

# The Visitor

## prayer concerns

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

February 1, 2018 Volume 64, Number 2

### Please Pray For:

- Doris Hull, whose son, Keith passed away on February 4th at the Defiance In-Care Hospice Center.
- Mary Zimmerman, recovering from recent surgery to remove a tumor from her brain; home address is Roger & Mary Zimmerman, 6995 Fry Road, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 44130.
- Phil Spiess, a patient at the Cleveland Clinic.
- Joel Foote, recovering at home from knee replacement surgery.
- Sharon VonDeylen, in rehab at Montpelier Hospital.
- Pauline Short, in hospice care at Fairlawn.
- Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety. Serving from our church are:

#### **PFC Bostelman, Brenden (Army)** (Afghanistan)

TF 3 Geronimo *(New Address)*  
Bagram AF  
APO AE 09354

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

268 Luke Ave., Box 505  
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)** (Guam)

Wife, Maria & children, Silvette & Elias  
P.O. Box 291221, Yigo, GU 96929

#### **Eric Magg (Coast Guard)** (Sheryl Short's son)

Wife, Amy & son, Logan  
1114 Jackson Street  
Ketchikan, AK 99901-5771

#### **Donny Richardson (Marines)**

Stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC

#### **Steven Schink (Coast Guard)**

Wife, Ashley & children, Brennan & Emilia  
150 Dewey Avenue, Groton, CT 06340

#### **AJ Short (Marines)** (Japan)

#### **PFC Stuckey, Kyle (Army)** (Korea)

Wife, Nicole  
BCO, 1-8CAV, 2ABCT  
UNIT 15824  
APO, AP 96271

#### **Kollin Woolace (Marines)** (Camp Lejeune, NC)

1120 Hardin St., Jacksonville, NC 28540

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

Maurice Schmucker, Room #139

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

### CONGRATULATIONS

to Scott and Katie Helberg on the birth of their daughter, Lillianna Joan Helberg, on Jan. 24th. Lillianna weighed 7 lbs., 15 oz. and was 19 1/2" long. She has an older brother, Kaenen and her grandparents include Lynn and Jackie Helberg and Randy and Kathy Layton.



### Wedding Invitation

You are cordially invited to attend the wedding ceremony of Jenny Lehman and Alex Young on Saturday, April the 14th, at 4:14pm. The ceremony will be held in the sanctuary of St. John's Christian Church. We look forward to your presence with us on our big day!

Jenny and Alex

# pastor's letter

## Thoughts from Pastor Alex . . .

*Then they prayed, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over the apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs."*

-Acts 1:24-25

*So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on (Barnabas and Saul) and sent them off.*

-Acts 13:3

One of the characteristics of the early church that stands out to me is how they bathed every decision and every action in prayer. They had a keen awareness that God's will was for their good, and so they sought his wisdom in every decision. They also had a keen awareness that God's power was able to accomplish his will, and so they sought his Spirit's aid in all their endeavors.

We need also to be a church of prayer. Perhaps the church is always facing transitions of some sort, but our church family is in a season of significant transitions. As Sue Grieser completes her service as our Administrative Assistant, we rejoice in the Lord for sending her to us, and give thanks for the many ways she has blessed our church with her hard work. As her church family, let us join together in praying for her and Tim as they embark on their move to North Carolina, as they seek to sell their home and settle into their new home, as Sue seeks employment, as they seek a new church family to serve and worship with, and as they connect with their family through this relocation. As Kelly Stahl begins her service as our new Administrative Assistant, let us thank God for providing us a new staff member, and pray as she grows to learn our church family and the responsibilities of her position, and that God might equip her to fulfill her duties for his glory.

Let us pray also for the Lord's guidance and provision as we seek a new Director of Music Ministry and additional accompanists to facilitate our worship services as we sing our praise to God. And let us pray not only for our open staff positions, but for all our current staff and their service to this church: for our pastors, for our ministry and preschool directors and teachers, for our custodians, and for our treasurer and security person. Let us pray also for our church's ministries and our many volunteers.

Let us join together also in praying with thanksgiving for our Consistory members finishing their terms of service. We give thanks for Amy Baden, Ann Grime, Paige Miller, Nate Meyer, and David Stuckey, and we pray the Lord will grant them rest after their service, and pray He will guide them as they seek how to continue to serve Him with their lives. Let us join also in praying for our new Consistory members (Mark Nofziger, Jeff Rutledge, Judy Sears, Scott Short, and Greg Walker) and for all of our church's leadership as they strive to faithfully fulfill their duties serving and leading our church.

Why do we pray for our church in these ways? Because we believe that by the power of God's Holy Spirit, he can use us to bring about his kingdom by sharing our faith and living out God's love, that God's family might be encouraged all the more, and that the lost might be brought into God's family with us!

Grace and Peace,



## congregational thank you's

Dear SJCC Family,

To say we will miss all of you is a gross understatement, but we are excited about the next chapter of our lives filled with lots of daily interaction with our son and his family in North Carolina! And the mere words "thank you" don't seem quite enough when we think back on the past almost 11 years Sue served here at SJCC, and the past almost 38 years we have been part of this amazing church family; but we do offer our humble thanks, and will continue to lift all of you up in our daily prayers, and ask you do the same for us. We have felt God's hand in every step of this new journey, and will continue to give Him all the glory and praise for our many blessings, and for our trials. Thank you all for the many hugs, gifts, cards, the prayers and wishes for blessings, safe travels, and easy transition into our new home and environment, and most importantly the love of this wonderful church family. Here is our new address (3602 Southern Ginger Drive, Indian Trail, NC 28079) and we invite you all to keep in touch; and please know our door is always open for visitors!

With much love and God's amazing grace,  
Tim & Sue Grieser



I would like to thank the congregation for their many, many prayers during my cancer treatments. I am feeling stronger every day and am anticipating receiving additional test results soon. I am so thankful for the 75+ cards I have received, and all of the verses written in them, which I often go back and read over. I'd like to thank the pastors and members for their visits, and the cards, and the food, and all the ways you have shown your love and support during this time. I now want to buy more cards to send out to others needing prayer and encouragement.

Dorothy Miller



A big thank you for all of the cards, calls and prayers and also for the food, flowers and monetary gifts, etc. in memory of our wife, mother and grandmother, Ruth Schmucker. Thank you!

Maurice Schmucker  
Shiela and Kent Short and family  
Shari Lauber and family  
Susan and Brad Enderle and family



Thank you for the prayers, cards and phone calls in the loss of my sister, Bonnie. Thanks to Pastor Alex for his visit and Pastor Erich for attending the memorial service. I feel so blessed to be part of such a caring church family.

Jean Stamm



Dear St. John's Church Congregation,

Thank you so much for the gift of money to help our family recover from our recent house fire. The response from family, friends, and the community has been humbling and a true blessing.

We appreciate your continued thoughts and prayers as we continue through our loss and rebuilding process.

God Bless You All!  
The Roy and Kathy Miller Family



I just want to thank all the people that have been showering me with kindness since my fall and subsequent surgery. Your many prayers, cards, visits and food have been greatly appreciated.

In Christ's Love, Judy Barnhart

## preschool corner

Registration for next fall has begun! We do still have space in some of the classes, so if you know anyone who has a child who will turn 3 by Aug.1, 2018, let them know about our program!

We hope you have been enjoying our artwork in the hallways! After we returned from Christmas Break, we started learning about the season of "Winter" and "Arctic Animals". We learned a lot of interesting facts

about animals that live where it is COLD. The younger class tore waxed paper (to look like ice) and made a polar bear scene. The older children worked on an extensive snowman project, where they chose a white texture to cover their snowman (white yarn, packing peanuts, tulle, felt, foam snowflakes, lace, etc.) and then added various items for eyes, nose, mouth, buttons and scarf. Each snowman was definitely unique!

Both classes participated in an interactive story, The Mitten, by Jan Brett. We made a larger-than-life mitten in the gym, and ALL of the children fit in it!

Throughout the third week of the month, we talked about "Zoo Animals/Noah's Ark". The children heard the Bible story, and participated in several fun activities relating to the story. We had a "zoo" of stuffed animals in our Dramatic Play area, the younger children painted pictures of Noah and the ark at the easel, and the older children painted colorful parrots with long ribbon tail feathers. Our Bible verse this month was, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart." Proverbs 3:5. We talked about how Noah must have really trusted God when he built that great big ark and gathered all of those animals together.

During our "Pets" theme, we pretended to have a veterinarian hospital in our Dramatic Play area. We also had visits from some different types of pets and learned how to care for them.

The last week of the month, we warmed up with our "Beach/Ocean Animals" theme. We had a blast, surfing, catching some rays, and building sandcastles at our pretend "beach". We learned about various types of ocean animals, read the books, Down in the Ocean in a Coral Reef and Mister Seahorse, among others.

## mission corner

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

- Altlink (Tom & Megan), for our gift of \$110.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$1520.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$582.
- Fulton Co. Christmas Cheer, for our gift of \$1000.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$2098.
- Cru (Matt & Paige Waanders), for our gift of \$40.
- Defiance Youth for Christ, for our gift of \$640.
- Food Resource Bank, for our gift of \$2825.
- Habitat for Humanity, for our gift of \$400.
- Kajiado Children's Home, for our gift of \$2000.
- Pioneers (Doriots), for our gift of \$840.
- World Team (Franks), for our gift of \$3361.

## mission corner cont.

St. John's Church,

I praise God for you, your partnership in the gospel and your generous giving which enables us to continue in the mission to which He has called us! May God bless all with an ever increasing joy of serving Him!

Your Brother in Christ,  
Eliot Nofziger - Outback YFC



Hi everyone,

Thanks so much for all your prayers! Megan's surgery was delayed into the afternoon (because previous cases went long) but she was still discharged that day. Discharge went smoothly! She is back at the house where we are staying and recovering. Unfortunately, we didn't get to talk with the surgeon before being released because he was called into an emergency surgery, so we only know generally that the surgery went well and that the cyst was removed. Though they did release us with a video of the procedure! Thanks for praying for us and thanks for all your love and support.

Blessings,

Tom, Megan & kids



**From Tony & Leila Frank** – Things have slowed down here a bit since many are on their summer vacation. We continue to minister in the church, to university students and we are gearing up for another semester at the Seminary; classes will start again in March. Please pray that people will mature in their faith, boldly and gently defend and proclaim the Gospel. Also please pray specifically for Angelica, (a young woman in her 30's with a young daughter and husband) she has cancer and has been a glowing testimony to the Lord's grace in the midst of her pain and suffering. Leila and I want to say, "Thank You" for your faithful prayers and support. St John's is very generous and for that we are very grateful and have not communicated our gratitude to you nearly enough. May the Lord continue to bless you as you minister God's Word and His Gospel in NW Ohio.



**February Mission-A-Month –**

**FISH Food Pantry: Out of Box Experience**

With the Archbold FISH Food Pantry as our February Mission-A-Month, we are offering the "Out of Box Experience" once again! People are invited to gather in the chapel at 3PM on Sunday, February 18th to begin this mission adventure. Individuals, couples, families, children, youth and adults – all are welcome! We'll divide into shopping groups, then head out to the stores to shop for items for the pantry. After shopping,

everyone will meet at the pantry to learn how it operates and we'll stock the shelves with the items just purchased. It's a mission/fellowship experience all rolled into one event!

Below is a current list of needed items (\* denotes desperately needed items) at the pantry, although all items are willingly accepted:

Food Items – Canned meat; diced tomatoes; canned pineapple, mandarin oranges and fruit cocktail\*; canned potatoes; flour and sugar\*; pasta sides; ketchup and mustard; soups\*; canola oil\*; cake mixes; kids' cereal\*

Personal Items – Toilet paper\*; 2-in-1 shampoo/conditioner\*; body wash\*; multi-purpose cleaner; diapers (size 5, and 6); dish soap\*

Donated items can be placed in the white mission box in the chapel narthex. You can also give monetary donations through your weekly offering envelopes or in the church office weekdays from 8AM–5PM. Monetary donations allow the pantry to purchase needed items in bulk.

### 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:

- **Back Bay Mission Trip – February 10 – 17**
- **FISH Out of Box Experience – February 18**
- **TGRM Chapel & Meal – March 18**
- **Brazil Mission Trip – April 21 – May 1**
- **TGRM Chapel & Meal – May 20**
- **SYF Summer Mission Trip June 3 – 9**
- **Summer Mission Trip – June 10 – 15**
- **Book Bag Bash – August**
- **TGRM Chapel & Meal – September 9**
- **Cherry Street Mission Ministry Fall Banquet – September 27**
- **Back Bay Mission Trip – October 6 – 13**



- Operation Christmas Child Collection – October
- TGRM Chapel & Meal – November 18
- Christmas Cheer Hospitality – December

### **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)

#### **David Hench, Reliant (Univ. of Akron)**

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

e-mail - [david.hench@reliant.org](mailto:david.hench@reliant.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)

#### **TLarry & 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)

## **ministry happenings**

### **College & Seminary Scholarships**

St. John's Christian Church offers and administers four scholarships:

1. Springer Scholarship – for students enrolled in seminary, pre-seminary or Christian Ed. studies
2. Nursing Scholarship – for a nursing student who is a member of SJCC and who attends an accredited post-secondary school of nursing
3. College Scholarship – awarded to enhance the Christian faith of active members of St. John's Christian Church who are either attending or planning to attend college in the coming year
4. Seminary Scholarship – tuition scholarships for students attending seminary

The deadline for applications is March 1st. Applications may be picked up from the church office, found online at ([stjohnsarchbold.org](http://stjohnsarchbold.org) under the Media tab) or students may contact the church office ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org)) to have the application packet digitally sent to them.

### **Presentations for Parents**

In cooperation with the Fulton County Health Department and Healthy Choices Caring Communities, we are offering three informative presentations for parents, on March 7, March 14, March 21. These three Wednesday sessions will start at 7:00pm and be one hour in length. Topics that will be covered are:

- Hidden in Plain Sight – a mockup of tween/teen bedroom, with hidden signs of possible substance abuse. Helps parents to understand signs of substance abuse and encourages increased parental conversations and involvement.

- E-cigarettes/alcohol laws – learn latest information and current trends of tobacco and alcohol use by teens, and the enforcement and legal consequences of Ohio's Social Host Law.

- Helping parents start/continue conversations with youth about substances

Parents can make use of resources available for talking to your kids about drugs at the following website – [starttalking.ohio.gov](http://starttalking.ohio.gov)

**Bair Lake Bible Camp** – Summer Camp Opportunities - Check the Welcome Table at the South Entrance for brochures or go on line at [www.blbc.com](http://www.blbc.com)

**Little Eden Youth Camps** – Summer Camp Opportunities - Check the Welcome Table at the South Entrance for brochures or go on line at [www.littleeden.org](http://www.littleeden.org). Junior Youth Camp is June 10-15 and Boys & Girls Camp and High School Camp is June 17-22.

**Bair Lake Bible Camp** – Summer Staff and Volunteer Opportunities  
12500 Prang St, Jones, MI 49061, www.blbc.com

### Senior Staffing

1. Summer Senior Staff – Each summer college age individuals are hired to serve on Bair Lake's summer Senior Staff. Positions include counselors for traditional camp and day camp, craft worker, maintenance, housekeeper, lifeguards, ACE facilitators, kitchen host, AV tech and gift shop manager. Application includes reference request from three sources. Frequently Asked Questions include the following:
  2. Why should I choose Bair Lake?  
At Bair Lake we desire to be a relational camp. As staff we strive to build into you professionally and personally. You will be loved, cared for, poured into and encouraged in your faith as you are challenged physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally. Most applicant's walk away saying they grew more in their faith journey than at any other times in their life.
  3. Is this a paid position? YES! Senior Staff are paid and increases each year that you staff. Housing and food are provided for you... ALL SUMMER!!!
  4. Is there a maximum age for Senior Staffing?  
Twenty three years.
  5. Do you do the same job all summer?  
Senior Staff will be trained for a minimum of two positions. Rotation between positions helps keep everyone rested and fresh! (This is a goal, but not a promise.)
  6. What happens after I fill out the application?  
You will be contacted to continue the process via email.
  7. What about references? Three references, (18 years and over and NON-related) are required.
  8. Are there early Senior Staffing opportunities available? Yes, we try to bring on two to four staff in May.
  9. Can I have time off during the summer?  
Time off is determined on a case by case basis. It is not encouraged, but not impossible.
  10. Is there anything else we should know?  
Yes. You are loved and wanted. We know we will have to say no to a few, but know that we will prayerfully consider all applicants.

**Adult Volunteers** – Adult volunteers are used throughout the summer primarily in auxiliary roles. i.e.: cooks, health officer, maintenance, and some counseling. Further information and the application process can be found at this link: <https://blbc.campbrainstaff.com/>

## ministry happenings

**Junior Staff** – Are you age 14-17? Join us in serving as Junior Staff. Each week Junior Staff serve on the dish crew, participate on housekeeping team or work in maintenance. Others may serve as counselors for overnight and day campers. Junior staffing is the next step after being a camper. Room and board are provided with oversight by adults called Staff Parents. The Junior Staff reside in a retreat building called the Farmhouse. One gender is upstairs, while the other is downstairs. The Staff Parents act as such, living alongside and supervising the Junior Staff in their non-workhours, providing an activity/devotion teaching time in the evenings and building into you. The Junior Staff who serve as Junior Counselors reside with the Senior Counselor in the camper cabin, and are responsible to the Senior Counselor and Program Director. Not only is this a week of service, but also a week of growth.

Prerequisite is attendance at "Christians In Training" a 5 year ongoing discipleship camp. Come for one year, or all five and you will grow in relationship to both the Lord and other teens. Learn in the classroom through engaging teaching, dynamic discussion and activity. Then put your teaching to the test as you reach out in service. CIT is the training ground for service, whether at Bair Lake on Junior Staff or return home ready to serve others.

Junior Staff Application (due June 1st), a camper Health Form and a State of Michigan work permit are required prior to arrival. (Out of state workers will be given opportunity to obtain a Michigan work permit during the CIT week.)

### Christian Education

#### Mid-Week Youth Ministries:

LOGOS – NEED

#### JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship)

- 2/14 – Ash Wednesday, No JYF
- 2/21 – Visiting the two Sunshine Homes in Archbold
- 2/28 – 6:00pm meal in the Fireside Room so youth can depart at 6:30pm for a time of worship and fellowship at New Hope Community Church in Bryan. The bus will be back at SJCC at 8:45pm.

#### SYF (Senior Youth Fellowship)

**Looking Back:** On Sunday, February 4, students from SYF distributed subs as a fundraiser to help fund their upcoming mission trip to Chicago. The first deposit was due January 28, but there may still be time to get registered, so contact Pastor Alex if you're still interested in going. We'll be helping with light construction/maintenance projects for a local church assisting in their after-school program for kids, and going through the church's neighborhood sharing about the church's upcoming summer program for kids.



**Looking for an excuse to stay up all night with your friends?** SYF is hosting a lock-in at the YFC Outback teens and their friends this Presidents' Day weekend (Sunday, February 18-Monday, February 19). We're looking forward to various group games, down time to play pool or basketball, and we're looking forward to spending time with our friends!

#### **Website Announcement**

Check out the new "Youth" page on the church website with upcoming dates for SYF and pictures from past SYF events.

#### **Senior High Sunday School Class:**

While teaching is not for everyone, we as believers are always going to be in relationships in which we can share what we've learned and help others grow too. The Senior High Sunday School teachers wanted to give opportunities for our high schoolers to share their faith and so spent time in January mentoring our high schoolers how to prepare and lead lessons for our children in Faith Village.

Have you ever shared your faith with someone? Share your experience with someone else. What ways can you use what God has taught you to encourage, build up, and challenge other believers in truth and love?

#### **Events/Activities**

**Potluck - February 18th** - The fellowship Committee would like to invite the congregation to a potluck Sunday, February 18th! Come fellowship with the people you love and bring the food you love. The committee will provide Meatballs, potatoes and drinks.

#### **Men's Ministry**

Need a retreat? A time away from work and normal responsibilities? Consider coming with the men of St. John's to this year's Man Camp, hosted at Miracle Camp in Lawton, MI. Highlights include great food, encouraging speakers, being in the woods, and various activities from corn hole and euchre, to paintballing and hatchet throwing. Mark your calendars for March 23-25! Contact Bruce Wooley or Pastor Alex to learn more.

#### **Stephen Ministry**

At January's Congregational Meeting, a motion was made tasking Consistory to recruit Stephen Leaders to implement this ministry in our congregation. Did you miss the presentation at the Congregational Meeting but are still interested in learning more about this ministry? Check out their website or contact Pastor Alex to learn more. Perhaps consider following the link below and watching one of these 3 minute videos to learn more about how Stephen Ministry has benefited others? (<https://www.stephenministries.org/stephenministry/default.cfm/1597?fq1=1>) If you don't have internet access, you can also ask Pastor Alex for a DVD copy of these videos.

## **small groups**

### **Young Adult Ministry**

Collaborating with other local churches, St. John's now offers a small group for young adults. So far we've enjoyed a Christmas party, Christmas caroling at Fairlawn, bowling and pizza, a board game night, and time spent together studying God's Word. We're getting into the swing of things after the holidays, are building some consistency, and may even start meeting more regularly. College and graduate students, or other young adults who live outside the area, are welcome to join whenever they are in town.

### **Seekers:**

The group will start a new study of the Book of Ezekiel on Sunday, February 18th – we'll be meeting at 6pm at Keith & Kelli Kuntz's if anyone wants to join us for this time of study and fellowship.

### **SJCC Church Library**

Do you know we have a church library? Do you know where it is located? What books have you used in the library? Would you like to have the library books expanded? What would you like to see for the library? Gloria Lauber, Suzette Nafziger and Judy Sears have been reorganizing the church library over the past few months, and they are seeking input for new resources. The library is actually located in two places – the Fireside Room includes resources for biblical research and Christian novels and spiritual direction. Upstairs in the Confirmation Classroom, there are educational resources for classes and small groups.

**"Mindful Movement"** – an exercise class for women is designed to be a great stress reliever with low impact using inspirational music to provide a positive attitude with a focus on God. Mindful Movement sessions will follow this structure:

1. Classes will start with a short Bible based devotional
2. Christian music will be used during the workouts
3. Classes will encourage people to think about how much God loves them (as they listen to the lyrics) and move them to be thankful that God created them and that they can exercise
4. Classes will encourage people to be healthy so that they can do the work God has for them
5. Classes will end with stretching and relaxation, during which participants will listen to a song that connects with the opening devotional

These weekly, forty minute sessions started on Saturday, February 3rd at 8am in the SJCC Gym. The instructor is Jill Gilliland.



## February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:00AM Worship 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation 10:30AM Worship	Mission-A-Month— FISH Food Pantry Elder of the Month— Ann Fether			1 6:30PM 5th Grade Basketball Practice 7:00PM Mission Comm.	2	3 8:00AM Mindf Movement
4 12:00PM Private Party (Parish Hall/Kitchen) 6:00PM Seekers	5 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Basketball Practice	6 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Cap. Camp. Comm. 7:00PM Brazil Trip Orient.	7 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 10:00AM AAMA 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Bells / Chimes / JYF 7:00PM SYF	8 6:30PM 5th Grade Basketball Practice	9	10 7:40AM Men's Prayer Brkfst 8:00AM Mindf Movement
11 .	12	13	14 <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	15	16	17
<b>Back Bay Mission Trip - Biloxi, MS</b>						
	11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Basketball Practice	9:15AM Bible Study 10:00AM Preschool Valentine Day Party 2:00PM Preschool Valentine Day Party 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Property Committee	8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 10:00AM Preschool Valentine Day Party 2:00PM Preschool Valentine Day Party 6:00PM SYF Meal 6:15PM Bells / Chimes / JYF 7:00PM Ash Wednesday Serv.	6:30PM 5th Grade Basketball Practice 7:00PM Preschool Meeting		8:00AM Mindf Movement
18 10:30AM Bells & Chimes Play 11:45PM Church Potluck 6:00PM Seeker's -Kuntz's	19 <b>President's Day</b> 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Basketball Practice 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	20 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Brazil Trip Orient.	21 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 6:45PM Junior Choir / JYF 7:00PM Lenten Service 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	22 6:00PM Preschool Mom's Night 6:30PM 5th Grade Basketball Practice	23	24 8:00AM Mindf Movement
25 12:00 Private Party (Parish Hall/Kitchen)	26 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Basketball Practice	27 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 1:30PM Bingo @ Fairlawn 5:00PM Community Meal	28 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Sty. 5:50PM LOGOS Meal 7:00PM Lenten Service 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.			

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 John &amp; Mary Beck</li> <li>2 Bruce Wooley</li> <li>4 Riley Kleck, Nancy Lightner, Karen Rice, Shirley Wyse</li> <li>5 Kaenan Layton, Dave Miller, Brittany Yaichner</li> <li>6 Rollin Nafziger</li> <li>8 Brandon Lehman</li> <li>9 Karen Walker</li> <li>10 Jason Pursel, Irene Short</li> <li>11 Mindy Gruenhagen, Jen Lindsay</li> <li>13 Linda Heer, Tony MacDonald</li> <li>12 Vern &amp; Mary Lou Nemire</li> <li>14 Sue Buehrer, Tucker Johnston, Keith &amp; Kelli Kuntz</li> <li>15 Teresa Mann</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17 Donna Buehrer</li> <li>18 Jilian Kuntz, Jared Kuntz, Andrew Wyse, Justin &amp; Kelsey Pursel</li> <li>19 Erin Grieser, John Kauffman, Sue Kinsman, Judy Overmier, Ella Yoder</li> <li>21 Blake Grime</li> <li>22 Alex Young</li> <li>24 Joe Short</li> <li>27 Kenny Walker</li> <li>28 Amy Christman</li> </ul> |
|---|---|
- ☼ Please let us know if we do not have your special day correct. Thank you.



# worship

---

## February Worship Information:

This year's Lenten journey begins on February 14, the day we know as Ash Wednesday, and will continue through our Holy Week services, culminating with the celebration of Easter on April 1st. Our Sunday morning worship during Lent will be based on the theme of "Principles of Scripture." This theme comes from the truth that the Bible is our authority on all matters of life and faith. We'll be studying several principles of scripture in regards to righteous living, as opposed to ignoring biblical principles and just doing what we want to do or what feels right to us.

Our 7PM Wednesday Lenten services will provide further teaching and discussion of the preceding Sunday sermons.

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| February 14th | Ash Wednesday 7:00pm Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Scripture- Luke 18:9-14</li><li>•Sermon – "What's Our Source of Pride?" - Pastor Alex</li><li>•Sacrament of Holy Communion</li><li>•Special Music – Todd Nafziger – "Come Just As You Are"</li></ul>          |
| February 18th | First Sunday of Lent <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Sermon Series – "Saying No to Sin"</li><li>•Scriptures – 1 Chronicles 16:34-36, Matthew 15:10-20</li><li>•Sermon – "Cleansing the Heart" – Pastor Erich</li><li>•(10:30) Special Music – Bells &amp; Chimes</li></ul> |
| February 21st | Wednesday Evening Lenten Service – 7:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Hymn Sing and Prayer Service, with a teaching lesson on sermon of 2/18</li></ul>   |
| February 25th | Second Sunday of Lent <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Sermon Series – "Saying No to Sin"</li><li>•Scripture – Hebrews 10:19-25</li><li>• Sermon – "The Necessity of Worshipping Together" - Pastor Alex</li><li>•(10:30) Chancel Choir – "Jesus is Lord"</li></ul>         |
| February 28th | Wednesday Evening Lenten Service – 7:00pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hymn Sing and Prayer Service, with a teaching lesson on sermon of 2/25</li></ul>  |

# consistory/committees

## Annual Congregational Meeting – January 21, 2018

Brent Winzeler called to order the 166th annual meeting of SJCC. 138 voting members were present. Brent Winzeler began with a word of prayer.

•Pastor Erich – annual review of mission vision statement. Come Here the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together. CHRIST.

•2017 annual congregational minutes – no additions or corrections needed to be made to the minutes. Motion to approve: Jim Redd, 2nd the motion: Merlyn Kinsman. Minutes approved.

•Nominations and Elections – Ballots distributed. No additional nominations for the ballot. Motion to accept ballot as presented, Jim Grieser, 2nd the motion, Todd Nafziger. Ballot approved.

•Examination of 2017 financial reports: Joyce Kinsman is present for any questions. Motion to accept reports as presented: Ed Ruffer, 2nd the motion, John Beck. Motion approved.

•Personnel committee: Laura Johnson – With Sue Grieser's retirement, a new Administrative Assistant has been hired. Kelly Stahl has been hired as the new administrative assistant. Kelly's first day will be January 22nd.

•Proposed 2018 budget concerning staff: Both Pastor Erich and Pastor Alex have been asked to be excused for this portion of the meeting. Custodial 3% raise, Director of CE, \$1.00 raise per hour, Director of Music Ministry – still waiting to be filled, actively pursuing an applicant. Security – behind the scenes. No questions were mentioned. Organist – no interest has been generated from ads. Increase the pay for this position. \$25.00 per hour for this position. Pastor - \$2,450.00 increase for Erich. His high level of performance merits this raise. Social Security and pension will also increase as a percentage of his wages. No recommendation to change HSA or housing allowance. Pastor Alex – an addition of possible changes will be seen after his marriage to Jenny Lehman, April 14, 2018.

1. Operating Budget: percentage increase is 3.11%.

2. Proposed Mission Budget

3. Capital Improvement fund budget

Motion to approve all three budgets, motion to approve: Laura Johnson, 2nd the motion, Jim Grieser, Motion approved for all three budgets.

•Question of hiring a youth pastor? Question

was raised about the future of the church, we need to prioritize the youth of the church. There's nothing available for our older youth, SYF age. No Sunday school for High Schoolers. Consistory will address this at the next meeting.

•Pastor Erich – Statistical report. Congregation is stable both member supported and financially. We are not a church in decline.

•Approval of printed reports: Motion to approve reports, Sue Buehrer, 2nd the motion, Jim Redd. Reports approved.

•Pastor Erich – Staff of SJCC. Thankful to the staff for all the support given. With Sue's transition, we're looking forward to working with Kelly. Preschool staff does a tremendous job in this ministry. Dean and Nick, also do a tremendous job keeping up with the maintenance needs of the church. Kim M. Walker, does a great job leading LOGOS, and volunteering her time with Faith Village. Consistory members finishing terms are: Amy Baden, Ann Grime, Paige Miller, Nate Meyer and David Stuckey. Thank you for serving.

•Pastor Erich's 10 year plan of ministry. Trying to do more for the future.

- Worship – Music, Sunday's
- Fellowship
- Accessibility
- Child Care
- Christian Education
- Facility

•Strong and Stable faith foundation, Darkness is encroaching in our world. Darkness can be seen in many ways. 2 Timothy 1:5-7

•Associate Pastor's Report: thanks the people of SJCC for our volunteerism, and in ways we serve in the church. Also, a personal thank you for welcoming him into this church and community.

•Church membership expectations: Pastor Erich – challenge is to look at the expectations of the church, and fulfill the duties, as we as members, have to the church.

•Stephens Ministry: Betsy Ducey, Paige Miller and Pastor Alex – Stephens ministers are the "after people". Those people that are there for you after the storm. People to walk along side of you, and provide comfort and support for as long as needed. Journey with us as we go through the valleys and tough times. Christians caring for Christians. Extend the caregiving capacity of the congregations. No one likes to go through pain alone. 2 short video clips were shared with the congregation. Does SJCC want to invest time and resources into this ministry? Stephen Leaders (3 or 4) oversee the ministry and train the ministers. ger, Congregational Secretary



cont.

Stephen Ministers, are the people that serve with the members in need. Start-up cost involved is \$6,811.00. An anonymous donation has been made and consistory has been willing to set aside this donation to start up this ministry. Church leadership is encouraging the congregation to consider. Please be in prayer over this possible ministry. 4 Stephens leaders will be sent away for a week for training, and will return to SJCC and train the Stephen Ministers here at the church. Motion to have Consistory to seek Stephen Leaders, Crissi Stuckey, 2nd the motion, Dean Buckenmeyer. Motion approved.

•Sanctuary Pipe Organ – Pastor Erich – We’re still pursuing an organist for the church. Lima Pipe Organ came in and found that the organ pedal board is cracked, made repairs, which could be temporary. Estimate of \$250,000 for

total rebuild of the organ. We’ll continue to seek people who are interested in playing the organ, or piano.

A question was brought to attention that maybe repairing the organ isn’t the right direction, there are other possible options with possible purchase of a new digital organ.

- Election results:
  - o President – Brent Winzeler
  - o Secretary – Sarah Nafziger
  - o Elders – Jeff Rutledge and Greg Walker
  - o Deacon/Deaconess – Mark Nofziger, Scott

Short and Judy Sears

•Motion to adjourn meeting: Jim Grieser, 2nd the motion, Brad Roth

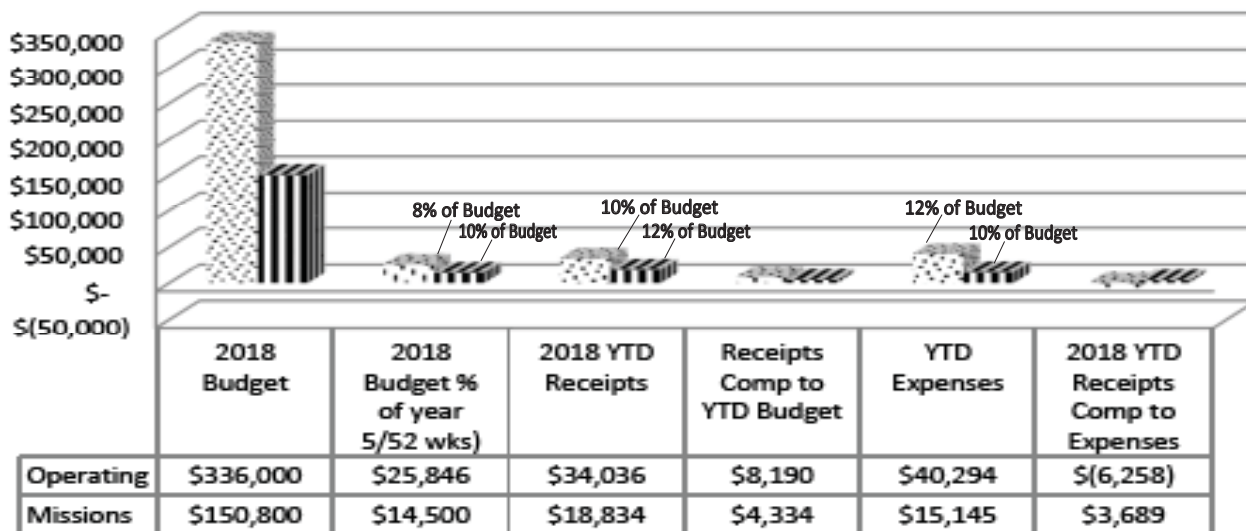
•Brent Winzeler closed the meeting in prayer and ended with The Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted – Sarah Nafziger

## stewardship

Online giving is available through our church web site. Please contact Sue in the office to be assigned an OLG number if you are interested in taking advantage of this service. Several members of our congregation are utilizing this online service and have found it to be easy and convenient. If you have questions or don’t have access to a computer but would like to take advantage of this new online giving feature, feel free to contact the church office for further assistance.

2018 Operating & Missions Funds as of February 5, 2018



IYF Building Campaign Total Receipts as of February 5, 2018 - \$580,112.44

## housekeeping

**Goodsearch.com** – create an account, choose St. John’s Christian Church as cause under account settings, and search away. Each search generates \$.01 for your cause.

### Archbold SuperValu (ASV) Receipts Collected:

1% rebate on the total sales helps fund our Walk In Assistance Program, set up to help Archbold area non-members with various living expenses. Turn in your receipts to the church office.

# February Daily Scriptures

(From "Discovery" Daily Devotional)

**Discovery®** is a daily Bible reading guide that provides clear Bible explanation, prayers and relevant application questions. You can access this guide online at <http://www.scriptureunion.org/Bible%20Reading/Discovery>.

1 Rejected by God? ----- 1 Samuel 28:1-25	15 Moving On – Again ----- Acts 15:36 –16:5
2 David's Reputation ----- 1 Samuel 29:1-11	16 Guidance ----- Acts 16:6-15
3 A Great Start but a Sad Ending ----- 1 Samuel 31:1-13	17 Miracles in Philippi ----- Acts 16:16-40
4 Pennies Dropping ----- Psalm 95	18 Dismay or Delight? ----- Psalm 97
5 Sent by the Holy Spirit ----- Acts 13:1-12	19 Where You Least Expect ----- Acts 17:1-15
6 Addressing Jews ----- Acts 13:13-41	20 In Translation ----- Acts 17:16-34
7 Change of Strategy ----- Acts 13:42-52	21 Hard Work ----- Acts 18:1-17
8 Too Complicated! ----- Acts 14:1-7	22 Fully Equipped ----- Acts 18:18-28
9 How to Draw a Crowd ----- Acts 14:8-20	23 All Due Respect ----- Acts 19:1-22
10 Reporting Back ----- Acts 14:21-28	24 Culture Wars ----- Acts 19:23-41
11 Sing to the Lord! ----- Psalm 96	25 Now and Not Yet ----- Psalm 98
12 Sorting Things Out ----- Acts 15:1-12	26 Whom Shall I Fear? ----- Exodus 1:1-22
13 A Decision is Reached ----- Acts 15:13-21	27 Peril or Promise? ----- Exodus 2:1-25
14 Communicate or Die! ----- Acts 15:22-35	28 A Responsive God ----- Exodus 3:1-22

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.** Rev. Alex Young  
[pastoralex@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:pastoralex@stjohnsarchbold.org)  
 Cell Ph. 330-206-8762

**Admin.** Kelly Stahl  
[office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org)

**LOGOS** Kim M. Walker  
[gwalker@tceexpress.net](mailto:gwalker@tceexpress.net)

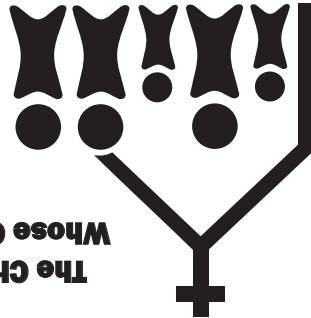
**Treasurer** Roger Miller

**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**

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 Archbold, OH  
 Permit #15

Return Service Requested

**St. John's Christian Church**  
**700 S. Defiance Street**  
**Archbold, OH 43502**