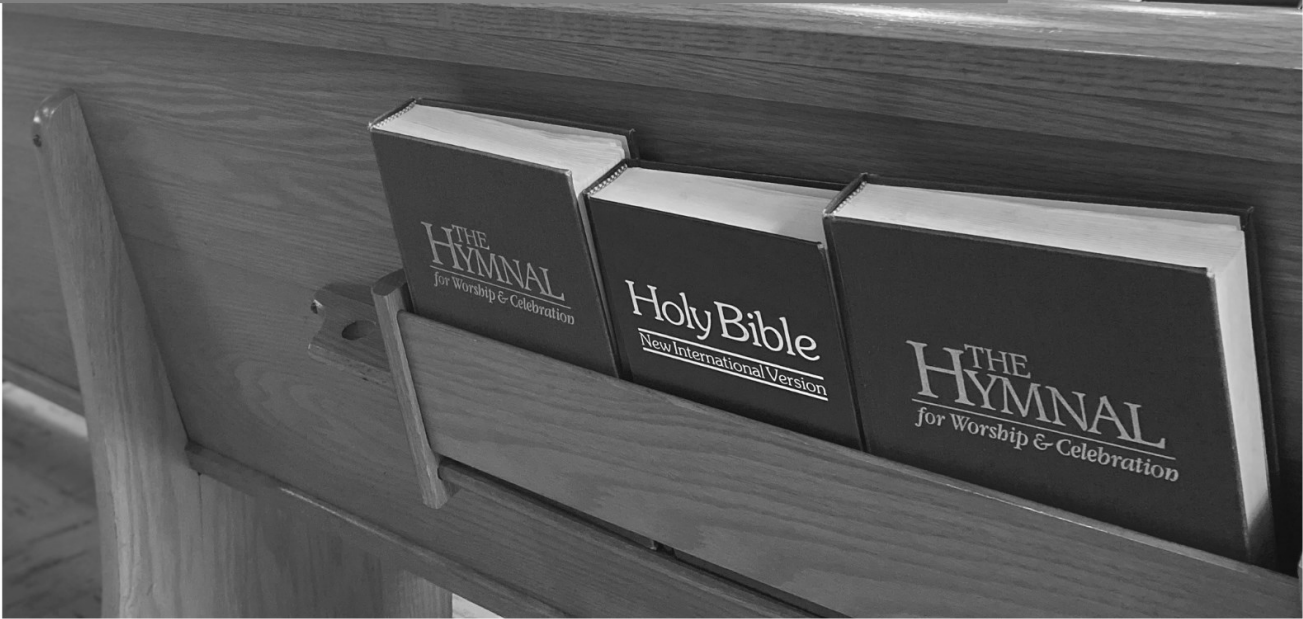


October 27, 2024 | 8:00am & 10:30am

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 our 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!

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Enter to Worship God in the Fellowship of Others

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

Ringing of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

A time to prepare for worship, focusing on the Lord, whom we've come to worship.

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Psalm 119:49-52 (p. 608)

†Hymns of Praise

#275, "How Firm a Foundation"

#271, "Standing on the Promises"

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Affiliation ~ Evangelical Association of Reformed & Congregational Christian Churches" (EA)

Children's Message

Ministry of Prayer

Prayer Hymn

#429, "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Observing Reformation Sunday

(10:30) Chancel Choir

"If You Believe"

Scripture Reading

Revelation 2:8-11 (p. 1216)

†Sermon Hymn

#213, "Because He Lives"

Sermon

"Smyrna: Suffering"

Prayer of Dedication and the Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Cares Chorus"

Second Offering - Imagine Your Faith Building Capital Campaign

†Closing Hymn

#233, "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#207, "Through It All"

†Postlude

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 119:49-52 – Remember your word to your servant, for you have given me hope. ⁵⁰ My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life. ⁵¹ The arrogant mock me without restraint, but I do not turn from your law. ⁵² I remember your ancient laws, O Lord, and I find comfort in them.

Revelation 2:8-11 – To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. ⁹ I know your afflictions and your poverty-- yet you are rich! I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. ¹⁰ Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. ¹¹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.



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EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION
of Reformed & Congregational Christian Churches

Affiliation with the Evangelical Association provides a way for local churches to:

- ◆ Maintain a steadfast biblical witness, affirming Jesus as Lord and standing firm on the authority of Scripture in a time when many in our culture and even in some denominations are pressuring Christians to compromise the truth.
- ◆ Provide a place of safety where biblically grounded pastors can have their ministerial standing recognized without fear of persecution from those with a progressive theological agenda.
- ◆ Receive assistance as they are coming out of denominational structures and seeking to function as independent, autonomous congregations.
- ◆ Work together to support missionaries proclaiming the Gospel throughout the world through the *Evangelical Association Mission Network*.
- ◆ Have fellowship with like-minded believers through regional and national EA gatherings where we worship, study, pray, grow and laugh together.
- ◆ Network with one another to find biblically orthodox, faithful pastors to fill the pulpits of our churches.
- ◆ Encourage church revitalization as together we work toward the goal of reproducing healthy churches and disciples for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom.

We celebrate our connection with other congregations of believers through our church's affiliation with the Evangelical Association!

For information about or to contribute to the EA, visit: evangelicalassociation.org

SERMON NOTES - SMYRNA: SUFFERING

Revelation 2:8-11 – Letter to the Church in Smyrna

Sermon Series – Revelation 2 & 3 – Letters to Seven Churches

- ◆ Each letter to one church was intended to be read by the other six churches, too.
- ◆ Addressee, Speaker, Knowledge of the Speaker, Verdict, Corrective Command, Exhortation, Promise

Addressee – “¹ To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:”

- ◆ Smyrna – about forty miles north of Ephesus, a center of emperor worship
- ◆ Many Christians refused to take part in burning incense at the altar to the godhead of Caesar and were imprisoned
- ◆ A hostile Jewish community troubled the Christian church in Smyrna

Speaker – “These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again.”

- ◆ Revelation 1:17-18 – Identifying himself as Jesus Christ
- ◆ “Who died” – Jesus identifies with the suffering of the Christians in Smyrna, who faced imprisonment and death due to their faith in Jesus Christ

Knowledge – “⁹ I know your afflictions and your poverty -- yet you are rich! I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.”

- ◆ 1 – He knows their afflictions, persecutions
- ◆ 2 – He knows their poverty, material poverty
- ◆ 3 – He knows of the slander they face
- ◆ They lived by faith, trusting in the Lord, in this world and for the next

Verdict – none spoken of in this letter

Corrective Command – “¹⁰ Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

- ◆ Living without knowing what might happen to them next, the Christians could have lived in fear, fearful of imprisonment, fearful of testing, fearful of suffering
- ◆ Testing – could show the strength of their faith in Christ
- ◆ Crown of life – imperishable – James 1:12, 1 Peter 5:4

Exhortation and Promise – “¹¹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.”

Pastor Erich & Lynne will be out of town Wednesday through Saturday this week; headed to Auburn, Alabama, to visit Erich's last living uncle. He will be reachable via his cell phone - 419-551-0401.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **The St. John's Talent Show** is **TONIGHT**, Sunday, October 27th at 5:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. Pizza, dessert, pop, and water will be served. A variety of acts are performing and promise to provide a fun night of entertainment. Please join us!
- ◆ **GIF Gals:** Thursday, October 31st is the date for our next get together. This time let's do lunch! We will be meeting at the Sweet Dream Cafe in Napoleon at 11:45AM. Their menu includes soups, sandwiches, and ice cream. Directions: Take 108 south to Napoleon, cross the river and continue south for 3-4 miles. Sweet Dreams Cafe will be on the west side, second gray house with red shutters. Any questions call Carol Devries at 419-445-8311. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.
- ◆ **Church Potluck** - The Fellowship Committee is hosting an all church potluck on Sunday, November 3rd after the late service. Drinks and table service will be provided. Please bring a dish to share and enjoy some fellowship with your church family!
- ◆ **Veterans lunch NWSCC:** To honor and thank you for your service, Northwest State Community College invites Veterans to a free complimentary lunch on Thursday, Nov. 7th from 11:30am to 1:00pm. Please RSVP by Tuesday, Nov. 5th to kgrime@northweststate.edu or call 419-267-1418.
- ◆ **Veterans Breakfast** - The Fellowship Committee is hosting the annual Veterans Breakfast on Sunday, November 10th at 9:00AM. Breakfast will be served, followed by a short program. **All those currently serving or who have served**, along with spouses, are invited. We ask that those planning to attend sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board outside of the church office by November 3rd.
- ◆ **Provide a Meal** - If you would like to provide a meal for Bud, Tootie, Kevin and Dee Beck as they recover from recent injuries, please use the following link: <https://takethemameal.com/IRWX5563>
- ◆ **God Winks Devotional: Christmas Collection** - Is your God Winks booklet sitting at home collecting dust? If so, we ask that you bring it back to the church between now and Christmas so that we can distribute them to local medical waiting rooms, rehab facilities, dialysis centers, and cancer treatment centers. There will be a collection basket in the sanctuary narthex where you can drop these off. We pray these booklets filled with our personal stories provide peace and comfort to others in need of a God Wink.

DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

Oct 27 To God Be The Glory----- Psalm 115
Oct 28 In Whose Hands? -----Mark 6:30-44
Oct 29 Going Nowhere-----Mark 6:45-56
Oct 30 Cleanliness and Godliness-----Mark 7:1-23
Oct 31 Unstoppable-----Mark 7:24-37
Nov 1 Blinded by Preconceptions -----Mark 8:1-13
Nov 2 Join the Dots -----Mark 8:14-21

WEEK OF OCTOBER 27TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Sunday School / Faith Village
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	5:00PM	Talent Show (Fellowship Hall)
Mon	7:00PM	Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal - Archbold United Methodist (Parish Hall)
Wed	6:00PM	LOGOS (Gym) / Confirmation (Confirmation Room)
	7:00PM	JYF (Fireside Room)
	7:00PM	SYF Mystery Dinner Party (Ducey Home)
	7:30PM	Adult Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
Thurs	11:45AM	GIF Gals (Sweet Dream Café, Napoleon)
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)
	11:30AM	Church Potluck (Parish Hall)

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	(Both) Lynne Christman	
Song Leader	(Both) Roger Zimmerman	
Worship Leader	(Both) Jocelyn Walker	
Acolytes	(8:00) Luci Meyer	(10:30) Charlee Gearig
Easy Worship	(Both) Kelly Ducey	
Sound Tech	(8:00) Jenna Stuckey	(10:30) James Grime
Live Stream	(10:30) Cayla Swisher	
Nursery	(10:30) Brooke Lerma & Emily Hines	
8:00 Usher	Tim Beck	
Head Usher	Matt Hines	
Ushers	(10:30) Bryson & Dawsyn Martinez and Kim & Emily Hines	

MISSION-A-MONTH - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

During October, St. John's is collecting financial contributions in cooperation with Samaritan's Purse. Donations can be indicated by noting "MAM" on line 11 of your offering envelope.

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Bud & Tootie Beck, recovering from injuries sustained in a car accident, with Tootie at Ayden Healthcare at 303 W. Leggett St. in Wauseon and Bud is at his son's home.
- ◆ Bryce Winzeler, recuperating at home from recent surgery, while waiting for a second procedure to take place in a week or two.
- ◆ Jeff & Laura Bostelman, as Jeff starts treatment of the cancer in his spine.
- ◆ Larry Woolace, dealing with health effects from a recent TIA.
- ◆ Shirley Wyse, who continues in hospice care at Genacross in Napoleon.
- ◆ Stuart & Rhonda Short, treatment has been effective, awaiting a PET scan.

Care Center Residents

- ◆ Josephine Short, Fairlawn Haven, Room #405
- ◆ Linda Hayes, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #104
- ◆ Shirley Wyse, Genacross, 1036 S. Perry St., Napoleon, 43545
- ◆ Mike Meyer, Fountain Park, 1391 N. Main St., Bryan, 43506
- ◆ Louise Short, Hillside Country Living, 09876 County Road 16, Bryan, 43506

Missions/Missionaries...

- ◆ Defiance Area Youth for Christ – asking for prayer each evening at 7:59pm

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) (Grandson-in-law of Nan Neill)
- ◆ Steve Schink, Chesterfield, MI (Coast Guard) (Son-in-law of Ed and Julie Ruffer)

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

700 S. Defiance St., Archbold, Ohio 43502
419-446-2545 † www.stjohnsarchbold.org

Pastor - Rev. Erich Christman (Cell: 419-551-0401)
Dir. of Youth & Young Adults - Jocelyn Walker (Cell: 419-575-4218)
Interim Dir. of Music Ministry - Buffy Riley (Cell: 419-572-6880)
Administrative Assistant - Gloria Beck (office@stjohnsarchbold.org)