

# The Visitor

## prayer concerns

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

March 1, 2019 Volume 65, Number 3

### Please Pray For:

- We extend our sympathies to the following people:
  - Jon Lindsay and family upon the death of his grandmother, who died on February 11th at the age of 101.
  - Linda Rutledge and Jeff Rutledge and family upon the death of Linda's mother and Jeff's grandmother, on February 4th at the age of 92.
  - Teresa Mann and family upon the death of her mother, who died on January 31st at the age of 89.
- Sue Buehrer who had hip replacement surgery on February 22nd at the Bryan hospital.
- Jeremy Neuenschwander who was hospitalized at FCHC for a few days as of February 20th, dealing with complications from the cancer.
- Sharon VonDeylen who was hospitalized for a few days at Parkview in Fort Wayne and came home on February 20th.
- Doris Hull who entered into home hospice care following a brief stay at St. Luke's Hospital.
- Vern & Mary Lou Nemire as they cope with multiple health situations.
- Kelsey Wyse who underwent a second shoulder surgery on February 7th.
- Jim Silcox who is recovering from a broken humerus as the result of a fall on February 5th.
- Dale VonDeylen who recently received a pacemaker and defibrillator and is recovering well.
- Cathy and Richard Spiess as Cathy's health continues to slowly weaken.
- Rich Lesniak as he continues to recover from shoulder surgery, and was able to start half days at work as of February 18th.
- Ryan Christman continues to recover from his intestinal surgery, working through follow up appointments, gaining strength and waiting to go back to work.
- Sue Grieser as she starts chemo treatments on 2/28 for the recently diagnosed colon cancer.
- Brenden Bostelman, deployed to Afghanistan (Army) (Grandson of Bill & Kathy).
- Kyle Ducey, at Fort Gordon, Georgia (Navy) (Son of Kelly & Betsy).
- Jared Kuntz, at Guam (Army) (Son of Keith & Kelli).
- Eric Magg, at Ketchikan, Alaska (Coast Guard) (Son of Joe & Sheryl Short).
- Shayne & Taylor Pitts, at Bolling AFB, DC (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill).

- David Richardson, enlisted in the Marines (Son of Shannon & Yesi).
- Donny Richardson, in the Marines (Son of Shannon & Yesi).
- Joshua Richardson, in the 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 of our home bound and care center residents.

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

Florence Augustine, Room #177  
David Lightner, Room #138  
Esther Rice, Room #116  
Cathy Spiess, #153  
Josephine Short, Room #112  
Paul Sigg, Room #178  
Nancy Ries, Room #158  
Carolyn Walker, Room #399 (Memory Care Unit)



Fairlawn Asst. Living, 500 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502  
Jane Short, Room #208  
William & Donna Buehrer, Apt. #230

Wyse Commons, 500 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502  
William & Donna Buehrer, Apt. #230  
Wayne & Susanne Spiess, Apt. #309

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

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

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

Genesis Health Care, 1104 Wesley Ave., Bryan, 43506  
Verlene Lovejoy, Room 203B

# Pastor's Letter

Last first, let me apologize for the delay in getting some of the recent issues of the Visitor published. Various factors were in play, but the staff will strive to be timelier with mailing it out, via regular mail and email.

With March 6th being Ash Wednesday this year, our congregation will be entering into our annual observance of the Season of Lent. The Lenten Season is comprised of forty days, not counting the six Sundays which fall between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. The Sunday's are not included since Sunday is the day of week we gather for worship and praise God for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Sundays are always meant to be days of worship, days of praise and thanksgiving, and days of rest and refreshment. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, the forty days that end with the Saturday before Easter Sunday comprise a period of time in which Christians prepare themselves anew to celebrate Christ's resurrection! Lent offers a focal time for Christians to contemplate several key practices of the Christian faith, including these two specific spiritual practices:

- Repentance – refers to the action of repentance, which most often begins with feelings and thoughts of sincere regret or remorse. Repentance is the turning from sin and turning to Christ. Repentance was the message John the Baptist preached; it's the message Peter offered on the Day of Pentecost: Acts 2:38: Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

- Penance offers Christians a unique opportunity to grow in their Christian life by taking up their cross and "dying to sin" (Matthew 16:24). Penance is most often realized through the "giving up" of something enjoyable or doing an act of mercy, as in the examples below:

\* "Giving Up" forms of penance:

- Abstaining from an enjoyable food for the whole season or for a week or day
- Giving up a favorite television show or video game
- Abstaining from alcohol, smoking, overeating or similar behaviors
- Fasting and focusing in on prayer and reflection of God's Word

\* Positive forms of penance:

- Giving alms (i.e. donations to the poor)
- Spending time with someone who is sick or lonely
- Spending time with someone who is poor or disadvantaged
- Praying for others or praying with family
- Acts of kindness towards family, friends, strangers
- Reading an article or book to educate oneself in the Christian faith

May we each engage in these spiritual practices during the Lenten season, with the hope and intent that they will become daily practices throughout the year. May the Lord provide guidance, renewal and growth as we observe this annual season of Lent.

Blessings in Christ,

ERICH



# congregational news & thank you's

Thank you for your prayers, calls and cards concerning my surgery. You are a great church family!

Dianne Wyrick



St. John's Church,

Thank you for your faithful support of the gospel in our community as we strive together to teach His good news! It has been a huge encouragement and blessing for me to teach along side Alex on Tuesday mornings at the school and I know the kids love him as well!

God Bless,  
Eliot -Youth For Christ

## preschool corner

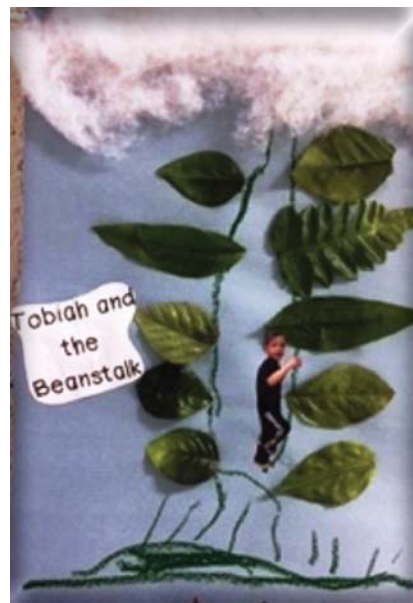
Hearts were everywhere, as we celebrated love for our families, our friends and for Jesus this past month!

We played "The Hershey Kisses" game at the game center, made valentines for friends at the Writing Center and had a very fun time at our Valentine's Day parties!

We learned many new nursery rhymes, made books and learned how important it is to brush our teeth twice a day to keep them healthy!

We talked about zoo animals and listened to the story of Noah's Ark. We even made our own arks out of animal crackers, q-tips and cotton balls.

February was a fun month!



Sue MacDonald  
Director/Teacher



Joan Wyse  
Teacher Assistant



## St. John's Christian Preschool – Volunteer Substitutes Needed

St. John's Christian Preschool is looking for fun, energetic, and compassionate volunteers to help substitute in our Preschool Room in the absence of either Mrs. MacDonald or Mrs. Wyse.

Our faithful leaders have created a fun learning atmosphere for young children ages 3-5, and want you to help team up with other volunteers that have the same drive to help teach in the classroom. Don't worry! A teaching license is not required!

### Volunteers must have the following:

- \* Be 18 years old or older
- \* Have a high school diploma/GE

There are also some forms and trainings that will need to be completed, which is something that we will be helping with along the way.

### You may be asking yourself "What's in it for me?"

#### 1. Service

What better way to serve your church family and community than to take a few days a month to help aide in the classroom. As a substitute, you will help follow the directions of the lead teacher that day, whether it be Mrs. MacDonald or Mrs. Wyse.

#### 2. Positive Impact on Young Children

Our preschool children are so impressionable at this point in their lives. The positive impact that you can show them through the love of learning about Jesus, and the cool things at the sand table, are a positive light that you can shine on them.

If you are asking yourself if you can give a day or a few days a month to volunteer in our preschool room, please consider! This may not only have a positive impact on our students, but also on you.

The Christian Preschool Board and staff would like to thank all of you that have made efforts to donate to our preschool. Whether that is with school supplies or monetary donations, they are a blessing. If you feel called today or in the coming weeks, please consider donating to the St. John's Preschool to assist us with supplies or simply volunteering your time in the classroom for a fun experience!

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### A Praying Life Seminar Learning to Pray in a Distracting World Archbold Evangelical Church March 29-30, 2019

This seminar teaches a step-by-step approach of how to begin a private life of prayer in fellowship with the heavenly Father. It is not for Christians who feel victorious, but Christians defeated in the trenches, asking... How do I focus when I'm distracted with so much to do? How do I pray longer than five minutes? How do I ask when I've tried it before and it doesn't work? We will look at Jesus' powerful yet simple teachings on prayer and practice becoming child-like, patterning after Jesus' own teaching and style of praying.

Cost is \$10 per person or \$15 per couple, which includes materials and snacks. For more information on the seminar & registering go to: [seeJesus.net/events](http://seeJesus.net/events) by March 20.

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### Custodian Position

We continue to search for a second custodian, someone able and willing to work 12.5 hours per week, working alongside Dean Buckenmeyer, who works the other 12.5 hours weekly. Weekly schedule can be flexible, and work will include various facets of cleaning the building and helping with table set-ups and tear-downs. Any interest can be shared with Laura Johnson, chairperson of the Personnel Committee.



## mission corner



### *The Friendship House - Mission of the Month*

The Friendship House is an Archbold ministry supported by area churches and coordinated by Cecily Rohrs. This two story home, located near downtown Archbold, is set up to house one or two family units at a time. The home provides shelter for individuals and families until they are able to become self-sufficient. The home is almost always occupied and has been a tremendous help to numerous residents. The Friendship House is endorsed by the Archbold Area Ministerial Association and is coordinated by a volunteer board.

The main need of the Friendship House at this point is further financial support for operating expenses. This month we ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this community ministry that strives to care for those in need of a place to stay and have a fresh start in life.

### **Mission Experiences**

#### **Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission**

March 17th is the next time we'll send a group of folks to lead the evening chapel service and provide the evening meal. Volunteers will gather at 3pm on Sunday afternoon to car pool to the mission, do final prep for the meal and service, lead the 30 minute service, then serve the meal, and enjoy sitting and eating with the men and women who come to the mission. The group should return to the church between 7:30pm and 8:00pm. Talk with Pastor Erich or Ann Grime if you're interested in helping!

#### **Bay Mission (BBM) Trip**

After making the 1000 mile trip to Biloxi on the church bus, the group of twelve volunteers settled into the mission house, sharing the lodging space with a group of eight from Immanuel Church in Peotone, IL. It's always an enjoyable experience to meet and spend time with other willing servants!

On Monday and Tuesday, the group endured through some infrequent rain showers while repairing a 100' accessible ramp that had been built with pressure treated wood that had been improperly manufactured. That work included the replacement of all the deck boards, some of the framing members, and repairs to the railings. Wednesday was a beautiful sunny day and the group moved to another ramp rebuild project, this one located across the street from the first house SJCC worked on back in 2000. Thursday saw the two groups, SJCC and Immanuel's, pooling their abilities and energy to demolish a mobile home that had been condemned by the city of Biloxi. What a task – we filled two large dumpsters and Immanuel's finished the project on Friday by filling another dumpster or two. Friday, we were supposed to work a shortened day, finishing up the ramp project we started on Wednesday, but we were asked to replace the lattice around the house foundation, which took some extra time. Once everything was finished, the group headed back to the mission house, cleaned up, cleaned the mission house, loaded up the bus, and headed to Brentwood, TN for the night!

Back Bay Mission continues to be engaged in multiple ministries of sharing support and faith with the people living along the gulf coast, many who live in poverty conditions for various reasons. The folks who were able to attend this year's trip are very thankful for the prayers and support of the congregation.

The next trip to Biloxi is scheduled for October 5th – 12th, 2019.

### **Summer Mission Trip**

Plans are set for another week of serving with the LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity affiliate in Michigan City, IN. Participants will head to Tower Hill Church Camp on Sunday afternoon, June 9th, spend Monday through Friday framing a new home, and return to Archbold late afternoon on June 14th. Breakfasts and dinners are enjoyed in the camp dining hall – Pastor Erich's never eaten a bad meal there! Lunches are provided by churches and local restaurants at the work site. The relaxing evenings are spent enjoying friendly fellowship, a possible 10 to 15 minute walk to the beach along Lake Michigan, some Corn Hole games and who knows what else! Typically the group enjoys some evening meals at local restaurants! People of all skill levels are invited to join in the week – Habitat for Humanity provides able supervision. Cost of the experience is \$125 and assistance is always available.

## Missionary Contact/Prayer Request Information:



### Robert & Jenni McMahan, CRU (BGSU)

website - [www.give.cru.org](http://www.give.cru.org)

e-mail - [robert.mcmahan@cru.org](mailto:robert.mcmahan@cru.org)

e-mail - [jennifer.mcmahan@cru.org](mailto:jennifer.mcmahan@cru.org)

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

website - [www.give.cru.org](http://www.give.cru.org)

e-mail - [matthew.waanders@cru.org](mailto:matthew.waanders@cru.org)

e-mail - [paige.stamm@cru.org](mailto:paige.stamm@cru.org)

### Shobha & Ravi Arole, CRHP CRHP

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

### Kyle Chase, Reliant (Univ. of Michigan)

website - [www.reliant.org](http://www.reliant.org)

e-mail - [kyle.chase@nlcweb.org](mailto:kyle.chase@nlcweb.org)

### Matt Pardi, Reliant (Univ. of Toledo)

website - [www.reliant.org](http://www.reliant.org)

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

### David Hensch, Reliant (Univ. of Akron)

website - [www.reliant.org](http://www.reliant.org)

e-mail - [david.hensch@reliant.org](mailto:david.hensch@reliant.org)

### Tony & Leila Frank, Ivoti, Brazil

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

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



### Tom & Megan, The Islands, Africa

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

e-mail - [tmislands@fastmail.net](mailto:tmislands@fastmail.net)

### Kinsey Smith - Thailand – CRU at Grace International School

e-mail - [kinsey.smith@cru.org](mailto:kinsey.smith@cru.org)

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

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

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

### Jason & Becky Suon, Freedom International Ministries, Dominican Republic

website - [www.itisforfreedom.com](http://www.itisforfreedom.com)

e-mail - [JasonSuon@itisforfreedom.com](mailto:JasonSuon@itisforfreedom.com)

e-mail - [BeckySuon@itisforfreedom.com](mailto:BeckySuon@itisforfreedom.com)

## Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:

- Cru (Matt & Paige Waanders), for our gift of \$50.
- CWS, for our gift of \$915.
- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$45.

# ministry happenings

## Christian Education

### Mid-Week Youth Ministries:

**Friday Morning Bible Study:** The high school girls are meeting together for breakfast and Bible study every Friday morning. For more information, connect with Leah Miller.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Pastor Alex is helping with a Bible study from 7:15-8am at the Archbold Middle School, open to all middle schoolers.

**SHSS:** During the month of February we began the month prepping subs for Super Bowl. We thank everyone for your continued generosity and support as we build our youth at St. Johns.

We then followed up February with excellent lessons from Exodus and Leviticus. Exodus took us to main points including: an image of idolatry and God's desire to be near to us. We ended the month in Leviticus with a picture of the atonement provided for our sins.

**JYF:** We feel so blessed by our recent "service" night at JYF! Our eyes and hearts were opened. Some of us spent time at 2 local Sunshine homes, hanging out with the residents, sharing laughs, learning and playing games. Another group visited a furniture warehouse just down the road from us and was surprised by the work being done there. The night was full of nerves, courage, new experiences, laughter, love, compassion, service, learning, community and sharing. During your next meal or drive across town together, ask your youth where they visited, how they felt, what they learned and if they want to go back.

**SYF Summer Mission Trip:** This summer, we are going to Athens, Ohio to partner in ministry with Good Works, INC. Pastor Alex served as a summer intern with this ministry in college and was greatly impacted by this experience. The ministry serves its rural, impoverished community in many ways, from offering shelter and family-style meals (rather than soup-kitchen-style meals) to people without homes, to offering a hand-up (instead of a hand-out) to people in need by giving them meaningful work in exchange for food, appliances, and even vehicles, to feeding hungry kids and teaching them about the love of Jesus. This will be one summer mission trip you will not want to miss! Trip date: 6/16-22. \$50 Deposit Due Date: 3/13. \$75 Payment Due Date: 5/15.



# ministry happenings

cont.

**Life Planning:** In February, the Life Planning mentors and SYF youth went out and made some surprise visits to some of our shut ins from St. Johns. We made cards and took them some goodies. What a great night it was spreading the love of Jesus. The next Life Planning meeting will be held on Wednesday March 13 at 7:00.

**Vacation Bible School:** Kisha Genter and Bri Krukowski are teaming up to serve as co-directors of this year's VBS! They'll be meeting in early June to finalize this year's dates and curriculum. Stay tuned.

## Events / Activities

### Fellowship Hour:

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting a fellowship hour on March 10th, from 9:15am to 10:15am. Children and youth will participate in Sunday school as usual, and adult classes and adults of the congregation are invited to gather for a time of refreshment, fellowship and program.

### Man Camp:

Man Camp is this month! The men of St. John's are planning a retreat to Miracle Camp in Lawton, MI on March 15-17. The weekend will be filled with great food, an encouraging speaker, numerous outdoor and indoor activities, and good conversation with other men about faith, life, work, and family. Contact Bruce Wooley, Pastor Alex or go to <http://www.miraclecamp.com/mancamp> to learn more



# small groups

**The Seekers** will be meeting on March 3rd at 6pm at the home of Keith & Kelli Kuntz, 733 W. Leggett St, Wauseon, and will be studying Ezekiel 38 & 39. They might be leading the March 17th chapel service and meal at TGRM on the 17th!

# ministry happenings

## Men's Prayer Breakfast – March 9, 7:40AM:

A monthly time to gather, enjoy breakfast, fellowship, hear a testimony, share joys and concerns, and pray together. Please let Bruce Wooley know if you have any questions about what the Men's Prayer Breakfast is all about!



## Marriage Enrichment Weekend

March 22-24, 2019

Michindoh Conference Center,  
Hillsdale, Michigan

When was the last time you had a whole weekend with nothing drawing away from attention toward your spouse? Whether your desire is to celebrate the joy of marriage, or to simply experience a time away with your spouse, this weekend is for you! Michindoh is hosting another exciting weekend where you will be encouraged in your walk with the Lord, worship together with other couples, and have the opportunity to rejuvenate your marriage as you set aside a few days to just enjoy being together. You'll appreciate the uplifting messages brought by our guest speaker as we are again reminded of God's great design for marriage.

Additionally, you'll have the opportunity to enjoy a little healthy competition during free time on Saturday afternoon, when we will have multiple recreation opportunities available. If you would prefer to just relax alone as a couple, our natural campus setting will offer just the right mix of trails, scenery, and quiet spots to enjoy fellowship alone. This weekend will also offer a cozy wagon ride, a date night, and an extra-special, romantic dinner on Saturday evening. You won't want to miss this affordable mini-vacation together!

For more information, or to register, visit the Michindoh website – [www.michindoh.com](http://www.michindoh.com) and click on the marriage enrichment retreat picture under "Highlights" or click on the "Programs" tab and then the "Adult" tab. You also may contact their reservations office at [reservations@michindoh.com](mailto:reservations@michindoh.com) or by calling 517-523-3616.

Pastor Erich shares the above information for couples to consider, and if one or more couples are able to participate, he'd appreciate knowing so he could follow up afterwards and get feedback.



## March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:00AM Worship 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation	Mission-A-Month— Friendship House Elder of the Month— Jeff Rutledge				1 5:00PM Soccer Practice 7:00PM 5th BB	2
3 6:00PM Seekers—Kuntz's	4 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Soccer Practice 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Tr.	5 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 5:00PM Com. Meal 7:00PM Capital Camp. Com 7:00PM Discernment Team	6 Ash Wednesday 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 7:00PM Lenten Service	7 7:00PM Mission Com.	8 5:00PM Soccer Practice	9 Daylight Savings Time Begins Tomorrow (set clocks ahead 1 hour) 7:40AM Men's Prayer Brkfst. 9:00AM Private Party
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins 6:00PM Couples Small Group	11 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Soccer Practice 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Tr.	12 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 4:00PM Laundry Buddy Min. 5:00PM Com. Meal 7:00PM Property Comm.	13 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM Life Planning	14	15 <b>Man Camp</b> 5:00PM Soccer Practice	16
17	<b>Archbold Spring Break</b>					23
<b>Man Camp</b> 3:00PM TGRM Chapel & Meal 6:00 Seekers (Helmke's)	<b>Pettisville Spring Break</b>					
	18 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Soccer Practice 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	19 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 5:00PM Com. Meal 7:00PM CE Team	20 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM Lenten Service 7:00PM SYF 7:30PM Chancel Choir Reh.	21	22 5:00PM Soccer Practice	
24	25 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:00PM Soccer Prac. 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Tr. 7:30PM Praise Band Reh	26 9:15AM Bible Study 10:30AM Pastors Meeting 4:00PM Laundry Buddy Min. 5:00PM Com. Meal	27 8:30AM Moms In Prayer 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 5:50PM LOGOS/JYF 7:00PM SYF 7:00PM Lenten Service	28	29 5:00PM Soccer Practice	30
31 3:00PM Joan Grieser Piano Recital 6:00PM Seeker's (Foote's)						

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Camden Warncke
- 2 Cameron Yoder
- 3 Cindy Sauder, Rosemarie Schmidt
- 4 Mary Jo Britt
- 5 James Greek, Roger & Kay Merillat, Brent & Lynda Schmitkey
- 6 Keith & Nici Wyse
- 7 Jeff Nofziger, Aimee Roth, Aiden & Owen Storrer
- 8 Brad Enderle, Meridith Short
- 10 Ann Grime
- 11 Julie Buehrer, Lindsay Wyse
- 12 Katie Layton, Dawsyn Martinez, Lucas & Carrie Nofziger
- 13 Bud & Tootie Beck, Kenny Cowell, Bryson Martinez
- 16 Rachel Kinsman, Ron Rice
- 17 Raegan Rutledge

- 18 Molly Rutledge
- 19 Ben & Sue Buehrer, Jeremy & Sarah Kinsman
- 21 Jenna Storrer
- 22 Sandy Frazier
- 23 Sue Grieser, Brent Winzeler
- 26 Bo Krukowski, Jacob Nofziger, Esther Rice
- 27 Jon Rupp
- 28 Jamie Beck, John Beck, Jodi Beltz
- 29 Carson Baden, Cagney Grime, Leah Nafziger
- 30 Dorothy Miller, Mark Nofziger, Jeremy Neuenschwander, Jeff & Cathy Nofziger, Wyatt Overmier
- 31 Brayden Hall

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



# worship

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**March 3rd** Scriptures – Ephesians 5:1-2, 2 Corinthians 2:14-17, Philippians 2:1-11  
 Sermon – “Being a Sweet Scent” – Pastor Erich  
 M-A-M – The Friendship House  
 10:30am – Praise Band  
 10:30am – Chancel Choir – “Praise the Lord, Alleluia”

**March 6th** Ash Wednesday Service of Worship at 7pm  
 Sacrament of Holy Communion  
 Scriptures – Isaiah 58:1-11, Psalm 51, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21  
 Sermon – “Giving, Praying and Fasting”  
 Special Music – Todd Nafziger

During the Season of Lent, the sermons will focus on the themes of Compassion and Mental Health.

**March 10th** Scriptures – Psalm 138, Psalm 13, Luke 12:22-34  
 Sermon – “I’m Not a Raven or a Lily” – Pastor Erich

**March 13th** Evening Lenten Service in the Sanctuary

**March 17th** Scriptures – 1 Chronicles 16:23-29, Psalm 40:1-2, Psalm 139:7-14  
 Sermon – “Children of God, Wonderfully Made” – Pastor Erich  
 10:30am – Praise Band  
 10:30am – Junior Choir

**March 20th** Evening Lenten Service in the Sanctuary

**March 24th** Scriptures – John 4:21-24, Romans 8:5-8, Philippians 4:2-9  
 Sermon – “It’s Not About Self-Control” – Pastor Alex  
 10:30am – Chancel Choir – “He’s Been There Too”

**March 27th** Evening Lenten Service in the Sanctuary

**March 31st** Scriptures – Psalm 99, Psalm 23, Luke 8:26-37  
 Sermon – “Understanding, and Community Support” – Pastor Erich



## Thursday Lunch Gatherings

Pastor Erich invites anyone who wishes to gather with him for Thursday lunches - retirees, senior citizens, those who have the day or hour free - free from activities, from work, etc.

- Third Thursdays of the Month
- Starting March 21st
- 11:30am Gathering Time
- 11:45am Soup & Sandwich Luncheon
- 12:15pm Fellowship Program
- People may leave after eating or after the fellowship program is finished, or anytime they need to!
- Fellowship programs could be table games, group games, a guest speaker, a Bible study, discussion topic with the Pastor, etc.

# consistory/committees

## Consistory Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2019

- Call to Order – Gary Frazier
- Regrets: Carrie Wooley was at the hospital with her mother and grandmother
- Devotions – Judy Sears – Praying Boldly, Staying in the Will of God, Matthew 6:6-8.
- Getting Acquainted – As the first meeting of the year, members introduced themselves and shared a little bio information.
- 2019 Consistory Organizational Items – Roberts Rules of Order, Consistory Assignments, Consistory Contact Information, Devotional Sign-up and Consistory Meeting Schedule.
- Approval of Minutes (December 17, 2018) – Motion to approve the minutes, Jeff Rutledge, 2nd the motion, John Graber. Minutes Approved.
- Budget & Stewardship Committee – John Graber – EGR Authorized Signature Form needs updated yearly. EGR account has a good start to 2019. Next meeting with EGR is April 9, look for a complete updated report at that time. Financial Reports were reviewed.
- Capital Campaign Committee – Brad Roth will end his time on the committee now that he is an elder. A new chairperson is being sought. Motion to approve Betsy Redd as a new committee member, Gloria Lauber, 2nd the motion Greg Walker. Motion approved.
- Christian Preschool Board – Ann Fether – Mindy Gruenhagen will serve as the Vice Chair of Preschool Board. Next meeting will be 2-19-2019, Jenny Grieser and Amy Baden will be joining the Preschool Board. We need volunteers for substitutes.
- Facility Committee – Jeff Rutledge – First meeting will be in March. Members at this point include: Jeff Rutledge, Doug Rupp, Eric Nafziger, Dean Sauder, Maggie Enderle, Rich Lesniack, Mike Meyer, Paige Miller and Pastor Erich.
- Mission Committee – Mark Nofziger – Mission committee meets 1st Thursday of each month. Biloxi trip took \$3,000 with them for expenses incurred during their time there working and serving for the people of Biloxi.
- Property Committee – Dean Sauder – Meetings on 2nd Tuesday of each month. Scheduling of the tower painting. Maintenance on the air conditioning units needs to be scheduled. Maintenance on the basketball hoop, looking at a new latching system to hold the basketball hoop where it's at safely.
- Spiritual Council – Erich Christman – Meets at 6:15 prior to Consistory. Approved putting a team together to host another Walk thru the Bible event. Discussion was held on the nomination process. Discerning of names will begin in March/April. Names of potential leaders of the church. Leadership training courses, will be offered twice this summer, to prepare people for Consistory and serving on committees. Ended in prayer over the concerns and leadership of the church.
- Pastor's Report – Erich Christman – Pastor Erich will be on vacation this Thursday (2/21) for one week, spending time with his mother in Montana.
  - o Church Security – A topic left from 2018, working to have up to date safety systems in place. Met with Habitech, which has given information.
  - o Church Bells – bells are programmed through a computer interface. The quietness of the bells is a discouragement, but nothing can be done to make them louder. The Carillon system rings at noon and 6pm. Motion to have the bells ring at 7:55am and 10:25am for 2 minutes at a time, before both services to sound a welcome call that worship is beginning, Scott Short made the motion, 2nd the motion Todd Nafziger. Motion Approved. The bells will also ring at 8am and 10:30am to indicate the beginning of Worship Services.
  - o Bookkeeping Committee – Susie Enderle, John Graber, Tom Hines, Brad Roth and Steve Walker have agreed to help Pastor Erich tend to some upgrades of accounting systems and procedures.
- Associate Pastor's Report – Alex Young
  - o Forming a pictorial directory committee – the goal is to get a tangible and physical updated directory, as well as updating church contact information. A hope is to get a new phone messaging system (approved in the budget) and updated contact information will help make this transition easier. Alex and Kelly Stahl will be taking the lead on this project.
  - o Stephens Ministry began meeting in January, have met weekly since. Things are off to a good start, a few Consistory members are in the trainings, we continue to make steps forward, 6 trainees are in the program now, end of June will end training and matches will be made with care receivers after June, to help people go through hard times together.



- **New Business**
    - o EA – 2019 Church Renewal Form – Church organization that SJCC networks with. They have a process of renewing membership yearly. The budget has been approved. We're networked with various churches; Pastor Erich meets with them every other month. They've been helpful with the calling of new pastors. We are hosting the annual convocation in Sept 2019. Church dues are \$3.00 per member, roughly \$1,200 yearly. Motion to continue membership with the EA, Gloria Lauber, Ann Fether 2nd the motion. Motion approved.
  - Motion to adjourn tonight's meeting Greg Walker, 2nd the motion John Graber. Meeting Adjourned. Closed with The Lord's Prayer.
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### **Congregational Annual Meeting**

After a week's postponement due to very inclement weather, the annual meeting was held on January 27th this year. The business of the meeting was pretty routine this year – the 2018 financial reports, 2019 proposed budgets, and the annual consideration of our Mission/Vision statement and Membership Expectations – were all reviewed and approved. The results of the election of offices is as follows:

- Congregational President – Gary Frazier
  - Congregational Secretary – Sarah Nafziger
  - Elders – Todd Nafziger, Brad Roth
  - Deacon/Deaconesses – Tim Beck, Mindy Gruenhagen, Keith Kern
- 

### **Scholarship Information**

#### **College & Seminary Scholarships**

St. John's Christian Church offers and administers four scholarships:

1. Springer Scholarship – for students enrolled in seminary, pre-seminary or Christian Ed. studies
2. Nursing Scholarship – for a nursing student who is a member of SJCC and who attends an accredited post-secondary school of nursing
3. College Scholarship – awarded to enhance the Christian faith of active members of St. John's Christian Church who are either attending or planning to attend college in the coming year
4. Seminary Scholarship – tuition scholarships for students attending seminary

The deadline for applications is April 1st. Applications may be picked up from the church office, or students may contact the church office ([office@stjohnsarchbold.org](mailto:office@stjohnsarchbold.org)) to have the information and application packet digitally sent to them.

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### **Stephen Ministry**

Stephen Leaders and Trainees have been very busy! The group meets 2.5 hours each week, working on skills that are necessary in becoming a caring Stephen Minister. Through the 50 hours of training, the care givers receive practical, hands-on learning and resources to provide Christ-centered care and meet the emotional and spiritual needs of others. Topics covered to date include: feelings, the art of listening, the difference between a Christian caregiver and a regular caregiver, and ways to relate to the care receiver. Once training is completed, a Stephen Minister will be able to provide: a listening ear, a supportive perspective, and God's Word to help others through the challenges of life. Please continue to pray for this ministry.

# March Daily Scriptures

(From "Discovery" Daily Devotional)

**Discovery®** is a daily Bible reading guide that provides clear Bible explanation, prayers and relevant application questions. You can access this guide online at <http://www.scriptureunion.org/Bible%20Reading/Discovery>.

1 Who Can Forgive? ----- Matthew 9:1-8	16 Not 'Til You Prove It----- Matthew 12:38-50
2 The Sin-Sickness Doctor ----- Matthew 9:9-13	17 Praise His Holy Name ----- Psalm 145
3 Praying Through Trials ----- Psalm 143	18 Story Time----- Matthew 13:1-9
4 Enjoying Jesus ----- Matthew 9:14-17	19 Let Me Tell You A Secret-----Matthew 13:10-23
5 No Second-Class Citizens ----- Matthew 9:18-26	20 Let It Be-----Matthew 13:24-30
6 King in Hiding ----- Matthew 9:27-34	21 Small Is Beautiful ----- Matthew 13:31-43
7 Meeting the Need----- Matthew 9:35-10:16	22 How Much Is It Worth?-----Matthew 13:44-52
8 Prepared for Death -----Matthew 10:17-31	23 Hometown Blues -----Matthew 13:53-58
9 Number One-----Matthew 10:32-42	24 He's On Our Side----- Psalm 146
10 I'm Saved----- Psalm 144	25 A Fountain of Life-----Proverbs 10:1-32
11 Not Quite What We Expect-----Matthew 11:1-19	26 A Sure Reward?-----Proverbs 11:1-31
12 Not Quite What We Want----- Matthew 11:20-30	27 Heart Before Hands ----- Proverbs 15:1-33
13 Not What We're Used To----- Matthew 12:1-14	28 A Hall of Mirrors ----- Proverbs 16:1-33
14 Not Where Our Hope Is-----Matthew 12:15-21	29 Family Matters-----Proverbs 17:1-28
15 Not What You Do-----Matthew 12:22-37	30 Hold Your Tongue ----- Proverbs 18:1-24
	31 Global and Local-----Psalm 147

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

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*Custodians* Dean Buckenmeyer  
*Treasurer* Roger Miller  
*Director* gkwalker@tceexpress.net  
*LOGOS* Kim M. Walker  
*Assistant* office@stjohnsarchbold.org  
*Admin.* Kelly Stahl

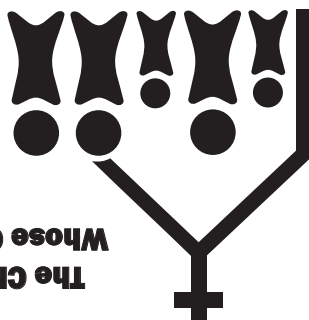
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**St. John's Christian Church**  
**700 S. Defiance Street**  
**Archbold, OH 43502**

Holy Communion:  
 New Year (1/7), Ash Wednesday (2/14), Maundy Thursday (3/29),  
 Pentecost (5/20), Mid-Summer (7/15), World Wide Communion  
 (10/7), First Sunday of Advent (12/2)

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



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

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