

The Visitor

prayer concerns

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

November 1, 2018 Volume 64, Number 10

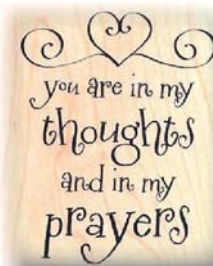
Please Pray For:

- Nate Meyer was hospitalized in early October due to severe headaches; treatment brought relief, but he continues to experience headaches, and fortunately they are not as severe as before.
- Bob DeVries continues along the journey of recovery, after another stay at Bryan Hospital due to an infection, but thankfully he was able to be in worship on 10/21!
- Ryan Christman is back to work as there has been significant healing from the abscess, and hopefully as you read this, he will be on his new medication for the Crohns disease.
- Roger Merillat is recovering from outpatient surgery on 10/18 for a hernia.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander, as he continues to be treated for cancer, now seeing an oncologist in Bryan, in cooperation with his medical team at the Cleveland Clinic.
- Sandi Newland, sister of Joel Foote, continues to receive treatments for cancer.
- Lois Heer, who is in hospice care at Fairlawn, room #122.
- Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety. Serving from our church are:
- Brenden Bostelman, in Alaska (Army) (Grandson of Bill & Kathy).
- Kyle Ducey, at Fort Gordon, Georgia (Navy) (Son of Kelly & Betsy).
- Jared Kuntz, at Guam (Army) (Son of Keith & Kelli).
- Eric Magg, at Ketchikan, Alaska (Coast Guard) (Son of Joe & Sheryl Short).
- Shayne & Taylor Pitts, at Bolling AFB, DC (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill).
- Donny Richardson, at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina (Marines) (Son of Shannon & Yesi).
- Joshua Richardson, left for Marine boot camp on August 6th (Son of Shannon & Yesi)
- Steve Schink, at Port Angeles, WA (Coast Guard) (Son-in-Law of Ed & Julie Ruffer).
- AJ Short, at 29 Palms, California (Marines) (Son of Joe & Sheryl Short).
- Kyle Stuckey, at Killeen, Texas (Army) (Grandson of Nan Neill).
- Kollin Woolace, at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina (Marines) (Grandson of Larry & Melva).

Please consider sending cards to these people 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.

HomeBound/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

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

Genesis Health Care, 1104 Wesley Ave., Bryan, 43506
Verlene Lovejoy

Pastoral news

Though I've had a few previous surgeries in my life, my recent back surgery was by far the most involved and the most serious. A month before the surgery, a family member, with good intent, shared with me a concern they had learned about the surgeon scheduled to perform my operation. Because of that shared concern, I did further research on the surgeon I had previously vetted. I discovered there were a few people in the congregation who the surgeon had operated on, or he had operated upon a family member of theirs, and all was well with each case. With that reassurance, I awaited August 22nd.

With trust in the Lord and an assurance of His presence, Lynne and I arrived at the hospital and I went through the various steps of preparation. Finally, all prepped, I waited in a curtained off room, where Lynne soon rejoined me, though she wasn't alone when she came back to wait with me. Betsy, Tom and Dave appeared too. Betsy offered a prayer of trust and assurance, and my mind remained calm and peaceful as I thanked God, my wife and three of my friends for their presence.

As I was wheeled into the surgery room, prior to receiving any meds and still alert, the nurses asked me what music I wanted to listen too. I found that odd – I wasn't going to be listening for very long, was I? But their calm attentiveness was part of their routine, and that's pretty much the last thought I remembered until I awoke several hours later.

The next day, as I lay in bed and reflected on what God had done for me, I thanked Him for calmness, for assurance, for care, and mostly for His presence. Lynne read passages to me each day, and one that I reflected on was Hebrews 10:19-24: "Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."

In full assurance of faith. Though there were momentary hours of discomfort, when no food tasted good, when no position was comfortable, when the hours of night were long and restless, scripture reminded me of God's presence, that my hope in Him needed to be unswerving.

In your own trials and times of discomfort, whether that be physical, emotional, mental or spiritual, or all four, may these words of Hebrews 10 spur you on. Know that the Spirit is with us, that we can trust in God's love and care, and that His plan for us will bring fruit and joy in His time. Continue to draw near to God, in love and faithfulness. Amen.

ERICH

congregational news & thank you's

Dear St. John's,

We are deeply grateful for your heart for ministry. Your prayers and dollars touch hearts and help change lives. Thank you for showing a bit of Jesus to others less fortunate!

Shepherd Circle
Nancy Rupp - Treasurer

Dear Congregation,

Please accept our sincerest thank you for all of your thoughts, prayers, cards, visits and gestures of kindness during the illness and following the passing of our father, Maurice Schmucker. St. John's is a great family and your support is so appreciated! God bless all of you!

Shiela and Kent Short, Shari Lauber
& Susan and Brad Enderle

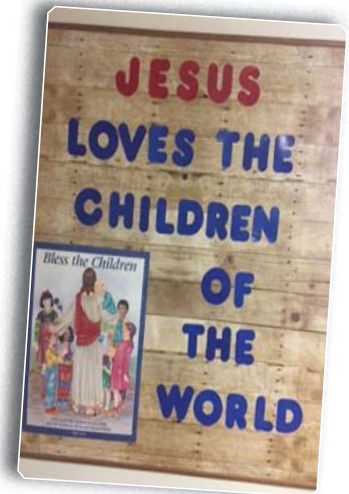
preschool corner



Sue MacDonald
Director/Teacher



Joan Wyse
Teacher Assistant



Preschool Corner- Now that there is a chill in the air, it's finally feeling like fall! Our "Weather Frog" is finally able to wear his warm hat and coat. With almost 5 weeks in October, we were busy!

The first week of the month we were learning all about apples. We learned about the parts of the apple, including the skin, stem, seeds, core and flesh. Everyone got to taste a Honeycrisp apple, and we talked about how sweet and crunchy it was. We sang "Here We Go Round the Apple Tree", "A-P-P-L-E" and "Way Up High in the Apple Tree". The Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes learned about "chromatography" when they colored on coffee filters with markers, then sprayed them with water to get a tie-dye effect. We made these into an apple shape to hang in a window. We made "apple pie" in the sensory table, with a combination of nutmeg, cloves, cinnamon, ginger, small imitation apples, spoons and pans. The classroom smelled SO good!

The second week of the month was all about Fire Safety, as we learned about "two ways out", "crawl low when it's time to go", and "stop, drop and roll". Some of the classroom activities included matching capital and lower case letters on 'flames' in the Writing Center, playing a roll and color Fire Safety dice game in the Math Center, and many children enjoyed "putting fires out" in the Sensory Table with squirt bottles, water, and foam flames. We ended the week with field trips to the Archbold Fire Station, where we learned SO much more! The older children even got to explore the Safety Trailer, where they learned about how to be safe at home.

The third week of the month was "Teddy Bear" week. We did fun activities with teddy bears, such as the action song, "Going on a Bear Hunt", and the children got to bring in their own favorite teddy bear on Thursday and Friday. The last two weeks of the month we celebrated Halloween, and also learned quite a bit about bats and spiders, including body parts of each, eating and sleeping habits, and about why God created these amazing creatures! Our Halloween parties were held on October 30th and 31st, with costumes and yummy treats! Our Bible verse for October was "Trust in the Lord with all your heart." Proverbs 3:5.

mission corner

Back Bay Mission Trip

Due to changes in various health situations and work schedules of people signed up for the trip, the October trip to Biloxi was canceled, so we look ahead to the trip scheduled for February 9th through 16th.

The mission trip program at Back Bay Mission is focused on serving the poor and marginalized of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. They are also focused on making each week an opportunity for faith formation and learning. Among other things, volunteers have the opportunity to learn about poverty on the Mississippi Gulf Coast (and in their own community). Back Bay Mission is a national leader for mission trips in the United Church of Christ. They believe that providing these experiences is a benefit for participants, their congregations and communities, and the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. They hope that volunteer groups return home to tell others about their experience and lead the way in helping in their own community. The volunteer program at Back Bay Mission isn't just about serving the poor and marginalized. It's also about serving their volunteers! This is an opportunity for you to learn and grow while serving others. Goals of their program include:

1. Demonstrating how such an agency lives out the Christian faith by meeting the immediate needs of the people they serve and helping them grow towards long term sustainability.
2. Providing opportunities for increased self-understanding and personal growth for all participants.
3. Exposing participants to cultural patterns and value systems that may differ from their own, and provide an opportunity for dialogue about that experience.
4. Helping participants understand the ministry and commitments of Back Bay Mission.
5. Providing opportunities for meaningful service to others.

Volunteers from St. John's Christian Church will have opportunities to share in the work program (new home construction and home repair/renovation), the daily community soup kitchen, the weekly food pantry ministry and their daily assistance program with area homeless. Pastor Erich is working to coordinate leadership from past trip volunteers to increase the opportunities for people to engage in construction work, sharing in people related ministries, and both.

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- CWS (Blankets Program), for our gift of \$452.
- World Team (The Franks), for our gift of \$700.
- Reliant (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$60.
- Cherry Street, for our gift of \$92.
- Altlink (The Langsdorfs), for our gift of \$145.
- Cru (The Waanders), for our gift of \$50.
- Cherry Street (Sparrow's Nest), for our gift of \$53.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$225.

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. There are two remaining special events on our list of annual mission experiences:

- TGRM Chapel & Meal – November 18
- Christmas Cheer Hospitality – December 5

Thank Offering Containers

Thank Offering containers are available for pick up on a table in the sanctuary or chapel narthex. The suggestion is to save your loose change for the next several months in this coin container. This special offering is collected at the end of November and will be divided equally between The Sparrow's Nest and The Foods Resource Bank.



November Mission-A-Month **Christmas Cheer**

Fulton County Christmas Cheer
December 3– 6, 2018 Junior Fair Building, Wauseon



How can churches help?

1. Collect foods, especially beef stew, tuna, baking mixes, canned fruits, cooking oil.
2. Collect washer and dish detergents. body washes, shampoos, and warm blankets.

All goods need to be delivered by Monday, Dec. 3 between 10-4 or Tuesday the 4th from 9-11.

3. Collect money, as we buy in case lots within the county. That money can come to us anytime, year round.

Send to "Cheer", 202 De Groff, Archbold, OH 43502.

Remember that Cheer also accepts donations of used cars, vans, and trucks, in good running order year round. We put them into the hands of county families with no transportation. Donation slips offered.

Volunteer Workers for Cheer needed:

Monday the 3rd, sort and stock 10-4.

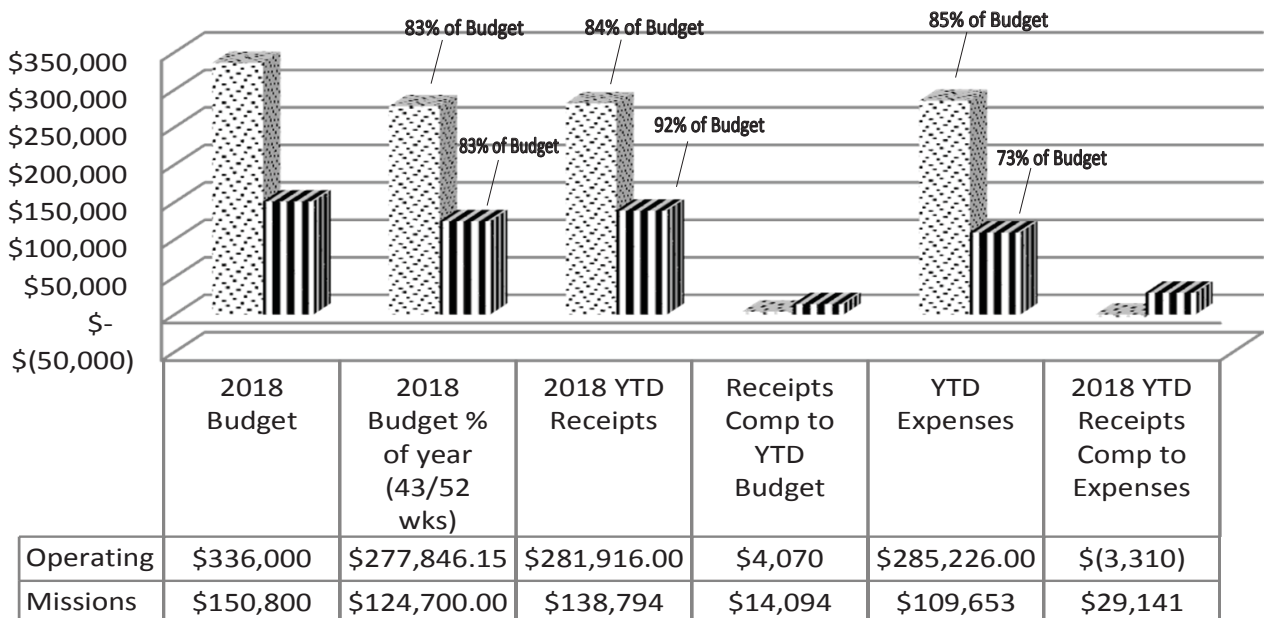
Tuesday the 4th , 9-1, sort and stock.

Wednesday shop with families, 9-4:30.

Thursday shop with families and sweep up, 9-1.

stewardship

2018 Operating & Missions Funds as of Oct. 31, 2018



IYF Building Campaign Total Receipts as of October 31, 2018 - \$623,810.88

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 CRHP

web site - www.jamkhed.org

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 Hensch, Reliant (Univ. of Akron)

web site - www.reliant.org
e-mail - david.hensch@reliant.org

Tony & Leila Frank, Ivoti, 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

Kinsey Smith - Thailand – CRU at Grace International School

email - kinsey.smith@cru.org

Larry & Linda Rupp, Kajjado Children's Home

website - www.hope4kajjado.com
e-mail - kajjadochildrenshome@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

LOGOS, our Wednesday evening program for children, is now in full swing. Our nightly themes for the past month have been, "Going to the Dogs Night", where we talked about shelter dogs; "Teddy Bear Night", with the kids bringing their favorite teddy bears with them; "Sweetest Night", where we learned that Sweetest Day is all about candy and that it originated in Cleveland, Ohio; and "World Series Night", where we talked about the Red Sox and the Dodgers and all things baseball. The first through fifth graders have enjoyed some great food, have participated in Choir and Hand Bells or Hand Chimes, and have ended each night in Bible Study. Feel free to stop in and check out what goes on during LOGOS on Wednesday evenings.



Youth Ministries

SHSS: During the month of October we covered lessons from Genesis 12-26; with a lot of focus on God's promise to us. He makes a promise, foreshadows His promise, provides for His promise, and renews His promise.

Some of our highlights from October involved painting the SYF room, adding a coffee bar, and a Sunday School trip to McDonald's.



We look forward to November where we push through the rest of Genesis. Our numbers have been averaging 10-15, and we are thoroughly enjoying sharing devotions, current events, and of course snacks!

ministry happenings

JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship) –

The JYF Poinsettia and Wreath Sale is underway!

- Wreaths must be ordered by November 7th, Poinsettias ordered by November 14th.
- Youth will be outside the sanctuary and chapel on November 4th and 11th to take your orders, or see a JYF youth, or contact the church office!
- Funds raised will be used to support the events and ministries of JYF in the coming year! Your support is very much appreciated!

small groups

Seekers: Continuing their study of the prophetic Old Testament book of Ezekiel, they welcome people to join their time of discipleship and fellowship. The next meeting is November 11th at 6pm.

Couples Small Group: The Couples Small Group will meet on Sunday, November 18th in the Youth Room. The group welcomes couples who are interested in gathering with other couples for the purposes of fellowship, fun and faith.

Men’s Prayer Breakfast – November 10, 7:40AM:
A monthly time to gather, enjoy breakfast, fellowship, hear a testimony, share joys and concerns, and pray together. Please let Bruce Wooley, Pastor Erich or Pastor Alex know if you have any questions about what the Men’s Prayer Breakfast is all about!

Events / Activities

Urgent Need! We Need Tech Volunteers Now!

Sound Techs, Easy Worship Techs and Video Techs are in high demand! While James, Angie, Kelly, Brian, Tom, Mark and Dean do a great job in getting ready for worship and their efforts on Sunday mornings are a blessing, changing schedules and other roles at church require us to find additional volunteers.

While each system can appear to be complicated, proper and sustained training has proven to make each task easy to pick up on. If we have more volunteers serving, it can make each person’s schedule easier. If interested, please talk with Pastor Erich, James Grime and/or Kelly Ducey. Thanks!

ministry happenings

**Annual Veteran’s
Breakfast
Sunday, November
11th
9:00AM**



To honor and recognize veterans for their service, St. John’s offers this annual appreciation breakfast. The Fellowship Committee will provide a delicious breakfast, which will be followed by a special presentation from our guest speaker, Judge James Barber. Veterans, their spouses, spouses of deceased veterans, and parents and grandparents of current military personnel are invited to share in this breakfast! A sign-up sheet is posted on the hallway bulletin board across from the church office, or you may call the church.

Advent & Christmas Decorating

The first Sunday of Advent this year falls on December 2nd, so we will be decorating the church building for our celebrations of Advent and Christmas on Sunday afternoon, November 25th. The greenery and symbolic decorations are always such a blessing in our worship of God as we celebrate the birth and coming of Jesus Christ.



While much of the decorating can be done from floor level, there is much that requires standing on ladders, and there are always many trips made in and out of the attic. With the typical number of folks involved in recent years, it only takes two to three hours to get everything accomplished.

We are in need of some younger and stronger folks to help with this annual decorating project. Please consider marking your calendar for 1pm on the 25th!

November 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— Christmas Cheer Elder of the Month— Betsy Ducey | | | 1 6:00PM 6th Grade Boys Basketball 7:00PM Mission Comm. 7:30PM 5th Grade Boys Basketball | 2 | 3 Daylight ST Ends (turn clocks back 1 hr.) |
| 4 Daylight ST Begins 6:00PM Seekers (Stuckey's) | 5 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Training | 6 9:15AM Bible Study 1:30PM Worship Planning 2:30PM Pastors Meeting 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) 7:00PM Capital Campaign 7:00PM Preschool Board Meeting | 7 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible St. 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM Life Planning 7:00PM SYF Remix | 8 7:30AM Mental Health Awareness Seminar 6:00PM Couples Small 6:00PM 6th Grade BB 7:00PM Evangelism Committee 7:30PM 5th Grade BB | 9 9AM-9PM— Quilting at Fairlawn | 10 7:40AM Men's Breakfast |
| 11 Veteran's Day 9:15AM Veteran's Breakfast 1:00PM Private Party (Parish Hall / Kitchen) | 12 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Training | 13 9:15AM Bible Study 1:30PM Worship Planning 2:30PM Pastors Meeting 4:00PM Laundry Buddy Minis- try 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) 7:00PM Property Committee | 14 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh. | 15 6:00PM 6th Grade Boys Basketball 7:30PM 5th Grade BB | 16 | 17 8:00AM Music Teachers Association |
| 18 10:30AM Bells/Chimes Play 3:00PM TGRM Chapel /Meal | 19 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Training 7:15PM Consistory | 20 9:15AM Bible Study 1:30PM Worship Planning 2:30PM Pastors Meeting 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) | 21 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible St. 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM SYF | 22 Happy Thanksgiving! (Office Closed) 9:00AM Private Party (Parish Hall) | 23 | 24 |
| 25 1:00PM Advent Decorating | 26 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Training 7:00PM FISH Board | 27 9:15AM Bible Study 1:30PM Worship Planning 2:30PM Pastors Meeting 4:00PM Laundry Buddy Minis- try 5:00PM Community Meal (Zion) | 28 8:30AM Moms in Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh. | 29 6:00PM 6th Grade Boys Basketball 7:30PM 5th Grade BB | 30 | |

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Kali Lantz | 14 Nancy Rupp, Dean & Lisa Smith |
| 2 Jan Martinez, Caleb Wooley | 16 Kelly & Betsy Ducey, Lindy Lantz |
| 3 Susan & Brad Enderle, Dustin Nofziger, Mackenzie Nofziger, Gary Sears, Joel Wanemacher | 17 Mert & Sue Kinsman |
| 4 Kay Merillat, Cale Short, Len Stamm | 19 Doris Hull, Kris Short |
| 5 Judy Grime, Dave Walker | 22 Emma Hall, Jon & Alice Leatherman, Kathy Layton, Luci Meyer, Curt Stamm |
| 6 Tim Grieser, Jill Holdgreve, Alec Genter, Ames Genter | 23 John Graber, Mike Meyer |
| 7 Jim & Renee Liechty, Michael & Sarah Overmier, Ashley Schink | 24 Laura Johnson, Jesse Meyer, Lisa Smith |
| 8 Ryan Bernath | 25 Lynda Schnitkey |
| 9 Mary Augustine, Nancy Storrer, Sharon VonDeylen | 26 Carol DeVries, Mark & Tammy Nofziger, Casen Short |
| 10 Laurie Flint | 27 Graeme Lauber, Scott Reeb, Andrew Rohrs, Collin Walker, Corbin Walker, Michael Walker, Kelly Stahl |
| 11 Norm Fether, Phil Spiess | 28 Jed Grime, Kent Short |
| 13 Marilyn Buehrer, Gabrielle Nafziger, Clay Nafziger, Linda Rutledge | 30 Lynne Stuckey |

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

worship

- November 4th** Scriptures – 1 Peter 1:3-9, 1 Corinthians 15:1-34
Sermon – “Resurrection of Christ” – Pastor Erich
- November 11** Mission Sunday – Several of the people involved in the campus ministries we support will be present for both services and during the Sunday school hour. They will share inspirational messages during the services and be part of a panel discussion during Sunday school. Plus, there will be a fellowship meal following the 10:30 service!
10:30 Service – Chancel Choir – “Let Us Serve Him”
Buffy Riley will accompany our services for the first time!
- November 18** Scriptures – Isaiah 55:10-13, 1 Corinthians 15:35-58
Sermon – “Resurrection of the Body” – Pastor Erich
10:30 Service – Bell & Chime Choirs
- November 25** Scriptures – Hebrews 12:1-3, 1 Corinthians 16
Sermon – “A Called Community: To Love” – Pastor Alex



Stewardship

A Snap Shot of Our Year to Date Stewardship – as of October 23, 2018

2018 Operating Year to Date Expenses – \$280,526.27
 2018 Operating Year to Date Income – \$269,733.92
 2018 Operating Year to Date Deficit – -\$10,792.35
 2017 Operating Year to Date Deficit for the Same Period – -\$8,645.68
 2016 Operating Year to Date Deficit for the Same Period – -\$15,986.26

2018 Mission Year to Date Income – \$132,629.40
 2018 Mission Year to Date Expenses – \$105,285.95
 2018 Mission Year to Date Funds on Hand – \$27,343.45 (Dominican Republic Trip Year)
 2017 Mission Year to Date Funds on Hand – \$10,781.22
 2016 Mission Year to Date Funds on Hand – \$29,636.24 (Dominican Republic Trip Year)

What do these numbers mean? They mean that we are on target once again to meet our Operating and our Mission Budgets at the end of the year. It is a reality that we operate at a deficit for much of the year in our Operating Fund, but by year's end for the past several years, donations have covered expenses. With faithfulness, let us pray and support ministries of the congregation once again!

consistory/committees

2018 Discernment Team

The team is now meeting every two weeks or so, and at their October 16th meeting their topic of discussion was worship. Good insight and thoughtful suggestions were shared amongst team members, pointing towards creating short term and long term goals. Some of the thoughts shared were:

- Asking youth to participate in leading various parts of our worship services
- Discerning whether our services are full of life and energy
- Asking people to meditatively read the printed prayers prior to praying them in unison
- Explaining some of our worship traditions, and parts of the services, so everyone gains a greater understanding of our reformed style of worship
- Speaking to people who have been missed, encouraging their attendance
- Finding balance in our worship music, with hymns and songs, old and new
- Team members are to be gathering comments from people of the congregation about what St. John's "needs" in regards to our worship of God. At their October 29th meeting, the team will work to write out a series of worship goals before moving on to the topic of Christian Education.

Nomination Process in Preparation for the Annual Election of Congregational Leadership

The Spiritual Council has entered into the nomination and election process of our congregation once again. The congregation can be in prayer over the offices of elder and deacon/deaconess, which have the following qualifications and terms:

Elder – Basic Qualifications:

1. An elder must be a member of the congregation of St. John's Christian Church, having been a member for at least six years.
2. An elder must be a Christian person who is earnestly devoted to living as a disciple of Jesus Christ and whose faith is evident in how they conduct themselves in thought, word and deed.
3. An elder must be an active participant in and supporter of the ministries of the church, and in full communion with the church's faith and beliefs.
4. An elder must be willing to perform the duties required by the office.

Deacon/Deaconess – Basic Qualifications:

1. A deacon/deaconess must be a member of the congregation of St. John's Christian Church, having been a member for at least three years.
2. A deacon/deaconess must be a Christian person who is earnestly devoted to living as a disciple of Jesus Christ and whose faith is evident in how they conduct themselves in thought, word and deed.
3. A deacon/deaconess must be an active participant in and supporter of the ministries of the church, and in full communion with the church's faith and beliefs.
4. A deacon/deaconess must be willing to perform the duties required by the office

Term of Office for Elder and Deacon/Deaconess:

1. Term of office is for three years
2. Term begins upon election at annual meeting, or appointment (in case of filling a vacancy)
3. Term ends at conclusion of annual meeting of the year the term expires.

These leadership offices are grounded in the biblical passages of 1 Timothy 3:1-15 and Titus 1:4-9.

Highlights of the October 15, 2018 Consistory Meeting

- **Budget & Stewardship Committee** – Joyce Kinsman – Financial Reports – In terms of the Operating Fund Expense Budget, year to date expenses are running lower than the expected nine month budget figures. In terms of overall income verses expenses, there is a \$9,000 deficit through September 30th. July, August and September giving has been higher than the monthly expenses for those three months, which is encouraging. Investment Meeting Report – Stocks and bonds are very diversified. Committee will meet on November 5th to work on the 2019 budget. Motion to approve the reports, Jeff Rutledge, 2nd the motion, Eric Nafziger. Motion approved.

- **Capital Campaign Committee** – Jeff Rutledge – Committee unanimously agreed to ask Consistory to take action to investigate a project to do now, so people can see something happen with the money currently raised, giving members something to look forward to, to possibly produce higher energy to raise more money, and take care of some pressing needs. Currently, restrooms, accessibility, kitchen and the sanctuary are the highest needs. Who takes initiative as to where we go next? The facility concept plans will have to be adjusted accordingly. Ann Fether moved to begin a 2018 Facility Committee, 2nd the motion Gloria Lauber.
- **Personnel Committee** – Jeff Rutledge – Annual reviews of Administrative Assistant and both Pastors. All chairmen on committee's need to fill out a form and return to Jeff by the end of the month.
- **Mission Committee** – Betsy Ducey – Planning a Mission Sunday on November 11th, with current campus ministries.
 - Disbursements:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Cru – McMahon \$500 | Operation Christmas Child - \$1000 |
| FISH - \$500 | Outback - \$500 |
| Franks - \$500 | Reliant (Matt Pardi) - \$500 |
| Reliant (David Hench) - \$500 | Hand of Grace - \$500 |
| Total: \$4500 | |
- **Christian Preschool Board** – Ann Fether – Preschool enrollment has gone up by 3 students, we now have 43 students. Board plans to meet next on November 6th.
- **Spiritual Council** – Erich Christman – Nomination process began this evening. A list of nominees was compiled, they will be prayed over, prioritized and discussed. Council will meet November 1st for further discernment. Evangelical Association 2019 Convocation will be held at SJCC September 20, 21 and 22nd. EA pastors (Midwest region) are helping Pastor Erich coordinate this event.
- **Pastor's Report** – Erich Christman – 2018 Discernment Team is working on worship, they will meet tomorrow (10/16) to explore what other things we can do in worship. There will be a goal worksheet given as a guideline for goals and objectives. The team is trying to meet every two weeks.
- **Associate Pastor's Report** – Alex Young – Youth Ministry, we are having good attendance, a MS and HS fall retreat was scheduled, but the dates aren't working with the youth. The fall retreat will likely be cancelled. Stephen Ministry Team has gone through the applications and have invited 6 individuals to participate in training which will start November 5th. Dan Light, Mark Nofziger, Annie Foote, Laura Johnson, Linda Heer and Gloria Lauber will participate in the training. Training should be concluded April 15th. Please be in prayer for this training process.
- **Old Business** – Brent Winzeler
 - **Bus inspection** – Failed inspection back in May. Kelly Ducey, Tom Hines and Dave Miller worked on the floor during the summer months. Re-inspection was last Thursday, and the bus PASSED! Kelly Stahl will get the bus licensed, then bus will go to Ziebart in Defiance to rust proof the underside of the bus.
- **Property Committee Updates**

Plants Plus Nursery worked diligently at removing many of the shrubs at the south and west areas of the building, then quickly moved to planting 50 new items, installing a brick border, installing soaker hoses, and adding in new lava rock. We hope you like the look of the new landscaping. Some further work needs to be done regarding the rose bushes at the south entrance. The trimming of the shrubs on the north and east sides will be happening soon.

The Verdin Company is in the process of getting the equipment ordered and shipped to the church for the reworking of the tower bells. Toby Spangler, local electrician will be installing the required circuits and panels for the new system.

November 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 Glory And Giving ----- John 17:1-5 | 16 Being Countercultural!----- 1 Corinthians 7:17-24 |
| 2 Living In, But Not Belonging----- John 17:6-19 | 17 Singleness ----- 1 Corinthians 7:25-40 |
| 3 United In Love-----John 17:20-26 | 18 Happy and Fearful----- Psalm 128 |
| 4 Now and Not Yet ----- Psalm 126 | 19 God Dwelling Among Us? -----Exodus 25:1-22 |
| 5 From Me to You ----- 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 | 20 Playing My Part-----Exodus 31:1-11 |
| 6 Divide and Fall Out! ----- 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 | 21 Reminded By Rest----- Exodus 31:12-18 |
| 7 Fools For Christ-----1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5 | 22 Remember Your Promise-----Exodus 32:1-14 |
| 8 So, How Do You Know? ----- 1 Corinthians 2:6-16 | 23 Silly Excuses, Crazy Lies-----Exodus 32:15-24 |
| 9 Whose Church Is It?----- 1 Corinthians 3:1-23 | 24 Needed: Perfect Sacrifice-----Exodus 32:25-33:6 |
| 10 Or You Too Will Be Judged ----- 1 Corinthians 4:1-21 | 25 All Together Now-----Psalm 129 |
| 11 Living In Vain-----Psalm 127 | 26 Face To Face -----Exodus 33:7-11 |
| 12 Free To Do Whatever ----- 1 Corinthians 5:1-13 | 27 A Glorious Request ----- Exodus 33:12-23 |
| 13 Knowing Who You Are! ----- 1 Corinthians 6:1-11 | 28 Love By a Jealous God ----- Exodus 34:1-14 |
| 14 Freedom and Limits ----- 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 | 29 A Brighter Shine-----Exodus 34:29-35 |
| 15 Marriage, Sex and Divorce-----1 Corinthians 7:1-16 | 30 Multiplying Ministry-----Exodus 35:30-36:7 |

Phone 419-446-2545
 Website www.stjohnsarchbold.org
 Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM
 Sunday School 9:15AM

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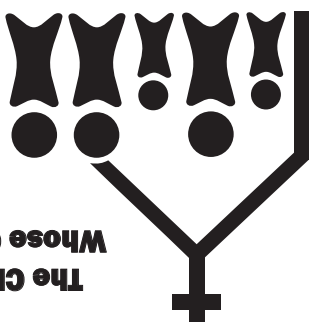
Treasurer Roger Miller

Custodians Dean Buckenmeyer
 Nick Rice
 Richard Spies

Security

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)

Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together



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

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

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