

October 22, 2023 | 8:00am & 10:30am

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Church on the Corner whose Cornerstone is Christ



Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together

*We are a community of faith founded upon God's Holy Word,
preaching salvation through believing in Christ as our Savior.*

We seek to live in God's truth, being obedient to His Word and following in His ways.

Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

Welcome to SJCC! We are so glad you have chosen to join us as we worship the Lord together. We hope you feel God's love in a refreshing way. Please let one of our ushers know you're new (*they may have already noticed your new face!*) so they can give you a welcome bag filled with helpful information about our church. We also invite you to fill out a quick survey so we can get to know you a little better. Simply scan the QR code to the right with your phone's camera while you're waiting for worship to start!



Nursery Care/Mother's Room/Diaper Changing Stations



Nursery Care is offered during 10:30AM service for children ages four months through preschool across from the church office. Parents can register children for Nursery Care online at www.stjohnsarchbold.org/nursery or by scanning the QR code to the left before checking into the nursery for the first time. We also have a Mother's Room located outside of the sanctuary for nursing mothers and/or mothers with young infants and toddlers. Diaper changing stations are located in both the Mother's Room and the Nursery. An usher will gladly direct you if needed!

Children's Busy Bags are located in the sanctuary narthex for children ages one-year to third grade. Bags are marked by age (**Pink** = Ages 1-2; **Green** = Ages 3-5; **Yellow** = Grades K-3). Please be sure to return bags at the end of our service today. If you would like to mark a bag specifically for your child(ren) each week, please contact the church office.

Give & Take Board

Do you need a little peace in your day? Confidence? What about self-control? Are you in need of a spiritual pick-me-up? Could you use a quick bit of kindness after a long week? Or do you have these things to spare? Then stop by the Give and Take Board outside of the Preschool Room! Give what you can and take what you need. You just might feel or fill someone's heart with the love of God and make their week brighter!

Large Print Bulletins are available at a table in the sanctuary narthex.

Hearing Assistance is provided by our system for hearing aids with a "loop system" switch position.

Let's Connect!



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP OF GOD!

Ring of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

(8:00) Prelude

“My Lord What a Morning!”

†(8:00) Opening Hymn

#586, “Jesus, Stand Among Us”

(10:30) Chancel Choir

“A Joyous Call to Praise”

†Responsive Scripture Reading

Psalm 46:1-7 (p. 559)

All: *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

Leader: *Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.*

People: **God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.**

Leader: *Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.*

All: *The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

†Congregational Hymn

#26, “A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

†Responsive Scripture Reading

Psalm 46:8-11

Leader: *Come and see the works of the Lord, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire.*

People: **“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”**

All: *The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

†Congregational Hymn

#25, “Immortal, Invisible”

Gideon Presentation

(10:30) Junior Choir

“Clap Your Hands and Sing Everybody”

Children’s Message

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

†Sermon Hymn

#450, “Lord, Speak to Me”

Scripture

Exodus 4:10-17 (p. 57)

Sermon

“Ordinary is Okay”

Prayer of Dedication and the Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“The Potter's Hand”

Second Offering

Roger Zimmerman, Building Committee

†Closing Hymn

#294, v. 1 & 2, “Set My Soul Afire”

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#294, v. 3, “Set My Soul Afire”

†Postlude

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 4:10-17 Moses said to the Lord, "O Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the Lord?" ¹² Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say." ¹³ But Moses said, "O Lord, please send someone else to do it." ¹⁴ Then the Lord's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and his heart will be glad when he sees you. ¹⁵ You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. ¹⁶ He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. ¹⁷ But take this staff in your hand so you can perform miraculous signs with it."

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

O Lord, the psalmist proclaims the blessing of each person being "fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful." That includes me, Lord; ordinary me! I admit, that like Moses, there are times when I don't feel adequate, when I harp on my weaknesses rather than praise you for my uniqueness. Thank you for gathering us ordinary people of SJCC together as lights and ministers of the Gospel. May our varied talents and abilities come together in the church to be a mighty force of grace and love. In Christ, Amen.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman	
Song/Worship Leader	(Both) Roger Zimmerman	
Acolytes	(8:00) Maci Martz	(10:30) Claire Bowers
Easy Worship	(Both) Kelly Ducey	
Sound Tech	(8:00) Kelly Ducey	(10:30) James Grime
Live Stream	(10:30) Ollie MacDonald	
Nursery Assistants	(10:30) Karen Walker & Molly Rutledge	
8:00 Usher	Jim Grieser	
10:30 Head Usher	Matt Hines	
10:30 Ushers	Travis & Mindy Gruenhagen, Chris & Amy Baden	

SEARCH COMMITTEE: DISCOVERY WEEKEND SUMMARY

In contracting with Shepherd Staff, a church ministry staffing agency, the Search Committee was involved in a Discovery Weekend on September 29th – October 1st. Members of the committee met and hosted two staff from Shepherd Staff for dinner on Friday evening. Then the entire committee met for an hour with those two staff members on Saturday morning. The two staff members spent the rest of Saturday in one hour sessions with the following groups: present and past Consistory members, church staff, ministry volunteers, and parents of children and youth. On Sunday, the two staff members worshiped with us at the 10:30am service, then they had a second session with the Search Committee.

The purpose of the Discovery Weekend was for Shepherd Staff to gain insight and knowledge of SJCC in order to facilitate their work in our search process. They gathered information to help better understand the needs and desires of SJCC regarding this particular search. An initial report shared key points for our education and consideration:

1. We cannot look back at what once was, but must look to the future with what can be.
2. Expectations or hopes that this new pastor will bring in or bring back young adults are unrealistic. The ministry is in a rebuilding phase and current students are the next young adult ministry.
3. Take a look around and assess current resources. If Youth and Young Adults are highly valued then consider a space for them to have ownership of. Shepherd Staff noted the possibility of repurposing the storage building as a Youth / Young Adult center.
4. It will be difficult to find a candidate for this position due to the church's location – rural area – and the reality that the number of persons to choose from that want to work with youth and associate pastor level of ministry is very slim.

The Search Committee is very grateful for the twenty some individuals who spent part of their time sharing with Shepherd Staff. Your input is an important part of this process.

Shepherd Staff is currently preparing an opportunity profile of SJCC and will start communicating with prospective candidates. They will send the Search Committee progress reports in three to four weeks and will then have weekly zoom calls with the committee chair and co-chair.

One task the Search Committee is asking the congregation to assist with is in the area of housing. Do you know of places for rent or for sale? Do you know of homes or apartments that might be available for short term use? We don't know whether the new hire will be single, married or have a family, so we are exploring all potential options.

PASTOR ERICH: OUT OF TOWN

Pastor Erich and Lynne will be out of town early Friday through late Sunday, October 27th-29th. They will be traveling to Jordan, Minnesota, just an hour or so south of Minneapolis. One of Pastor Erich's sisters, Sarah, has asked him to conduct the funeral services for her husband, Bob, who died suddenly on September 27th. Sarah and Bob were separated for many years, and it has been 15 to 20 years since Pastor Erich and Lynne had contact with Bob, so they would appreciate prayers for wisdom and discernment in what to share with Sarah and their three adult sons in their time together next weekend. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Worship Greeters** - We are still seeking two to four individuals to serve as greeters each Sunday morning, greeting at the south entrance and at the northeast entrance. We'd like to create a monthly rotation of greeters. Please contact the church office if you're feeling called to serve in this capacity!
- ◆ **GIF Gals** - On Tuesday, October 31st, the Gals are heading to "Sweet Memories" in Napoleon (formerly Johnson's Ice Cream Shop). Let's meet at church at 11:30AM to carpool. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board across from the church office. GIF Gals welcome all widows or single ladies to join our group - we always look forward to our time together!
- ◆ **Veteran's Breakfast** - The annual Veteran's Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday, November 12th at 9:00AM in the Parish Hall. The Fellowship Committee invites any and all to this event as we honor the Veterans in our congregation. Please sign up on the office bulletin board no later than October 29th.
- ◆ **Pettisville Man Cave Ministry** - Pettisville Man Cave is hosting Lieutenant General Jerry Boykin, a nationally known speaker and a three star general. He was an original member of Delta Force and was the commander in Black Hawk Down. The event will take place on Wednesday, November 1st, at 7:00PM at Founders Hall. This is a free event open to everyone, not just a men's event. Doors will open at 6:30PM.

MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Mission Presentation: October 29th, 9:15AM in the Parish Hall

Mackenzie will be sharing about her time of mission ministry in southern India. Having spent most of the past two years tutoring children and building relationships, she is back in the states for a period of training and building a new mission team. Hear directly from her on the 29th!

October Mission-A-Month: Operation Christmas Child

Throughout the month of October, St. John's will once again collect for Operation Christmas Child in cooperation with Samaritan's Purse. Due to the guidelines for what can be included in the boxes, we are encouraging financial donations versus supplies; however, you are still more than welcome to pack your own! If you choose to do this, please contact the church office so that we can supply you with a box and list of accepted items. Financial contributions can be indicated on your weekly offering by noting "MAM" on line 11 of your offering envelope, which will be used to purchase approved toys and supplies for the boxes and will be packed by a team of SJCC Youth.



DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Discover Daily Devotional Guides are available in the hallway literature rack in the narthex (suggested donation \$6 each). You can also access the guide online at <https://scriptureunion.org/discovery/>. Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

Oct 22 God in Action ----- Psalm 68
Oct 23 God's Holy Nation ----- Jeremiah 22
Oct 24 Shepherds and Kings ----- Jeremiah 23:1-8
Oct 25 False Prophets ----- Jeremiah 23:9-40
Oct 26 Good and Bad Figs ----- Jeremiah 24
Oct 27 Listening Skills ----- Jeremiah 25
Oct 28 Tell It How It Is ----- Jeremiah 26

WEEK OF OCT. 22ND AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Faith Village/Sunday School
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	6:00PM	Seekers Small Group (Kuntz's Home)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	3:30PM	Personnel Committee (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal - Zion Mennonite Church (Parish Hall)
	7:00PM	Safety Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	6:00PM	LOGOS (Parish Hall)/JYF* (Gather in Chapel)
	7:00PM	SYF (Youth Room)
Fri	8:30AM	Moms in Prayer (Fireside Room)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Faith Village/Sunday School
	9:15AM	Mission Presentation - Mackenzie (Gym)
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)

**Bus leaves at 6:15PM. Eat before arriving to church, dress warmly, and bring a flashlight!*

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH, 2023: REFORMATION SUNDAY

Scriptures: Psalm 91:1-4, Romans 1:16-17, 5:1-11

Sermon: "Reformation Sunday – 3 Fold Purpose"

Nursery Assistants (10:30): Brooke Hines & Emily Hines

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Kali Collins, granddaughter of Nan Neill, who completed her active duty with the United States Air Force and has moved back home near family. Thank you for your service, Kali!
- ◆ Mary Ellen Johnson, with the shingles diagnosis being in error, as she is dealing with a fractured disc in her back, with an MRI scheduled soon.
- ◆ Jean Stamm, who continues to recover from a fracture of an arm.
- ◆ Tom Johnson, as he continues four more weeks of therapy for his shoulder surgery.
- ◆ Alice Tedrow, who continues through therapy as she recovers from a recent fall.
- ◆ Dianne Wyrick, who is now in a rehab center as she needed a procedure done on the incision from her recent hip surgery.
- ◆ Jack Stover, who continues to make improvement in recovering from a stroke.
- ◆ Monte Woolace, who is doing okay day to day, and continues to await further treatment.
- ◆ A local man who is dealing with many issues surrounding the recent death of his fiancée; pray for his strength and for his peace.

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ Brenden Bostelman, Oak Grove, KY (Army) (Grandson of Bill & Kathy)
- ◆ Kyle Ducey, San Antonio, TX (Navy) (Son of Kelly & Betsy)
- ◆ Brayden Hall, Newton Falls, OH, attending Kent State (OANG) (Son of Vond & Mary)
- ◆ MAJ Jared Kuntz, South Korea (Army) (Son of Keith & Kelli)
- ◆ Taylor Pitts, Dayton, OH (Air Force) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Shayne Pitts, Dayton, OH (Air Force) (Husband of Taylor)
- ◆ Steve Schink, Chesterfield, MI (Coast Guard) (Son-in-law of Ed and Julie Ruffer)

GIDEON CARD MINISTRY

As a way of encouraging, caring and supporting people, there are Gideon cards available in the sanctuary narthex. Card themes include: Thinking of you...Praying for You...Sympathy...In Recognition. Each card enables the sender to donate towards Gideon Bible distributions, too. As the Gideon's say, Give a Card, Send the Word, Change a Life!

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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