

The Visitor

prayer concerns

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

August 1, 2018 Volume 64, Number 8

Please Pray For:

- Suzette Nafziger, who had knee replacement surgery on July 30th at FCHC.
- Congratulations to David & Jessica (Yochum) Faber, who were married on July 29th, with Pastor Erich officiating, at a ceremony at the Covered Bridge on the Williams County Fairgrounds. Jessica is the grand-daughter of Mike & Sue Henry.
- Delaney Nofziger, who left July 25th for her year of teaching in Honduras.
- Kinsey Smith, who left July 23rd for her year of teaching in Thailand.
- Dencel Miller, who had gall bladder surgery on July 26th.
- Tom Hines, who is home from a few days at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.
- Congratulations to Colin & Miranda (Wills) Bzovi, who were married in the sanctuary on July 21st.
- The family of Doris Rupp, who passed away on July 21st, at the age of 93.
- Kolton DeGross, grandson of Roger & Kay Merillat, who suffered a temple fracture (hairline cracks) and a small brain bleed from being hit by a line drive while pitching batting practice. He came home from the hospital on July 25th and will take time to fully recover.
- Kelsey Wyse, who had outpatient shoulder surgery on July 12th.
- Toby Walker, continuing to recover from tendon surgery on his left hand.
- Ryan Christman, recovering from treatment of a large abscess in his stomach.
- Sandi Newland, receiving treatments for cancer.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander, working through some further medical appointments.
- Lois Heer, who is in hospice care at Fairlawn, room #122.



Please continue to remember all of our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety.

Please consider sending these people cards letting them know that we continue to lift them up to God in prayer, that He will guide, comfort and sustain them through these times.

Home Bound/Care Facility Residents

Cards, phone calls and visits to our home bound would be a wonderful blessing:



Fairlawn Haven, 407 E. Lutz Rd.,
Archbold, 43502

Florence Augustine, Room #177
David Lightner, Room #138
Esther Rice, Room #116
Cathy Spiess, #153
Carolyn Walker, Room #399 (Memory Care Unit)
Lois Heer, Room #122
Josephine Short, Room #112
Paul Sigg, Room #178

Fairlawn Asst. Living, 500 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502
Jane Short, Room #208
Maurice Schmucker, Room #236

Independent Living, 500 Haven Dr., Archbold,
William and Donna Buehrer, Apt. #107

Wyse Commons, 550 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502
Wayne & Susanne Spiess, Apt. #309

Independent Living, 600 Haven Dr., Archbold,
Rosemarie Schmidt, Apt. #112

Fulton Manor, 723 S. Shoop Ave., Wauseon, 43567
Robert Kuntz, Room #225-2
Bernice Rice, Room #224-2
Pauline Zimmerman, Room #505
Joanne Spotts, Room #113

Northcrest, 240 Northcrest Dr., Napoleon, 43545
Irene Short, Room #100

Swanton Valley Center, 401 Airport Hwy., Swanton,
43558
Marlene Nofziger, Room #311B (Memory Support Unit)

pastor's letter

Even as we savor the final weeks of summer, our ministry volunteers are finalizing preparations for the new school year. As part of our preparations, our youth leaders are reading the book: *Don't Waste Your Life* by John Piper. The book opens with the story of a man who comes to faith in Jesus later in life, under the preaching of Piper's father. In tears, this older man mourned his misspent life: "I've wasted it! I've wasted it!" This image made a lasting impression on Piper, leading him to ask: "How does one live well?" The answer to that question is the subject of Piper's book.

A similar image has also left a lasting impression on me. On the youth mission trip this summer, we met an older man from the church who quickly grew to love our group to the extent that he became quite protective of us. From his own past, he's learned that our own bad choices can be our worst enemy, and he urged our youth to live their lives in keeping with the will of God. It really was quite touching to see how intensely he cared for us in knowing us such a short time and how earnestly he urged us to follow God.

Don't wait until the end of your life to think about how you should be living your life. Or as some coaches will put it: "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." Yes, Jesus can and will save you even at the end. But what if there's more to life than being saved? What if being saved is just the beginning? What if we can live our lives in a way that is full of meaning and joy? We can, if we live our lives for God. Consider reading Piper's book this month if you've ever wondered how to get the most out of life.



Grace and



congregational news & thank you's

Church Family,

Thank you for blessing me with the college scholarship. I am very grateful for it and for all of your support.

Thanks,
Cayla Walker



Dear St. John's Christian Church,

Thank you for giving me a scholarship to go to Little Eden Camp. I had a lot of fun and cannot wait to go back next year.

Thank you,
Joshua Reeb

congregational news & thank you's

Thank you for awarding me with the church scholarship. I appreciate the willingness of the church to help me throughout my college career

Thanks,
Toby Walker



Dear Pastor Erich and the Scholarship Committee,

I apologize for how late this is, but I'd like to thank you for the scholarship that you awarded me. I am a bit sad to be leaving Japan, but excited for the new chapter God is opening in my life. Here in Japan, I've attended a church in Gotemba, a nearby city. The congregation is small - maybe 40 regular attendees - but are very welcoming. Though Christianity hasn't spread much in Japan in the last several hundred years, the continued presence of small, faithful congregations gives me hope that Jesus' love is at work here. My congregation, despite its small size, has been present since the 1850's. I hope I can continue to help Japanese people find Jesus in the future.

Thank you for your support!
Eric Buckenmeyer



News of Shannon Richardson and His Family

Shannon, David, Joshua and Yohanna have been worshipping, attending Sunday school and other activities for the past couple of years. Shannon played guitar in the Praise Band for a few months and Yohanna sang special music a couple of times during worship.

Shannon has shared that he has been hired as the President of a small mission organization which serves mostly in Borneo, Indonesia, called Asia Partners, Inc. He is relocating to Indonesia, where he and his family lived before coming to the Archbold area, and his wife, Yesi, continued to live there due to visa application issues. Yohanna is already back in Indonesia and re-enrolled in school, which started July 9th. David will continue to live in Fayette and work at Sanoh. Joshua will leave August 6th for Marine boot camp. Donny, the oldest son, continues to serve in the Marines.



Pastor Erich's Back Surgery

Pastor Erich will undergo surgery on the lumbar region of his back on August 22nd. There was no injury that caused the issues he's dealing with, but it's the degeneration of three disks and four vertebrae that are impacting various nerve roots and nerves that will be addressed by the surgery. The surgery will be performed at St. Luke's Hospital in Maumee. Following the lengthy procedure he could be in the hospital for the better part of a week. Naturally, there will be a lengthy time of recovery. The plan is for him to be off of work through September 16th, and then he hopes to begin both physical therapy and start working half days that week. The fusion should heal in six months and he should be back to "normal" duty in a year's time.

Pastor Erich is working to make the most of the weeks leading up to the surgery, coordinating the many aspects of ministry with Pastor Alex, the Spiritual Council and Consistory so everything will be covered in his absence.

He will be kept informed of all pastoral care situations and be available to Pastor Alex and Kelly Stahl for administrative assistance following the first few days after surgery.

Pastor Erich remains grateful of the prayers that are and will be lifted up for him!

mission corner

August Mission-A-Month Back Bay Mission Trip

Back Bay Mission Trip

Our next experience is scheduled for October 6-13. You can go on-line at thebackbaymission.org to learn more about the mission itself. You can attend a BBM informational session on Sunday, August 5th at 9:15am to learn more about SJCC's approach to these trips!

Due to Pastor Erich's pending back surgery, he will be missing the next two trips to Back Bay Mission, and he hopes it is only these next two he misses!

A team of trip veterans will be leading all the aspects of the trip – leading devotions, guiding the worksite details, coordinating meals, travel and lodging arrangements, and hosting the group times of fellowship!

The sign-up sheet is posted – the target is to have up to 12 participants join in this experience – the work will most likely be finishing a new home construction project – painting, setting cabinets, laying tile and laminate flooring, and installing trim.

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Pioneers (The Doriots), for our gift of \$100.
- CRU (Kinsey Smith), for our gift of \$1500.
- Altlink (The Langsdorfs), for our gift of \$55.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$90.
- Reliant (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$100.
- Crossroad, for our gift of \$5.
- CRU (The Waanders), for our gift of \$40.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$75.
- Youth for Christ, for our gift of \$545.
- Sparrow's Nest, for our gift of \$500.
- World Team (The Franks), for our gift of \$685.
- TGRM, for our gift of \$525.

mission corner cont.

St. John's offers several experiences for people to deepen the depth of their Christian faith while sharing the love and light of Christ with others. Upcoming opportunities to engage in such efforts include:

- Book Bag Bash – August 5
- TGRM Chapel & Meal – September 9
- Back Bay Mission Trip – October 6 – 13
- TGRM Chapel & Meal – November 18
- Christmas Cheer Hospitality – December

VBS Offering:

Dear St. John's Christian Church,

Thank you so much for your donation of \$701.26 for the Seeds for Haiti effort. On behalf of Group Cares, our staff and the thousands of people we serve, we want you to know how much we appreciate your support.

As a Non Profit 501(c) organization, we rely on people like you to continue this ministry. During 2017, we hosted over 130 home repair and community service mission trips across the United States and served in over a dozen countries around the world. Over 18,000 people served and repaired over 1500 homes and brought hope to communities through service to the elderly, poor and homeless.

Group Cares provides service in many ways through our local and international partners. Through your support, we may build a home in Costa Rica, serve in a women's shelter in Haiti, assist a food program or repair a home in the United States. None of this would be possible without friends like you continuing to support us as we serve those in need.

We are honored that you would trust us with these funds and commit to using them wisely as we share the love of Jesus.

In His Service,
Tim Gilmore - Group Cares





St. John's Christian Church

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

What happens to your pocket change?

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

Building Capital Campaign!

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

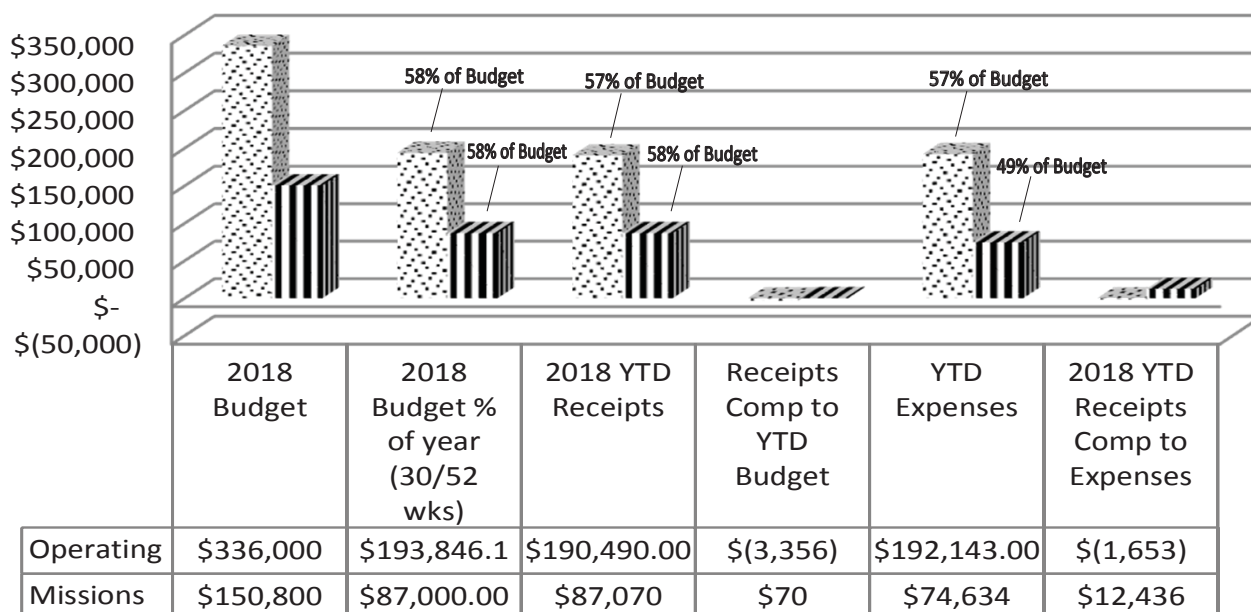


There are 97 days between Memorial Day and Labor Day. There are 272 Giving Units in the Congregation. The numbers add up like this:

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

stewardship

2018 Operating & Missions Funds as of July 31, 2018



IYF Building Campaign Total Receipts as of July 31, 2018 - \$608,533.01

Missionary Contact/Prayer Request Information:



Robert & Jenni McMahan, CRU (BGSU)

web site - www.give.cru.org

e-mail - robert.mcmahan@cru.org

e-mail - jennifer.mcmahan@cru.org

Matt & Paige Waanders, CRU (Ohio State Univ.)

web site - www.give.cru.org

e-mail - matthew.waanders@cru.org

e-mail - paige.stamm@cru.org

Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP

web site - www.jamkhed.org  CRHP

Kyle Chase, Reliant (Univ. of Michigan)

web site - www.reliant.org

e-mail - kyle.chase@nlcweb.org

Matt Pardi, Reliant (Univ. of Toledo)

web site - www.reliant.org

e-mail - matt.pardi@reliant.org

Whitney Varnau, Reliant (Ohio State Univ.)

web site - www.reliant.org

e-mail - whitney.varnau@h2osu.org

David Hench, Reliant (Univ. of Akron)

web site - www.reliant.org

e-mail - david.hench@reliant.org

Tony & Leila Frank, Sapiranga, Brazil

web site - www.worldteam.org

e-mail - tony.frank@worldteam.org 

Tom & Megan, The Islands, Africa

web site - tmislands.blogspot.com

e-mail - tmislands@fastmail.net

Robert Rogers - Mighty in the Land Ministry

web site - www.mightyintheland.com

e-mail - hello@mightyintheland.com

Larry & Linda Rupp, Kajiado Children's Home

website - www.hope4kajiado.com

e-mail - kajiadochildrenshome@gmail.com

Cheryl Wyse - The Agape Family Life House

website - www.agapeflh.org

Jason & Becky Suon, Freedom International

Ministries, Dominican Republic

website - www.itisforfreedom.com

e-mail - JasonSuon@itisforfreedom.com

e-mail - BeckySuon@itisforfreedom.com

ministry happenings

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our Celebration of Rally Sunday is coming up on August 19th! Everyone is invited and encouraged to gather in the sanctuary at 9:15am that morning. Mr. Jim Barron, WBCL Radio Personality, will be our special guest for Rally Sunday. One of WBCL's morning radio hosts, Mr. Barron will share his gospel presentation and offer some of his amazing illusions!

Following Mr. Barron's faith inspiring and amazing presentation, children and youth will be promoted to their new grade level! Once the children and youth are promoted and released to their new classrooms, the adults will remain in the sanctuary and hear info about the fall's schedule of Christian Education ministries and events.

This is a great Sunday for people to get started or re-started in one or more of our Christian Education ministries!

Youth Ministries

Life Planning: On Sunday, August 12, at 9:15am in the youth room, parents and students are invited to learn more about our Life Planning mentoring program for High School students.

SHSS: During the first two weeks of August, we encourage our youth to participate in "Connections" which meets in the gym for breakfast foods and fellowship, and conversations about our faith. Plan to attend August 19th for Rally Sunday. This year, Senior High Sunday School is utilizing a new curriculum from The Gospel Project, and Pastor Alex and Ryan and Devin Bernath will be teaching the class.

SYF is kicking off the new school year on August 22. This year, we're welcoming back Ryan Christman and Kim Hines as SYF Advisors, and are excited to have Jenny Young and Jen Hurst help out this year as well. We're looking forward to a great year!

Book Bag Bash – Sunday, August 5th:

The 2018 Book Bag Bash will be held from 4PM to 6PM. All monetary donations are all greatly appreciated! Please mark checks or envelopes with "BBB". If you are volunteering, please be at the church by 3:30. Thank you!

ministry happenings

EVENTS/ACTIVITIES:

cont.

Shalom Ministries' Annual Hog Roast Fest is Sunday, September 16, 2018, at Archbold Elementary School from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Silent Auction items are needed! Our silent auction has offered a variety of items in the past. Please help by donating a couple of items. Items can be handmade projects, gift certificates, or baked goods (please drop off Saturday or Sunday; not before, unless it doesn't need to be refrigerated). Items can be dropped off at Shalom's Archbold or Bryan office Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, or items may be brought the morning of the event.



“COME, LET US SING FOR JOY TO THE LORD;.....”

“.....let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.” Psalm 95:1-2.

The chancel choir is looking for people who enjoy doing what Psalm 95 states. People who enjoy music, singing, worshipping and fellowshiping together with a desire and commitment to have a church choir, should consider joining.

Rehearsals will be on the 3rd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7:30PM, starting on August 22. The choir then participates in the 10:30AM worship service approximately 2-3 times a month, depending on the scheduling of other special music.

Take time to prayerfully consider your part in this ministry of your church and Come Join Us. Any questions or communication can be directed to Lynne Christman (419-267-5610).



ministry happenings

cont.

The 8th Annual Project Respect Golf Outing is quickly approaching! The outing will be held on Saturday, August 25, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. at Eagle Rock Golf Club in Defiance, Ohio. Teams and individuals can register online at projectrespectnwo.org or by calling (419) 636-2000. Business sponsorship opportunities are also available. Thanks for partnering with Project Respect to support positive youth development in our community! Project Respect is an educational program of CPC Women's Health Resource.

small groups

Young Adult Ministry

We're continuing our new series on "Adulting" for this group of single young adults, ages 18-30. We'll be talking about navigating life as young adult, talking about jobs and careers, and single-ness and dating, and faith and following God. This month, we'll be meeting at The Garage at Archbold Evangelical Church at 6:00PM on August 12 and 19. Contact Pastor Alex for more information.

Men's Ministry

Prayer Breakfast

This month's prayer breakfast is on Saturday, August 11 at 7:40am. This is a monthly time to gather, enjoy breakfast, discuss a brief devotion, fellowship, share joys and concerns, and pray together.

Stephen Ministry

You may have heard bits and pieces about Stephen Ministry over the last several months as our church explored and evaluated this ministry, and as we have made plans to begin this ministry in our congregation. This month marks an exciting development as we will be sending four from our church (Pastor Alex, Jim and Betsy Redd, and Nancy Rupp) to receive a week's worth of training in Pittsburgh. They will be commissioned as "Stephen Leaders," and their job will be to train volunteers from our church to serve as "Stephen Ministers." This month, join us in praying for these four as they travel and receive training from August 5-11. Continue to pray for them as they return and continue to plan how to best implement this ministry at our church.

August 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— Back Bay Mission Trip		1	2 7:00PM Mission Comm.	3	4
5 9:15AM BBM Orientation 4:00PM Book Bag Bash	6 11:00AM Staff Meeting	7 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	8 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study	9 7:00PM Evangelism Committee	10	11 7:40AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
12 9:15AM Life Planning Meeting 6:00PM Young Adult Ministry meeting at The Garage (Archbold Evan)	13 11:00AM Staff Meeting	14 9:15AM Bible Study 4:00PM Laundry Buddy Ministry 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Property Committee	15	16	17	18 8:00AM Devotion in Motion
19 Rally Sunday 11:45AM Fellowship Meal 6:00PM Young Adult Ministry meeting at The Garage (Archbold Evan)	20 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	21 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	22 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 7:30PM Choir Practice 7:00PM SYF Kickoff at Yoder's Home	23	24	25 8:00AM Devotion in Motion
26	27 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:00PM Preschool Orientation	28 9:15AM Bible Study 4:00PM Laundry Buddy Ministry 5:00PM Community Meal	29 7:00PM SYF	30 6:00PM Preschool Orientation		

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Julie Ruffer | 16 Jim Redd |
| 4 Dale & Sharon VonDeylan, Braden Eichler | 17 Tyler Bechstein, Lois Heer, Gavin Walker, Tony Warncke |
| 5 Mary Beck, Bettie Perry, Jack & Barb Stover | 18 Bonnie Grieser, Sandy Miller, Eric Yoder |
| 6 Lynne Roth, Cameron & Kristen Ruffer, Dave & Karen Walker | 21 Jill Nafziger, Burdell & Janice Nofziger, Janice Nofziger |
| 7 Roger & Jean Beck, Gary & Sandy Frazier, Tom Lovejoy, Cayla Walker | 22 Dale & Lori Flint |
| 8 Amanda Walker | 23 Tom Johnson, Jon & Deb Rupp |
| 9 Rollin & Suzette Nafziger, Marlene Nofziger, Larry Woolace, Curtis Wooley | 24 Kathryn Graber |
| 10 Heather Sears, Paul Sigg | 26 Brad Roth |
| 11 Jacob & Esther Rupp | 27 Josh Grime, Jeremy Kinsman, Morgan McCandless, Bruce & Carrie Wooley |
| 12 Bob & Carol DeVries | 29 Jeremy Mann, Nancy Ries |
| 13 Darby Stevens | 30 Pam Reeb, Don LaFontaine |
| 14 Deb Kauffman, Kyle & Alicia Jackson, Toni Neuenschwander, Dianne Wyrick, Silas Rupp | |
| 15 Erich & Lynne Christman, Randy & Kathy Layton, Doris Rupp | |

✿ Please let us know if we do not have your special day correct. Thank you.

worship



August 5th

Book Bag Bash Sunday

Scriptures – Psalm 139:1-6, 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Sermon – “Glorifying God in Your Body” – Pastor Erich

Special Music – Larry Beck, Organist/Pianist

Kelli Ehrman Short, Oboe/English Horn

Andrew Rohrs, Trumpet

August 12th

Scriptures – Psalm 139:7-12, 1 Corinthians 7:1-40

Sermon – “Marriage” – Pastor Erich

August 19th

Rally Sunday!

Scriptures – Psalm 139:13-16, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Sermon – “Love Builds Up” – Pastor Erich

August 26th

Scriptures – Psalm 139:17-18, 23-24, 1 Corinthians 9:1-27

Sermon – “Example of Renouncing Rights” – Pastor Alex



Sponsoring Altar Flowers and Worship Bulletins

Each Sunday people have an opportunity to sponsor either the Altar Flowers or the Worship Bulletins, or you can sponsor both!

Sponsoring either the flowers or bulletins means:

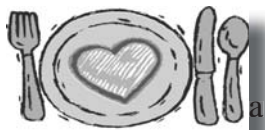
- 1) you cover the \$20 cost of either item, 2) you may list in the bulletin why you are sponsoring either item (in honor or memory of someone), and 3) you can take the flowers home after the 10:30am service.

To sponsor the flowers or bulletins,
please contact the church office.



Community Meal Ministry:

The community meals have returned to SJCC for the months of July, August and September. These meals are community minded ministry that strives to connect people, be a Christian witness of God's love, and witness to the unity of local churches serving in partnership with each other. Any community member/family who desires assistance with food OR who longs for fellowship and conversation OR who doesn't feel like cooking on any given night OR who simply wants to come and eat with people of the community are invited to these meals.



From August 7th through September 25th, we're always in need of willing hearts and hands.

Summer Pocket Change Challenge! Continue to fill up your coin bank, or if you need one, they are on tables near the east and south entrances! The banks will be collected on September 2nd and 9th – providing further funds towards our Imagine Your Faith Building campaign.

consistory/committees

2018 Discernment Team

The Consistory of the Congregation has approved the recommendation to form a Discernment Team for the purpose of seeking God's guidance in the efforts of discernment as a ten year plan of ministry is envisioned and formulated to produce both short term and long term directions for the full range of ministries of St. John's Christian Church, including past and current ministries, and any discerned new ministries.

To date, ten people of the congregation have agreed to serve on the team, joining the pastors in this exciting endeavor. The intent is to have an initial start-up meeting the week of August 13th, and then the team will really get engaged in the process following Pastor Erich's return in late September.

consistory/committees

July Consistory Meeting Highlights

- Financial Reports – Joyce Kinsman reported that the Annual Operating Budget is running at negative balance, but there is a strong cash balance on hand. Capital Improvement Budget has half the budget left, at the midpoint of the year. There is power in compounding – for instance, in the Imagine Our Faith Building campaign, the congregation has donated over \$600,000, but with our investments we have over \$688,000, so there is growth. We feel we are in compliance and in line with our investments. The Consistory designated group will meet with Engler, Garrow and Roth, our investment advisors, every 6 months, in place of every 12 months, which would be a revision of the Investment Strategy Policy. Motion to approve the financials as well as a revision to the policy – motion to approve, Jeff Rutledge, 2nd the motion, Greg Walker. Motion approved.
- Evangelism Committee – Alex Young – Committee met this past week and are finalizing plans for the BBB (Book Bag Bash). They are sewing prayer pillows to be given away to students that come through for the BBB. The Evangelism Committee survey sent out has only received 5 responses so far.
- Farm Operations Committee – Eric Nafziger reported that Rod Kinsman is the new Committee Chairperson.
- Mission Committee – Betsy Ducey reported that Tom Hines is now serving on Mission Committee. Talk of resuming Mission Band is in the works. July Disbursements included: Aroles \$500, Hands of Grace \$500, Mighty in the Land \$500, Sparrow's Nest \$500, TGRM \$500, for a total of \$2,500. The committee heard a presentation from Kinsey Smith, who will be serving through Cru in Thailand, teaching at an international school, committee used \$1,500 from the Urgent Mission Outreach fund to support her this year.
- Preschool Board – Ann Fether reported that evaluations with Sue and Joan will be on July 23rd @ 6:30 to go over their yearly review. The board would like more input as to how the year goes to help with support.

- **Property Committee – Dean Sauder** update the Consistory on the bus, which is having the floor replaced. Erich shared that the first floor classroom space has/is being arranged for use by the Women's class downstairs during the summer months. The preschool room will be "shared" during the school year. Time was taken as a group to go into the bell tower addressing the metal structures, and it's been decided that something needs to be done, for if we don't do anything now it will only continue to deteriorate more. \$11,300 to scrape the metal down and paint, \$17,180 to repair the bells. Freight could be an additional charge. Ideas would be to repair the bells and then to scrape and repaint with industrial enamel paint. Plans are in the making to discuss some landscaping updates. Property committee will come to August's Consistory meeting with a proposal for tower maintenance, bell maintenance and a landscaping quote to finalize plans for a Congregational meeting to seek approval of the repairs.
- **Spiritual Council –** discussed coverage needs during the time of pending surgery and recovery for Pastor Erich. Directory of Music Ministry, Andrew Rohrs, has started his position and is learning the new position. The pipe organ had a meltdown during a recent service, Larry Beck will be a guest organist on August 5th, hoping to hear from him some more about the status of the organ. Christian Education Team will have their first meeting in over two years, to begin planning for the coming program year.
- **Pastor's Report – Surgery and Rehab – Pastoral Coverage –** Timeline for surgery and recovery time was given to Spiritual Council as well as Consistory. The church had earlier opted not to pay for short term disability insurance, as the church will cover anything short term in nature. Long term begins after 90 days. There will be two Sunday's 9/2 and 9/9 both pastors will be absent. Elders will assist in leading, and we are looking for someone to speak on each of those Sunday's. The Elders will be taking care of pastoral care during that week, as well. Surgery is scheduled for August 22nd. On the day of surgery and during his hospital stay, Erich is requesting no visitors due to the extensive nature of the surgery, and Lynne will do her best to keep the church office updated on his progress!

- **2018 Discernment Team –** Trying to populate the team with members. Looking for 12-14 members, currently 8 are committed. Pastor Erich is recommending that this team won't begin until the end of September, after his return from surgery.
- **Online Giving –** American Church, Church Teams, and Giving Tools are three software companies being considered. F & M Bank is stopping service as of August 1st. There are 17 users for online giving, only 7 are active. They will receive a letter stating online giving will cease August 1st, as well as we information regarding a new online giving system. Church Teams is a full service software system, including an email/text system to report to members of the church (to take the place of the One Call now system that was planned on being used in the future). There is a 30 day free trial. Roughly \$1,164 annual charge for this service. By going with any one of these three options, online giving most likely would increase by usage, it could modernize ways of the church. Pastor Erich is asking 4 committee members to research each of these companies and bring reports to the next meeting to help make a final decision on which company to go with.
- **For the last 2 ½ weeks** the church's email has been causing issues. The Karcher Group has been hosting our domain for free for several years. They have tried to troubleshoot for a while. They want to move our hosting place which may begin a monthly charge. As of now rtecexpress.net emails are working the best.
- **Associate Pastor's Report:**
 - a) **Stephen Ministry –** Nancy Rupp has agreed to serve as our 4th Stephen Leader, Conference is the first week of August. Further planning is on hold until the training is complete.
 - b) **Youth Mission Trip –** 9 students and 3 chaperones attended, visited Hope Living Church and had a great educational experience. The youth worked hard and helped set up a 6 week summer camp for kids. Painting and projects were done around the church by our youth.
 - c) **Fall Planning – Youth Ministries –** Ryan and Devin Bernath have agreed to help with Senior High Sunday School using The Gospel Project for curriculum. SYF – Ryan Christman and Kim Hines will return as SYF leaders. Jenny Young will be joining in helping with this ministry. JYF – Eric and Sarah Nafziger, Steve and Kim Walker and Carrie Yoder will continue to help with that ministry. Looking into a fall retreat at Camp Palmer in November.

August 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 Mercy Wins-----	Isaiah 63:1-4	16 Full To Overflowing-----	John 10:1-10
2 Please Come Down-----	Isaiah 64:1-12	17 Bad, Mad or God?-----	John 10:11-21
3 Out of the Silence-----	Isaiah 65:1-7,17-25	18 He's The One-----	John 10:22-42
4 The Beginning of the End -----	Isaiah 66:1-6	19 Longing For You-----	Psalms 119:73-96
5 Teach Me Your Ways -----	Psalms 119:25-48	20 Gladness and Glory -----	John 11:1-16
6 Caught By Their Own Trap -----	John 8:2-11	21 Grief to Faith to Hope-----	John 11:17-27
7 Needed: Two Eyewitnesses -----	John 8:12-20	22 Resurrection Power -----	John 11:28-44
8 Where Are you From? -----	John 8:21-30	23 Jesus Divides -----	John 11:45-57
9 Freedom, or Slavery to Sin?-----	John 8:31-41	24 He's Worth It -----	John 12:1-11
10 There's None So Deaf...! -----	John 8:42-47	25 The King Has Come-----	John 12:12-19
11 The Mob is Out to Get Him -----	John 8:48-59	26 I Love Your Word-----	Psalms 119:97-112
12 God's Promise Gives Hope-----	Psalms 119:49-72	27 Spiritual Adultery -----	Hosea 1:1-2:1
13 Unseeing to Seeing -----	John 9:1-12	28 Second Chances-----	Hosea 2:2-23
14 What Do You Think? -----	John 9:13-34	29 True Repentance -----	Hosea 3:1-5
15 Lord, I Believe -----	John 9:35-41	30 Mercy, Not Sacrifice -----	Hosea 6:1-7:2
		31 The Lion's Roar-----	Hosea 11:1-11

Phone 419-446-2545
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Sunday School 9:15AM

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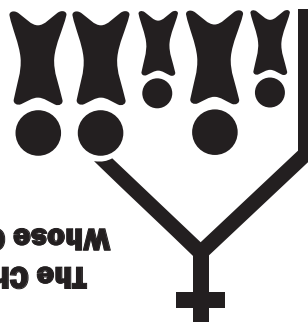
Treasurer Dean Buckenmeyer

Custodians Nick Rice
Richard Spies

Security

St. John's Christian Church
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The Church on the Corner
Whose Cornerstone is Christ



Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together
Holy Communion:
New Year (1/7), Ash Wednesday (2/14), Maundy Thursday (3/29),
Pentecost (5/20), Mid-Summer (7/15), World Wide Communion
(10/7), First Sunday of Advent (12/2)

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