



**Meridith Short**

**Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together**



**SYF Winter Retreat**

*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.*

## Welcome to our Worship of God! Third Sunday of Lent

Lighting of the Altar Candles and Ringing of the Tower Bells	
Welcome, Announcements, Scripture and Prayer of Invocation	Psalm 66:1-2
Prelude	“He Is Exalted”
†(8:00) Hymns of Praise	
#527	“Glory to His Name”
#201	“Grace Greater Than Our Sin”
†(10:30) Songs of Praise	
	“Lord Reign in Me”
	“Christ is Enough”
†Passing the Peace of Christ	
Children’s Message	
Prayer Hymn – #38	“I Will Call Upon the Lord”
Sharing Concerns and Joys	
Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer (debts/debtors)	
†(8:00)Hymn – #398	“Fill My Cup, Lord”
(10:30) Chancel Choir	“Walk Like Jesus”
Scripture Reading	Matthew 19:1-12
Sermon	“What God Has Joined Together”
Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings	
Offertory	“Breathe”
†The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication	
†Closing Hymn – #461	“He Leadeth Me”
†Spoken Benediction	
†Benediction in Song – #244	“Trees of the Field”
†Postlude	



## Welcome . . .

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### **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](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org).

### **Membership Orientation**

St. John's Christian Church offers periodic orientation sessions to inform people about beliefs, ministries and the history of this local congregation. Orientation includes three group sessions and one home visit by one of the pastors. Please let Pastor Erich, Pastor Alex or Kelly Stahl know if you would be interested in attending future sessions offered.

### **St. John's Christian Preschool**

A learning, Christian ministry geared for children 3-5 years of age. Four sessions offered: Tues/Thurs morning and afternoon, and Mon/Wed/Fri morning and afternoon; and run from September through May. More information is available at [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://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.

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### **This Week's Congregational Prayer:**

Lord, in this Lenten season, with its emphasis on renewal, I am grateful for the truth of Romans 5:8, when Paul writes that "God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." Even as a sinner, I know of Christ's love for me! I praise you, Lord! One aspect of my own sin is to talk about the sins of others in an unkind manner. Forgive me, Lord. Direct my mind, direct my heart, that I would trust your Spirit to be working in the hearts of all of us. Renew me, renew your people, that we would praise you more. Amen.

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### **Lenten Coin Folders**

Youth and adult Lenten coin folders are available on a table in the sanctuary narthex. Please feel free to pick yours up today! These offerings will be collected on Easter Sunday (April 1st) and will be divided equally between the Aroles and Back Bay Mission.

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**Easter Memorials** – Sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board for giving Easter Memorials (deadline March 23). Memorial and flower sponsorships will be listed in Easter Sunday bulletins, and flowers will be available for pick up after the 10:30 service of worship on Easter Sunday.

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

**Pre-K Class:** In March, the Pre-schoolers are learning about how 'Jesus gives us New Life' thru the stories of Jesus's last days.

**Faith Village:** We finished the unit entitled, "Mary of Bethany Anoints Jesus". The story is found in John 12:1-8. Mary understood that to be Jesus' follower means to love and serve others. Who are some people who serve (take care of) you? Who are some people whom you serve?

**LOGOS: Kindergarten:** This week we talked about "Jesus Feeds the 5000" in the reading of John 6:1-14. After reading our story, we reflected upon just how much faith the boy must have had in Jesus to give him the only food he had. With this faith and trust the boy witnessed the miracle of God's generosity when over 5000 people were fed and even 12 baskets of leftovers. The children were then given the opportunity to recall the story through a craft that labeled the important parts of our story. Then, the children walked around and fed our LOGOS children 5 loaves of bread (goldfish) and 2 fish (Swedish fish). **Third Grade:** We discussed the obedience of Ruth (1-4) to Naomi and Boaz as the kinsman-redeemer. Both were following God's will for their lives and we talked about how we can do the same. We noticed that Ruth's baby's name is Obed, the beginning of "obed"-ience. **Fourth Grade:** This week we learned about the seasons of the church year. We made a visual calendar with the colors of each season.

**Senior High Sunday School:** We will be discussing how God wants us to be spiritually whole. Even though we can't control everything in our own lives, Jesus is in control and God is there to provide and rescue us in difficult moments. Jesus will help us to overcome evil and sin in our lives. Lastly, we will be looking at how Jesus wants to satisfy us. When we find ourselves looking for the world to satisfy our needs, we will be disappointed. Ultimately, only Jesus can truly satisfy all of our needs.

**SYF:** We considered the Old Testament commands God had given the Jews about resting from all their work on Saturday as a Sabbath to the Lord. We looked at Romans 14:5, which reminds us that Christians have different approaches to "holy days": Some consider one day as holy, while others consider every day as being alike. The Scripture teaches us this is a matter of conscience: there are multiple, legitimate ways to approach this topic (what matters is that we strive to honor the Lord). We talked about how the old commands about the Sabbath teach us the importance of rest and that God values our health and wellbeing.

**College Scholarships** – Scholarship information has recently been sent to high school seniors and college students, yet knowing that email addresses change, we continue to share the news through the Visitor and Bulletins. Scholarship information packets are available through the church office – they can either be picked up or be emailed – just let the office staff know your preference!

**Quiz Invitational** is March 16-18, and hosts are still needed! 35 teams still need a place to stay, as do 30 of the 41 staff members. If you can open your home and serve in this way, please contact Lesa King at (419)446-4837, or [lesa.king12@gmail.com](mailto:lesa.king12@gmail.com).

## WEEK OF March 4 AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Confirmation / Faith Village / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	6:00PM	Seekers (Kuntz's home)
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
	7:00PM	SYF Leader's Meeting
Tues	9:15AM	Bible Study – (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal – (Parish Hall / Kitchen)
	7:00PM	Capital Campaign Committee - (Fireside Room)
Wed	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Upstairs Classroom)
	9:00AM	Bible Study at West Haven
	5:50PM	LOGOS Meal - (Parish Hall)
	6:45PM	JYF (Fireside Room)/Jr. Choir
	7:00PM	Lenten Service (Sanctuary)
	7:00PM	SYF (Youth Room)
	7:00PM	HC3 Parenting Presentation (Chapel)
Thurs	6:00PM	Preschool Mom's Night - Tues/Thurs. AM Classes (Preschool Room/Chapel)
	6:00PM	Brazil Orientation Meeting (Fireside Room)
Fri	3:00PM	Joan Grieser Piano Recital Practice (Sanctuary)
Sat	7:40AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fireside Room)
	8:00AM	Mindful Movement (Parish Hall)
	9:00AM	Fish Pantry Seminar (Sanctuary)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Confirmation / Faith Village / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	3:00PM	Joan Grieser Piano Recital (Sanctuary)
	6:00PM	Young Adult Ministry (Dan Stuckey's)

### **Next Sunday – March 11 - Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Sermon – “It's Time For the Talk” by Pastor Erich Christman

Scripture – Colossians 3:1-11

**Discovery Daily Devotional Guides** – The Jan/Feb/Mar Discovery Daily Bible Guides are available in the literature rack outside the Associate Pastor's office (suggested donation \$6 each). You can access this guide online at <http://www.scriptureunion.org/Bible%20Reading/Discovery>. Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

March 5 -	Glorious Destination .....	Exodus 5:22-6:12
March 6 -	Sentence or Sign? .....	Exodus 6:28-7:13
March 7 -	How Hearts Grow Hard .....	Exodus 7:14-24
March 8 -	Not Wrath, But Redemption .....	Exodus 9:13-35
March 9 -	Lighten Our Darkness .....	Exodus 10:21-29
March 10 -	Exceeding Expectations .....	Exodus 11:1-10
March 11 -	Shout for Joy! .....	Psalms 100

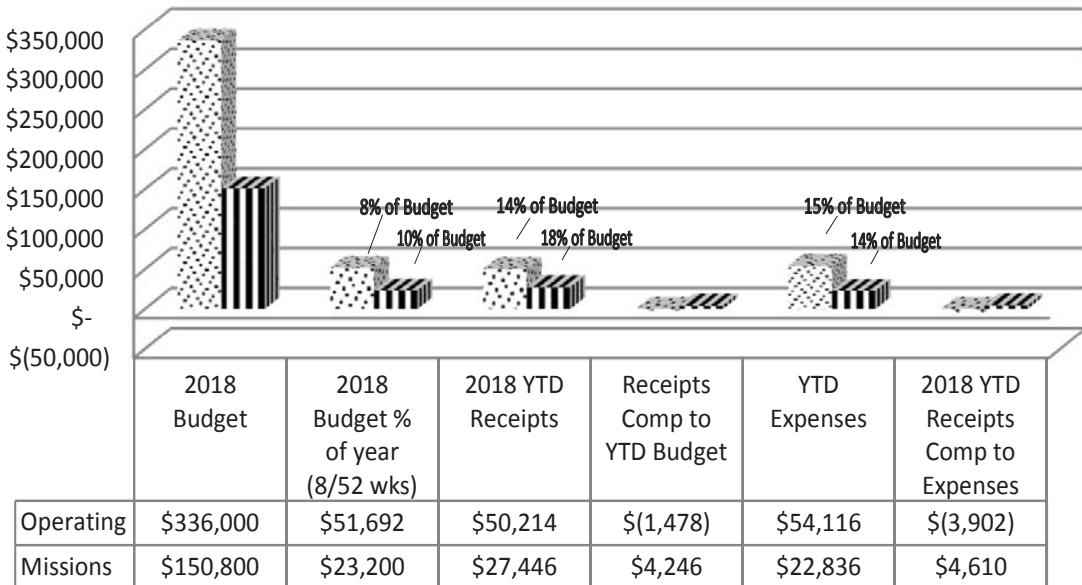
# March Mission-A-Month - Friendship House

The Friendship House is an Archbold ministry supported by area churches and coordinated by Cecily Rohrs. This two story home, located near downtown Archbold, provides shelter for individuals and families until they are able to become self-sufficient.

**The Archbold Fish Pantry Board** invites you to a two-hour seminar, “Bridges Out of Poverty,” on Saturday, March 10, beginning at 9:00 am at St. John’s Christian Church. Shirley Fry, from Shalom Counseling and Mediation Center, will help us explore the experience of people living in generational poverty. “If you didn’t grow up in poverty, you may be unaware of the ‘hidden rules’ that govern many aspects of life for the poor. People in poverty are often in survival mode, where the future holds little promise, and support systems taken for granted in middle class and wealth are nonexistent. If your business, agency, or organization works with people from poverty, only a deeper understanding of their challenges—and strengths—will help you partner with them to create opportunities for success.”

While the seminar is free and walk-ins are welcome, for planning purposes, we encourage you to RSVP to Lynn by calling or texting her at 419-572-6538 or by sending an email to fish43502@gmail.com.

## 2018 Operating & Missions Funds as of February 26, 2018



**IYF Building Campaign Total Receipts as of February 26, 2018 - \$582,613.69**

## **Missionaries Supported by Our Congregation and Their Current Prayer Requests:**

- ✠ Africa – Tom & Megan – The Islands – pray for their two newer team members, for a short-term worker, and the whole team as they plan for the upcoming months and years. Pray that those seeking would find, pray that being peacemakers will bring others to the truth.
- ✠ Akron – David Hench – Reliant at Akron U – pray for fruit to continue to come from recent student retreats, pray for the final \$425 to come in for his monthly goal, and for his fiancée, Blair, as she takes her nursing boards and moves to Akron.
- ✠ Ann Arbor – Kyle Chase – Reliant Mission at U of Michigan – continue to pray for their h20 church plant team at Western Michigan University, that it would thrive and grow in unity, and for upcoming spring break ministry experiences.
- ✠ Bowling Green – Robert & Jenni McMahan – Cru at BGSU – pray for upcoming spring break experiences, for their small groups to go deeper into God's Word, and for further support.
- ✠ Brazil – Tony & Leila Frank – pray for Linda Heer, Mark Nofziger, Crissi Stuckey, Brenda Kaszer and Pastor Erich as they prepare for their time in late April to visit with Tony & Leila.
- ✠ Chicago – Jon & Rachel Doriot – Pioneers – Please pray for God to go before us in our new neighborhood, that we might encounter people of peace who are welcoming, willing to open their households, and ready to listen and pass it on. Pray for our kids to make fast friends in the area. Pray for openness in our Afghani friends' hearts, to look into the Scriptures while we assist them in assimilating into life in the U.S. Pray for God's provision of finances.
- ✠ China – Cheryl Wyse – Agape Family Life House (AFLH) – pray for their search for children who can benefit from their ministry and physical therapy, thanking God for the Bison's, the new family serving as managers of the foster home.
- ✠ Columbus – Whitney Varnau – Reliant Mission at Ohio State & She Has A Name (SHAN) – pray for their efforts to plant an h2o church at Indiana University, and for the Night of Jubilee of prayer and worship in April, and for her mentoring of college students.
- ✠ Columbus – Matt & Paige Waanders – Cru at Ohio State – pray for them as they continue to discover avenues of ministry as they disciple students and share the Gospel.
- ✠ Dominican Republic – Jason & Becky Suon – Freedom International – pray for God's continual lead and provision as they befriend and disciple people living in poverty and a culture of superstitions; pray for them as they make plans for their first furlough back to the US in July.
- ✠ India – Dr. Shobha Arole & Mr. Ravi Arole – CRHP Jamkhed – pray that their staff continue to be led by the Spirit in their never ending efforts of caring for the villages they relate too..
- ✠ Kenya – Larry & Linda Rupp – Kajiado Children's Home – Catherine Kitonde, an alumni of KCH and past guest at SJCC, represented Kenya at a science forum in South Africa in December. She participated in discussing issues facing Africa's transformative research, innovation, leadership and development, and the role of governments and international organizations. As a Kenya Award Fellow, she represented Kenya fully during discussions about the growth and development in Africa. Pray that God continues to guide KCH in their ministry as they transform the lives of orphans!
- ✠ Toledo – Reliant Mission at U of Toledo – pray for follow up efforts to their February retreats, that much fruit will come from their networking efforts.

## **Prayer Joys, Concerns, Requests - Please Pray For:**

- Phil Spiess, returned home on Monday from rehab at Fairlawn.
- Joanne Spotts, returned home on Tuesday from rehab at Fairlawn.
- Sharon VonDeylen, in rehab at Montpelier Hospital.
- Mary Zimmerman, as she started 33 radiation treatments on 2/19, to remove any remnants of the brain tumor.
- Lou Ann Beck, in hospice care at home due to cancer returning; mailing address is PO Box 166, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio, 43555.
- Pauline Short, in hospice care at Fairlawn.
- Brenden Bostelman, stationed in Afghanistan (Grandson of Bill & Kathy).
- Taylor Collins, stationed in Bolling, DC (Granddaughter of Nan Neill).
- Kyle Ducey, stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia (Son of Kelly & Betsy).
- Jared Kuntz, stationed in Guam (Son of Keith & Kelli).
- Eric Magg, stationed in Ketchikan, Alaska (Son of Joe & Sheryl Short).
- Donny Richardson, stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina (Son of Shannon & Yesi).
- Steve Schink, stationed at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT (Son-in-Law of Ed & Julie Ruffer).
- AJ Short, stationed in Japan (Son of Joe & Sheryl Short).
- Kyle Stuckey, recently returned home from Korea and now resides at his Texas address:  
4600 Honeystreet Bridge Lane Killeen, TX 76549  
(Grandson of Nan Neill).
- Kollin Woolace, stationed in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina (Grandson of Larry & Melva).
- All our home bound and care center residents, and all our students.

## **Today's Worship Servants**

Acolytes	(8:00)	Karsen Pursel	(10:30)	Carly Grime
Ushers	(Head)	Greg Walker		
	(8:00)	Jim Grieser		
	(10:30)	Dale & Ann Grime, Ben & Sue Buehrer		
Nursery Staff	(10:30)	Bo & Bri Krukowski	(March 11)	Rachel Kinsman
Sound Tech	(8:00)	Angie Neuenschwander	(10:30)	James Grime
Video Tech	(10:30)	Dean Sauder		
Computer Tech	(Both)	Brian Roth		
Worship Leader	(Both)	Tammy Nofziger		
Song Leader	(Both)	Andrew Rohrs		
Accompanist	(Both)	Lynne Christman		
Praise Band	(10:30)	Chris Baden, Lynne Christman, Norm & Ann Fether, Sarah Nafziger, Todd Nafziger, Shannon Richardson		

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## **ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

700 S. Defiance Street • Archbold, OH 43502

Ph: 419-446-2545 • [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org)

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

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

Administrative Assistant Kelly Stahl ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org))

LOGOS Director Kim M. Walker ([gkwalker@rtecexpress.net](mailto:gkwalker@rtecexpress.net))

Preschool Administrator Sue MacDonald ([macfamily5@roadrunner.com](mailto:macfamily5@roadrunner.com))