

December 1, 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!

Enter to Worship God in the Fellowship of Others

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

Ringling 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

(8:00) Prelude

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

(10:30) Call to Worship

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Genesis 12:3, Acts 3:24-26

The Nativity Scene - The Manger

Carol Response

Insert, vs. 1 & 2, "The Friendly Beasts"

†(8:00) Carols

#124, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
insert, "There's a Song in the Air"

†(10:30) Carols of Praise

#124, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
insert, "There's a Song in the Air"

The Advent Wreath - The Candle of Hope

Carol Response

insert, "The Advent Candles" (tune of "Away in a Manger")

Children's Message

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Special Music

Roger Zimmerman

"All to Us"

Prayer of Dedication and the Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Scripture Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

Sermon

"The Advent of Christ"

Advent Communion Service

(8:00)

Buffy Riley

"Longing for Light"

(10:30)

Praise Team

"Longing for Light"

†Closing Hymn

#157, "Away in a Manger"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#147, v.1, "Silent Night"

†Postlude

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12:3 "I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Acts 3:24-26 "Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel on, as many as have spoken, have foretold these days. ²⁵ And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.' ²⁶ When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

Malachi 3:1-4 "See, I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty. ² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years."

FULTON COUNTY CHRISTMAS CHEER

As you leave church today stop by the Christmas Cheer Tree filled with paper ornaments and pick up as many tags as you want. Shop for the things on the tags and drop them off in the Donation Center's bin in the chapel narthex **on or before Sunday, December 8th**. Financial donations can be given by writing "MAM" on line 11 of your weekly offering envelope. Thank you for helping to touch the lives of people throughout all of Fulton County. Together we can do great things.

MISSION-A-MONTH - CROSSROAD CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

Since 1883, Crossroad Child & Family Services in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has been dedicated to the mission of creating promising futures for children and families. Today, the family directed programs focus on providing behavioral health treatment, education programs, and support services tailored to client needs and strengths. The organization has worked with thousands of young people and families over the years to help them learn, change, and thrive. Crossroads thanks us for our prayers and generous financial support over the years that has truly helped in changing the futures of young people. You can indicate a gift to Crossroad this month by filling out line 5 of your weekly offering envelope or by selecting "Crossroad" in the Breeze Online Giving "Give to..." drop-down menu.

LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

As the congregational president, Linda Heer, shares the following information with the congregation, about the annual nomination process regarding Spiritual Council and Consistory leadership.

The Spiritual Council serves as the nominating committee of the church, and the council began discussion and discernment about nominations a few months earlier than usual, starting in August of this year.

The church constitution states that we are to have at least one nominee for the offices of congregational president and congregational secretary, as well as having two nominees for each office of elder and deacon/deaconess. That means we are to have four nominees for the office of elder, and six nominees for the office of deacon/deaconess. Of the four nominees for elder, two will be elected. Of the six nominees for deacon/deaconess, three will be elected. In addition, due to resignations by previously elected members of Consistory, we are in need of two additional nominees for an unexpired two year term of a deacon/deaconess, and the Consistory needs to appoint one person to fill a one year term on Consistory.

To date, we have one nominee for president, one nominee for congregational secretary, two nominees for elder, and three nominees for deacon/deaconess. There have been several different valid reasons people have given for not accepting a nomination this year.

The Spiritual Council continues to seek people willing to serve in these various offices, helping to set vision for the church and oversee the business side of the church. To be eligible to serve as a deacon or deaconess, a person must have been a member of St. John's for three years, and to be eligible to serve as an elder, a person must have been a member for six years.

The Spiritual Council welcomes people to speak with them about being nominated for one of these offices.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - BUILDING PROJECT

Now that the Building Committee has received bids for the project, we are no longer working on opinions of probable cost, but have a set bid for the project. After hearing a presentation from Jeff Rutledge, chairperson of the Building Committee, the Consistory is calling a special congregational meeting for Sunday, December 8th. A meeting will be held following the 8:00am service of worship, then the meeting will be recessed until following the 10:30am service, at which time the meeting will be reconvened. The purpose of the meeting is to accept the recommendation from both the Building Committee and the Consistory to approve a final budget of the project.

Congregational Prayer – Heavenly Father, we love to celebrate the gift of your Son at Christmas. This Advent season, help us remember that we have even more to look forward to in Jesus' second coming. Jesus, as we contemplate your promises, fill our hearts with your hope, peace, joy, and love. Enable us to be faithful, that we might be ready for your return and greet you on that day with unbridled joy. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **The Fellowship Committee** is considering starting up group meals. This would be an opportunity for families/individuals at SJCC to be paired with other families/individuals they may not normally have the opportunity to fellowship with. The specific details will be worked out based on interest and will not officially start until January or February of next year. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway to express interest.
- ◆ **God Winks Devotional: Christmas Collection** - There is a collection basket in the sanctuary narthex. We are collecting them between now and Christmas to distribute locally to medical waiting rooms, rehab facilities, dialysis centers, and cancer treatment centers.
- ◆ **JYF Poinsettia Sale - TODAY IS THE FINAL DAY TO ORDER!** Only 4 more needed to make our goal! Flowers are \$17 each in red, white, pink, or jingle bell (speckled). Reach out to one of our middle schoolers or JYF advisors to place your order. Flowers will be delivered in mid-December. Thank you for supporting our youth ministries!
- ◆ **GIF Gals** - Keep **December 5th @ 11:15AM** open for our Christmas get-together at the Sauder Barn Restaurant. Hope to have a few surprise activities! There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- ◆ **Siberian Solstice Concert** to be Sunday, Dec. 8, at St. Casper Catholic Church - The performance of "An Angel's Gift" will be presented at 7PM in the St. Caspar's Parish Life Center, 1205 North Shoop Avenue in Wauseon. The only cost is a freewill offering for the band. All are welcome
- ◆ **Senior Citizen's Dinner** - The Fellowship Committee invites all senior citizens to the annual Senior Dinner on **Thursday, December 12 @ 5:30PM** in the Parish Hall. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board.
- ◆ **2025 Offering Envelopes** - Offering Envelopes are ready for pickup in the sanctuary narthex. If you don't see your name, please let Gloria in the church office know.
- ◆ **Pots of Coffee** both caffeinated and de-caffeinated, are available on the kitchen counter for people to help themselves.
- ◆ **Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County**, Ohio (HFHFCO) has scheduled work days for their home build in Swanton. Friday's and Saturday's, starting any time after 8am and going until 3pm or 4pm. December dates - 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st. Either visit <https://habitatfco.org/how-to-get-involved/volunteer.html> or contact Pastor Erich, who serves as HFHFCO's construction manager. Scheduled work includes vinyl siding, wall insulation, and drywall hanging!

DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

Dec 1 Longing for God----- Psalm 119:73-96
Dec 2 A Homebound Highway -----Isaiah 35
Dec 3 Back At The Aqueduct-----Isaiah 36
Dec 4 Distress and Disgrace-----Isaiah 37:1-20
Dec 5 A Harvest of Hope-----Isaiah 37:21-38
Dec 6 Extension Granted-----Isaiah 38
Dec 7 Dangers of Sunlit Uplands-----Isaiah 39

WEEK OF DECEMBER 1ST 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)
	7:00PM	Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Mon	6:30PM	Fellowship Committee (Fireside Room)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal - (SJCC) (Parish Hall)
	6:45PM	Mission Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	4:00PM	Budget & Stewardship Committee (Fireside Room)
	6:00PM	Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal (Sanctuary/Preschool Room)
	7:00PM	SYF (Youth Room)
	7:30PM	Adult Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
Thur	11:15AM	GIF Gals Christmas Get Together (Barn Restaurant)
	7:00PM	Men's Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Fri	7:00AM	Rest & Restore Bible Study (Rest & Restore)
	3:30PM	Ladies Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Chapel)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Faith Village/Sunday School
	9:00AM	Congregational Meeting (Chapel)
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	11:30AM	Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
	7:00PM	Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary)

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	(Both) Buffy Riley	
Song Leader	(8:00) David Stuckey	(10:30) Praise Team
Worship Leader	(Both) Jocelyn Walker	
Lay Readers	(8:00) Joshua Reeb	(10:30) Avery Roth
Children's Message	(10:30) Madison Bowers	
Acolytes	(8:00) Dawson Martz	(10:30) Tucker Johnston
Easy Worship	(Both) Brian Roth	
Sound Tech	(8:00) Kelly Ducey	(10:30) James Grime
Live Stream	(10:30) Cayla Swisher	
Nursery	(10:30) Karen Walker & Molly Rutledge	
8:00 Usher	Doug & Nancy Rupp	
Head Usher	Brad Roth	
Ushers	(10:30) Evynn Roth, Avery Roth, Brian & Trena Huffman	
Praise Team:	Lynne Christman, Buffy Riley, Todd Nafziger, Bruce Wooley	

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Dencel Miller, now at Fulton Manor for a time of rehab.
- ◆ Todd & Ruthann Buehrer, brother of Ben, who has started chemo treatment.
- ◆ Scott & JoAnn Short, as Scott has been diagnosed with cancer in his prostate.
- ◆ Melva Woolace, who is in rehab at Montpelier Hospital.
- ◆ Bryce Winzeler, recuperating at home from recent surgery.
- ◆ Jeff & Laura Bostelman, as radiation treatment of Jeff's cancer in the spine has ended, and chemo treatment should start in the next couple of weeks.
- ◆ Stuart & Rhonda Short, as Stuart's latest scan was a good one, with progress in his treatment.

Care Center Residents

- ◆ Josephine Short, Fairlawn Haven, Room #405
- ◆ Linda Hayes, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #104
- ◆ Mike Meyer, Fountain Park, 1391 N. Main St., Bryan, 43506
- ◆ Louise Short, Hillside Country Living, 09876 County Road 16, Bryan, 43506
- ◆ Alice Tedrow, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #111

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

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419-446-2545 † www.stjohnsarchbold.org

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Dir. of Youth & Young Adults - Jocelyn Walker (Cell: 419-575-4218)
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