

Paul & Barb Sigg

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together



Luci Meyer, Tucker Johnston

Welcome to



**ST. JOHN'S
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**

**“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.

Second Sunday of Advent 46th Annual Sermon In Music

Lighting of the Altar Candles and Ringing of the Tower Bells

Prelude JYF Hand Bells "Ding Dong Merrily on High"

Welcome, Scripture and Prayer Malachi 3:1-4 (p. 950)

Nativity Scene – The Stable

† Carols of Worship – #145, vs. 1 & 2 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"
#119, vs. 1 & 3 "O thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful"

Chancel Choir & JYF Hand Bells "Sing We Now of Christmas"

Soloists – Jan Lindsay & Ed Ruffer

Keyboard – Ann Fether; Triangle – Ryan Christman

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – The Candle of Peace Joshua & Yohanna Richardson

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.

Peace, peace, peace, The gift of Christ is peace.

We walk with God, our past forgiven. All in Him is life and heaven.

Peace, peace, peace, The gift of Christ is peace.

Junior Choir "Glory to God in the Highest"

Children's Message

Vocal Solo Mike Meyer "Ordinary Baby"

Advent Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (debt/debtors)

Trombone Solo Ed Ruffer "O Holy Night"

Vocal Duet Annie Foote & Norm Fether "The First Noel"

Emma Nafziger, Lynne Christman, pianists

† Carol – #141 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Scripture Reading Luke 3:1-6 (p. 1016)

Advent Message "Preparing the Way"

Girl's Trio "Thank You For Your Only Son"

Ava Genter, Klaire Kern, Raegan Rutledge

Prayer of Dedication and Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Silent Night/What Child is This?"

Emma Nafziger & Emily Walker

Vocal Solo
† Carol – #131
Men's Quartet

Yohanna Richardson

“Mary, Did You Know”
“Angels from the Realms of Glory”
“Beautiful Star of Bethlehem”
“Christ is Born in Bethlehem”

Mark Beck, Pete King, Keith Short, Randy Stuckey

Chancel Choir

“Christ Is Born, Nowell!”

(Congregation will join choir in singing a verse)

(Choir Director will bring in the congregation)

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,

Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King.”

† Carol – #125

“Joy to the World”

† Benediction

† Postlude

“The Gloria” by W.A. Mozart



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 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 (A prayer attributed to St. Richard Bishop, 1197 to 1253):

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day. Amen.

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

Pre-K Class & Faith Village: Preschool thru Sixth Grade children practiced for the Children's Christmas Program, preparing to share in word and song about "The Greatest Gift of All!"

Confirmation: In our journey through the story of the Bible, we're learning about the Israelites entrance into the Promised Land. Could you tell someone the role each of these first six books of the Bible play in the story of the world?: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, and Joshua. Read a study Bible's introductions to these books, that you could be able to describe them in one or two sentences. If you'd like, share your sentences with Pastor Alex, and he will give you feedback about how well you've described these books.

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: Our Wednesday evening LOGOS program is completed for 2017. We will start back up on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 with the theme Everybody's Birthday Night.

JYF: JYF ended their 2017 schedule of events with: 1) a devotional about how God has gifted them each with specific talents, and that those talents are to be shared with others, 2) enjoyed a White Elephant Gift Exchange (some gifts were prized, and some not so prized!), and 3) played a Christmas themed game and enjoyed some snacks.

SYF: At SYF, we've enjoyed adding worship songs to our time together, and this week we continued to talk about 1 Cor. 8-10. We're talking about living our lives for God's glory and how that affects choices we make about self-expression: social media, music, clothes, tattoos. Our theme verse has been 1 Cor. 10:31, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

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

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

First through Sixth Grade Classes



This morning – 9:15AM to 10:00AM – in the chapel
Wednesday, December 13th – 6:30PM to 7:15PM – in the sanctuary
Sunday, December 17th – 9:15AM to 10:00AM – in the sanctuary



Advent Schedule: Sunday, December 17th – Children's Christmas Program (10:30AM)
Sunday, December 24th – Candlelight Service (7:00PM)
Monday, December 25th – Christmas Day Worship (10:30AM only)
Monday, December 25th – Christmas Caroling at Fairlawn (TBA)

WEEK OF DECEMBER 10TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- Sun 8:00AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:15AM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal – 1st through 6th Grades (Chapel)
- 9:15AM Confirmation / Sunday School
- 10:30AM Worship Service – Sermon in Music (Sanctuary)
- 6:00PM Couples Small Group (Youth Room)
- Mon 11:00AM Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
- 5:00PM Basketball Practice (Parish Hall)
- Tues 9:15AM Bible Study – Isaiah 1 (Fireside Room)
- 10:30AM Pastors Meeting (Fireside Room)
- 6:30PM 5th Grade Basketball Practice (Parish Hall)
- 7:00PM Property Committee (Fireside Room)
- Wed 8:30AM Moms in Prayer (Upstairs Classroom)
- 9:00AM West Haven Bible Study (Fairlawn)
- 6:30PM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal – 1st through 6th Grade (Sanctuary)
- 6:30PM Life Planning (Cowell's, 911 Olds Lane, Archbold)
- 7:00PM SYF Remix (Youth Room)
- Thur 9:00AM Mending (Fairlawn Activities Room)
- 5:30PM Senior Citizen's Christmas Dinner (Chapel)
- Fri 4:00PM Girl Scouts (Kitchen)
- 5:00PM Basketball Practice (Parish Hall)
- Sun 8:00AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 9:15AM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal – 1st through 6th Grade (Sanctuary)
- 9:15AM Confirmation / Sunday School
- 10:30AM Worship Service – Children's Christmas Program (Sanctuary)
- 6:00PM Seeker's Small Group (Nofziger's, 541 Ann Avenue, Wauseon)
- 6:00PM Young Adults Small Group (Dan Stuckey's, 6065 Co. Rd. 26, Archbold)

Next Sunday – December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent / Children's Christmas Program (10:30AM)
 Sermon – “Preparing Your Finances to Meet the Messiah” by Pastor Alex Young
 Scripture – Luke 3:7-18

Discovery Daily Devotional Guides – The Jan/Feb/Mar Discovery Daily Bible Guides are 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 11 - Flourishing Word Acts 12:19b-25
- December 12 - Get Out of My Sight! Isaiah 1:1-20
- December 13 - It's Catching! Isaiah 1:21-31
- December 14 - Tanks Into Tractors Isaiah 2:1-5
- December 15 - Hiding in the Cracks Isaiah 2:6-22
- December 16 - Plundering the Poor Isaiah 3:13 – 4:11
- December 17 - Number Your Days Psalm 90

Senior Citizen's Christmas Dinner Thursday, December 14th at 5:30PM – You can still sign up today on the bulletin board for this delicious meal served by the Fellowship Committee, followed by a fun night of bingo. A free will offering will be collected at the door.

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!

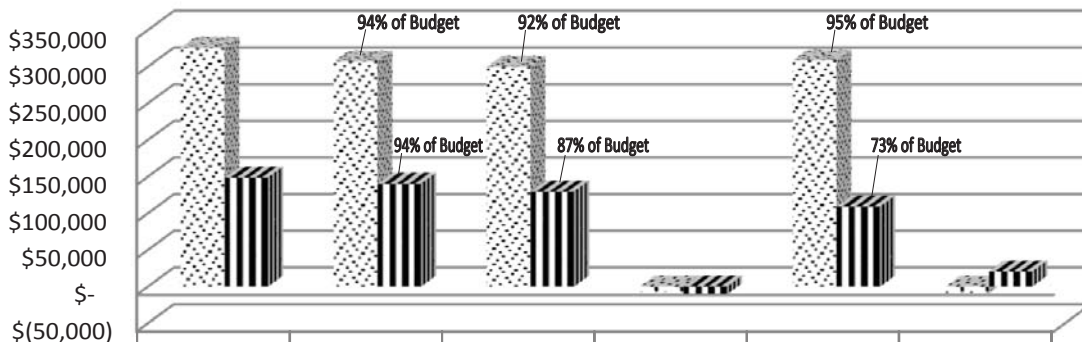
Community Meals for December – Zion Mennonite has taken on the serving of the December 12th meal, and SJCC has responsibility for the meals on December 19th and 26th, with assistance from the AAMA. While Betsy Ducey and Ann Grime are coordinating the two final meals of the year, there's a need for volunteers to help prep, serve and clean-up – a sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board!

Community Meals for 2018 – As of December 8th, 38 of next year's 52 meals have been covered, and we are waiting to hear from several meal teams who have served in the past. Meals in January, February and March will be hosted at SJCC, so weekly volunteers to help with table set-up, busing tables, washing dishes and general clean-up will be needed. These meals are a faithful time of fellowship and service.

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.

2017 Operating & Missions Funds as of December 4, 2017



| | 2017 Budget | 2017 Budget % of year 49/52 wks) | 2017 YTD Receipts | Receipts Comp to YTD Budget | YTD Expenses | 2017 YTD Receipts Comp to Expenses |
|-----------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Operating | \$325,850 | \$307,051 | \$299,625 | \$(7,426) | \$308,451 | \$(8,826) |
| Missions | \$148,800 | \$140,215 | \$129,694 | \$(10,521) | \$109,068 | \$20,627 |

IYF Building Campaign Total Receipts as of December 4, 2017 - \$539,024.44

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:

- Esther Rice, who is rehabbing from a stroke she suffered on November 22nd.
- Pauline Short, and family, as Pauline has been moved to Fairlawn, in hospice care.
- Jon Lindsay, recovering from outpatient shoulder surgery.
- Maurice & Ruth Schmucker, and family, as Ruth has been moved to Fairlawn, in hospice care.
- Dorothy Miller, who will undergo preliminary work on Monday and Tuesday, for a radioactive treatment on Wednesday, to treat the cancer in her throat.
- 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, stationed in Ketchikan, Alaska.
- 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

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|------------------------|---|
| Acolyte | Emma Hall |
| Ushers | (Head) Tim Grieser Mark & Tammy Nofziger, Curt & Kay Stamm |
| Greeters | Nancy Ries, Phyllis Swietzer |
| Nursery Staff | Ryan & Devin Bernath (Dec 17) Matt & Kim Hines |
| Sound Tech | James Grime |
| Video Tech | Dean Sauder |
| Computer Tech | Kelly Ducey |
| Song Leader | Jim Redd |
| JYF Hand Bells | Blake Grime, Carly Grime, Ian Grime, Rayne Kinsman, Hayley Meyer, Emma Nafziger, Emily Walker, Kenny Walker, Hailey Wooley, Tyler Wyse |
| Hand Bell Director | Sarah Nafziger; Assistant – Nici Wyse |
| Chancel Choir | Bill & Judy Barnhart, Norm Fether, Annie Foote, Jim Grieser, Tim & Sue Grieser, Denny Hornish, Gloria Lauber, Jan Lindsay, Gary Mann, Mike Meyer, Jim & Betsy Redd, Ed Ruffer, Linda Rutledge, David & Crissi Stuckey, Elaine Winzeler |
| Chancel Choir Director | Andrew Rohrs; Accompanist – Lynne Christman |
| Pianist | Lynne Christman |
| Organist | Mary Lou Roth |
| Trumpets | Andrew & Callie Rohrs, Matt Hines |
| Children's Message | Deb Kauffman |

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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