

# The Visitor

## prayer concerns

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

September 1, 2014 Volume 60, Number 9

### Please Pray For:

- Mike Meyer, whose mother, Betty Meyer, went to be with the Lord on August 20th.
- Jace Ryan Redd, infant son of Andy and Meredith Redd (grandparents Jim and Betsy Redd), who was born 6 weeks early on Aug. 9th (see birth announcement below). Jace is in the continuing care unit at Fairview Park Hospital (Cleveland Clinic).
- Jean Stamm, who is recovering from a broken leg.
- Veronica Rupp, who is healing from a compression fracture of a vertebrae in her back.
- Mert Kinsman, who is undergoing radiation treatment for bone cancer.
- Dale VonDeylen, who is recovering from surgery.
- Maria Cruz, who has been diagnosed with a cancerous mass on one of her kidneys.
- Annie Foote, who found out the cancer was confined and none was found in her lymph nodes; she has begun chemo treatments that will continue through the end of the year.
- Vern Ruffer, who is in the Defiance Area Inpatient Hospice Center.
- Kathryn Graber, who has completed radiation treatments and will undergo further testing to determine future treatments.
- Richard and Cathy Spiess, as Richard cares for Cathy who lives with Frontal Temporal Dementia.
- Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety. Serving from our church are:

#### Kyle Ducey (Navy)

10175 Park Meadows Dr., #5-326  
Lone Tree, CO 80124

#### 1 Lt. Jared R. Kuntz (Army)

Wife, Maria & children, Silvette & Elias:  
627 UN Lauman, Fort Sill, OK 73503

#### Dennis LaPorte (Air Force)

Wife, Wren & daughter, Lorelei  
107 Nebraska St, Travis AFB, CA 94535-1235

#### Lesniak, Jacob LCpl (Marines)

LOC #1355 MCCES, Box 788253  
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278-8253

#### Martinez, Braden (Army) - Afghanistan

304th En Co, 19th En Bn, APO, AE 09354  
Wife, Brittany & daughters Madison & Claire  
610 E. South St, Bryan, OH 43506

#### Steven Schink (Coast Guard)

Wife, Ashley & son Brennan  
(in the process of moving to Connecticut)

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 #120

Mary Jo Britt, Fairlawn Heights Room #206

Valeria Hornish, Room #174A

Eileen Meller, Room #133

Marilyn Nofziger, Room #144

Esther Rice, Room #116

Sadonna Spiess, Special Care Unit Room #405B

Fairlawn Asst. Living, 500 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502

Lois Heer, Room #238

Jane Short, Room #208

Pauline Short, Room #205

Fulton Manor, 723 S. Shoop Ave., Wauseon, 43567

Myrl & Pauline Zimmerman, Room #505

Northcrest, 240 Northcrest Dr., Napoleon, 43545

Irene Short, Room #100

## congregational news

### CONGRATULATIONS to Gregg and Annika

Johnson on the birth of their son, Mika Alexander on August 9th. Micah weighed 7 lbs. and 2 oz. and was 20" long. Mika has a 3-year old sister, Helena.



### CONGRATULATIONS to Andy and Meredith

Redd on the birth of their son, Jace Ryan on August 9th. Jace was born 6 weeks early and weighed 4 lbs and was 17-3/4" long. He is in the continuing care unit at Fairview Park Hospital (Cleveland Clinic). His grandparents include Jim and Betsy Redd.



## **pastor's letter**

### **Thoughts from Pastor Erich . . .**

As I spent time in meditation, prayer and discernment over the course of this summer, I would read these words of Psalm 46:10: "Be still, and know that I am God." In times of stillness, I would seek direction from the Lord as I sought to plan out the coming program year. Through those times of silence, stillness and reflection, the words "to know God" kept rolling around in my mind. To know God! Seems like a theme was beginning to formulate. To know God! Seems kind of simplistic, for of course we are to know God, yet I know we are each to know God more! "To Know God More!" As I used my Bible software to search the scriptures, I came to settle in on the following two passages.

In John 17:1-3, after Jesus had once more shared his approaching death with his disciples, he looks toward heaven and prays: "*Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*"

In Philippians 3:10-11, Paul wrote, "*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.*"

People come to know God through the revelation of His written word. To read, study, reflect upon, memorize, and remember – to know the words of scripture enables people to know God more. Of course there is much more to a faith relationship with Jesus Christ than just knowing the words of scripture, but knowing the truth of the Bible is fundamental to a person's Christian walk of faith.

During the program year of 2014-2015, I am striving to coordinate all of the efforts of our ministries along this theme of "To Know God More!" This is now my daily prayer, and I ask each person of our congregation to join me in this daily prayer – that each of us would know God more.

I was recently forwarded an e-mail being shared around the nation. It's asking Christians in America to participate – every evening at 9:00PM Eastern Time to stop whatever you are doing and spend one minute praying for the safety of the United States and for a return to a Godly nation. Whether you participate in that one minute of prayer is up to you.

What I really am asking everyone to do is to commit

to a one minute prayer for us "To Know God More!" Though I, and I trust we each, believe in the power of our congregation praying together, I'm not sure what is the best time to suggest, but I believe we will work out a common time in the coming weeks. For now, what I am asking is that each of you take one minute a day to pray the following prayer, and if you pray for longer than one minute, praise the Lord! If you are a fast prayer, pray the prayer twice, or more!

*I pray in the power of the Holy Spirit, that I want to know God more! Lord, I want people to know You more! Lord God, I pray for the power of Your Spirit to convict me in my devotion to knowing the truth of scripture. Kindle an ever stronger and more faithful desire within me to strengthen my faith, that I would exude the love of Christ in my daily life. May our pastor's call of this theme undergird our congregation's ministries, that our congregation will be a bright and bold light in our community, proclaiming the truth and light of Jesus Christ to all. Yes, Lord, I desire to make my heart's desire to know God more. Illumine my soul with Your refreshing and sustaining grace and faithfulness, and I pledge to worship, honor and serve You, Christ my Lord. In the company of my family of faith, I pray. Amen.*

## **preschool corner**

Summer is over, and plans for preschool are almost complete! We have been busy putting up bulletin boards, arranging the preschool room and preparing materials for the children. We are very anxious to meet our new students, and to welcome back our friends from last year.

You'll notice that our Giving Tree is missing from the wall outside the classroom, and in its place we've hung a poster of a fish bowl. Our theme is "Catch a fish and grant a wish." Each fish in the bowl will have a needed item listed on it, as well as the date we need the item. Items may be placed in the blue tote outside the preschool room. Use of the fish bowl allows us to stretch our budget a bit so we can provide additional activities and experiences for the children. Items are GREATLY appreciated! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Sue MacDonald at 419-388-3606.

The list of items we are collecting that was in the August Visitor has been duplicated and is hanging on the bulletin board outside the north preschool door. We will be accepting these items all year.

Material items are appreciated, but more than anything else, we appreciate your thoughts and prayers as we prepare to teach these little ones this year!

Thank you!! Sue MacDonald & Joan Burkholder



## congregational news

cont.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Tyler and Traci Rupp on the birth of their son, Silas Kade on August 14th. Silas weighed 9 lbs., 10 oz. and was 22" long. His grandparents include Jon and Deb Rupp.



## congregational thank you's

To My Church Family,

Thank you for sending me to bible camp. I had so much fun and I learned a lot more about the bible and Christ.

Devin Beltz



Dear St. John's,

Thank you for the amazing trip to Bair Lake Bible Camp. I met a lot of great new people that encouraged me to take another step in my faith. My counselors were so nice and fun. I liked the memory verse for the camp, Psalms 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Thanks for the opportunity to grow closer to God!

Aiden Warncke



Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for sending me to Bair Lake Bible Camp. The Bair Lake staff was very friendly and encouraging about growing in my relationship with God. Bair Lake Bible Camp was an amazing experience to improve my faith and really helped me realize the truly miraculous things God does in my life. I recommend Bair Lake to any of the confirmands that have not been able to experience it. Thanks again for sending me to Bair Lake Bible Camp!

Gabby Nafziger



Thank you Pastor Erich for taking us up to camp and bringing us back, and thanks to the church for paying for our trip. It was a great time!

Kreighton Sims



I would like to thank the Church for sending me to Bair Lake Bible Camp. It was very fun and a great time to learn more about God. Thanks again,

TJ Rice

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to go to Bair Lake Bible Camp. I met many new people, and learned a lot more about my faith. At camp, I had a fun time and the counselors were all great and encouraging people. I had a wonderful time being at camp with my friends and thanks again for giving me the opportunity to go.

Clay Nafziger



Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for giving me this amazing opportunity to attend Bair Lake Bible Camp. I had an amazing time! I met so many new and great people and I had amazing counselors. I have a bigger understanding of many different bible stories. I feel so much closer to God. It felt so good to be surrounded by believers of Christ and knowing there was nothing to fear. Thank you again for giving me this wonderful experience!

Kaitlyn Beck



Dear Church Family,

I would like to thank you for giving me such an amazing experience. I have become so much closer to The Lord from my week at Bair Lake Bible Camp. Us campers had so many amazing opportunities to achieve many goals, and come out of our comfort zones. I have learned so many things that I hope to share with others and maybe even influence some. Thank you again. It was probably one of the best weeks of my life. Thanks!

Sincerely, Blair Bucklew



Thank you for the acts of kindness extended to us during our "Move." Needless to say, we will miss our church family, but it is wonderful to be with "Our family." May God bless you and keep you in His loving arms.

Love, Ed & Dianne Wyrick

3164 Escott Ave.

Toledo, OH 43614

Phone: 419-214-8062

[edrick@bex.net](mailto:edrick@bex.net)



The outpouring of concern, love and compassion we have received in the past two months has been overwhelming...books, cards, calls and food. I covet your continued prayers as we travel this new road in service of our King. God bless you all.

Annie & JB Foote

## mission corner

### Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Altlink (Tom & Megan L.), for our gift of \$140.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$263.
- Cherry Street Mission, for our gift of \$121.
- PET, for our gift of \$1,159.86 from Vacation Bible School week.

### A Thank You regarding the Community Meals:

To all at St. John's who helped with the community meal on 7/29: We all wish to thank you, the many individuals who worked beside us, on Tuesday, July 29th, serving the community meal. Your services were greatly appreciated in making the event run smoothly. Thank you again for your continued serving each week. God Bless you all. The Retired Teachers & Friends



Dear Friends of PET in VBS,

Someone whom you will most likely never see, a person leg-handicapped from polio, leprosy, birth defects, war or work injuries, diabetes, or other causes will thank you for your caring gift of \$1,159.86 to enable them to have the gift of mobility and hope, a PET (Personal Energy Transport). And we at PET thank you for your caring and sharing.

In His service,  
Mel West, PET Director Emeritus



Dear Friends of St. John's Christian Church VBS,

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northwest Ohio is most grateful for the in-kind donation of food items for our families. Each year nearly 500 families stay at the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo. Research studies indicate that sick children whose parents remain nearby heal faster and more thoroughly. Parents who stay with us are just minutes from visiting their hospitalized child. Ronald McDonald House Charities is most grateful for your support of our mission to help provide a temporary, home-away-from-home for families who travel to Toledo to access specialized medical care for their children.

Very truly yours,  
Rachel Williams, Development Dir.

### September Mission-A-Month - Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission:

September's Mission of the Month is the Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission (TGRM). TGRM men's shelter and Rebekah's Haven women's shelter provide for the spiritual, physical and material needs for homeless persons in the Toledo area. We support them prayerfully, financially and with material donations, as well as by preparing and sharing meals and chapel

services with their guests.

They ask for continued prayer for the residents in the men's and women's shelters, that they would seek and find relationship with God and begin to put their lives here on earth back together and be productive citizens again.

Usually by the end of the summer the shelves at TGRM are looking rather bare. Please place donated non-perishable food items in the white mission box outside the chapel area. You may also give monetary donations by marking TGRM on your offering envelopes. Thank you for your support in caring for God's people!

### 2014 / 2015 Mission Trips / Opportunities:

September 14 – Chapel & Meal at TGRM

October 11-18 – Back Bay Mission

November 16 – Chapel & Meal at TGRM

Jan. 3-10, 2015 – DR Mission Trip (Full)

### Back Bay Mission Trip – October 11-18, 2014:

Situated along the gulf in Biloxi, Mississippi, Back Bay Mission has offered compassion and hope to thousands of children, adults and families along the Mississippi gulf coast since 1922. Back Bay Mission (BBM) continues its journey of providing innovative solutions and compassionate responses to those suffering at the hands of social injustice and economic hardship.

SJCC has been involved in BBM's housing rehabilitation program on a regular basis since 2000; in fact, October's trip will mark the 28th trip to Biloxi since 2000. Several people have gone on just one of those trips, others have gone back multiple times, and still others have gone back twice a year for several years in a row – all depending upon people's preferences and schedules.

There is room for 12 volunteers for this next trip. Work might be on interior finishes of the multiple unit apartment building being built for Veteran's housing – flooring, painting, cabinets, doors, etc. It's a week of great Christian fellowship, faithful serving and enriching life experiences. Further information is posted on the hallway bulletin board at the church, or can be obtained by e-mailing [pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org).

### Back Bay Mission Shrimp Boil:

Back Bay Mission has asked SJCC to host a Shrimp Boil – a special time to gather together, enjoy some delicious food and hear about the ministry of Back Bay Mission. Whether you like shrimp or not, please consider gathering for the shrimp boil on Saturday evening, October 18th at 6PM. A sign-up sheet will



be posted so people can choose between shrimp and another entrée – maybe that will be steak (definitely not hot dogs)! And if you read carefully, with the Biloxi mission trip ending that morning, the shrimp will be straight from the gulf, delivered via the church bus! Watch for further details as October comes closer!

### **Cherry Street Mission Ministries Banquet:**

St. John's will again be hosting Cherry Street Mission Ministries' fall fundraising banquet on Thursday, September 28th at 6:30PM in the parish hall. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for volunteers needed that evening. Flyers are available on a table in both the sanctuary and chapel narthex for those wishing to attend the banquet. You can also register online at [www.cherrystreetmission.org](http://www.cherrystreetmission.org).

### **Mackenzie Nofziger:**

**Teaching at the Bangkok International Christian School; her blog ([kenzinthailand.wordpress.com](http://kenzinthailand.wordpress.com)) is updated once or twice a month**

Mackenzie has settled in well, both in her apartment in Bangkok and in her classroom at the school. Classes started on August 6th. She and her two roommates have been going to different churches and hope to find one soon that they can get plugged into. They trust the Lord will lead them to a church and that whatever church they connect with will be the best place (besides the school) to serve. Please be praying for discernment in terms of finding a church community and that ministry opportunities are opened up for them.



### **Kyle Chase – Great Commission Ministries (GCM) at the University of Michigan:**

Kyle has been commissioned by the GCM pastors to lead a team of his peers in beginning a new work on the North Campus of the U of M. They believe God is leading them to establish a new worship service and church home within walking distance of the over 4000 freshmen students who will be housed on the North Campus. Please pray for Kyle, his family and the gifted team of leaders. They are in the process of



raising support funds and laying the groundwork with staff and students for this new kingdom venture.

### **Comprehensive Rural Health Project – Aroles:**

Upon her return from her summer internship with CRHP, Amy Christman hand delivered the following letter from Ravi Arole and the CRHP Family:



“Dear St. John’s Christian Church, thank you so much for supporting CRHP from abroad and here on campus. We are very grateful that Morgan and Amy were able to visit us. They both made many valuable contributions to the Jamkhed Community. Amy’s time in the preschool was greatly appreciated; she brought so much love and joy into the kids’ lives. Morgan’s positive energy and nursing skills continue to brighten patients’ days in the hospital. We hope to meet more members of your congregation in the future.

As CRHP enters the next 40 years of its history, we are committed to investing in and spreading community-based health and development to marginalized groups across India and around the world. Your support goes along way toward helping us achieve this goal. Thank you so much for standing with us over the years as work towards the goal of health for all.”

### **Tony & Leila Frank – Transitioning from Mozambique to Brazil :**

With a growing desire and concern to be close to one set of their aging parents, following months of prayer, exploration and discernment, Tony and Leila discovered that the southern Brazil World Team was looking for someone to join a Brazilian-led team to be primarily involved in church-planting, counseling, leadership training, outreach to and training of university students. That would put them about 1 hour away from Leila’s parents! After discussion with World Team leadership and World Team missionaries in Southern Brazil, they received and accepted an invitation from the Southern Brazil team to join their effort in seeing lives transformed by the Living Savior and His Good News.

They are finishing things up now in Mozambique and hope to arrive in Brazil sometime in September.



## mission corner cont.

### Judd & Becky McClarren – Ethiopia:

A commissioning service was held for Judd & Becky on August 17th at First Baptist Church in Wauseon. The service of scripture, music and prayer was punctuated with the laying on of hands in blessing. In God's timing, the McClarren's are intending to be in Ethiopia by the end of September. Becky will be serving at the Soddo Christian Hospital and Judd will be working in the area, establishing relationships in the area's agricultural community.



### Community/Neighborhood Projects:

Parking the "St. John's Christian Church" black work trailer on South Defiance Street sure caught people's attention! Having been contacted for cooperative assistance by FISH, a group of SJCC volunteers tackled the project of replacing a home's roof. The home owner has been battling brain cancer since last winter and needed some help with various repairs, including a new roof. He supplied the materials and we supplied the labor. Though it was a steep roof and the weather was hot, the project went quickly and no one was hurt!

If you know of other such projects in which people from SJCC could help, please contact Pastor Erich and we'll see what we can work out!

### Missionary News and Contact Information:

#### Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP

web site - [www.jamkhed.org](http://www.jamkhed.org)

#### Kyle Chase, Great Commission Ministries

web site - [www.gcmweb.org](http://www.gcmweb.org)

e-mail - [Kyle.Chase@gcmweb.org](mailto:Kyle.Chase@gcmweb.org)

#### Matt Pardi, Great Commission Ministries

web site - [www.h2ochurch.com](http://www.h2ochurch.com)

e-mail - [matt.pardi@gcmweb.org](mailto:matt.pardi@gcmweb.org)

#### Tony & Leila F., Mozambique

web site - [www.worldteam.org](http://www.worldteam.org)

e-mail - [tony.frank@worldteam.org](mailto:tony.frank@worldteam.org)

#### Tom & Megan L., The Islands, Africa

web sites - [tmislands.blogspot.com](http://tmislands.blogspot.com)

e-mail - [tmlangsdorf@msn.com](mailto:tmlangsdorf@msn.com)

#### Judd & Becky McClarren

15633 Co Rd J, Wauseon, OH 43567

#### Larry & Linda Rupp, Kajiado Children's Home

web site - [www.hope4kajiado.com](http://www.hope4kajiado.com)

e-mail - [kajiadochildrenshome@gmail.com](mailto:kajiadochildrenshome@gmail.com)

#### Brian & Jamie Rauschenberger, Haiti

New Life International

web site - [www.WaterForTheWorld.com](http://www.WaterForTheWorld.com)

e-mail - [Brian@WaterForTheWorld.com](mailto:Brian@WaterForTheWorld.com)

e-mail - [Jamie@WaterForTheWorld.com](mailto:Jamie@WaterForTheWorld.com)

#### Keith & Cheryl Wyse - The Agape Family Life House

web site - [www.agapeflh.org](http://www.agapeflh.org)

e-mail - [k.wyse@agapeflh.org](mailto:k.wyse@agapeflh.org)

#### Jon & Rachel Doriot - Pioneers, Papua

web site - [www.pioneers.org](http://www.pioneers.org)

e-mail - [kalepa@linkmail.org](mailto:kalepa@linkmail.org)

#### Mackenzie Nofziger - Bangkok, Thailand

web site - [www.team.org](http://www.team.org)

e-mail - [mmnofziger@gmail.com](mailto:mmnofziger@gmail.com)

## ministry happenings

### Christian Education

#### Give 60: Join Our LOGOS Team!:

There are 10,080 minutes in week, and it only takes volunteering 60 minutes at LOGOS each week to share God's love and to serve His children! LOGOS is one of St. John's largest community outreach ministries, encouraging children from our congregation and our local area to grow in faith and to trust Jesus. For our program to continue be a blessing to our children, we need adult volunteers to give just a little bit of their time, energy, and enthusiasm by serving as Bible Study Teachers, Table Parents, and Kitchen Crew members. With more staff members, we can serve and love each child in bigger ways! If you have never helped at LOGOS before and possess a desire or feel called to serve, you can - and will - undoubtedly be a blessing to our ministry! Please prayerfully consider how you can help this ministry and join our wonderful adult staff. Contact Jenna Storrer for more information: [jennastorrer1@gmail.com](mailto:jennastorrer1@gmail.com)

#### Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF):

Junior Youth Fellowship will be following the LOGOS calendar this year. This means the first JYF of the year will be on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:30PM. If you have questions about JYF, please contact Mike and Katie Whiteman, Josh and Kasey Grime, or Pastor Adam.

#### Senior Youth Fellowship (SYF):

Welcome to Senior Youth Fellowship! SYF kicked off the year back on August 20th. Our theme this year is Truth. We'll be looking at Jesus as the Truth of our lives. SYF is each Wednesday night at 7PM in the youth room. Save the date for Saturday, October 25 for a youth day of service from 8AM-1PM.



### **Life Planning:**

Life Planning is our high school youth mentoring program, where a youth is partnered up with an adult from the church to form a mentoring relationship. Life Planning begins September 10th at 7PM. If you are interested in participating in Life Planning please contact Pastor Adam, Kim Hines or Karen Walker.

### **Events / Activities**

#### **Upcoming Fellowship Committee Events:**

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our annual Chicken BBQ dinner on Sunday, September 28th. Serving will begin at 11:15AM in the parish hall (free will donation will be collected). Come and enjoy a great meal and great fellowship with your church family.

And planning has begun for our annual Gong Show and Silent Auction on Sunday, October 26th. So start making/collecting those donated items and get your "acts" together for our annual night of laughter and entertainment.

#### **Attention Ladies:**

The Women of Faith revival tour is coming here this year. Yes, right here to St. John's Christian Church. We will be hosting this simulcast event on November 7 and 8. Be ready to transform your soul, awaken your spirit and revive your faith. Save the date and join us for this tour. More information will be coming out in September!! Meanwhile, if you have any questions, contact Deb Schnitkey.



#### **Men's Ministry - Men's Breakfast:**

On Wednesday morning, September 17th, men from St. John's are invited to come and enjoy breakfast at the Home Restaurant from 6:15-7:15AM. We will meet in one of the back rooms, spend some time in good conversation, scripture reading and discussion before closing in prayer. This Men's Breakfast happens each month on the 3rd Wednesday. Contact Pastor Adam if you have questions.

### **Parents...It's Your Call:**

Through the efforts of the Fulton County Healthy Choices Caring Communities program, a "Social Networking for Parents" event will be held here at St. John's on Wednesday, September 17, 6:30-8:00PM. There is space for 30 parents to interact with the presenters (Sgt. Courtney and Det. Chittendon from the Wauseon Police Department) in regards to cell phones and teens, social media sites, basic internet safety, online gaming and more. Parents are asked to bring a wifi-enabled phone, tablet or laptop. Please RSVP by signing the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

#### **Prayer and Personal/Family Time:**

Instead of changing channels, use that remote to mute the television when a commercial comes on and bow in prayer, spending a minute or two offering praises to God for the blessings of your day, or seeking God's direction in dealing with the tests and trails of your day.

#### **Alpha Course:**

Beginning on Wednesday, September 10th we are going to be starting an Alpha Course. Alpha is an opportunity to explore the teachings of Jesus in a relaxed setting. Weekly topics include: Who Is Jesus? How Does God Guide Us? How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life? And many more. An Alpha evening will go from 6-8PM on Wednesday evenings and include a soup supper. There is no cost for Alpha, and please sign up on the bulletin board. Contact Pastor Adam, John Graber, Bill Barnhart or Kenny Nafziger with questions.

#### **Adult Sunday School Class – Spiritual Gifts:**

What is your spiritual gift? How do your spiritual gifts fit into the body of Christ? Join us for an adult class in September covering the spiritual gifts. We'll be looking at the various scriptures that reference spiritual gifts and do some discovery of our own giftedness. This class will include a spiritual gift assessment, so please sign up on the bulletin board so we can get you the assessment. Contact Pastor Adam if you have questions.

#### **Adriel Benefit Auction:**

The annual benefit auction will be held on Saturday, October 18 in West Liberty, Ohio.

#### **Blue Lake Charters & Tours:**

Jamboree is the title for a week trip sponsored by Blue Lake Charters and Tours from Monday, October 20 to Saturday, October 25. Detailed trip information including cost is posted on the bulletin board. Feel free to contact Marilyn Buehrer (419-822-4776) if questions or interested in attending.



# September 2014



Pastor - [pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:pastorerich@stjohnsarchbold.org)  
 Associate Pastor - [pastoradam@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:pastoradam@stjohnsarchbold.org)

Administrative Assistant - [office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org)  
 Director of Music Ministry - [daschmitkey@yahoo.com](mailto:daschmitkey@yahoo.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:00 & 10:30AM Worship 9:15AM SS/Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation	1 Labor Day	Mission-A-Month— Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission (TGRM)	Elder of the Month— Norma Fish			
<b>Fulton County Fair</b>						
	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	9:15AM Bible Study 11:15AM Staff Meeting 12:00PM Prayer Time 5:00PM Community Meal	8:30PM Moms In Prayer 10:00AM AAMA 7:00PM SYF			
7 9:15AM Adult SS Class	8 Preschool Classes Begin 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Couples Small Group	9 9:15AM Bible Study 12:00PM Prayer Time 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Evangelism Comm. 7:00PM Property Comm.	10 8:30PM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS 6:00PM Alpha Course 6:30PM JYF 6:30PM Junior Choir 7:00PM Life Planning / SYF	11 6:00PM Cub Scouts District Mtg. 7:15PM Mission Comm.	12	13
14 <b>Christian Ed Sunday</b> 9:15AM Adult SS Class 3:00PM Leave for TGRM Chapel & Meal 6:00PM Seekers Small Grp.	15 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	16 9:15AM Bible Study 12:00PM Prayer Time 4:00PM CE Team 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Cub Scouts Pack Meeting	17 8:30PM Moms In Prayer 6:15AM Men's Breakfast 5:50PM LOGOS 6:00PM Alpha Course 6:30PM JYF 6:30PM Junior Choir 6:30PM Fulton County Health	18 6:30PM Cub Scouts Round Up	19	20
21 <b>Blanket Sunday</b> 9:15AM Adult SS Class	22 11:15AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Couples Small Group 7:00PM Sister Chicks INC	23 9:15AM Bible Study 12:00PM Prayer Time 5:00PM Community Meal	24 8:30PM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS 6:00PM Alpha Course 6:30PM JYF 6:30PM Junior Choir 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	25 6:00PM Cherry Street Mission Banquet 6:00PM Non-Member Wedding Reh.	26	27 10AM Scouts Popcorn Blitz 4:30PM Non-Member Wedding
28 9:15AM Adult SS Class 10:30AM Junior Choir Sing 11:15AM Chicks BBQ 6:00PM Seekers Small Grp. 6:30PM Hymn Sing at Fairlawn	29 11:15AM Staff Meeting 7:00PM Sister Chicks INC	30 9:15AM Bible Study 12:00PM Prayer Time 5:00PM Community Meal				



# SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Adam & Sara Just
- 2 Krayton Kern
- 3 Jon & Lorinda Brader, Steve Knipp, Brent & Elaine Winzeler
- 5 Colin Lehman, Karsen Pursel, Kelsey Wyse
- 6 Bob DeVries, Brianna Jenkins
- 7 Scott Short
- 8 Gloria Lauber, Darlene Sauder, Toby Walker
- 9 Judy Barnhart, Barb Stover
- 10 Avery Roth, Evynn Roth, Tim & Dawn Smith
- 11 Kenny & Shirley Nafziger, Wayne & Susie Spiess
- 12 Bill Barnhart, Jr. & Arlene Grime, Jay & Karla Pursel, Bernice Rice
- 13 Gretchen Heer, Shirley Nafziger, Audrey Smith
- 14 Bill Bostelman, Josie Grieser, Linda Hayes, Roger Miller, Isaac Rosenberger
- 15 Eric & Sarah Nafziger, Ed & Dianne Wyrick
- 16 Phil Buehrer, Willie Buehrer, Angie Nofziger
- 17 David Lightner, Ashley Short
- 18 Larry & Kathy Bechstein, Kade Kern, Sue Ruffer
- 20 Deb Beaverson, Kelly Ducey, Rayne Kinsman, Dencel & Phyllis Miller, Ethan Warncke
- 21 Kim Kern, Sadonna Spiess, Melva Woolace
- 22 Kathy Bostelman, Rachel Grieser
- 24 Jacob Layton
- 25 Lorinda Brader, Kelli Kuntz, Tara Meyer, Keith Wyse
- 26 Roger Merillat, Esther Rupp
- 27 Alicia Jackson, Roxanne Heer, Jordyn Pursel, Brad & Aimee Roth, Steve & Ashley Schink
- 28 Mike Whiteman
- 30 Rodney & Joyce Kinsman, Rebecca Smith, Richard & Cathy Spiess, Curt & Kay Stamm

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

## small groups

### Small Groups Currently Meeting at St. John's:

#### 2nd & 4th Sunday Evenings - Seekers Small Group

(Beginning Sept. 14th)

6:00 - 8:00PM - Keith & Kelli Kuntz's,  
733 W. Leggett St., Wauseon

#### 2nd & 4th Monday Evenings - Couples Small Group

(Beginning Sept. 8th)

6:30 - 8:30PM - Youth Room

#### Monday Evenings - Sister Chicks INC (beg. Sept. 22nd)

7:00 - 8:30PM - Nancy Rupp's, St. Rt. 2, Stryker

#### Tuesday Morning Bible Study

9:15 - 10:15AM - Fireside Room

#### 3rd Wed. Morning of Month - Men's Ministry Breakfast

6:15 - 7:15AM - The Home Restaurant, Archbold

#### Wednesday Mornings - Mom's In Prayer

8:30 - 9:30AM - Upstairs SS Classroom

#### 2nd & 4th Wednesday of Month - Bible Study

9:00 - 10:00AM - West Haven, Fairlawn

### Seekers – one group in the small group ministry of St. John's Christian Church:

In understanding that a seeker is one who seeks, to seek means "to search for, to try to find, to ask for help, to try to get or achieve." Proverbs 18:15 shares: "The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge; the ears of

the wise seek it out." Matthew 6:33 offers: "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Matthew 7:7 says: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

With such seeking in mind, the Seekers meet on Sunday evenings to seek the Lord! Typically meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings of each month, the first gathering of the new program year will be held on September 14th at 6PM at the home of Keith and Kelli Kuntz, 733 W. Leggett St., Wauseon. Pastor Erich leads the discipleship time that is enjoyed in between a beginning time of fellowship and an ending time of group prayer. Any and all of the SJCC congregation are invited to share in this time of seeking – talk with Joel and Annie Foote, Judy Grime, Keith and Kelli Kuntz, Mike Meyer, Mark and Tammy Nofziger, Jim and Betsy Redd or Erich and Lynne Christman to learn more about the Seekers!

### Couples Small Group:

Are you feeling overscheduled and underconnected? Do you want to find some time to connect with your spouse and with other couples from the church? This fall the Couples small group would like to invite you to join them as they get into God's Word and grow in faith and fellowship. They meet the 2nd and 4th Monday nights of the month from 6:30-8:30PM beginning September 8th. Please contact Pastor Adam if you are interested.

## College / Grad School / Military Prayer Calendar

Day of Month	Name	Address		City	State	Zip	School
1	Bechstein, Tyler	500 Fulton St East	Apt. 393	Grand Rapids	MI	49503	Grand Valley State Univ
2	Buckenmeyer, Alicia			Charlottesville	VA		University of Virginia
3	Buckenmeyer, Eric	15 S. Shafer St.	Unit #1404	Athens	OH	45701	Ohio University
4	Christman, Amy	Malone University Box #975	2600 Cleveland Ave NW	Canton	OH	44709-3897	Malone University
5	Christman, Ryan	418 Clara Ave. Apt. 4		St. Louis	MO	63112	Washington University
6	Fryman, Marli	400 Ditto St.		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
7	Garza, Grace	417 N. Pointe Dr		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
8	Jennings, Tyler	2515 Hubertus Ave		Ft. Wayne	IN	46805	Bluffton University
9	Lehman, Jenny			Springfield	OH		Wittenberg University
10	Lindsay, Jennifer	Ashland University	Box 1567	Ashland	OH	44805	Ashland University
11	Mann, Alyssa			Marion	IN		Indiana Wesleyan
12	Mann, Jeremy	1001 Bethel Circle	Oakwood 204	Bethel	IN	46545	Bethel College
13	McCandless, Morgan	91 Wick Oval	Apt. 1308B	Youngstown	OH	44502	Youngstown State Univ
14	Neuenschwander, Trevor	428 North Main St		Ada	OH	45810	Ohio Northern Univ
15	Notziger, Charlie			Adrian	MI		Siena Heights University
16	Notziger, Delaney	Fulton House 104	1607 Robinson Rd. S.E.	Grand Rapids	MI	49506	Acquinas College
17	Rice, Dinah			Allendale	MI		Grand Valley State Univ
18	Schnitkey, Tyson			Dayton	OH		University of Dayton
19	Sears, Heather			Champaign	IL		University of Illinois
20	Short, Ashley	2065 Baker Hall East	93 W 12th Ave	Columbus	OH	43210	Ohio State University
21	Short, Olley	25515 Co Rd E		Archbold	OH	43502	Univ of NW Ohio
22	Smith, Kinsey			Athens	OH		Ohio University
23	Sonnenberg, Ellie	Greek Bible College	Adamopoulos 8, Pikermi 19009	Attiki GR 190 09	GR	Greece	Bible College
24	Walker, Collin			Toledo	OH	43607	Univ of Toledo
25	Walker, Michael	700 College Ave		Goshen	IN	46526	Goshen College
26	Walters, Mondesi	1001 Bethel Circle	Shupe 106	Bethel	IN	46545	Bethel College
27	Winzeler, Bryce	4850 A Hollingbourne Dr		Columbus	OH	43214	Law School
27	Zamudio, Mireya	202 Park St.		Archbold	OH	43502	NWSCC
28	Ducey, Kyle	10175 Park Meadows Dr.	#5-326	Lone Tree	CO	80124	
28	1 Lt Jared Kuntz & Maria	627 UN Lauman		Fort Sill	OK	73503	
29	Mr & Mrs Dennis LaPorte	107 Nebraska St		Travis AFB	CA	94535-1235	
29	RCT Lesniak, Jacob D	LOC #1355 MCCES	Box 788253	Twentynine Palm	CA	92278-8253	
30	Martinez, Braden	304th En Co	19th En Bn	APO	AE	09354	Currently in Afghanistan
30	Mr & Mrs Steven R Schink				CT		In process of moving



**St. John's Christian Church Leadership:**

Congregation President.....Jeff Rutledge  
 Congregation Vice-President ..... Ed Ruffer  
 Congregation Secretary.....Betsy Redd  
 Elders .....Norma Fish, Kim Hines, Jan Lindsay,  
 Jim Redd, Ed Ruffer, Jon Rupp  
 Deacons/Deaconesses ..... Ann Fether,  
 Jim Grieser, Tom Hines, Mike Meyer,  
 Scott Short, Brad Roth, Greg Walker,  
 Bruce Wooley, Justin Yoder  
 Church Treasurer..... Roger Miller  
 Custodian .....Dean Buckenmeyer  
 Security Person ..... Richard Spiess  
 Christian Preschool Staff ..... Sue MacDonald,  
 Joan Burkholder  
 Administrative Assistant..... Sue Grieser  
 Director of Music Ministry .....Deb Schnitkey  
 Director of Christian Education.....Jenna Storrer  
 Associate Pastor ..... Rev. Adam Just  
 Pastor.....Rev. Erich Christman

**housekeeping**

**College Students Addresses Needed:**

We continue to seek addresses for our college students as they head back to class this fall. Please call the church office (419-446-2545) or e-mail (*office@stjohnsarchbold.org*) your son or daughter's address when available.

**Altar Flowers and Sunday Bulletins:**

To honor a loved one's special day (i.e. birthday, wedding anniversary) or the memory of a loved one, we offer sponsorship of our altar flowers and Sunday bulletins. When flowers are sponsored, you may take the two arrangements from the altar the day of sponsorship after our 10:30 service of worship. Sponsorship of flowers (\$20) are not recorded as tax deductions. Bulletin sponsorships (\$20) are tax deductible and will be recorded on your annual giving statement provided in January. With either sponsorship, a note is placed in the Sunday bulletin as you wish (i.e. Altar flowers are given by Joe and Sara Smith in honor of their daughter, Katelyn's 16th birthday. Bulletins are sponsored in loving memory of Sam Jones by his children and grandchildren.).

Please contact the church office (419-446-2545 or *office@stjohnsarchbold.org*) to check on dates available. Regular office hours are 8AM - 5PM Monday thru Friday (office closed Monday's from 11:15AM - 11:45AM for weekly staff meetings).

**stewardship**

**Offering Information:**

Sunday	Worship Attend.	Current Fund Actual Offering	Current Fund Weekly Budget	Current Fund Actual/Budget Difference
7/27/14	206	\$ 6,323.11	\$ 6,414.35	\$ (91.24)
8/3/14	287	\$ 5,665.30	\$ 6,414.35	\$ (749.05)
8/10/14	259	\$ 5,879.83	\$ 6,414.35	\$ (534.52)
8/17/14	293	\$ 6,108.12	\$ 6,414.35	\$ (306.23)
Avg / Total	261	\$ 23,976.36	\$ 25,657.40	\$ (1,681.04)
As of August 18, 2014		Total Income	Total Expenses	Difference
YTD Totals		\$ 208,883.44	\$ 223,286.27	\$ (14,402.83)

Sunday	Benevolent Fund Offering	Benevolent Fund Weekly Budget	Benevolent Fund Actual/Budget
7/27/14	\$ 1,566.13	\$ 3,132.70	\$ (1,566.57)
8/3/14	\$ 2,386.00	\$ 3,132.70	\$ (746.70)
8/10/14	\$ 1,926.00	\$ 3,132.70	\$ (1,206.70)
8/17/14	\$ 1,567.00	\$ 3,132.70	\$ (1,565.70)
Total	\$ 7,445.13	\$ 12,530.80	\$ (5,085.67)

*As indicated above, our current fund balance is running at a deficit of \$14,402.83 as of August 18th. Please prayerfully discern further support of the financial realities of our Christian ministries.*

# September Daily Scriptures

(From "Discovery" Daily Devotional)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Grubby Feet and Glory ----- John 13:1-17   | 16 The Power of One ----- John 17:20-26       |
| 2 Love's Labor Lost ----- John 13:18-30      | 17 Gaining Perspective ----- James 1:1-11     |
| 3 Live For Jesus ----- John 13:31-38         | 18 Know What You Have ----- James 1:12-18     |
| 4 The Home Button ----- John 14:1-14         | 19 No Snapping! ----- James 1:18-27           |
| 5 Memory Upgrade ----- John 14:15-31         | 20 Playing Favorites ----- James 2:1-13       |
| 6 Through The Grapevine ----- John 15:1-8    | 21 Love and Be Loved ----- Psalm 84:1-12      |
| 7 Poor Judgement ----- Psalm 82:1-8          | 22 Practice Makes Perfect ----- James 2:14-26 |
| 8 Pass It On ----- John 15:9-17              | 23 Mind Your Language ----- James 3:1-12      |
| 9 Opposing Forces ----- John 15:18-16:4      | 24 Joining the "In Crowd" ----- James 3:13-18 |
| 10 Going, Going, Gone ----- John 16:5-15     | 25 Being and Having ----- James 4:1-12        |
| 11 One Born Every Minute ----- John 16:16-24 | 26 You Have a Plan? ----- James 4:13-17       |
| 12 Light Dawns ----- John 16:25-33           | 27 Filthy Rich ----- James 5:1-6              |
| 13 Mirror Image ----- John 17:1-5            | 28 You Call, I'll Come! ----- Psalm 85:1-13   |
| 14 Under Threat ----- Psalm 83:1-18          | 29 Patient Trust ----- James 5:7-12           |
| 15 Safe and Sound ----- John 17:6-19         | 30 Healthy Church ----- James 5:13-20         |

Church Ph. 419-446-2545  
 Web Site [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org)  
 Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM  
 Sunday School 9:15AM

**Pastor** Rev. Erich Christman  
 pastorich@stjohnsarchbold.org  
 Residence Ph. 419-267-5610  
 Cell Ph. 419-551-0401

**Assoc.** Rev. Adam Just  
 pastoradam@stjohnsarchbold.org  
 Cell Ph. 419-551-6499

**Admin.** Sue Grieser  
 office@stjohnsarchbold.org

**Assistant** Jenna Storer  
 jennastorer1@gmail.com  
 Cell Ph. 419-205-0537

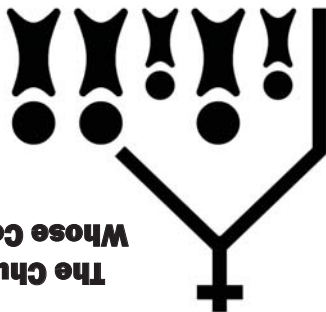
**Dr. of Christian Education** Deb Schmitkey  
 daschmitkey@yahoo.com  
 Cell Ph. 419-583-6356

**Music Ministry** Dean Buckenmeyer  
 Cell Ph. 419-551-1105

**Custodian**

Holy Communion:  
 New Year (1/5), Ash Wednesday (3/5), Maundy Thursday (4/17),  
 Pentecost (6/8), Mid-Summer (7/20), 1st Sunday in October (10/5),  
 1st Sunday of Advent (11/30)

**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**

Return Service Requested

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