erich is working on getting into the Memorial cabinet for more information. Cub Scout Charter/Appeal Letter: Erich shared that over the past few years the Consistory has discussed continuing to be the charter organization of the local Cub Scout pack. Some of membership and leadership qualifications from the Scouts is inconsistent with the theological beliefs of the congregation. Consistory opted to maintain the charter as we had the responsibility to approve pack leaders, and we could witness to our faith beliefs through the local program. Yet, over the past two years, we have been unable to find a person willing to assume the responsibilities of being the Chartering Organization Representative, and Pastor Erich doesn’t have the desire, time or energy to continue in that role. Amy Baden moved to terminate chartering the local pack, 2nd by Betsy Ducey, motion approved. Pastor Erich will communicate this to the pack leadership so they can make new plans for the fall program start up. The Evangelical Newsletter was passed around. If a desire is there to receive this newsletter, please contact Pastor Erich. The EA pastors of the Midwest region are hosting an event on Oct. 7th from 9-5 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the protestant reformation. The event will be held at Berne, Indiana @ Cross Church.
  - Associate’s Pastor Report – Pastor Alex continues with the planning for the SYF mission trip. Another payment was made towards the trip expenses, and excitement is underway! Recruiting for JYF volunteers is ongoing. Additional support is welcome. Please be in prayer for the future of JYF. For the remaining year, several JYF parents have stepped up to finish the current year. Looking for new leadership for next year.
  - New Business – Phone lines - currently have 3, but one was for a fax machine, which we no longer have. Are 2 phone lines adequate? Eliminating one line would save \$26 per month. Motion to eliminate a line: Motion to approve - Joyce Kinsman, 2nd Amy Baden.

### Ordination and Installation of Pastor Alex:

On Sunday, March 26th, we celebrated a service of worship for the Ordination to Christian Ministry of Alex J. Young. The service was held at 3PM in the sanctuary, followed by an open house in the parish hall hosted by the Fellowship Committee. Rev. Rhett Dodson, whom Pastor Alex met after graduating seminary, gave the message titled "On Being Prophetably Employed." Rev. Dodson serves the congregation of Grace Presbyterian Church in Hudson, Ohio. Pastor Alex shared his gratefulness for Rhett's ministry, his friendship, and his encouragement as Alex continued to seek where the Lord's call might lead him after he graduated seminary.



Friends from Bethesda Evangelical Church, St. Louis, MO who attended Alex's ordination service.

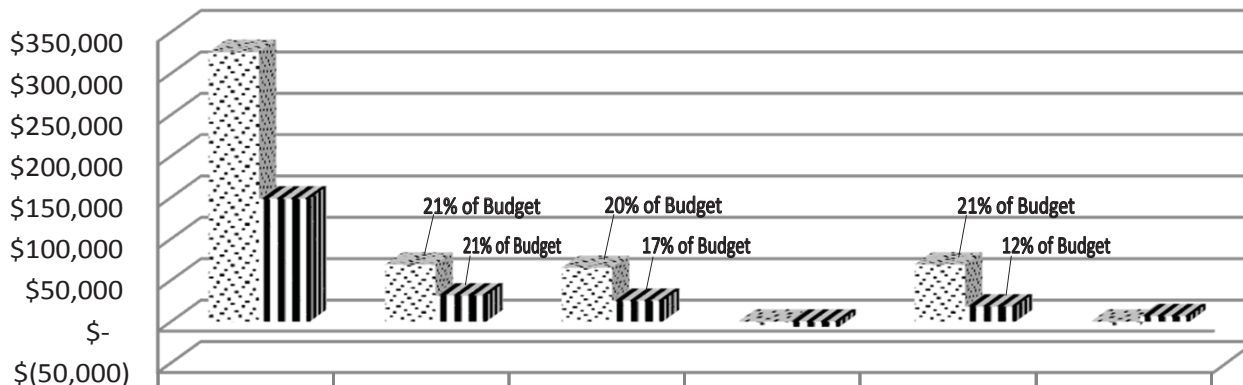


### St. John's Christian Church Leadership:

- 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

## stewardship

### 2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of March 16, 2017



	2017 Budget	2017 Budget % of year 11/52 wks)	2017 YTD Receipts	Receipts Comp to YTD Budget	YTD Expenses	2017 YTD Receipts Comp to Expenses
Operating	\$325,850	\$68,930	\$65,026	\$(3,903)	\$69,101	\$(4,075)
Missions	\$148,800	\$31,477	\$25,139	\$(6,338)	\$18,340	\$6,799

IYFB Campaign Total Receipts as of March 16, 2017 - \$462,168.09

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

As of February 28, 2017		2017 Goals	2017 YTD Inc	2017 YTD Exp
1	Beginning Balance Missions Fund (1/1/17)		\$ 41.14	
2	Undesignated Missions Fund Income		\$ 10,670.00	
3	Farm Rental / Second Mile Interest Income		\$ 1,620.20	
4	Agape Family Life House (Wyse/China)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 25.00	
5	Altlink (Langsdorfs - The Islands)	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 210.00	\$ 210.00
6	Aroles - CRHP - Jamkhed, India	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 505.00	
7	Aroles - CRHP - Lenten	\$ 1,000.00		
8	Back Bay Mission - Biloxi	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 305.00	\$ 305.00
9	Back Bay Mission - Lenten	\$ 1,000.00		
10	Back Bay Mission - Trips	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,102.79	\$ 2,500.00
11	Cherry Street Mission - Toledo	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 405.00	\$ 405.00
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	\$ 315.00	\$ 713.65
18	Crossroad - Fort Wayne	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00
19	Crossroad - Advent	\$ 2,000.00		
20	Cru (Waanders)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
21	Evangelical Association	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
22	FISH Panty - Archbold	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 1,652.00	\$ 3,868.40
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	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00
27	Reliant - Kyle Chase (UM)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 340.00	\$ 340.00
28	Reliant - Matt Pardi (UT)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
29	Reliant - Whitney Varnau (OSU)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
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	\$ 563.00	
34	Kajiado Child Sponsorships	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 366.00	
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	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
39	Pioneers (Doriots - Chicago)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
40	Shepherd's Circle - Archbold	\$ 1,500.00		
41	Sparrow's Nest - Toledo	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 140.00
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		\$ 750.00
46	SYF - Next Year Trip Deposit	\$ 750.00		
47	Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
48	Urgent Mission Outreach	\$ 3,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
49	Walk In Assist Program (Non-members)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 200.00	
50	WMTR Radio Pause for Praise	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 855.00
51	World Team (Franks - Brazil)	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 530.00	
52	Youth Leadership Training	\$ 2,000.00		
53	Totals	\$ 148,800.00	\$ 21,435.13	\$ 14,611.55

# April 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>.

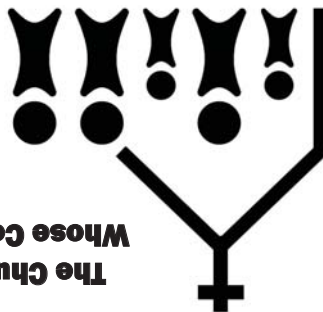
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|--|--|
| 1 In Two Day's Time ----- Mark 14:1-11           | 16 Resurrection Life! ----- Mark 16:9-20       |
| 2 Under Attack! ----- Psalm 56                   | 17 Slow Anger ----- Nahum 1:1-15               |
| 3 Getting Ready ----- Mark 14:12-26              | 18 Beyond Anger ----- Nahum 2:1-13             |
| 4 You've Been Warned ----- Mark 14:27-31         | 19 Not for Turning ----- Jonah 1:1-17          |
| 5 The Hour Has Come ----- Mark 14:32-42          | 20 Return ----- Jonah 2:1-10                   |
| 6 The Bigger Picture ----- Mark 14:43-52         | 21 Overturned ----- Jonah 3:1-10               |
| 7 Keeping Quiet – Sometimes! ----- Mark 14:52-65 | 22 U-Turn ----- Jonah 4:1-11                   |
| 8 Warning Bells ----- Mark 14:66-72              | 23 Snakes on a Plain ----- Psalm 58            |
| 9 Sky Signing ----- Psalm 57                     | 24 Love and Destruction ----- Genesis 19:15-29 |
| 10 Pleasing the Crowd ----- Mark 15:1-15         | 25 Great Expectations ----- Genesis 20:1-18    |
| 11 You're in My Place! ----- Mark 15:16-20       | 26 Stuff of Life ----- Genesis 21:1-21         |
| 12 Carrying the Cross ----- Mark 15:21-32        | 27 Long-Term Hope ----- Genesis 21:22-34       |
| 13 At the Foot of the Cross ----- Mark 15:33-41  | 28 All Too Much? ----- Genesis 22:1-8          |
| 14 At the Graveside ----- Mark 15:42-47          | 29 The Very Center ----- Genesis 22:9-19       |
| 15 The Empty Tomb ----- Mark 16:1-8              | 30 Sticks and Stones? ----- Psalm 59           |

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

**Pastor** Rev. Erich Christman  
[pastoreich@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:pastoreich@stjohnsarchbold.org)  
 Cell Ph. 419-551-0401  
**Assoc. Pastor** Rev. Alex Young  
[pastoralex@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:pastoralex@stjohnsarchbold.org)  
 Cell Ph. 330-206-8762  
**Admin. Assistant** Sue Grieser  
[office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org)  
**Dir. of Music** Deb Schmitkey  
[deb@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:deb@stjohnsarchbold.org)  
**Ministry** Cell Ph. 419-583-6356  
**LOGOS** Kim M. Walker  
[gkwalker@rtceexpress.net](mailto:gkwalker@rtceexpress.net)  
**Treasurer** Roger Miller  
**Custodians** Dean Buckenmeyer  
 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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