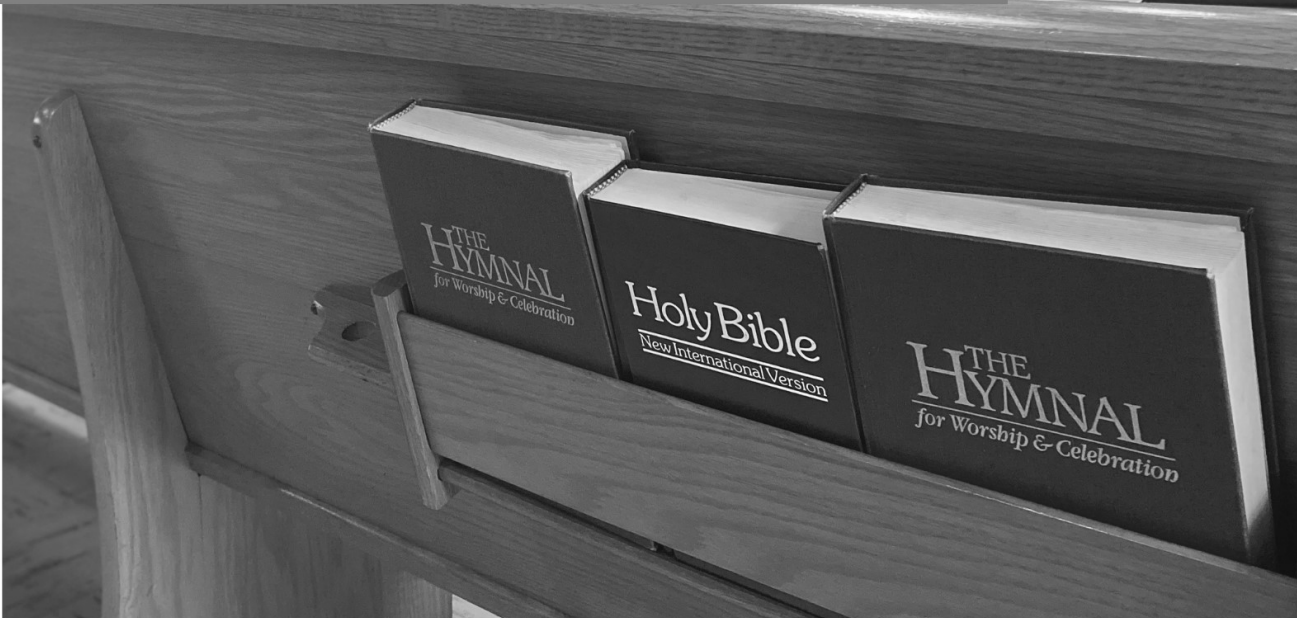


January 19, 2025 | 10:00AM

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 10:00AM service for children ages four months through preschool in the second floor room labelled "Artisan's Tent." 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

“Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise.” (Psalm 100:4)

Ringling of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

“To the Glory of God, and for the Calling of the Faithful to Worship.” (Inscribed on the Bells)

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

Scripture and Prayer of Invocation

Romans 11:33-36 (p. 1122)

† Songs of Praise

“There is Power in the Blood”

“How Great Thou Art”

† Passing the Peace of Christ

Children’s Message

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

Scripture Reading

Revelation 3:14-22 (p. 1217)

Chancel Choir

“Victory and Glory Medley”

Sermon

“Laodicea: Lukewarm”

Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“Jesus Loves Me”

† The Doxology (#625) and Prayer of Dedication

† Closing Song

“Be Unto Your Name”

† Spoken Benediction

† Benediction in Song

chorus, “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

† Postlude

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 11:33-36 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! ³⁴ "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" ³⁵ "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" ³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Revelation 3:14-22 "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. ¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm-- neither hot nor cold -- I am about to spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. ¹⁹ Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. ²⁰ Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. ²¹ To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

MISSION-A-MONTH - CWS EMERGENCY CLEANUP KITS

The Church World Service kit ministry program provides much needed supplies to people in their times of crisis. For every \$75 collected this month, CWS will fill a five-gallon bucket with items like sponges, cleaning towels, dish soap, house cleaners, dust masks, work and dish gloves, trash bags, insect repellants, and more. Through this special offering we will be able to provide many of the tangible items that are necessary for the physical needs of our sisters and brothers in crisis. But even more importantly, those tangible items provide a spiritual hope. And perhaps that is the most compelling definition of faithful stewardship - sharing hope with others.

Congregational Prayer – Lord, I am grateful for the Bible, for your Word is a word of instruction and inspiration. I pray for wisdom in understanding the teachings of your Word, and I pray for faithfulness in obeying your Word. Through the seven letters to the seven churches of Revelation, you have imparted critical instruction. I pray for my heart to always remain open for you. I pray for the openness and earnestness of the St. John's congregation, that we minister and serve to glorify you, and you alone, O Mighty God. Amen.

SERMON NOTES: "LAODICEA: LUKEWARM"

Revelation 3:14-22 – Letter to the Church in Laodicea – "Lukewarm"

Addressee – The seventh and final letter! Laodicea, southeast of Philadelphia and due east of Ephesus – the final stop in the circle of seven churches. A city described as one who compromised and accommodated themselves to others, not standing for anything.

Their source of water came through a six mile long aqueduct. The water was said to have either come from hot springs and was cooled to lukewarm or came from a cooler source and was warmed up in the aqueduct along the way.

Speaker (14) – Three part reference: 1) the Amen (sure and valid), 2) the faithful and true witness (obedient), 3) the ruler of God's creation (power and authority).

Knowledge (15-16) – Knowing their deeds, Christ describes them as lukewarm, a condemnation of the congregation. Opposite of the church's self-evaluation. Neither hot nor cold – lack of zeal or uselessness – a point of illustration. Useless to Christ due to being complacent, self-satisfied and indifferent to real issues of faith and discipleship.

Verdict (17) – Material wealth could have been seen as a blessing from God, meaning they were "okay," which led to indifference on their part. Christ calls them to repentance, to understand their true unspiritual condition. Wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

Corrective Command (18-19) – Instead of the cities wealth of gold, the Laodiceans' wealth was to come from Christ. Gold, white clothes and salve were products produced in the city. Authentic salvation comes only through Christ. Those who receive and honor Christ's loving rebuke are brought back to him. He spits out those he does not love. Be earnest and repent.

Promise (20) – The door seems to represent the hearts of the people – those who are earnest and repent will have fellowship with Christ. Such fellowship with Christ is an intimate fellowship of friends and may have an allusion to the Lord's Supper.

Exhortation (21-22) – Those who overcome the temptations of the world, who earnestly seek Christ and enjoy fellowship with him through faithful obedience, who suffer with Christ, will share in the honor of being with Christ in heaven forever.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **GIF Gals** - Happy New Year to all the GIF Gals. Our first 2025 get together will feature a Brown Bag Lunch at the Home Restaurant on **Jan 23rd, at 5PM**. After a fun fellowship meal, Judy Sears will be presenting a program about her years of being the owner of a Bed & Breakfast in Archbold. She is sure to have many interesting and funny stories. There is a sheet on the wandering bulletin board to sign up and select your sandwich preference.
- ◆ **Widow/Widower Event - Thursday, Feb. 20th, 5PM-7:30PM** at Pettisville Missionary Church. Free dinner and program provided by Weeping Willow Florist. Must call Weeping Willow to register at 419-445-7773. Registration deadline is Feb. 10th.

BUILDING PROJECT STATUS REPORT AS OF JANUARY 16, 2025

Some of the demolition work of the past week is visible along the first floor hallway, with the removal of the chair rail and bulletin boards where new doorways will be set. The removal of ceiling crown molding and tile is also visible. Some holes have appeared in the block wall in preparation for future elevator shaft work. Heat pipes to the second floor were located and will be re-routed in order to maintain heat in the second floor through these cold months.

Total Environmental Services, LLC, out of Toledo, will be on site January 20th and 21st to remove floor tile and mastic containing asbestos in the east side first floor rooms. The rooms will be sealed off along the hallway per regulations for proper and safe removal.

The schedule of work for Phase One – New Restrooms and Elevator:

- ◆ The new restrooms should be ready for use by the end of March
- ◆ The elevator shaft and elevator installation will be worked on through August
- ◆ Ceiling and flooring in the parlor, nursery/preschool room and first floor hallway will be addressed from mid-March through early May

The schedule of work for Phase Two – Sanctuary

- ◆ Pews will be removed the week of April 21 (Easter is April 20th)
- ◆ Asbestos abatement to take place as soon as pews and carpet are removed
- ◆ Sanctuary work is to be completed by July 28th

DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

Jan 19 Going Home ----- Psalm 122
Jan 20 Every Little Sign-----John 2:1-12
Jan 21 Strange Way-----John 2:13-25
Jan 22 The Fading of Light -----John 3:1-21
Jan 23 Love the Light in You -----John 3:22-36
Jan 24 Please, Sir -----John 4:1-26
Jan 25 Down To The Well -----John 4:27-42

WEEK OF JANUARY 19TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sun	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:00AM	Faith Village/Sunday School
	10:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	11:10AM	Congregational Annual Meeting Sunday (Sanctuary)
Mon	6:00PM	Consistory Orientation (Fireside Room)
Tue	9:15AM	Bible Study (Fireside Room)
	5:00PM	Community Meal (Archbold Lion's Club) (Parish Hall)
Wed	6:00PM	LOGOS (Gym)/Confirmation (Confirmation Room)
	7:00PM	JYF (Fireside Room)/SYF (Youth Room)
	7:00PM	Adult Small Group (Parlor)
Thur	5:00PM	GIF GALS Brown Bag Lunch (Home Restaurant)
Fri	7:10AM	Rest & Restore Bible Study (Rest & Restore Spa)
	5:45PM	Depart from church for Youth Night-Toledo Walleye Game
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

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist	Buffy Riley
Song Leader	Praise Team
Worship Leader	Brad Roth
Children's Message	Jocelyn Walker
Acolyte	Claire Bowers
Easy Worship	Tom Hines
Sound Tech	James Grime
Live Stream	Cayla Swisher
Nursery	Brooke Lerma & Emily Hines
Head Usher	Greg Walker
Ushers	Tom & Laura Johnson, Keith & Kelli Kuntz
Praise Team	Lynne Christman, Todd Nafziger, Buffy Riley, Jocelyn Walker, Bruce Wooley

PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

Please pray for...

- ◆ Pam Reeb and family, upon the passing of her brother, Ron Comden, on January 14th at the age of 58. Services were held on Friday and Saturday.
- ◆ Jim Grieser, recovering at home from hip surgery on January 13th.
- ◆ Kassi Link, 10-year-old daughter of Kyle and Katie Link, who had a medical scare this week and awaits further testing.
- ◆ Curt Stamm, as his spine surgery was postponed.
- ◆ Melva Woolace, was scheduled to return home this past Friday.
- ◆ Scott & JoAnn Short, as Scott recovers from successful prostate surgery on January 7th.
- ◆ Ron McCurdy, Jim's brother, who continues dealing with serious health issues.
- ◆ Todd & Ruthann Buehrer, brother of Ben, as he continues through chemo treatments.
- ◆ Jeff & Laura Bostelman, as Jeff has recently gone through two weeks of chemo pills, and then on a 23 day stretch without the pills, and is doing okay through it all.
- ◆ Stuart & Rhonda Short, as Stuart's latest scan was a good one, with progress in his treatment.

Care Center Residents...

- ◆ Linda Hayes, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #104
- ◆ Charlene LaFontaine, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #108
- ◆ Mike Meyer, Fountain Park, 1391 N. Main St., Bryan, 43506, Room #130
- ◆ Dencel Miller, Fairlawn Haven Care Center, Room #169
- ◆ Josephine Short, Fairlawn Haven, Room #152B
- ◆ Alice Tedrow, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #111

Missions/Missionaries...

- ◆ M. as she begins her cross-cultural mission service.
- ◆ Defiance Area Youth for Christ – asking for prayer each evening at 7:59PM

Those serving in the Armed Forces...

- ◆ 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)