



February 9, 2025 | 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**

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*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.*

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# Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

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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 in the second floor room labelled "Artisan's Tent." Parents can register children for Nursery Care online at [www.stjohnsarchbold.org/nursery](http://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

Mission-A-Month – FISH Pantry

Darlene Steiner

Responsive Scripture Reading

Psalm 136:1-3 (p. 616)

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

***P: His love endures forever.***

L: Give thanks to the God of gods.

***P: His love endures forever.***

L: Give thanks to the Lord of lords.

***P: His love endures forever.***

Prayer of Invocation

Prelude

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

*"A time of centering our thoughts on our worship of God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit"*

†Hymns of Praise

#56, "Day by Day"

Bulletin pages 8-9, "Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah"

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Message

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

Special Music

Andrew Rohrs, Trumpet

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22:34-40 (p. 980); Colossians 3:12-17 (p. 1167)

†Sermon Hymn

#116, "Take the Name of Jesus with You"

Sermon

"What is Our Purpose as God's People?"

Sharing of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Be Thou My Vision"

†The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

†Closing Hymn

#451, "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

†Spoken Benediction

†Benediction in Song

#294, v. 2, "Set My Soul Afire"

†Postlude

## SCRIPTURE READING

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**Psalms 136:1-3** – “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. <sup>2</sup> Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. <sup>3</sup> Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever.”

**Matthew 22:34-40** – “Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. <sup>35</sup> One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: <sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” <sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.””

**Colossians 3:12-17** – “Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. <sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

## BULLETIN STEWARDSHIP REPORT – UPDATED FEBRUARY 6, 2025

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### Operating Fund Year to Date Report – As of February 6<sup>th</sup>

Total Income	\$32,534.80
Total Expenses	\$39,319.61
Net Operating Income	-\$6,784.81

### Mission Fund Year to Date Report – As of February 6<sup>th</sup>

Mission Income	\$26,349.96
Mission Disbursements	\$5,827.49
Net Mission Income	\$20,522.47

### Imagine Your Faith Building Capital Campaign – As of January 31, 2025

2025 Project Budget	\$2,757,000.00
Building Fund Balance with EGR	\$2,152,732.48
Building Funds with F&M Bank	\$97,526.38
Building Project Expenses to Date	<u>\$320,596.10</u>
Total	<u>\$2,570,854.96</u>
Funds to be Raised to Meet Budget	\$186,145.04

# SERMON NOTES: "WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE AS GOD'S PEOPLE?"

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## How do we answer that question?

- Prayer and Discernment
- Conversations and Discussions
- Books – "Purpose Driven Life"
- Life Experiences
- Bible

## Matthew 22:34-40

- A time of questioning/testing from the Chief Priests, Elders, Sadducees, Pharisees
- Choosing one great commandment – opponents hope to make Jesus show neglect for other areas of the Law (613 laws)
- Purpose – "Which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"
- Direction – "Love the Lord your God" – all that you are – "Love your neighbor"
- First and greatest, and second – core principles – order, quantity, dignity
- First – a clear meaning to love the Lord, but impossible to do perfectly
- Second – in the same way we care for ourselves and our own interests, we are to care for others and have concern for their interests
- If we truly love God, our love for God will be revealed in our love for others

## Colossians 3:12-17

- The practical realities of how to love (action, not feelings)  
Compassion      Kindness      Humility      Gentleness      Patience  
Bear with each other      Forgive grievances      Love  
Peace of Christ      Thankfulness      Word of Christ dwell in you  
Teach and admonish one another with all wisdom

## DISCOVERY DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Below is the list of daily readings for this week:

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Feb 10 Just Like the Man Said-----John 4:43-54  
Feb 11 Get Up and Pick Up!-----John 5:1-15  
Feb 12 Crossing Over-----John 5:16-30  
Feb 13 Mistaken Identity-----John 5:31-47  
Feb 14 Feasting With Jesus-----John 6:1-15  
Feb 15 Treading the Waves-----John 6:16-24  
Feb 16 "Great Things For Us"-----Psalm 126

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- ◆ **Super Bowl Sub Sale Today!** - Super Bowl Subs can be picked up in the gym after both services of worship today. We simply ask for a freewill donation for our senior high youth ministries. If you did not place a preorder and don't feel like making lunch today, don't worry - we've got you covered and made extra!
- ◆ **A heartfelt thank you** to all who had words of encouragement, sent cards or offered prayers which were felt. God's blessings are amazing! - Jim Grieser
- ◆ **Sunday Lunch with the Pastor** - Want to know more about the theology and current ministries of St. John's Christian Church? Then this time of lunch and conversation is for you! Pastor Erich and Lynne will host the lunch in the Fireside Room at **11:45AM TODAY, Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**. It will be an informal time of getting acquainted with each other and with the church.
- ◆ **Kajiado College Scholarship** - We are pleased to share that applicant, Emily S. Walker, has been selected for this year's Kajiado College Scholarship! Emily will be attending the summer mission trip to Kenya from June 4-14<sup>th</sup>. Along with Emily, there are eleven other participants from six churches confirmed, including Annie Foote, as well as individuals from Sarasota, FL and Charlotte, NC. Five people, including Emily, are visiting KCH for the first time. The group will be providing Bible studies and many activities to the children during their stay in Kenya, with the possibility of painting a classroom in the new junior high school while they are there. Please be in prayer for Emily as she prepares for this trip. After reviewing her personal testimony, we have no doubt that she will be an excellent example of Christian love in the lives of kids at Kajiado.
- ◆ **"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all the earth!"** As a part of my music planning for this year, I would like to extend the opportunity to you, as the congregation of St. Johns, to help shape our music ministry in bringing praise to God. During the **month of February**, I would like to hear what your favorite hymn or worship song is that you would like included in our worship services. I will try and honor all requests and place them in the services throughout this coming year. If you would like to share a favorite song, please do so by one of the following methods – 1) email Buffy at [sjccmusicdirector@gmail.com](mailto:sjccmusicdirector@gmail.com), 2) text or call 419-572-6880 or 3) speak to Buffy in person. If you are willing, please let me know why you chose this song/why it is a favorite of yours and if you are willing to let the congregation know who chose it. I look forward to hearing from you and experience singing some new songs, maybe some forgotten songs and even the treasured ones we know and love. Buffy Riley, Interim Director of Music
- ◆ **Widow/Widower Event - Thursday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 tomorrow, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>**.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- ◆ **Third Thursday Senior Luncheon** - For Senior Citizens and Any and All! February's Third Thursday Lunch falls on February 20th beginning at 11:30AM in the chapel. Following an always delicious meal, those present will enjoy some special entertainment as we work our way from Epiphany to Ash Wednesday.
- ◆ **SYF Work Night at FISH Pantry** - SYF will be held at the FISH Pantry (1309 S. Defiance St.) on Wednesday, **February 26<sup>th</sup>** to provide hands-on support to our Mission-a-Month project. Please meet at the pantry no later than 7:00PM, where we will learn more about this local mission project, stock shelves, and organize the back storeroom. SYF attendance is highly encouraged this night - we had perfect attendance with JYF in November so let's show the pantry our senior high support too!
- ◆ **GIF Gals** - Welcome to February, another month closer to Spring. February has so many happy events, like Ground Hog Day, Valentine's Day, Birthdays and the big event, "GIF Gals Get Together!" This time we are gathering for lunch at **Mancino's in Archbold on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>**, 11:30AM. Please save this day to join us for good food and inspiring fellowship. There is a signup sheet on the wandering bulletin board. Bring a friend or even a stranger off the streets. All single gals are welcome.
- ◆ **2025 Easter Flowers** - Flowers will decorate the base of our Easter cross and are donated in memory or honor of those we love with those names listed in our Easter bulletins. Anyone is welcome to order. The **Easter Flower order form** is posted on the wandering bulletin board. Flower selections include daffodils, lilies, and a variety of colors of hyacinths and tulips. The cost is \$12 each. Deadline to order is **Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**.
- ◆ **RightNow Media** - St. John's continues to provide our congregation with the free gift of a digital library of over 20,000 Bible study resources and videos (think of it as Netflix for Bible Studies and faith-based illustrations!) Watch on your own or with a group to experience the mission Jesus gave to his people - making disciples of all nations. Everyone is welcome to sign up for free by texting the keyword "STJOHNS" to 49775 or by contacting the church office. You can stream videos on any device online or through the RightNow Media app available on IOS, Android, Roku, Chromecast, or FireTV.
- ◆ Zion Mennonite Church hosts a **group of ladies who meet once a month to quilt, knot comforters, tie lap top blankets, and assemble different sewing items**. If this is something you might be interested in attending, please know that the group meets on the second Wednesday of the month and they welcome all to attend. **On February 12<sup>th</sup>, from 9AM – 3:00PM** they will meet at Zion Mennonite Church in Archbold, 300 Short Buehrer Rd, Archbold, OH 43502. Lunch is served and a devotional is given. You do not have to quilt or even sew. They will help you join in their projects or if you just want to attend and be with some nice ladies, please attend. Come when you can that day and leave when you must. They look forward to seeing you.

## 50 Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah

PRAISE JEHOVAH 87. 87D with refrain



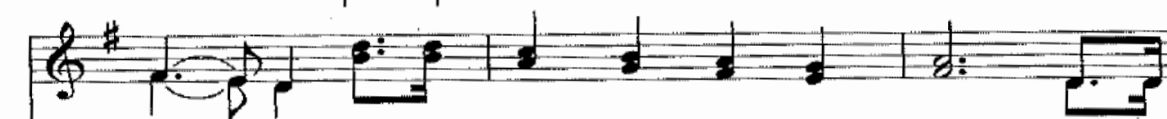
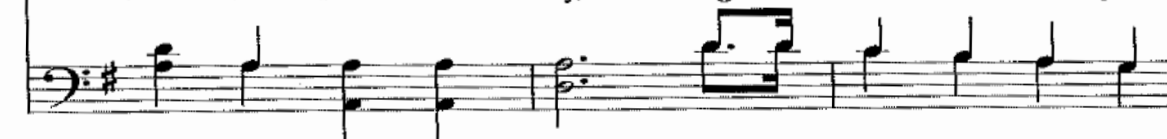
1 Praise the Lord, sing hal - le - lu - jah, from the heav - ens praise his  
 2 Let them praise the Lord cre - a - tor; they were made at his com -  
 3 All you fruit - ful trees and ce - dars, ev - 'ry hill and moun - tain



name! Praise the Lord, our great cre - a - tor; all his  
 mand. God es - tab - lished them for - ev - er, his de -  
 high, creep - ing things and beasts and cat - tle, birds that



an - gels, praise pro - claim. All his hosts, to - geth - er  
 cree shall ev - er stand. From the earth O praise your  
 in the heav - ens fly, kings of earth and all you



praise him, sun and moon and stars on high. Praise the  
 ma - ker, rag - ing seas, you crea - tures all, fire and  
 peo - ple, ru - lers great, earth's judg - es all; praise his



Text: based on Psalm 148, adapted by William J. Kirkpatrick, *The Book of Psalms*, 1871, alt.  
 Music: William J. Kirkpatrick, ca. 1893



Lord, you heav'ns of heav - ens, and you floods a - bove the sky.  
 hail and snow and va - pors, storm - y winds that hear his call.  
 name, young men and wo - men, a - ged ones, and chil - dren small.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, sing hal - le - lu - jah, for his  
 Praise the Lord,

*pp*  
 name a - lone is high, and his glo - ry is ex -  
 and his glo - ry  
*pp*

*p* alt - ed, and his glo - ry is ex - alt - ed, and his  
 and his glo - ry  
*p*

*ff*  
 glo - ry is ex - alt - ed, far a - bove the earth and sky.  
 and his glo - ry  
*ff*

## **BUILDING PROJECT STATUS REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 6, 2025**

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- ◆ People planning to visit the office may want to park at the carport entrance.
- ◆ On Sundays, we are leaving the top half of the former nursery door open for people to take a peek.
- ◆ The workers dug, dug, and dug some more in excavating the elevator pit. Much of what they dug was gravel and sand used to backfill the footer trenches in 1956/57. Then they hit clay. A pile of extra dirt can be seen in the southeast corner of the parking lot.
- ◆ Volunteers emptied out the organ chamber room, with metal parts being recycled. A number of smaller wood pipes are on carts in the gym – if you want one or two, please take them home.
- ◆ Wyse Electric continues to run conduit in the tunnels for HVAC installation and other purposes.
- ◆ The easement for running the new underground electric service to the building was recorded this week, which will allow Creighton Electric and Toledo Edison to begin the installation.

### 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 now through early May.

### The schedule of work for Phase Two – Sanctuary

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

## **MISSION-A-MONTH - FISH PANTRY**

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During the month of February St. John's collects food and personal care items as well as monetary donations in support of the FISH Pantry. It is the goal of the Archbold Fish Pantry to assist low-income Archbold families on a short-term basis, particularly those in a crisis situation, and share God's love and grace with all. Help is given through food as well as an emergency phone line that is available for help with rent, electric, gas, prescriptions, etc. Visit [www.archboldfish.org/](http://www.archboldfish.org/) to learn more about this local project.

## WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9TH AT ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Sun	8:00AM	Worship (Sanctuary)
	8:30AM	Pause for Praise (96.1 WMTR)
	9:15AM	Faith Village/Sunday School/SYF Sub Sale
	10:30AM	Worship (Sanctuary and YouTube Live)
	6:00PM	Seekers (Keith & Kelli Kuntz's)
Mon	7:00PM	Praise Team (Sanctuary)
Tue	5:00PM	Community Meal (St. John Lutheran) (Parish Hall)
	7:00PM	Property Committee (Fireside Room)
Wed	6:00PM	LOGOS (Gym)/Confirmation (Confirmation Room)
	7:00PM	JYF (Fireside Room)/Life Planning (Chapel)
	7:00PM	Adult Small Group (Parlor)
	7:30PM	Adult Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
Thu	7:15PM	CE Committee (Fireside Room)
Fri	5:00PM	Gym Reserved
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)

## TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

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Accompanist	Lynne Christman	
Song Leader	Roger Zimmerman	
Worship Leader	Jan Lindsay	
Children's Message	Madison Bowers	
Acolytes	(8:00) Kamy Link	(10:30) Eyan Krukowski
Easy Worship	Mark Nofziger	
Sound Tech	(8:00) Kelly Ducey	(10:30) James Grime
Live Stream	(10:30) Ollie MacDonald	
Nursery	(10:30) Bri Krukowski & Emma Krukowski	
Usher	(8:00) Linda Heer	
Head Usher	Dave Walker	
Ushers	(10:30) Ryan & Jill Holdgreve, Blake Grime, Jen Grime	

## PRAYER JOYS, CONCERNS, AND REQUESTS:

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Please pray for...

- ◆ Chloe Merillat, granddaughter of Roger & Kay, who continues to struggle with weight gain, and is going through new testing regarding an infection. Pray for wisdom, peace and endurance in this race.
- ◆ Emily K. Walker, who had surgery on her elbow on Wednesday.
- ◆ Larry Woolace spent a few days in the hospital and returned home Thursday.
- ◆ 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 awaits the next stage of his cancer treatments.
- ◆ Stuart & Rhonda Short, as his January 30th PET scan came back good!

Care Center Residents...

- ◆ Linda Hayes, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #104
- ◆ Charlene LaFountaine, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #108
- ◆ Mike Meyer, Fountain Park, 1391 N. Main St., Bryan, 43506, Room #130
- ◆ Dencel Miller, Fairlawn Haven Care Center, Room #166
- ◆ Josephine Short, Fairlawn Haven, Room #152B
- ◆ Alice Tedrow, Fairlawn Independent Living, Apartment #111

Missions/Missionaries...

- ◆ M. – praising God for safe arrival and for meeting her team and roommates; pray for her as she starts further language and culture learning, for her adjustment to the location and for her health, and for her to be led by the Spirit in meeting people.
- ◆ Eliot Nofziger (YFC) – pray for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students forming small groups in Archbold, students mental health, for the Holy Spirit's wisdom in guiding leaders in loving difficult youth, for Eliot as he steps into an added role – development director.

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](http://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)