

# The Visitor

## prayer concerns

### Please Pray For:

- Rich Lesniak, upon the death of his mother, Florida Afox, on June 19th.
- Ken and Shirley Nafziger, upon the death of their daughter, Kristina Avina, on June 19th.
- The family of Buzz Ziegler, who went to her heavenly home on June 14th.
- Bob and Connie Bostelman, as both are dealing with health issues and ask for prayers of healing.
- Judy Overmier, whose mother, Eloise Smith, age 93, passed away on May 31st.
- 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

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

July 1, 2017 Volume 63, Number 7

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

**WELCOME** to our newest members received into our fellowship on Sunday, June 11:

**Dan Light** lives at 225 Dogwood Court, Archbold. Dan has three grown children: Mark is a 4-H Extension Educator for Harden County, living in Ada, Ohio with his wife Kim and children, Justin and Megan. Deb works with Habitat for Humanity building homes in Columbus, Ohio. Joel teaches Environmental Sciences at Northwestern University in Minneapolis, Minnesota and lives with wife Anna and son Jonah. In 2012 Dan retired from Northwest State Community College where he was an instructor of Business and Math. Dan enjoys gardening and short term medical missions to Central America.



## **pastor's letter**

Thoughts from Pastor Erich . . . LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity, Michigan City, Indiana



From a vacant  
lot to a framed  
house in just two  
weeks' time!



The summer mission trip is a great time of faith, fellowship and work. Working alongside friends is always a blessing, and when you get to do that while helping a mom and her daughter build their new home, it's indescribable. When Megan and Hayden showed up on Thursday afternoon, we got to walk around their home with them, showing them this is where the kitchen will be, here's your bedroom and this is the utility/laundry room. Megan already had an understanding of the layout of her home, as she had studied the floor plans with the construction manager, but it was helpful to her to actually see the walls and sizes of each room. And it was helpful for Hayden to have the rooms described for her.

I've had similar kinds of interactions with a few people recently. When they showed up at church one afternoon, we got to talk and walk through some of the scriptures of the Bible. One of them had a general understanding of the layout of the Bible, but hearing some of the actual truths of scripture was very helpful to them. When we read the Bible, we have a more personal understanding and a growing familiarity with God, enabling us to be better prepared to live in this world. It's so humbling to walk alongside people, helping them, with God's grace and inspiration, to move forward in building up their awareness of and belief in the Lord.

As this issue of the Visitor goes to print, we'll have just completed Vacation Bible School – another opportunity of “building” people's faith, and we're in the midst of planning ministries and ministry events (Rally Sunday, LOGOS, Care Groups, Gong Show, Outdoor Worship, to name a few) through which faith seeds of evangelism and discipleship will be sown. Let's continue to pray for, plan for, and get involved in sharing our own gifts and knowledge as we walk alongside more of God's people.

In Ministry Together,

*ERICH*



## **preschool corner**





## congregational news

cont.

**Kenny & Amanda (Mandy) Walker** live at 23274 County Road U, Archbold, with their two sons, Kenny (entering 8th grade) and Gavin (entering 6th grade). Kenny and Amanda were married on May 31, 2003. Kenny works as a mechanic with Ohio CAT,



and Mandy works part-time at Archbold Elementary School. Mandy enjoys cooking, decorating, crafting, refinishing furniture, thrift store shopping and antiques. Kenny's hobbies include hunting, shooting, collecting and working on antique crawler tractors, metal working and antiques.

**Anna Yoder** and her husband, Eric, live at 120 W. Barnes Avenue, Napoleon, with their two sons, Finn (2 years old) and Liam (9 months), and are expecting their third child on Christmas! Anna and Eric were married on May 24, 2008, here in the St. John's sanctuary, having first met at Pilgrim Hills Church Camp when attending confirmation camp. Anna enjoys singing and acting, having participated in several productions with Fort Defiance Players.



**Rev. Alex Young** started his ministry amongst us as Associate Pastor on November 1, 2016. Originally from North Canton, Ohio, Alex is a graduate of Grove City College and Covenant Theological Seminary. Alex likes to be outside, particularly when playing Ultimate Frisbee, and he also likes to read, especially 19th century fiction, like Charles Dickens. Alex put in an offer on



a home in Archbold which was recently accepted, and is anticipating having a new home soon!

## congregational thank you's

Dear Friends at St. John's,

Thank you for the devotional book and the use of the facility for my graduation party. I look forward to using the devotional book in the coming year. Thank you for all you have done for me over the years, and for supporting me in all my endeavors.

Lynne M. Stuckey

Dear St. John's Family,

Thank you for the decorative box, devotional book and all the cards, and also for making my Confirmation day special.

Josie Grieser

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Church Family,

Thank you for all the prayers, encouraging words and welcoming me into the church. I also want to thank you for the small confirmation box and the Teen Girl devotional book. I'll use that a lot.

Blessings,  
Emily Hines

## mission corner

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

- Adriel, for our gift of \$100.
- Altlink (Tom & Megan), for our gift of \$265.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$737.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$1,178.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$145.
- Cru (Waanders), for our gift of \$500.
- Defiance YFC (Outback), for our gift of \$200.
- Hands of Grace, for our gift of \$500.
- Reliant (Chase/Pardi/Varnau), for our gift of \$590.
- World Team (Franks), for our gift of \$1000.

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

St. John's Christian Church,

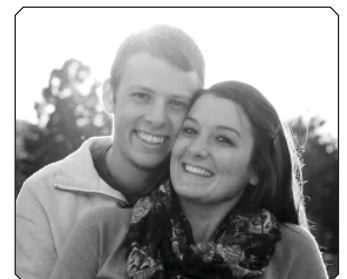
Your kind and thoughtful donation has helped to change our family's life! Thank you!

God Bless,  
HFH - The Smith Family

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**Matt & Paige Waanders, Cru Brazil - June, 2017:**

"Vale a pena?" is a Portuguese phrase that means "worth it?" As this year comes to a close and we begin the process of packing, selling our things and saying goodbye to Brazil, we have been thinking a lot about whether or not this trip has been worth it. It has been one of the hardest years of our lives so far, starting out with a long and discouraging search for an apartment, struggling through learning the language and culture, and now frantically trying to sell all our furniture and appliances. Hopefully this last update we are sending from Brazil will give you a glimpse into why, in spite of all the challenges, our year has certainly been worth it.



## mission corner cont.

Matt & Paige Waanders, Cru Brazil - June, 2017 (cont.):

An answer to prayers came through our new friend, Matheus, who has struggled to really believe in God. Over the course of the past couple of weeks he spent in another state visiting old friends, he shared he had found a new desire to follow and love God. He said, "I have been wanting God to work in a certain way or to give me a sign - like talking out loud to me; but now I realize that God has been working in my life all along. Matheus and Matt have been spending a great deal of time together, talking about Matthew 13:44 which says, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." Matheus is so excited about the fact that following Jesus and living in the way Jesus taught is like a treasure. He says he feels less angry, more forgiving, much more joyful, and he wants other people to see that by following Jesus they can experience this joy, too. Please continue to pray for Matheus to form deep Christian friendships and to continue to grow in the coming months and years.

As we mentioned, we are beginning the process of packing, selling our things, and saying goodbye to Brazil. On June 24th we will get on a plane bound for America. Please pray for us during this transition time. We are asking God for a smooth wrap-up with meaningful good-byes here in Brazil. We look forward to being on the same continent with you again very soon! Thank you for all of your prayers and support!

Vale a Pena,  
Matt & Paige

### 2017 Summer Habitat Trip:

Even temps of 95° couldn't stop the hammers swinging! The six-member work crew (Pastor Erich, Kelly Ducey, Duane Hayes, Mike Meyer, Tammy Nofizger and Greg Walker) enjoyed a full week of working to build Megan and Hayden's home, partnering with LaPorte County HFH once again. Monday morning began with the work of setting sill plates and building the center beam, then it was on to setting joists and laying the plywood floor deck. By Wednesday the exterior walls were up and Thursday saw the completion of all of the interior wall framing. HFH board members, community members, churches and businesses stopped by to check on the team, provide food, water or Gatorade, and see the progress on the latest project. Most of the work was done in full sun, but everyone kept looking out for each other, making sure the team stayed hydrated. As always, the lodging and meals at Tower Hill Camp were top

notch, and the 25 minute drive back and forth each day provided time to fellowship. HFH worked hard to get the foundation in place by our arrival, and we worked hard to pass the project on to the next group of workers – a team from St. Paul UCC, Oak Harbor, where the pastor is Rev. David Voll.



### July Mission-A-Month - Shepherd's Circle

Shepherd's Circle is a local mission project started by Cecily Rohrs in 2004. The purpose of this program is to mentor individuals or families who are good people that have made bad choices. Through this project, assistance is given and guidance is provided to help these people get back on their feet and once again become productive citizens and good stewards of their financial resources.

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' "

Matthew 25:45



### **Mission Experiences:**

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

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

- TGRM Chapel & Meal – 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

### **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. Sixteen voices saying, "Here am I. I will go!"

A mission presentation will be offered at 7PM on Wednesday, July 19th. Anyone who wants to learn about the ins and outs of such an experience is invited to attend. You'll hear from participants of past trips, see pictures of the types of work engaged in, and hear all that's involved in getting ready for and enjoying the actual week.

If you are thinking about saying, "Here am I," but cannot attend on the 19th, please share your interest with Pastor Erich!

### **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**

### **Summer Sunday School – Children & Youth:**

- Preschool Classes will remain combined through the summer months, continuing to meet in the nursery room. Teachers will include Maggie Enderle, Jenny Beck and Leah Hall.
- Kindergarten thru 6th Grade – Pastor Erich is coordinating a program in the chapel this summer, using a VBS style curriculum.
- Confirmation – Pastor Alex will be teaching lessons in the Confirmation room.
- Senior High – Mark & Tammy Nofziger, Jeff & Stacy Rutledge, Jen Hurst and Lynne Roth will share teaching the lessons on The Church, Worship and Sharing Your Faith.

# ministry happenings

cont.

## Christian Education

### Summer Mid-Week Youth Ministries:

SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship) – From June 18-23, Leah Miller, Callie Rohrs, Lynne Stuckey, Adam Walker, Caleb Wooley, and Andrew and Kelsey Wyse, along with various SYF volunteers and an SYF parent, participated in a mission trip down to Northfork, WV, where they sought to serve those in need and share their faith. Ask the teens who participated what they learned from this experience and how they saw God at work in the people they met...and in their own hearts! ...And join us in praying that God's work in us and in those we served will continue to grow, like a mustard seed planted in a garden, which sprouts into a tree large enough for birds to perch in its branches!



For the month of July, SYF has three events planned that you can put on your calendar. If you're interested in the canoe trip, be sure to RSVP to Pastor Alex!

- July 5, Sand Volleyball at Ruiehley Park
- July 8, SYF Canoe Trip
- July 19, Photo Scavenger Hunt

## Events / Activities

### Book Bag Bash – Sunday, August 6th:

The 2017 Book Bag Bash is scheduled for August 6th, from 4PM to 6PM! From now until then the Evangelism Committee is once again asking for your generous support of this supply and outreach event. Since we've been doing the Bash for several years now, there is a growing understanding that having similar items to hand out to the children would be very beneficial. So we'll not be collecting individual school supply items, but are hoping people will be generous in their funding of this special event. Just mark checks or envelopes with "BBB" and we'll designate such gifts to the Book Bag Bash – all donations will be greatly appreciated! Cookie donations and volunteer sign-ups will be posted this month.

### Men's Breakfast – July 8th, 7:40AM:

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

### Community Meal Ministry:

The meals are returning to SJCC for the months of July, August and September. These meals are 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. Any community member/family who desires assistance with food OR who longs for fellowship and conversation OR who doesn't feel like cooking on any given night OR who simply wants to come and eat with people of the community are invited to these meals.

From July 11th 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 leads 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:

We've received several pictures so far, but could use many more! As part of their efforts to lead our "Imagine Your Faith Building" Campaign, the Capital Campaign Committee continues to plan for the future of the campaign, which has included looking at the past history of the congregation. The historical faithfulness of the congregation remains as a vital illustration of being a church whose cornerstone is Christ, continuing to support an array of ministries and missions in carrying out the great commission of Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20.

One aspect of looking at the past has included remembering the people who have been a part of the congregation, including those who have been confirmed through the ministry of St. John's. To help us remember the past, we're asking for people to bring in photographs of past confirmation classes. Please scan and e-mail pictures to the church office ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org)) or bring them to the church office to be scanned—they will be returned to you. Thank you!



# July 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— Shepherd's Circle Elder of the Month— Ann Fether					1
2	3 8:00AM Interior Painting 2:00PM Pastors Meeting	4 <b>Independence Day</b> (Office Closed) 5:00PM Community Meal	5 8:00AM Interior Painting 7:00PM SYF Sand Volley- ball @ Ruihley Park	6 8:00AM Interior Painting 7:00PM Mission Comm.	7 8:00AM Interior Painting 4:00PM New Playground Installation	8 7:40AM Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00AM New Playground Installation
9	10 8:00AM Interior Painting 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:00PM Pastors Meeting	11 6:30AM Women's Summer Small Group 8:00AM Interior Painting 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Property Comm.	12 8:00AM Interior Painting 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study	13 8:00AM Interior Painting	14 8:00AM Interior Painting	15
16 <b>Holy Communion</b> 1:00PM Depart for Bair Lake Bible Camp	17 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:00PM Pastors Meeting 6:30PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	18 6:30AM Women's Summer Small Group 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	19 7:00PM BBM Presentation 7:00PM SYF Photo Scavenger Hunt	20	21	22 Campers Return from Bair Lake Bible Camp
23	24 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:00PM Pastors Meeting	25 6:30AM Women's Summer Small Group 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	26 9:00AM Floor Stripping & Waxing 10:00AM W. Haven Bible Study	27 9:00AM Floor Stripping & Waxing	28	29
30	31 11:00AM Staff Meeting 1:00PM Worship Planning 2:00PM Pastors Meeting					

## JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Jayson Lindsay   | 18 Matthew Kinsman   |
| 3 Jacob Rupp, Jeff Rutledge  | 19 Velma Overmier, Ed Ruffer, Carrie Yoder   |
| 4 Kinsey Smith   | 20 Kaitlyn Beck, Andee Grime, Brian & Kris Short,<br>Mary Silcox                       |
| 5 Ollie MacDonald  | 21 Mike & Sue Henry, Andrew & Lori Rohrs   |
| 6 Kenny & Sandi Cowell   | 22 Warren Sauder   |
| 7 John & Deb Kauffman, Sarah Kinsman, Brian Short,<br>Jim Silcox                                   | 23 David Augustine   |
| 8 Lou Ann Beck, Ben & Tiffany Johnston   | 27 Callie Rohrs  |
| 9 Emily Hines, Bob Kuntz, Chad Short, Kaitlyn Wyse   | 28 Becca Grieser, Graeme & Gloria Lauber, Jim &<br>Betsy Redd, Ryan Smith, Jack Stover |
| 11 Neil & Nanette Buehrer, Pete & Rachel Grieser,<br>Matt Hines, Steve & Kim Walker, David Stuckey | 29 Florence Augustine, Justin Pursel   |
| 12 Mark Beltz, Mary Hall, Lainey Holdgreve, David<br>& Nancy Lightner, Tammy Nofziger              | 30 Greg & Kim Walker   |
| 14 Jean Beck   | 31 Larry Bechstein, Ryan Holdgreve, Brent<br>Schnitkey                                 |
| 15 Jen Grime, Hannah Kern  | ✿ Please let us know if we do not have your special<br>day correct. Thank you.         |
| 17 Ryan & Jill Holdgreve, Eric Nafziger  |  |

# worship

## July Worship Information:

- July 2nd Theme—drawn from Vacation Bible School  
Scriptures – Psalm 139:13-14, 1 Samuel 25  
Sermon – “God Made Your for a Reason” –  
Pastor Erich Christman
- July 9th Theme – Engaging / Serving  
Scriptures – 1 John 4:7-12, 1 Peter 4:7-11  
Sermon—Encouraging Congregational Life  
Special Music – Anna Yoder
- July 16 Theme – Engaging / Serving  
Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Sermon – Pastor Alex Young  
10:30 Service – Praise Band  
Special Music – Mark Schnitkey
- July 23 Theme – Engaging / Serving  
Scriptures – John 13:1-17  
Sermon – We Are Called By God to Serve  
Pastor Erich Christman  
Special Music—Annie Foote, Deb Schnitkey,  
Mike Meyer, Joel Foote
- July 30 Theme – Engaging / Serving  
Scriptures – Mark 10:41-45  
Sermon – “Leading by Serving”  
Pastor Erich Christman  
10:30 Service – Praise Band  
Special Music – Norm Fether

# consistory/committees

## 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.

## 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 when they 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 Comm.
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 present voting in favor.





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

What happens to your pocket change?

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

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



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

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

**IYFB Campaign Total Receipts as of June 26, 2017 - \$481,958.67**

### **Consistory Minutes of June 19, 2017: Committee Reports –**

1. Budget & Stewardship – Joyce Kinsman – Nothing too notable, after 5 months we are under budget. Transfer was made to pay for playground out of the Operating Savings Fund, and the playground bill has been paid in full. Will be meeting with E, G & R on July 10th. Motion to approve: Dean Sauder, 2nd the motion: Paige Miller, motion approved.
2. Capital Campaign Committee – Brent Winzeler/Erich Christman – With a goal of keeping the congregation aware that we are continuing to raise money towards the Campaign, an idea of passing the plates twice on the 4th Sunday of the month was considered. Betsy Ducey moved that we receive a second offering on the 4th Sunday of the month, Amy Baden 2nd the motion, motion approved.
3. Mission Committee – David Stuckey
  - \$1,000 – Altlink
  - \$1,000 – World Team
  - \$500 – Sparrow's Nest
  - \$100 – Urgent Mission Outreach (Adriel) for new toys during parent visits
  - Mission trip to Brazil may be in the future. Plans and details are being worked on. April/May 2018 is tentative date for this mission trip.
  - \$500 – Cru
  - \$500 – Reliant
  - \$500 – Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission
4. Personnel Committee – Amy Baden – the committee had a six month review with Pastor Alex, who continues to settle in to his position.

# consistory/committees cont.

## Consistory Minutes of June 19, 2017:

### Committee Reports (continued)

5. Preschool Board – Pastor Erich - Proposed Budget: Numbers are not forecasting an increase in students, working with what we have now at 51 children (58 last year). A part-time paid staff sub has been proposed, working one morning per week, and during tuition week, the sub would come in twice that week. This would allow the Preschool Administrator the opportunity to work on administrative duties. Budget includes \$1,300.00 for this sub position. Annual reviews have been done of both Sue and Joan, a meeting with them to discuss their reviews will be done in the future. No negative concerns have been brought up concerning Sue and Joan, both are doing an excellent job.
6. Property Committee – Eric Nafziger – Playground Update: old playground has been removed. Jay Pursel is working on grading the playground area. Work will be done this week to mark and drill holes and Friday June 23rd, is playground installation. 15 Volunteers are signed up to help Friday, more people are certainly welcome. Parish Hall AC units were serviced by Kurt Phillips. All 7 air conditioner units have been charged with Freon, and things seem to be running correctly. Interior painting of the Chapel, Hallway and Sanctuary is scheduled to begin July 3rd. Timers for the outdoor LED lighting is a work in progress, with new digital timers being looked into.
7. Spiritual Council – Erich Christman
  - Nomination Process – preparing to offer further education to the congregation concerning biblical qualifications and job descriptions of being an elected official of the church.
  - Confirmation Program – Pastor Erich is recommending that Confirmation be moved to Wednesday evenings from Sunday mornings, next step is to talk with parents of current students.
  - Memorial Fund Expenditures – approved spending \$500 on plastic tubs and wire shelving to organize the CE supply room. Also approved spending up to \$700 on a projector for the coliseum or in the fireside room, as one projector was recently damaged.

### Pastor's Report –

- Sanctuary Organ – new information from Lynne Long; Deb Schnitkey agrees we should repair the “leathers” of the organ, which could cost up to \$250,000. We'll work at seeking a consensus of the congregation on a plan of action regarding the organ.
- Global Leadership Conference – August 10-11, Simulcast at New Hope Community Church in Bryan, with a cost of \$199 per person to attend this conference.
- Engaging our Aging Conference – October 28, Grace Church, Hudsonville, MI
- Transgender Article – an AP article was shared, which was written from the LGBTQ perspective, discussing aspects of discrimination and being faithfully inclusive. Discussion agreed that we welcome everyone here at SJCC and that we are called to live a righteous life.
- Group Home – a letter from Sunshine was received regarding adopting residents of their group homes. Since one of their group homes adjoins the church's property, Pastor Erich shared this with the mission committee, who endorsed the idea. Tammy Nofziger (a former Sunshine staff member) has agreed to coordinate volunteers and their interactions with residents.
- The North West Ohio Education Service Center is seeking partners for work study opportunities for high school students with special needs. This would happen in the spring semester of the next school year, with students coming to help with office work, cleaning etc.

### Old Business

- Leadership Development – In working to set short term goals, Consistory members will prioritize a list of topics discerned through recent leadership discussions, which will be the basis of the July 19th visioning discussion.

### New Business

- Evangelical Association Reformation Event, Byrne, IN – Saturday October 7, 9AM-5PM
- Associate Pastor Home Loan – Previous pastors have been given this assistance. Gloria Lauber made a motion to offer Pastor Alex a \$10,000 interest free loan for the purpose of a down payment on a home, payable upon Pastor Alex selling the home or within 12 months of ceasing to be on staff at SJCC. David Stuckey 2nd the motion. Motion approved.



- Church Pictorial Directory – Sue Grieser continues to work at compiling all the pictorial pictures in order to print directories. We might seek an outside source to put together a pictorial directory in the near future.

### St. John's Christian Church – Nomination Process for Annual Election of Officers:

In 2 Timothy 1:6-8, the Apostle Paul, knowing of the faith that lives in Timothy, encourages him with this charge: “For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. 8 So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God...”

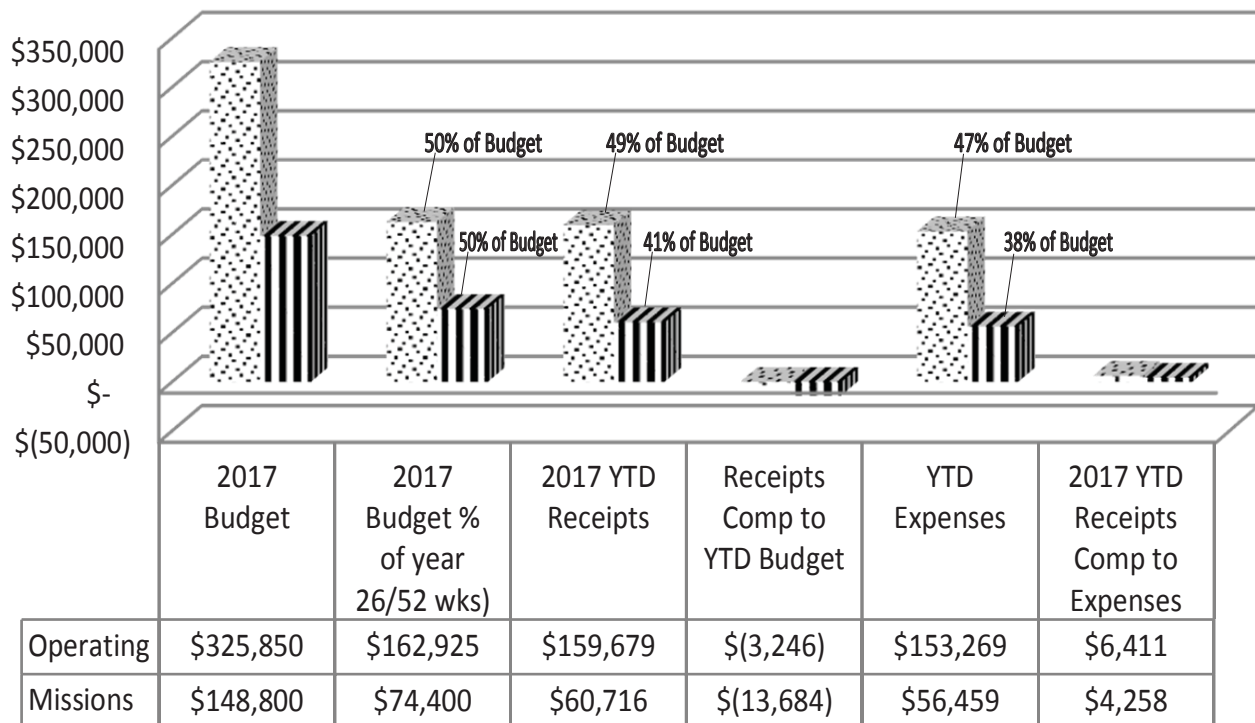
Romans 12:4-8 shares Paul's description of what it is like in being the body of Christ: “Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.”

God has blessed each person with certain gifts and abilities. Paul was encouraging Timothy to use the gift of God that was within him. Sharing and using our God given gifts is vitally important for the ministry of the church to flourish. The Spiritual Council and Consistory are seeking to equip and prepare people to serve as elected officers of the congregation, as well as serve on the committees of the church. At the same time, the Spiritual Council and Consistory are seeking to engage the congregation in a greater role in the nomination process.

Materials and presentations will be offered, beginning in August.

## stewardship

### 2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of June 26, 2017



# July 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 Ending or Beginning ----- Acts 1:1-11	17 Go Boldly ----- Acts 5:12-16
2 God of All Nations ----- Psalm 67	18 Transformation ----- Acts 5:17-32
3 Big Decisions ----- Acts 1:12-26	19 Following the Spirit ----- Acts 5:33-42
4 Going Global ----- Acts 2:1-21	20 Ranking our Priorities ----- Acts 6:1-7
5 Plain Speaking ----- Acts 2:22-28	21 Facing Opposition ----- Acts 6:8-15
6 Stoking the Fires? ----- Acts 2:29-36	22 God With Us ----- Acts 7:1-16
7 The Crunch ----- Acts 2:37-47	23 Desperate ----- Psalm 70
8 Look! ----- Acts 3:1-10	24 Christ at the Center ----- Acts 7:17-34
9 Snapshots of Praise ----- Psalm 68	25 How Big is Your God? ----- Acts 7:35-53
10 Focusing on God ----- Acts 3:11-26	26 Facing Persecution ----- Acts 7:54-8:8
11 God Can be Trusted ----- Acts 4:1-12	27 The Spirit is a Gift ----- Acts 8:9-25
12 Who do You Know? ----- Acts 4:13-22	28 Traveling With God ----- Acts 8:26-40
13 Just an Ordinary Day? ----- Acts 4:23-31	29 If God is For Us ----- Joshua 10:1-15
14 Taking Stock ----- Acts 4:32-37	30 Life Story ----- Psalm 71
15 Pursue Holiness ----- Acts 5:1-11	31 Faith-Filled Pensioner ----- Joshua 14:6-15
16 Deliverance from Defeat ----- Psalm 69	

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  
Cell Ph. 419-551-0401

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

**Pastor** Sue Grieser  
office@stjohnsarchbold.org

**Admin.** Deb Schmitkey  
deb@stjohnsarchbold.org

**Dir. of Music** Deb Schmitkey  
deb@stjohnsarchbold.org

**Ministry** Kim M. Walker  
gkwalker@rtceexpress.net

**Director** Roger Miller

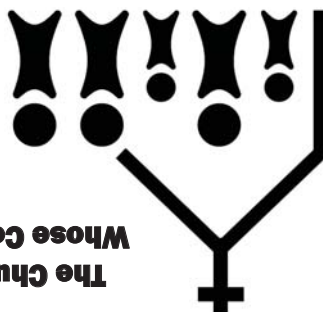
**Treasurer** Dean Buckenmeyer

**Custodians** Nick Rice

**Security** Richard Spiess

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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