

The Visitor

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

January 1, 2020 Volume 66, Number 12

prayer concerns

Please Pray For:

- Sandy Miller is recovering from surgery on Thursday, for the removal of cancer cells.
 - Kelli & Keith Kuntz and family, upon the passing of Kelli's father, Orlan Wichman, who died on Christmas Eve, at the age of 87. His memorial service was yesterday.
 - The family of Irene Short, who entered into eternal life on December 10th at the age of 96.
 - Emma Hall is recovering from two hip related surgeries done on December 11th, facing six to eight weeks of bed rest.
 - Kenny Walker III continues to recover from some recent procedures to address the pancreatitis he's been dealing with the past several months.
 - Jane Short has moved from the Fairlawn assisted living unit to the Fairlawn care center.
 - Jack Stover continues to recover well from the stroke he suffered in mid-November.
 - Sue Ruffer continues to recover from surgery on her elbow, as she had a second procedure on 12/20.
 - Audrey Smith continues to be a resident at the Defiance In Care Hospice Center.
 - Bettie Perry remains hospice care at her apartment near Cincinnati.
 - Mike Henry had a stent inserted in his upper right chest to address the swelling and blood flow in his right arm and wrist.
- Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety.

PFC Brenden Bostelman (Army) (Alaska)
(Grandson of Bill & Kathy)

PFC Kohl Collins (Army) (Ft. Meyer, VA)
(Grandson of Nan Neill)

Kyle Ducey (Navy) (Suffolk, VA)
(Son of Kelly & Betsy)

Cpt. Jared R. Kuntz (Army) (Washington D.C.)
(Son of Keith & Kelli)

Eric Magg (Coast Guard) (Ketchikan, AK)
(Son of Joe & Sheryl Short)

AB Shane & Taylor Pitts (Air Force)
(Albuquerque, NM) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)

David Richardson (Marines) (Camp Lejeune, NC) (Son of Shannon & Yesi)

Joshua Richardson (Marines) (Camp Lejeune, NC) (Son of Shannon & Yesi)

Steven Schink (Coast Guard) (Port Angeles, WA)
(Son-in-Law of Ed & Julie Ruffer)

AJ Short (Marines) (Japan)
(Son of Joe & Sheryl Short)

PFC Kyle Stuckey (Army) (Killeen, TX)
(Grandson of Nan Neill)

Kollin Woolace (Marines) (Jacksonville, NC)
(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.

Fairlawn Haven, 407 E. Lutz Rd. Archbold, 43502
David Lightner, Room #138
Esther Rice, Room #116
Josephine Short, Room #112
Paul Sigg, Room #178
Jane Short, Room #176
Nancy Ries, Room #158 - (Memory Care Unit)

Fairlawn Asst. Living, 500 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502
William & Donna Buehrer, Room #230
Wayne & Susanne Spiess, Room #228

Independent Living, 600 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502
Rosemarie Schmidt, Apt. #112

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

SKLD, 1104 Wesley Ave., Bryan, 43506
Verlene Lovejoy, Room 203B

pastor's letter

This month of January is an important time in the ministry of St. John's. It might even be appropriate to consider January as a crucial time in the life and ministry of St. John's. The new year is not only a time to take stock, to reflect and consider the highs and lows of the past year, but it is also a time to look forward, to make decisions and plans for the coming year.

At the heart of impending decisions is the election of officers to serve as leaders of the congregation. Once again the nomination process has been difficult, with many potential nominees declining a nomination. The Spiritual Council, which serves as the nominating committee of the congregation, understands and accepts each person's decision to accept or decline a nomination. Serving as an officer is a great responsibility. It requires a great sacrifice of time and energy. Serving as an officer carries several expectations, including devotion to the daily study of scripture, commitment to prayer, faithful participation in all aspects of congregational life, and a willingness to offer wisdom and counsel in guiding the congregation's ministries. I beseech you to pray for God's leading in the nomination process, that the Lord would offer wisdom and discernment to the Spiritual Council and to people of the congregation, for the health of the congregation's leadership and ministry.

All members and friends of the congregation are encouraged to make plans to attend the annual congregational meeting, scheduled for January 19th this year. Of a congregation of 400+ members, the quorum needed to conduct business at the meeting is just 15% of the membership, 60 members. That number represents a pretty low expectation of the congregation. Only 60 out of 400. While the usual attendance might be as high as 20% to 30%, it is evident that there is either a great amount of trust placed on those who do attend or it is time to consider a new approach to the organizational structure of the congregation, whatever that could be.

I ask you to join me in daily prayer this month, praying for people to open themselves to God's leading, praying that we as a congregation would deepen our commitment to being the church in today's world, praying that our congregation would engage with new energy and commitment to this year's decision making process, and praying that our love of Christ would be evident in the ministries and faithfulness of our church.

In his teaching on being watchful and ready for service, Jesus says, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." (Luke 12:48)

St. John's has been given much, and much has been demanded; and much is being demanded of our congregation and each of us as individuals. May we each heed God's call and God's lead.

In Christian service,

ERICH

congregational news & thank you's

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, visits and most of all, for the prayers while I was recovering from surgery and spending time in Rupp's Rehab Center. They mean so much to me.

Thanks, also, for Pastor Erich's and Pastor Alex's visits. I am blessed to be a part of this church family.

I wish you all a wonderful New Year filled with God's amazing blessings.

Mary Ellen Johnson

Dear St. John's Christian Church,

Thank you for your continued support of the Friendship House. You help us give shelter to the homeless, food and an opportunity to show God's love to them.

In His Name,
Gloria Lauber, Bookkeeper

THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all you Advent Devotional writers! The task to find 25 authors was not exactly an easy one. Some people just don't like to write, some people are overwhelmed with busy schedules, and people simply don't feel the call. However, when some of you volunteer, my heart is simply overwhelmed! Every year I look forward to the short readings by members of the St. John's family. The diversity of the writings are amazing. In fact, rather than reading each account daily, I forge ahead and read them all in one sitting, then go back and reread them on a daily basis. As I read each selection, my prayers for you are lifted. So again my sincere gratitude to each and every author and our young illustrators for participating and blessing each reader as the Advent season unfolds... Jesus' birthday is indeed reason to celebrate!

Nancy Rupp

We would like to thank our church family for the expressions of sympathy, cards and caring shared in the past few weeks since the death of mom. The prayers are much appreciated as well.

A big "thank you," also, to our pastors and others who visited during her time in the nursing home. She loved those visits! It was also wonderful to have Pastor Erich, Lynne and Mike Meyer participate in her service. What a perfect memorial service was prepared!

The Irene Short Family

preschool corner

December came in like a roar---with Dinosaurs! This theme is always a favorite among boys and girls, and with both age groups. We had large dinosaurs in the Block Area, small dinos in the Sensory Table, foam ones at the Small Dramatic Play area and dinosaur "bones" and "fossils" at the Science Table. The children enjoyed dinosaur dot art at the easel, some pre-writing activities for the Tues-Thurs group, and graphing and subitizing for the older ones. The week ended at McDonald's for the MWF classes, since we took our annual field trip to decorate their tree! Favorite songs/rhymes this week included "Run, Run Dinosaur", "I Want to be a Great Big Dinosaur" and "My Little Dinosaur". At Music Time, the children were able to show off their "cool" side doing "The Dinosaur Stomp" (a rap song!)



It seems like Christmas snuck up on us very quickly this year! I suppose the weather had something to do with it. It's hard for me to get into the Christmas spirit without snow! The children seem to associate the two as well, because every time we saw a few snowflakes outside, someone was sure to say, "It's Christmas!" This year, we read (and re-read) the book, *The Story of Christmas, a Nativity Tale for Children*, by Anita Ganeri. It's a beautiful book with photographs of children acting out the story of Christ's birth. Some of the children were hearing the story for the first time. They associate Jesus with the man on our Circle Time rug, so they were excited to hear about his parents and his life as a baby. Our Christmas activities included decorating our tree in Dramatic Play, playing "Happy Birthday Jesus" bingo, re-telling the Christmas story through various nativity sets in the classroom, matching upper and lower case "candy cane" letters at the ABC/Writing Center, making glittery Christmas ornaments at the easel, counting ornaments and recognizing numbers at the Math Table, using Christmas lacing cards, and playing Christmas Lotto. Right before Christmas Break, we had our Christmas parties and a gift exchange, where the children learned/reinforced manners to use when giving and receiving a gift.

mission corner

January Mission-A-Month

Church World Service Emergency Clean Up

Emergency Cleanup Kits, or Cleanup Buckets, provided by Church World Service are our January Mission-A-Month. The supplies provided in these cleanup kits enable people to begin the overwhelming job of cleaning up after a flood, hurricane, tornado, or other disaster here in the United States.

Monetary donations given not only cover the cost of the supplies to assemble these emergency kits, but also cover sorting, packing, insurance and shipping costs to get the kits to their final destination. Please use your weekly offering envelopes for your donations and mark them M-A-M or CWS Kits.

Back Bay Mission Trip – February 9-15, 2020

Since 2000, this will be the 40th trip SJCC has made to Biloxi, MS, to partner with Back Bay Mission. There have been countless experiences enjoyed by 129 participants from SJCC and partner churches (from Arizona, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Ohio, Tennessee).

Forty trips in twenty years is a significant and blessed ministry. A wealth of awareness has been gained in learning about homelessness and poverty, and many homeowners have been blessed with improved living conditions and mental health as stress has been relieved.

With the aging of the core group of participants, for these trips to continue beyond 2020, an influx of younger volunteers is needed, and many are praying for the future of our partnership with Back Bay Mission. These weeks are filled with work, fellowship, education and growth. Yes, the work can be hard and the heat and humidity can be high, but in the end, the blessings of growth of faith and relationships outweighs everything else.

It's a fifteen hour trip to and from Biloxi, which is long, but the hours provide plenty of time for conversation and relaxation. The week in Biloxi is one of service and fulfillment, working mornings and afternoons and relaxing in the evenings. There is work for any level of abilities, and people can also serve in the Mission's day shelter or food pantry, or help with the local soup kitchen.

We'll be offering some new Back Bay Mission presentations for people to learn more about these weeks of mission and faith.

DR Mission Trip – June 13-20, 2020

St. John's supports two missionary families serving with Freedom International Ministries in the Dominican Republic – Jason & Becky Suon and Daniel & Bethany Schrock. The home church of the Suon's and the Shrock's is Pettisville Missionary Church (PMC). St. John's and PMC are partnering for a mission trip in June.

PMC is sending their youth and youth leaders, and SJCC is sending youth and adults interested in this cross-cultural experience. Freedom runs a Christian school in the DR with 300 students in preschool through grade six. Trip participants will have the opportunity to work with the children in their summer program, as well as work on ongoing construction of the school.

Trip information was passed out at a recent informational meeting – if you are interested in learning about the experience, please contact Ryan Christman, who is heading up this experience, with the involvement of the Mission Committee. Ryan can be reached via cell phone – 419-551-2124 – or email – rchristman56@gmail.com. The initial deadline to sign up for the trip is December 1st.

Summer Mission Trip – June 14-19, 2020

The summer mission trip has been happening for about 20 years now, and they've been working with LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity for at least the last 10 years. There is a core group of St. John's folks who have enjoyed the week's activities, and they're always looking for additional folks to join them. Lodging and dining at Tower Hill Camp in Sawyer, Michigan, the group travels about 30 minutes to Laporte or Michigan City to the build site and works the morning and afternoons at some phase of new home construction. Further information about the details of the week will be shared come the first of the year!

Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Pioneers (The Doriots), for our gift of \$25.
- Reliant (Kyle Chase), for our gift of \$20.
- Cherry Street Mission/Sparrow's Nest, for our gift of \$85.
- Evangelical Association, for our gift of \$1767.
- Crossroad (The Doriots), for our gift of \$130.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$75.

St. John's offers several experiences for people to deepen their Christian faith while sharing the love and light of Christ with others.

Upcoming mission experiences:

- February 9-15, 2020 – Back Bay Mission Trip, Biloxi, Mississippi
- June 13-20, 2020 – Dominican Republic Mission Trip
- June 14-19, 2020 – Summer Mission Trip, LaPorte County, Indiana
- October 25-31, 2020 – Back Bay Mission Trip, Biloxi, Mississippi

Further experiences are being planned and will be added to the above listing as plans are finalized in the near future. Being added will be local projects (Northwest Ohio) and possibly a short-term weekend trip (Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago). As we seek to encourage participation in these mission endeavors, at the heart of our congregation's focus is the love Jesus calls us to have and to share:

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit-- fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. 17 This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:9-17

Loving others, in sacrificial ways, as Jesus loved and calls us to love, is a major impetus for Christians to engage in missions, both locally and abroad.

Mission experiences provide a way to tangibly love others while serving within a team approach, which naturally fosters fellowship and growth of faith!

Missionary Contact/Prayer Request Information:



Robert & Jenni McMahan, CRU (BGSU)

website - www.give.cru.org
e-mail - robert.mcmahan@cru.org
e-mail - jennifer.mcmahan@cru.org

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

website - www.give.cru.org
e-mail - matthew.waanders@cru.org
e-mail - paige.stamm@cru.org

Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP

website - www.jamkhed.org



Kyle Chase, Reliant (Univ. of Michigan)

website - www.reliant.org
e-mail - kyle.chase@nlcweb.org



Matt Pardi, Reliant (Univ. of Toledo)

website - www.reliant.org
e-mail - matt.pardi@reliant.org

David Hench, Reliant (Univ. of Akron)

website - www.reliant.org
e-mail - david.hench@reliant.org

Tony & Leila Frank, Ivoti, Brazil

website - www.worldteam.org
e-mail - tony.frank@worldteam.org



Tom & Megan, The Islands, Africa

website - tmislands.blogspot.com
e-mail - tmislands@fastmail.net

Kajiado Children's Home

website - www.hope4kajiado.com
e-mail - kajiadochildrenshome@gmail.com

Jason & Becky Suon, Freedom International Ministries, Dominican Republic

website - www.itisforfreedom.com
e-mail - JasonSuon@itisforfreedom.com
e-mail - BeckySuon@itisforfreedom.com

Daniel & Bethany Schrock, Freedom International Ministries, Dominican Republic

website - www.itisforfreedom.com
e-mail - DanielSchrock@itisforfreedom.com
e-mail - BethanySchrock@itisforfreedom.com

Jon & Rachel Doriot, Pioneers Chicago, IL

website - www.pioneers.org
e-mail - kelapa@linkmail.org

Hannah's Socks Drive

In 2005, four year old Hannah was helping her mother serve Thanksgiving dinner at Cherry Street Mission and noticed a guest whose shoes had split open showing his bare feet. She was so concerned about him in the cold that she wanted to give him her own socks. The next day Hannah and her mother purchased and delivered 100 pairs of socks to local shelters and so inspired the "Hannah's Socks" mission that is a community based non-profit organization serving people affected by homelessness, poverty and abuse in the western Ohio and southeastern Michigan areas. With the support of the Mission Committee, Hailey Wooley and Ann Grime, Life Planning partners are asking for your help by holding a sock drive for Hannah's Socks here at St. Johns throughout the month of January. If you would like to support this mission please donate new socks for children, men and women by placing them in the white box across from the chapel. The socks will then be delivered to and be distributed throughout the year by "Hannah's Socks". If you prefer to share a monetary donation please mark your offering envelope "Hannah's Socks". For more information see Hailey or Ann or you can visit the website hannahssocks.org. Please join us in showing God's love through this collection and as Hannah's Socks website states: "Care. Share. And give a pair. You can make a difference!"

ministry happenings

Christian Education

Mid-Week Youth Ministries:

Life Planning

Life Planning had their annual Christmas gathering in December. Each Mentor and their youth created their own gingerbread house. We have some very creative minds in our group. We then had our white elephant gift exchange where this year we had a gift that was quite the hit! Let's just say it needs water to survive. But, we all know the greatest gift of all is Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior! What a fun evening we had to finish out the year. Our next Life Planning gathering will be Jan. 8th.

SYF

This semester at SYF we're going to be learning more about the fruit of the Spirit and how this fruit can be a part of our lives. Want to know the secret? Read John 15:4-5.

AMS Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: Pastor Alex and Eliot Nofziger (from Youth For Christ) co-lead a Bible study on Tuesday mornings, 7:15-8am, at the Archbold Middle School, open to all middle schoolers. This semester we're picking up with the story of the New Testament, following the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the commissioning and empowering of his disciples to be his witnesses throughout the world. Come for the lessons, come for the friends, come for the games, or just come for the donuts and chocolate milk!

Friday Morning Small Group

Jenny Young continues to enjoy meeting with several high school girls for small group conversations and coffee at McDonald's before school on Friday mornings. Feel free to contact her if you're interested in joining the group and getting some coffee on her!

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Gathering with Christians for prayer and Bible study makes for an excellent New Year's Resolution! The start of a new year is a great time to join the Tuesday morning Bible study group. This weekly time of fellowship, prayer and Bible study explores the Discovery Guide's daily lesson for that Tuesday. The two pastors take turns leading the study time, which occurs from 9:15am to 10:15am in the Fireside Room.

Third Thursday Luncheon

The next Thursday luncheon will be held on January 16, 2020, beginning at 11:30pm in the parish hall. Those in attendance will discover what menu Judy Sears has come up with for the meal, as well as enjoy a short program on an area mission project.

Men's Ministry

A monthly time to gather, enjoy breakfast and fellowship, hear a testimony, share joys and concerns, and pray together. Our meeting time for January is Saturday, January 11th at 7:40AM.

January 2020



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— Emergency Clean-Up Kits Elder of the Month— TBD		1 New Year's Day Office closed	2 7:00PM Mission Comm. 7:30PM Praise Band Re- hearsal	3	4
5 12:00PM Preschool Open House for SJCC	6 11:00AM Staff Meeting 7:00PM Preschool Open House for the community	7 7:15AM YFC Bible Study@AMS 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Comm. Meal 7:00PM Capital Campaign Committee 7:00PM SYF Leader's Meet- ing	8 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM Facility Committee 7:00PM Life Planning	9 4:00PM Laundry Buddy	10	11 7:40AM Men's Prayer Brkfst. 1:00PM Re- vive Ohio Out- reach—SJCC
12	13 11:00AM Staff Meeting 4:00PM Budget & Steward- ship Committee 8:30PM Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision	14 7:15AM YFC Bible Study@AMS 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 5:00PM Comm. Meal 7:00PM Property Committee	15 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Re- hearsal	16 11:30AM Third Thursday Luncheon	17	18
19 9:00AM Sunday School Hr 10:00AM Worship Service 11:15 Annual Congrega- tional Meeting 12:15 PM Meal	20 Preschool Off—Martin Luther King Jr. Day 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	21 7:15AM YFC Bible Study@AMS 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Mtg 5:00PM Comm. Meal	22 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Re- hearsal	23 4:00PM Laundry Buddy	24	25
26	27 11:00AM Staff Meeting	28 7:15AM YFC Bible Study@AMS 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 5:00PM Comm. Meal	29 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 5:50PM LOCOS 7:00PM SYF	30	31	

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Duane Hayes | 17 Trevor Neuenschwander |
| 2 Josee Grime | 18 Ava Genter, John & Kathryn Graber |
| 4 Ryan Christman | 21 Ann Fether |
| 5 Karen Schnitkey | 22 Kay Stamm |
| 7 Wade Enderle, Jon Lindsay | 23 Jim Grieser, Reese Grime |
| 8 Ralph Grieser | 24 Deb Rupp |
| 9 Amy Baden, Bodi Kauffman, Leah Hall,
Jack & Joanne Spotts | 26 Tim & Sue Grieser, Travis Gruenhagen,
Pat Leupp, Verlene Lovejoy |
| 12 Tootie Beck, Tyson Bostelman | 29 Joan Lovejoy |
| 13 Cathy Nofziger, Stacy Rutledge, Len & Jean Stamm | 30 Priscilla Ashley, Nate Meyer, Wayne Spiess |
| 14 Jace Bernath | |
| 16 Aaron Kauffman, Anna Yoder | |

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

worship

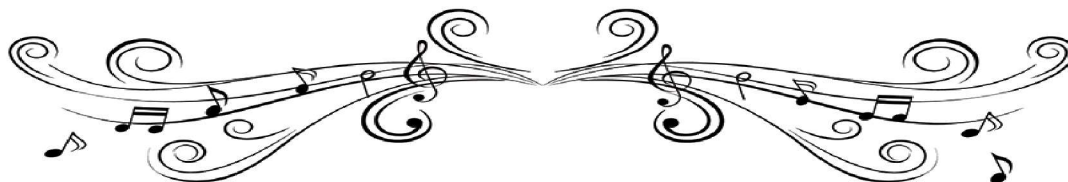
January Worship Schedule

January 5th Sacrament of Communion
Scriptures – Ephesians 5:1-2, 2 Peter 3:1-18
Sermon – “Customizing the Faith”
10:30am – Chancel Choir – “Arise All Ye People”

January 12th Scripture – Ruth 1-4
Sermon – “Redeeming Ruth” – Pastor Alex

January 19th Annual Meeting Sunday
9:00am Sunday School Hour
10:00am Worship
Scriptures – Proverbs 19:20-21, Luke 2:41-52
Sermon – “Listening in Silence”
Special Music – Bell & Chime Choirs
11:15am Annual Meeting
12:15pm Lunch served by the SYF

January 26th Scriptures – John 8:12, Revelation 2:1-7
Sermon – “Jesus Among the Lampstands”
10:30am – Chancel Choir – “Worthy, Faithful and Righteous”



Spring Gospel Concert

The Mark Trammel Gospel Quartet will perform at SJCC on Sunday, March 1st at 6:00pm.

Revive Ohio is hosting an outreach event on January 11th from 1pm to 5pm. The event will be held here at St. John's! Following a time of worship and training, participants will be sent out in teams of four – sent out to meet people and ask them how they can be prayed for, which hopefully leads to further faith conversations. Teams will return to St. John's for a time of testimonials and a light evening meal.

consistory/committees

Church Treasurer

As earlier announced, Roger Miller is retiring at Church Treasurer, having served 40 years in this congregational office. 40 Years! Wow! We'll be honoring Roger at the January Annual meeting.

Highlights of the Minutes of the December 16th Consistory Meeting

Committee Reports

a. Personnel Committee – Carrie Wooley

- Church Treasurer – Mary Zimmerman was offered the position of Church Treasurer. She plans to contact Roger to job shadow. Mary recommends to keep a dual system for now, she feels that her God given gifts and desire to make connections with her new church family makes this a perfect position for her to serve. Todd Nafziger moved to accept the Personnel Committee's recommendation on the hiring of Mary Zimmerman as church treasurer, Tim Beck 2nd the motion. Motion approved.
- Personnel Compensation - Health Insurance was renewed with Medical Mutual. Looked at other options for Health Insurance.

b. Budget & Stewardship Committee – Keith Kern

- Financial Reports – Our investments are at all-time highs. Everything is in line for the budget. We will be making great use of Quick Books On-Line for our accounting.
- Motion to approve the Proposed Operating Budget, Ann Fether, Jeff Rutledge 2nd the motion. Budget approved.

c. Mission Committee – Mark Nofziger

- December Disbursements – Total: \$7,000.00. One more meeting will be held at the end of December to finish yearly disbursement and finalize the 2020 Budget. Several adults and students going to the DR trip in June. Donations are being given, and mission funds will be available to support the students. Mark made a motion to accept the proposed mission budget, Ann Fether 2nd the motion. Motion approved.

d. Preschool Board - Ann Fether/ Mindy Gruenhagen

- Missy Warncke, the preschool classroom aide, accepted a full-time sub position at a school from January to May. Jesse Aschliman is being asked to cover for Missy from January to May. Enrollment has been down. The board has decided to eliminate the T/TH afternoon classes in the 2020/2021 school year. This will allow Sue to use that time to plan for the rest of the week, which in turn will eliminate the need for the classroom aide. Joan's hours will be decreased as well. This is for the Fall 2020 school year. The board would like to keep this consistent and stable for a few years.

e. Property Committee – Tim Beck

- Heating System Repair – Currently the gym is heated with one zone. Kurt Phillips will install one heat pump on the north side of the gym. For a January install we needed to act quickly with an order. A written quote was asked to be given to Property Committee. Wiring is not included, which shouldn't be much more. The overall cost will be just over \$18,000 to get heating and air conditioning in the parish hall. This would be for one pump at this time.

consistory/committees

Property Committee – cont.

- Snowplowing is taken care of for now. Still working on the digital sign for out front. Finding several issues with the sign. They would like the sign moved to just north of the south entrance to be able to have a two-sided sign. Want to keep the stone pillars that match the church building. Richard Spiess has volunteered to fill one of the two positions available on the committee, Scott Short has agreed to remain as the chairman, Tim will be vice-chair.
- Jeff Rutledge made a motion to affirm the emergency measure that was taken to fix the catastrophic loss of heating in the parish hall up to \$22,000 with the funds to come out of the Legacy Fund, Todd Nafziger, 2nd the motion. Motion approved.

f. Spiritual Council – Erich Christman

- 2020 Nomination Ballot – So far, we have a Presidential nominee, Secretary nominee and 3 people who have agreed to be on the ballot for deacons/deaconess. Zero names for Elders of the Congregation. Hope to get a ballot out two weeks before the meeting. Be in prayer over names for the ballot.
- Gloria Lauber made a motion to approve the committee reports, Ann Fether 2nd the motion. Reports approved.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Erich

- Rick Jones, former executive director of Youth for Christ, passed away this past week. Funeral service to be held here at SJCC. Rick was a Pastor at Inlet Mennonite Church and they don't have the space for his service. Arrangements are currently being finalized.

Associate Pastor's Report – Pastor Alex

- Youth Ministry (SYF) went caroling at Fairlawn this past Sunday. That was their last event for 2019. Plans to meet with leaders for fundraising for the upcoming mission trip to the DR.
- Stephen Ministry – no one else has offered to be trained to be a Stephen minister. Waiting and exploring more options to keep momentum going for the new ministry. The care relationships in place are going well.

Old Business

- Discernment Planning Time – January 25th 9:00am-Noon.
- Audit Reports – still a few reports to be audited.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our annual business meeting is scheduled for Sunday morning, January 19th. Business at the Annual Meeting will include:

- Approval of 2019 Financial Reports
- Consideration of 2020 Proposed Budgets
- Action on the 2020 Election Ballot for the offices of Congregational President, Congregational Secretary, Elder and Deacon/Deaconess
- Consideration of a proposal from the Facility Committee to contract with G5 Architecture for concept plans to address: 1) Accessibility, 2) Restrooms, and 3) Sanctuary Renovations.

Packets for the Annual Meeting will be available by Sunday, January 12th

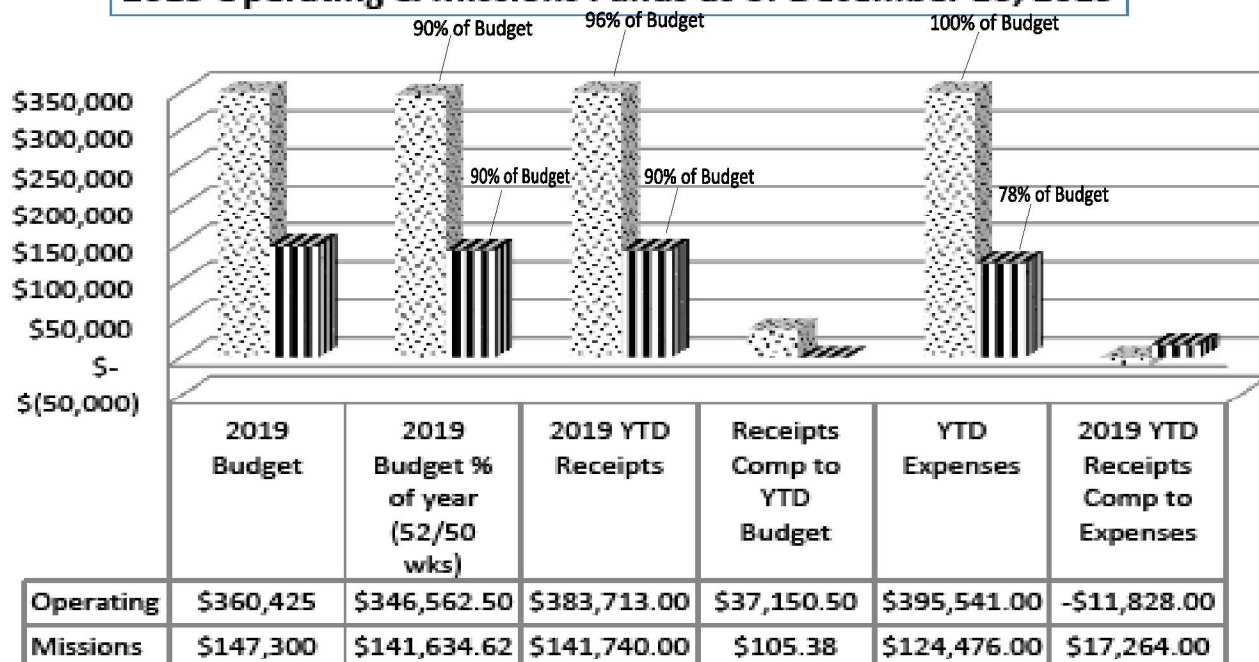
stewardship/2019 finances

A Snap Shot of Our Year to Date Stewardship – as of December 18, 2019

2019 Operating Year to Date Income – \$388,733
 2019 Operating Year to Date Expenses – \$398,259
 2019 Operating Year to Date Overage – \$9,526
 2019 Operating Budget – \$360,425

2019 Mission Year to Date Income – \$141,741
 2019 Mission Year to Date Expenses – \$124,476
 2019 Mission Year to Date Funds on Hand – \$17,265
 2019 Mission Budget – \$147,300

2019 Operating & Missions Funds as of December 16, 2019



IYF Building Campaign Total Receipts as of December 27, 2019 - \$761,059.67

January 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>.

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| 1 A Question of Perspective -----Psalm 90 | 16 Drawing the Battle Lines----- Luke 4:1-13 |
| 2 Letting Go-----Ecclesiastes 2:17-26 | 17 The Long Pause-----Luke 4:14-21 |
| 3 Celebrating the Seasons ----- Ecclesiastes 2:17-26 | 18 Misunderstood Messiah -----Luke 4:22-30 |
| 4 No God; No Hope ----- Ecclesiastes 3:16-22 | 19 Sin Deceives, God Delivers-----Psalm 36 |
| 5 Active Faith -----Psalm 34 | 20 Absolute Authority-----Luke 4:31-37 |
| 6 A Helping Hand -----Ecclesiastes 4:1-12 | 21 At His Father's Feet-----Luke 4:38-44 |
| 7 Slow to Speak ----- Ecclesiastes 4:13-5:7 | 22 Redefining Success----- Luke 5:1-11 |
| 8 How Much is Enough? ----- Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:12 | 23 Powerful Love-----Luke 5:12-16 |
| 9 It's Not Fair! ----- Ecclesiastes 9:1-12 | 24 Faithful, Faith-Full Friends-----Luke 5:17-26 |
| 10 Whispering Wisdom-----Ecclesiastes 9:13-10:9 | 25 Two Kinds of People?-----Luke 5:27-32 |
| 11 Planning for the Unknown ----- Ecclesiastes 11 | 26 Wisdom for the Worried-----Psalm 37 |
| 12 Under Attack ----- Ecclesiastes Psalm 35 | 27 The Repentant Rejoice-----Luke 5:33-39 |
| 13 On Youth and Aging----- Ecclesiastes 12 | 28 Heart of the Law-Giver ----- Luke 6:1-11 |
| 14 Good News and Bad News----- Luke 3:1-20 | 29 Divine Appointments-----Luke 6:12-16 |
| 15 Fully Human, Fully Alive!-----Luke 3:21-38 | 30 Comforting the Afflicted-----Luke 6:17-26 |
| | 31 Supernatural Love ----- Luke 6:27-36 |

Phone 419-446-2545
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 Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM
 Sunday School 9:15AM

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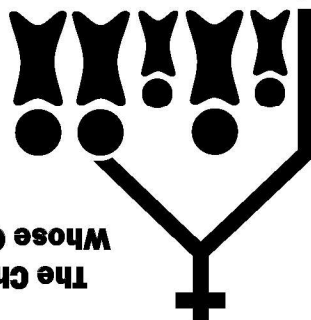
Treasurer Roger Miller

Custodians Dean Buckenmeyer
 Richard Spiess

Security

Holy Communion:
 New Year (1/5), Ash Wednesday (2/26), Maundy Thursday (4/9),
 Pentecost (5/31), Mid-Summer (7/12), World Wide Communion
 (10/4), First Sunday of Advent (11/29)

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. Deance Street
Archbold, OH 43502

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