



Shirley Wyse

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together



LOGOS Pre-K &
Kindergarten Youth

Welcome to



**"The Church on
the Corner Whose
Cornerstone is Christ"**

We are a community of faith founded upon God's Holy Word, preaching salvation through believing in Christ as Savior. We seek to live in God's truth, being obedient to His Word and following in His ways.

Welcome to our Worship of God!

Welcome, Announcements, Scripture and Prayer

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (p. 787)

Prelude

“How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place”

The Nativity Scene – The Stable – #157, verse 1

“Away in a Manger”

† The Advent of Our Lord (L–Leader; *P–People*)

L: Who shall come in the fullness of time to gladden the hearts of all?

Who shall bring new joy to the world and the poor and lonely defend?

Who shall come on a cold winter’s night, when the world is hushed and still?

Only the silent stars keep watch as a promise is fulfilled.

Just as a Child newly born He shall come to a stable rough with sod.

’Tis gentle Jesus, Prince of Peace, the blessed Son of God!

P: We await with reverent hearts, O come Lord Jesus, come!

† Advent Carol – #123

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – The Candle of Hope

(8:00) Leah Miller and Callie Rohrs

(10:30) Emily Hines and Kylie Sauder

Hymn Response: Hope, hope, hope, The light of Christ is hope.

In all our darkness Christ is shining, Leading upward, faith refining.

Hope, hope, hope, The light of Christ is hope.

† Greeting One Another in the Peace of Christ

Children’s Message

(#82, v. 1) “O Come, Let Us Adore Him”

Advent Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer (debts/debtors)

† (8:00) Hymn – #143

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

(10:30) Chancel Choir

“Every Valley”

Prayer of Dedication and Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“In His Time”

Scripture Reading

Luke 21:25-38 (p. 1043)

Sermon

“Be Always on the Watch”

Advent Communion Service

Invitation

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

† Communion Hymn – #323

Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Words of Institution and Prayer of Blessing

Communion Blessing

† Closing Hymn – #245

“What If It Were Today?”

† Benediction

† Benediction in Song – #244

“The Trees of the Field”

† Postlude

Welcome . . .

Guests and Visitors

Welcome to our worship of God! We hope you will find our service to be an uplifting and faithful time of worship and that you will worship with us again. Learn more about us by visiting our Welcome Table at the south end of our building or our website at www.stjohnsarchbold.org.

Mother's Room / Diaper Changing Station / Nursery Care

We have a Mother's Room located near our sanctuary – just ask an usher for its location. A diaper changing station is in our nursery room just down the hallway from our sanctuary. Nursery Care is offered during our 10:30 worship service for infants and pre-kindergarten children.

Children's and Large Print Bulletins are available on a table in the sanctuary narthex.

Hearing Assistance is provided through our loop system for hearing aids with a "t" switch position.

This Week's Congregational Prayer:

Lord, how grateful I am! I'm filled with praise as I worship you. I'm overwhelmed by the depth of your gracious love for me, and for all people. In this time of preparation, I think of the song, Sanctuary: "Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true." May your Spirit be upon us as a congregation, preparing us to receive the light and glory of Christ anew. Thank you, Father, for sending your Son, that we may know you more. In worship and in praise. Amen.

We Practice Open Communion . . .

- All adults and older youth who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to commune
- Grape juice is served in the trays of the cup
- At 8:00 worship, communicants will be invited to come forward in groups
- At 10:30 worship, communicants will be served in the pews, partaking at one time

December Mission-A-Month – Crossroad

Crossroad Child & Family Services was founded in 1883 as an orphanage by the German Reformed Church in the United States (one of the predecessor denominations to the UCC). They were founded as the Reformed Orphan's Home of Fort Wayne, Indiana to care for the "neediest of God's children." Ohio churches were very involved in the creation of the organization "way out in the Western Synod of the church" in Fort Wayne, Indiana! Crossroad has been supported by the predecessor churches to the UCC and the United Church of Christ throughout their nearly 133-year history.

Over the years their name changed and their services evolved as the needs of children changed. Today's Mission: "Crossroad creates promising futures for children in difficult circumstances by providing therapy, education and family support services." Crossroad is known throughout the Midwest as one of the largest providers of treatment for troubled children and their families.

There is a current list of needed items for Crossroad on the mission bulletin board just outside the church office and on the wall above the white mission box in the chapel narthex. Or monetary donations can be given through your regular offering envelopes or dropped off in the church office.

Let's Talk About It - This Week in Our Children's and Youth Education:

Pre-K Class: This week we joined the other grades for the most important birthday party of all, Jesus' birthday party. We also continued to prepare for the Christmas play.

Confirmation: In starting our year-long study through the Bible, we've covered God's Call (that God created the world and invites people to join his mission of blessing the whole world), the Exodus (where God saved the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt), and the Ten Commandments (as the Israelites pledge themselves to God, God grants them these wise rules for a peaceful and prosperous society). This morning we began to look at the fourth unit: the Promised Land. In which books of the Bible can you read about the Israelites and their approach to and entrance into the Promised Land?

Senior High Sunday School: This month we're spending our Sunday School time assisting with the preschool and children's ministries in their lessons and as they prepare for their Christmas programs. One of our class's goals is not only better learning the Bible, but also learning how to share what the Bible teaches us, and taking opportunities to serve.

LOGOS: Pre-K/Kindergarten: This week we concluded our lessons on 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. We wrapped up learning about "the parts of the body working together" by exercising our muscles and feeling our heart and lungs working! **3rd Grade:** We reviewed Luke 1 and 2 about Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, and learned that Bethlehem, in Hebrew, means place of bread. Jesus truly is the Bread of Life, can we partake this Christmas Season? **4th grade:** We made hands out of construction paper and listed on the fingers reminders of how we can serve others and pray for those in need.

JYF: A group of three 8th grade boys visited the Sunshine Home located next to the church, and a group of three 8th grade girls visited the Sunshine Home located on Primrose Lane. This was the first visits with the people living in these two homes, and our youth spent time talking with them and making Christmas ornaments. The youth who stayed at the church made the ornaments, too, and prepped the Christmas wreaths for delivery/pick up. We will make more visits to the two homes – more youth are eager to visit and play some games!

SYF: We continued our study on 1 Corinthians 10 and what it means to live a life that brings God glory. This week we focused on ways we can glorify God with the music we listen to. We don't have to listen exclusively to Christian music, but we should be reflective about what we listen to. What messages are being presented? What can we affirm as Christians? What messages would we challenge as Christians?

2017 Children's Christmas Program – The Greatest Gift of All!

This year's program will be held during the 10:30AM service on Sunday, December 17th. The practice schedule looks like this:

Preschool Sunday School Class

During Sunday school each Sunday – December 3rd, 10th and 17th

First through Sixth Grade Classes

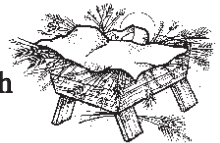
Wednesday, December 6th – 6:30PM to 7:15PM – in the sanctuary

Sunday, December 10th – 9:15AM to 10:00AM – in the chapel

(Note: Junior Choir meet at 10:05AM in sanctuary for Sermon in Music warm-up)

Wednesday, December 13th – 6:30PM to 7:15PM – in the sanctuary

Sunday, December 17th – 9:15AM to 10:00AM – in the sanctuary



WEEK OF DEC 3RD AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service – Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Birthday Party for Jesus (Preschool through 6th Grade)
	9:15AM	Confirmation / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service – Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
	11:45AM	JYF Hand Bells Rehearsal (Chancel)
	2:00PM	Kajiado “Friendraiser” Event (Chapel)
	6:00PM	Seekers (Fireside Room)
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
	5:00PM	Basketball Practice (Parish Hall)
Tues	9:15AM	Bible Study – Acts 10 (Fireside Room)
	1:30PM	Pastors Meeting (Fireside Room)
	6:30PM	5th Grade Basketball Practice (Parish Hall)
	7:00PM	Capital Campaign Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	5:30AM	Christmas Cheer Hospitality (Jr. Fair Building, Fulton Cty. Fairgrounds)
	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Upstairs Classroom)
	6:30PM	Children’s Christmas Program Rehearsal – 1st through 6th Grades (Sanctuary)
	7:00PM	JYF (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	SYF (Youth Room)
	7:30PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	7:45PM	JYF Hand Bells Rehearsal (Chancel)
Thurs	9:00AM	Mending at Fairlawn (Activities Room)
	5:00PM	Basketball Practice (Parish Hall)
	7:00PM	Mission Committee (Fireside Room)
Sat	7:40AM	Men’s Prayer Breakfast (Fireside Room)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Children’s Christmas Program Rehearsal – 1st through 6th Grades (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Confirmation / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service – Sermon in Music (Sanctuary)
	6:00PM	Couples Small Group (Youth Room)

Next Sunday – December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent / Sermon in Music

Sermon – “Preparing the Way” by Pastor Erich Christman; Scripture – Luke 3:1-6

Discovery* is a daily Bible reading guide that provides clear Bible explanation, prayers and relevant application questions. The Jan/Feb/Mar issue of the Discovery Guide is available in the literature rack (suggested donation \$6 each). You can also access the guide online at <http://www.scriptureunion.org/Bible%20Reading/Discovery>. Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

December 4 - The Old Has Gone!	Acts 10:9-23a
December 5 - The Time is Right	Acts 10:23b-33
December 6 - Preach It!	Acts 10:34-48
December 7 - Old Habits Die Hard	Acts 11:1-18
December 8 - The Church Grows	Acts 11:19-30
December 9 - God Steps In	Acts 12:1-19a
December 10 - Good Times, Bad Times	Psalm 89

2017 Advent Booklet – Copies are available on a table in the sanctuary narthex. A digital copy of the booklet is posted on the home page of our web site, under the Upcoming Events section.

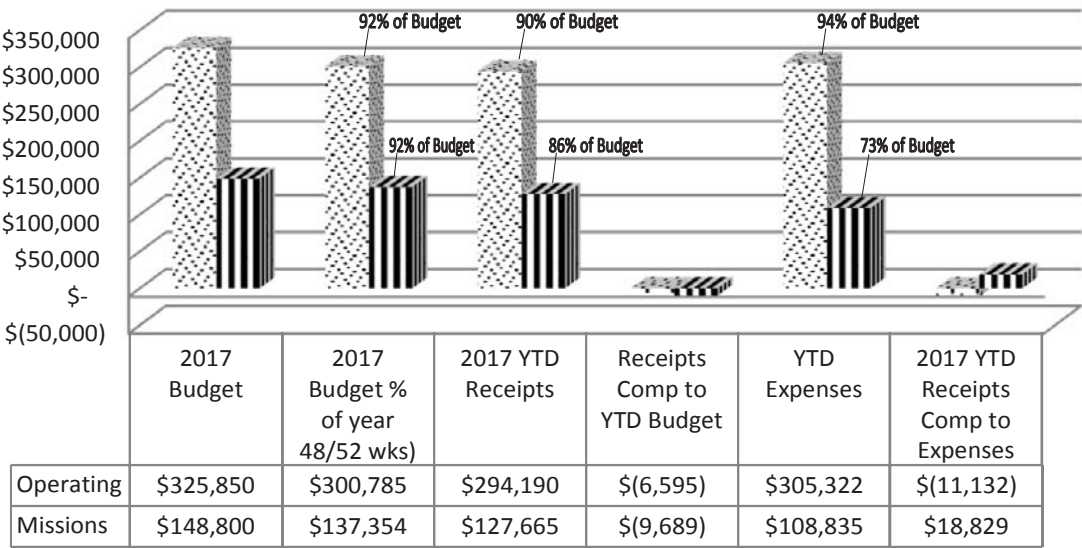
Instant Church Directory – A link for our online directory is available on our web site (www.stjohnsarchbold.org) under Resources on our home page, or you can access it directly at www.instantchurchdirectory.com.

Mending at Fairlawn in December – December is our month to help with the mending needs of residents at Fairlawn (Thursdays from 9AM to noon in the Activities Room). Please contact Elaine Winzeler at 419-446-2200 if you have questions on this matter. The residents of Fairlawn greatly need and appreciate our efforts on this matter. Thank you!

Senior Citizens Annual Christmas Dinner – Senior citizens, mark your calendars for Thursday, December 14th at 5:30PM for the annual Christmas Dinner! A fun night is always had by all who attend this festive holiday event, held in the Chapel. A delicious meal will be served by the Fellowship Committee, and then a fun night of bingo will follow the meal. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office by next Sunday, December 10th. A free will offering will be collected at the door.

Community Meals for December 19 and 26 – As the Archbold Area Ministerial Association is covering these final two meals of the year, Pastor Erich is coordinating both meals, with some great helpers lining up menus and purchasing supplies. For each meal, we need four people to help with prepping and cooking the day of the meal, ten people to help serve the meal, four people to help serve beverages and clear tables, and four people to wash and put away dishes. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated! Sign up on the bulletin board or let Erich know!

2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of November 30, 2017



IFY Building Campaign Total Receipts as of November 30, 2017 - \$538,223.44

Missionaries Supported by Our Congregation and Their Current Prayer Requests:

- ✚ Africa – Tom & Megan – The Islands – pray their teaching continues to lead to deeper relationships and good conversations; pray for their team as programs expand, and that they would make wise choices about where to invest their time and ministry.
- ✚ Ann Arbor – Kyle Chase – Reliant Mission at University of Michigan – pray for the students as the fall semester winds down, that the challenges of campus life and academics are not overwhelming, and that Reliant continues to reach more and more students.
- ✚ Bowling Green – Robert & Jenni McMahan – Cru at BGSU – pray with them that the Lord would completely unite the BGSU Cru team He has chosen soon, miraculously, for the sake of the Gospel, and for glory to His Name.
- ✚ Brazil – Tony & Leila Frank – pray recent meetings with summer camp leaders are fruitful, as Tony & Leila have been asked to help train staff in the area of defending the Christian faith; pray for them as they interact with university students in nearby Sao Leopoldo.
- ✚ Chicago – Jon & Rachel Doriot – Pioneers – pray for them as they follow up on conversations they had with 28 people, 17 of whom were interested in getting involved in a Discovery Bible Study; pray for them as they finalize plans for their long term housing, and long term support.
- ✚ China – Cheryl Wyse – Agape Family Life House – pray for Cheryl's new partnership with Habitat for Humanity as various repairs around her home get addressed; pray for the family as they approach Christmas for the first time without their husband and father.
- ✚ Columbus – Whitney Varnau – Reliant Mission at The Ohio State University – pray for Molly and Courtney as they are exploring belief in Christ as Lord and King; pray for more women from the Greek community of OSU to find a place in h2o; pray for wisdom in volunteering.
- ✚ Columbus – Matt & Paige Waanders – Cru at Ohio State – pray for freshmen who are involved with Cru, that they grow spiritually and relationally; pray for students struggling with loneliness, homesickness and academic challenges; pray for the development of their support team.
- ✚ Dominican Republic – Jason & Becky Suon – Freedom International Ministries – continued prayers for the on-going, short-term and long-term recovery efforts following the hurricane; offer prayers of thanksgiving that God is working through Freedom IM in these efforts.
- ✚ India – Dr. Shobha Arole & Mr. Ravi Arole – CRHP Jamkhed – pray for people with the HIV virus as they struggle with the personal and social complications of the virus, praying that they will receive necessary care and not be ostracized; pray for the staff of CRHP, that their loving witness of Christ's love and compassion continues to overcome stigmas and tensions.
- ✚ Kenya – Larry & Linda Rupp – Kajiado Children's Home – pray that the December 3rd "Friendraiser" event produces increased numbers of supporting churches and individuals; pray for two young adults of SJCC as they consider participating in the 2018 Summer trip to KCH.
- ✚ Toledo – Matt Pardi – Reliant Mission at University of Toledo – pray for the students as the fall semester winds down, that the challenges of campus life and academics are not overwhelming, and that Reliant continues to reach more and more students.

Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests - Please Pray For:

- Bill Bostelman and family, upon the death of his brother, Chuck, on November 24th.
- Kris Short and family, upon the death of her grandfather, Charles Courtney, on November 20th.
- Jon Lindsay, recovering from outpatient shoulder surgery.
- Ruth Schmucker, a patient at FCHC, then to Fairlawn.
- Dorothy Miller, going through treatments for cancer in her throat, with radiation treatments occurring on December 11, 12 and 13.
- Lynda Schnitkey, recovering from a broken leg and foot.
- Norma Fish, pray for healing, strength and peace as she endures through cancer treatments.
- Susie Enderle, who is undergoing cancer treatments at the Cleveland Clinic.
- Brenden Bostelman, stationed in Afghanistan.
- Taylor Collins, stationed in Bolling, DC.
- Kyle Ducey, stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia.
- Jared Kuntz, stationed in Guam.
- Eric Magg, Sheryl Short's son in the Coast Guard, stationed in Alaska (address: 1114 Jackson Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901-5771). Eric is married to Amy and they have a young son, Logan.
- Donny Richardson, stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.
- Steve Schink, stationed at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.
- AJ Short, stationed in Japan.
- Kyle Stuckey, stationed in Korea.
- Kollin Woolace, stationed in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.
- All our home bound and care center residents, and all our students.

Today's Worship Servants

Acolytes	(8:00) Bryce Beltz	(10:30) Krayton Kern
Ushers	(Head) Greg Walker	
	(8:00) Doug & Nancy Rupp	
	(10:30) Brad & Aimee Roth, Steve & Kim Walker	
Greeters	(10:30) Phyllis Swietzer, Nancy Ries	
Nursery Staff	(10:30) Bo & Bri Krukowski	(Dec 10) Ryan & Devin Bernath
Sound Tech	(8:00) Angie Neuenschwander	(10:30) James Grime
Video Tech	(10:30) Dean Sauder	
Worship Leader	(Both) Jan Lindsay	
Song Leader	(Both) Elaine Winzeler	
Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman	

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Ph: 419-446-2545 • www.stjohnsarchbold.org

Pastor Rev. Erich Christman (Cell 419-551-0401)

Associate Pastor Rev. Alex Young (Cell 330-206-8762)

Administrative Assistant Sue Grieser (office@stjohnsarchbold.org)

LOGOS Director Kim M. Walker (gkwalker@rtecexpress.net)

Preschool Administrator Sue MacDonald (macfamily5@roadrunner.com)