



Pam & Scott Reeb

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



*Operation Christmas Child Boxes*

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.*

November 24, 2019

8:00AM & 10:30AM

# Welcome to our Worship of God!

## Thanksgiving Sunday

Enter to Worship God in the Fellowship of Others

*Please offer a prayer for yourself, those around you, and those leading worship.*

Lighting of the Altar Candles and Ringing of the Tower Bells

*The lighted candles symbolize God's presence, and Christ, the Light of the World.*

*Inscribed on the Tower Bells – "To the Glory of God, and for the Calling of the Faithful to Worship."*

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 23 (p. 544)

Prelude

Emma Nafziger

"Reckless Love"

†Call to Worship

L: We have gathered together to praise and thank our Lord.

P: ***For his shepherding of our lives, we'll sing out our gratitude.***

L: For his wondrous works of restoration, let us pour out our praise.

P: ***For his constant presence and comfort, we are grateful.***

L: For the overflowing of our cups, our portions, let us sing to the Lord our praise.

†Hymn of Praise – #560

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

†Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving – ***We give you thanks, O Lord God, for you indeed are our shepherd. You rescue us from the dark, tempting, harmful acts of sin, restoring us through the grace of Christ as we confess and repent. With glad and thankful hearts we bow before you, calling upon your strength and faithfulness as we seek Your peace in our hearts, minds and lives. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.***

†The Gloria Patri

Spotlight on Ministry – Stephen Ministry

Children's Message

Prayer Hymn – #439, verses 1-3

"Cleanse Me"

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

(10:30) Chancel Choir

"We Are So Blessed"

Scripture Reading

Matthew 19:16-30 (p. 976)

Sermon

"Focus on Following God"

Prayer of Dedication and Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Come Just As You Are/Draw Me Close"

Second Offering

"Imagine Your Faith Building" Capital Campaign

†Closing Hymn – #376

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song – #375, v. 1

"Jesus Calls Us"

†Postlude

# Welcome . . .

## **Guests and Visitors**

Welcome to our worship of God! We hope you will find our service to be an uplifting and faithful time of worship and that you will worship with us again. Learn more about us by visiting our Welcome Table at the south end of our building or our website at [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org).

## **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 by our system for hearing aids with a "loop system" switch position.

**Congregational Prayer** – Sovereign and Glorious God, how I long to sing and speak your praises! In this week of thanksgiving, may all who call you by name render unto you glory and honor and praise. As I pray, help me consider the truth of your word from the oft quoted passage, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Lord, strengthen me, that my focus will be on you, that any anxiousness or worry or even dread will be removed from my mind, and I will rest in your peace alone. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen



The Altar arrangement is given in loving  
memory of Jim Redd.



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

## **Women's Ensemble**

We are inviting women to come and join in a women's ensemble to sing during the Sermon In Music on December 8th. There will be copies of the music titled "Mary's Little Boy Child" in the office to look at and pick up. We will be rehearsing on Wed. December 4th at 7:00. Please let Andrew Rohrs or Lynne Christman know if you are interested or have any questions. Come enjoy making music for the Lord with us.

## **Sunday, December 1st – 1pm – Advent Workshop**

Starting with singing Christmas carols in the chapel, we'll enjoy an afternoon of crafts, fellowship, snacks and worship! People of all ages will be able to select up to two of the following craft projects – Decorating (and snacking on) Christmas cookies; Advent wreaths, Advent calendars, Christmas ornaments and Christmas cards. This Advent Workshop will be a blessed way to begin this year's Advent season! A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board so we make sure enough supplies are on hand!

## **Sunday, December 8th – 7:00pm – Evening Concert**

Siberian Solstice is a musical group from northwest Ohio providing Christmas music as originally performed by the nationally acclaimed "TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA" (TSO). The music format of traditional Christmas music and other classical pieces with electronic keyboards, drums, and guitars is enjoyed by all age groups. Siberian Solstice has eight members on stage to accurately reproduce the TSO style and will perform for approximately 90 minutes. They present the program "An Angel's Gift" with music, song and light show! There will be free will offering received for the support of their music ministry.

## **Senior Citizens Dinner**



The Fellowship Committee would like to invite our senior citizens to a Christmas Dinner on December 10th, at 5:30 in the Chapel. Please sign up on the bulletin board (or contact the church office) if you plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you for an evening of good food and fun!

## **Stephen Ministry**

Are you the child of an aging parent? Do you work or volunteer in a care facility? On Monday, December 9th, at 6:30PM Paul Reichert, pastor of St. Martin's Lutheran Church will be presenting a 30 – 45 minute information session on "Ministering to Those Experiencing Losses Related to Aging." Some of us have already experienced some of these losses – hair that sprouts in places where it never belonged, changes in our strength and endurance, loss of hearing, or grieving the death of peers, spouses or even children. Some of the objectives covered may include: recognizing some of the losses that can occur with advancing age; exploring the feelings aged people have regarding themselves; understanding the needs for care that go in each phase of aging; and how to care for people in the aging process. Although this is a continuing education class for our Stephen Ministers, the evening is open to all who would like more information on caring for the aging. All are welcome!



## WEEK OF November 24 At St. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Confirmation / Faith Village / Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	12:30PM	Private Party (Parish Hall)
	1:00PM	Advent and Christmas Decorating
	6:00PM	Seeker's (Foote's)
Mon	11:00AM	Staff Meeting (Office Closed)
	6:30PM	Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision (Chapel)
	7:00PM	FISH Board Meeting (Fireside Room)
Tues	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	11:00AM	Fairlawn Worship (Pastor Erich Leading)
	4:00PM	Laundry Buddy Ministry
	5:00PM	Community Meal (Meal by Central Mennonite Church)
Wed	9:00AM	West Haven Bible Study
	6:00PM	SYF
	7:00PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs		Happy Thanksgiving! (Office Closed)
	12:30PM	Private Party (Parish Hall)
Fri		Office Closed
	1:00PM	Preschool Float Preparation
Sun	8:00AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15AM	Confirmation / Faith Village / Sunday School
	9:15AM	Birthday Party for Jesus
	10:30AM	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	2:00PM	Advent Workshop

**Discovery Daily Devotional Guides** – 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%20Discovery>. Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

November 25 - All Power and Glory.....	Matthew 24:26-35
November 26 - Faithful, in the Ordinary.....	Matthew 24:36-44
November 27 - Faithful Endurance.....	Matthew 24:45-51
November 28 - Wise Waiting.....	Matthew 25:1-13
November 29 - Wise Stewardship.....	Matthew 25:14-30
November 30 - Living Faith.....	Matthew 25:31-46
December 1 - The Lord is Glorious.....	Psalms 29

### **Birthday Party for Jesus**

The Fellowship committee will be hosting a "Birthday Party for Jesus" celebration next Sunday, December 1st, for the Faith Village and pre-school children during the Sunday School hour.

## SERMON NOTES

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Scripture – Matthew 19:16-30 – “Parable of the Rich Young Man”  
Sermon Title – “Focus on Following God”

The question – “What good thing must I do to get eternal life?”

The response – “Why do you ask me about what is good?”  
“There is only one who is good.”  
“If you want to enter life, obey the commandments.”

Further question – “Which ones?”

Further response – The Ten Commandments; Love your neighbor as yourself

What was lacking – “Sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

The dilemma – “He went away sad, because he had great wealth.”

The way – “You who have followed me...” and “And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.”

Focus – lesson of the “Karate Kid” movies

Trust – lesson of Peter looking at the wind

Fix your thoughts – Hebrews 3:1

Fix your eyes – Hebrews 12:2

## **Missionaries Supported by Our Congregation**

- ✚ Africa – Tom & Megan – The Islands – serving since 2009, Tom and Megan, with their children, Grace, Peter and David, continue serving with a team focused on teaching English, offering translation workshops, mentoring and discipleship.
- ✚ Akron – David Hench – Reliant at Akron University – serving since 2018, David grew up in Wauseon, graduated from Akron U in 2017, and he married Blair last summer. David is focused on discipling students and is involved in weekly Bible studies and worship services
- ✚ Ann Arbor – Kyle Chase – Reliant Mission at University of Michigan – serving since 2008, Kyle is married to Melissa, and they have two sons, Jaden and Brennan. Kyle serves as pastor of New Life Church and has oversight and discipleship of North Campus students and staff as well as oversight of the teaching ministry at New Life Church
- ✚ Bowling Green – Robert & Jenni McMahan – Cru at BGSU – originally from Napoleon, Robert & Jenni started serving in September of 2018 and continue to build relationships with other staff and with students.
- ✚ Brazil – Tony & Leila Frank – Tony is originally from Stryker, and after serving in Russia and Mozambique, they transitioned to Brazil in 2014. They are engaged in teaching at a local church, teaching bible and discipleship at a college campus, and translation work.
- ✚ Chicago – Jon & Rachel Doriot – Pioneers – we began supporting Jon & Rachel, and their children, Jadon, Brendan, Joshua and Asher, in 2012, when they were in Indonesia. They transitioned to Chicago in the fall of 2016 where they train believers in discipleship, reach out to lost Muslims, and network broadly with like-minded people.
- ✚ Columbus – Matt & Paige Waanders – Cru at Ohio State University – Paige is a granddaughter of Lenny & Jean Stamm, and after serving a year in Brazil, they returned to Cru at OSU in July of 2017. Matt continues to oversee aspects of Cru's ministry in Brazil and the two of them serve at OSU, as well as at Columbus State University.
- ✚ Dominican Republic – Jason & Becky Suon – Freedom International – from the Pettisville area, they started serving 2017. Jason works on the maintenance staff at the school and Becky works in the preschool. They have four children – Finn, Paisley, Stacia and Moses.
- ✚ Dominican Republic – Daniel & Bethany Schrock – Freedom International – from the Pettisville/Wauseon area, started serving this year. Their children are Luke and Grace.
- ✚ India – Dr. Shobha Arole & Mr. Ravi Arole – CRHP Jamkhed – Shobha and Ravi are the children of the CRHP founders, who we've partnered with since 1967. CRHP includes a hospital, preschool, training center, teaching farm, prosthetic leg workshop and much more, all the while sharing Christ and providing quality health care to 40 villages.
- ✚ Kenya – Founded by Larry & Linda Rupp in 1994 – Kajiado Children's Home –The home serves 60 to 90 orphans, providing lodging, meals, education, faith and a loving family environment. Gaye List serves as the chairperson of the KCH Board.
- ✚ Toledo – Matt Pardi – Reliant Mission at University of Toledo – Matt and MaryLynn served at OSU for six years, and we began supporting them in 2010 when they were at BGSU. They are the parents of Dominic, Isabella and Max. Matt serves as pastor and network director, at both Toledo and Bowling Green State University.

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

- Sue Ruffer had successful elbow surgery on Thursday and is recuperating at home.
- Toni Neuenschwander is recovering from surgery to repair a broken elbow.
- Jodi Beltz is recovering from surgery to repair a ligament in one of her fingers.
- Mary Ellen Johnson returned home this past week.
- Ella Yoder continues in the healing process following arm surgery.
- Audrey Smith is now a patient at the Defiance Area Inpatient Hospice Center.
- Mike Henry and the kidney donor – it's lengthy, slow process, so please pray for Mike's health and for patience and perseverance for both through the process.
- Jack Stover suffered a stroke last week and blessed news a few days later, that a full recovery is expected.
- Brenden Bostelman, stationed in Alaska (Army) (Grandson of Bill & Kathy).
- Kohl Collins, at Ft. Benning Georgia (Army) (Grandson of Nan Neill).
- Kyle Ducey, at Fort Gordon, Georgia (Navy) (Son of Kelly & Betsy).
- Jared Kuntz, Washington D.C. (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).
- David Richardson, in Marine boot camp (Son of Shannon & Yesi).
- Joshua Richardson, at Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL (Marines) (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).
- All our home bound and care center residents.

## Today's Worship Servants

Acolytes	(8:00) Cahle Roth	(10:30) Tyler Wyse
Ushers	(Head) Steve Walker	
	(10:30) Matt & Kim Hines, Karen Walker, Michael Walker	
	(8:00) Gary & Judy Sears	
Nursery Staff	(10:30) Ryan & Jill Holdgreve	(Dec. 1) Chris & Amy Baden
Sound Tech	(8:00) Angie Neuenschwander	(10:30) James Grime
Video Tech	(10:30) Dean Sauder	
Worship & Song Leader	(Both) Mike Meyer	
Computer Tech	(Both) Kelly Ducey	
Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman	

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## ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

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

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