

# The Visitor

## prayer concerns

### Please Pray For:

- Mike Henry has been placed on the kidney transplant list with the Cleveland Clinic.
- Audrey Smith is in rehab at Fairlawn following an illness.
- Jim Silcox is working through radiation treatments for cancer.
- Velma Overmier continues in rehab at Rupp Rehab.
- Dave Miller had a procedure done on July 10th and is recovering at home.
- Sharon VonDeylen was hospitalized for a few days, but is now home doing well.
- Vern Nemire returned home on July 8th, following a time of rehab at Montpelier Hospital.
- Mert Kinsman returned home the week of July 13th, following a time of rehab at Rupp Rehab.
- Shiela Short continues to recover at home.
- Ella Yoder is recovering from surgery to repair a broken arm.
- Larry Rupp has been placed in hospice care due to taking a turn for the worse on July 28th.
- Sue Grieser is in the midst of radiation treatment/therapy, which began on August 6th.

- Please continue to remember all our brothers and sisters in the armed forces, praying for their safety.

**PFC Bostelman, Brenden (Army)** (Alaska)  
(Grandson of Bill & Kathy)

**Kohl Collins (Army)** (Ft. Benning, GA)  
(Grandson of Nan Neill)

**Kyle Ducey (Navy)** (Fort Gordon, GA)  
(Son of Kelly & Betsy)

**Cpt. Jared R. Kuntz (Army)** (Washington D.C.)  
(Son of Keith & Kelli)

**Eric Magg (Coast Guard)** (Ketchikan, AK)  
(Son of Joe & Sheryl Short)

**AB Shane & Taylor Pitts (Air Force)** (Bolling AFB, DC) (Granddaughter of Nan Neill)

**David Richardson (Marines)** (Camp Lejeune, NC) (Son of Shannon & Yesi)

**Joshua Richardson (Marines)** (Camp Lejeune, NC) (Son of Shannon & Yesi)

A monthly Newsletter for St. John's Christian Church  
Family and Friends

July 1, 2019 Volume 65, Number 7

**Steven Schink (Coast Guard)** (Port Angeles, WA) (Son-in-Law of Ed & Julie Ruffer)

**AJ Short (Marines)** (Japan)  
(Son of Joe & Sheryl Short)

**PFC Stuckey, Kyle (Army)** (Killeen, TX)  
(Grandson of Nan Neill)

**Kollin Woolace (Marines)** (Jacksonville, NC)  
(Grandson of Larry & Melva)



Please consider sending cards to these people letting them know that we continue to lift them up to God in prayer, that He will guide, comfort and sustain them through these times.

Fairlawn Haven, 407 E. Lutz Rd. Archbold, 43502  
Florence Augustine, Room #177  
David Lightner, Room #138  
Esther Rice, Room #116  
Josephine Short, Room #112  
Paul Sigg, Room #178  
Nancy Ries, Room #158  
Carolyn Walker, Room #399 (Memory Care Unit)

Fairlawn Asst. Living, 500 Haven Dr., Archbold, 43502  
Jane Short, Room #208  
William & Donna Buehrer, Room #230  
Wayne & Susanne Spiess, Room #228

Independent Living, 600 Haven Dr., Archbold,  
Rosemarie Schmidt, Apt. #112

Fulton Manor, 723 S. Shoop Ave., Wauseon, 43567  
Robert Kuntz, Room #225-2  
Bernice Rice, Room #224-2  
Joanne Spotts, Room #113

Northcrest, 240 Northcrest Dr., Napoleon, 43545  
Irene Short, Room #100

Genesis Health Care, 1104 Wesley Ave., Bryan, 43506  
Verlene Lovejoy, Room 203B

# pastor's letter

## Invisible Footprints

15 With your mighty arm you redeemed your people,  
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph....

19 Your path led through the sea,  
your way through the mighty waters,  
though your footprints were not seen.

20 You led your people like a flock  
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.  
- Psalm 77:15, 19-20

Read verse 20 again: "You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron." Perhaps some of the Israelites were tempted to say: "Thank goodness for Moses and Aaron! Without them we would never have made it out of slavery in Egypt." However, verse 20 invites them to trace the leadership of Moses and Aaron back to the provision of God. Ultimately, it was God, not Moses and Aaron, who provided the Israelites a way out of Egypt. A better declaration of praise would be: "Thank GOD for Moses and Aaron! Without them we would never have made it out of slavery in Egypt."

Look back at verse 19: "Your path led through the sea...though your footprints were not seen." I find this verse very ironic. The Israelites' exodus from Egypt was the Old Testament equivalent of Jesus' death on the cross. It was regarded as the defining moment of God's love for them and their salvation. The author of Psalm 77, however, says: "your footprints were not seen." If ever there was a time where God was clearly seen as present in the Old Testament, it was in the exodus! And yet, the author says that God is invisible.

Through these two verses, we see that God does help his people, sometimes using the means of other people (like when he used Moses and Aaron to lead the people) or sometimes through a clear display of his power (like when he split the Red Sea in two). Yet however God works, we are tempted to overlook his presence and aid in our lives, seeing only what is visible: the visible presence of Moses and Aaron, and the visible absence of God's footprints.

Hebrews 11 teaches us: "Faith is being sure of what we hope for, and certain of what we do not see." Particularly, faith is confidence in God's promises, and trust in God to fulfill his Word. No, God doesn't promise us all the things we want or think would make us happy in life. But he does promise us himself. He promises he will never leave us or forsake us. We might not see his footprints, not even in the biggest ways he's at work in our lives, but he is there. He is with us.

Grace and Peace,



## congregational news & thank you's

Thank you, St. John's Christian Church, for giving me a scholarship to go to Little Eden Camp this year. I really enjoyed swimming in the lake and I also enjoyed hanging out with friends and making new ones.

Thank you!  
Joshua Reeb



Dear St. John's Church,

Thank you for allowing me to join you in worship and share about YFC camp! We are praising God for the 15 new believers coming home from camp! Your partnership with YFC in leaders, financial support and prayer is so very loved and appreciated!

In Christ,  
Eliot Nofziger

### Seeking a Living Kidney Donor

Mike Henry has been placed on the kidney transplant list at the Cleveland Clinic, and he is currently working to be placed on the kidney transplant list at the University of Toledo Medical Center. Being on both lists will be beneficial in finding a living donor. Mike has been given a two to six year window for receiving a kidney. While he needs a kidney transplant, he is currently not in critical condition, and dialysis will be important in maintaining his health until a transplant is completed. Getting regular dialysis treatments, usually three times a week for four hours at a time, will help Mike's kidneys do their job and keep him alive, but a transplant would offer him more freedom and the ability to live a longer, healthier, more normal life.

Finding a kidney for a transplant is not easy – there are 100,000+ people on the waiting list. Here's some basic information about kidney donation:

- You only need one kidney to live a healthy, long life.
- Most donor surgery is done laparoscopically, meaning through tiny incisions.
- The recuperation period is usually fairly quick, generally two weeks.
- The cost of a donor's evaluation and surgery will be covered by Mike's insurance.
- A donor will have a separate team of health care professionals to evaluate you as a living donor. Their job is to help you understand the risks and benefits and look out for your best interests.

Mike asked approval of the Consistory to share his health need with the congregation in terms of widening the pool of potential donors. Information about donating a kidney and what's involved in the whole transplant process can be found on these websites:

- Cleveland Clinic – <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/departments/transplant/programs/kidney>
- National Kidney Foundation – [www.kidney.org](http://www.kidney.org)

People interested in becoming a living donor can go to [www.clevelandlivingdonor.org](http://www.clevelandlivingdonor.org) and complete a confidential online medical history questionnaire to get the process started. People also may talk with Mike or with Pastor Erich. Please be in prayer for Mike, potential donors, and the whole process. Your thoughts, prayers, concern and consideration is appreciated.



### St. John's Christian Preschool Volunteer Substitutes Needed

St John's Christian Preschool is looking for fun, energetic, and compassionate volunteers to help substitute in our Preschool Room in the absence of either Mrs. MacDonald or Mrs. Wyse.

Our faithful leaders have created a fun learning atmosphere for young children ages 3-5, and want you to help team up with other volunteers that have the same drive to help teach in the classroom. Don't worry! A teaching license is not required!

*Volunteers must have the following:*

- Be 18 years old or older
- Have a high school diploma/GED
- There are forms and some trainings that will need to be completed, which is something we will be helping you along the way with.

You may be asking yourself, "What's in it for me?"

#### *Service*

What better way to serve your church family and community than to take a few days a month to help aide in the classroom. As a substitute, you will help follow the directions of the lead teacher that day, whether it be Mrs. MacDonald or Mrs. Wyse.

#### *Positive Impact on Young Children*

Our preschool children are so impressionable at this point in their lives. The positive impact that you can show them through the love of learning about Jesus, and the cool things at the sand table, are a positive light that you can shine on them.

If you are asking yourself if you can give a day or a few days a month to volunteer in our preschool room, please consider! This may not only have a positive impact on our students, but also on you.

The Christian Preschool Board and staff would like to thank all of you that have made efforts to donate to our preschool. Whether that is with school supplies or monetary donations, they are a blessing. If you feel called today or in the coming weeks, please consider donating to the St. John's Preschool to assist us with supplies or simply volunteering your time in the classroom for a fun experience!



## mission corner

### *August Mission-A-Month Back Bay Mission Trip*

#### **Back Bay Mission Trip – October 5th – 12th, 2019**

This fall's trip will be the 37th trip since 2000 that SJCC has made to Biloxi, MS, with almost 100 people from SJCC sharing in the experiences.

Here's the basic information to know:

- Departure from the church parking lot around 8am Saturday morning
- Transportation via the church bus or a few private vehicles, with travel by airplane an option
- Saturday evening meal and lodging is spent near the southern end of Alabama
- Arrival in Biloxi early Sunday afternoon, with the rest of the day spent settling in and exploring
- Monday Thru Friday noon – a mix of construction projects, serving at the homeless day center, serving in the local food pantry and serving in the local soup kitchen
- Evenings are spent relaxing and enjoying group fellowship
- The trip home starts early Friday afternoon, with a layover near Franklin, TN, with arrival back in Archbold early afternoon
- Typical group size ranges from 5 to 20!
- Cost of the trip has risen to about \$250 per person, but cost shouldn't be a factor for anyone to participate – people may confidentially talk with Pastor Erich about the cost.

#### **St. John's Sunday School Department,**

We thank you for the contribution to Growing Hope Globally from the Bible School program in the amount of \$468.39. This donation will be used to enable people of the world to improve their life situation. We pray that the Lord will be honored by this contribution to the well-being of people of the world.

Again we thank you for your support.

In Christ,  
Marvin Fish -

FISH-STUCKY-GOEBEL PROJECT

## mission corner cont.

#### **Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission**

September 8th is the next time we'll send a group of folks to lead the evening chapel service and provide the evening meal. Volunteers usually gather at 3pm on Sunday afternoon to car pool to the mission, do final prep for the meal and service, lead the 30 minute service, then serve the meal, and enjoy sitting and eating with the men and women who come to the mission. The group should return to the church between 7:30pm and 8:00pm. Talk with Pastor Erich or Ann Grime if you're interested in helping!

#### **Mission Service Opportunity**

The Mission Committee has planned a day of service with Crossroad Child & Family Services, one of longest running mission partnerships of SJCC. We're looking for 12 volunteers to serve on Saturday, September 14th. The group will leave the church at 8am and work until 4pm, returning to the church shortly after 5pm. Lunch will be included. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. In addition, we have an opportunity to further bless the work and ministry of Crossroads through taking items on their wish list – check out the bulletin board!

#### **Thank You Notes From Mission Partners & Friends:**

- Back Bay Mission, for our gift of \$170.
- Cru (Waanders), for our gift of \$50.
- Youth for Christ, for our gift of \$785.
- World Team (Franks), for our gift of \$373.
- Reliant (Chase), for our gift of \$20.
- Altlink (Langsdorf), for our gift of \$85.
- Pioneers (Doriot), for our gift of \$250.

#### **Mission Experiences**

- September 8 – Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission – Chapel and Meal
- September 14 – Crossroad Child & Family Services – see separate article
- October 5-12 – Back May Mission Trip, Biloxi, Mississippi

# mission corner cont.

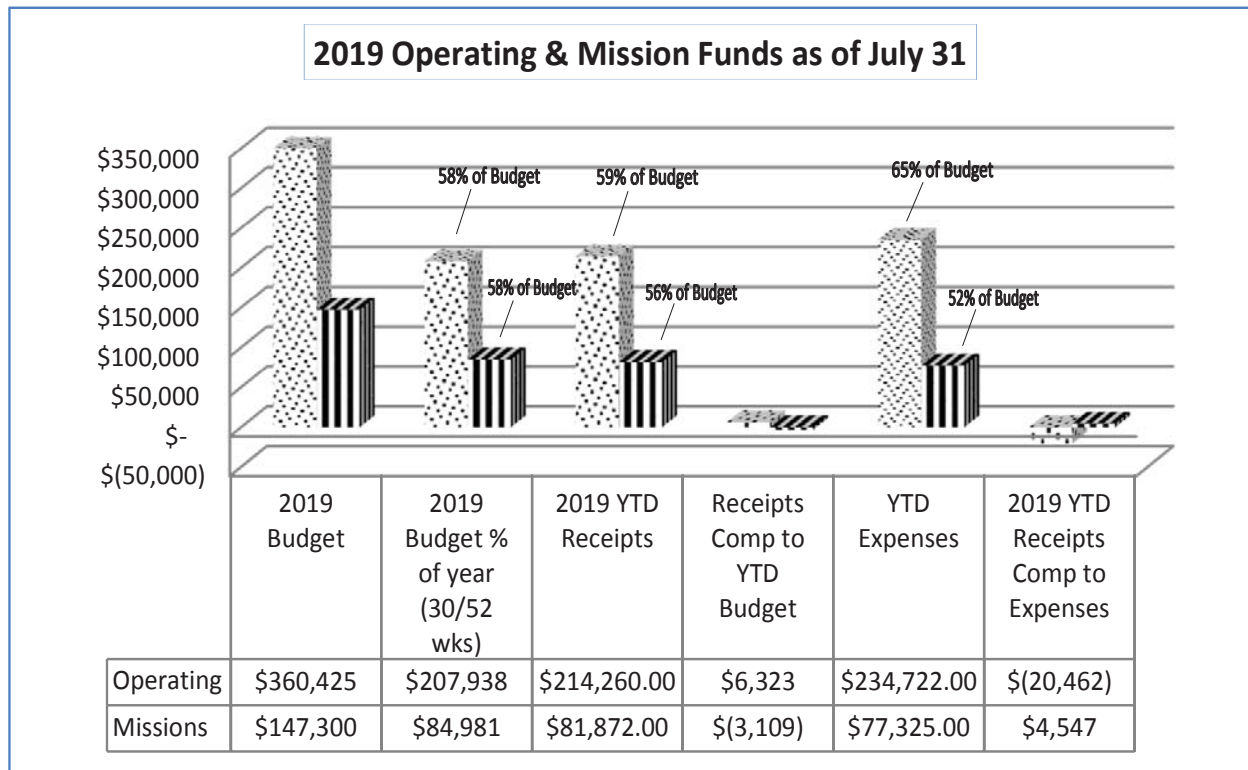
## 2020 Summer Mission Trip

Dates of next year’s summer mission trip, in partnership with the LaPorte County Habitat for Humanity, are scheduled for June 14th thru 19th. We are looking for a group of 12 volunteers for the week, as the project will be to frame the walls and roof structure of a new home. The four and a half days of site work go by quickly!

## Habitat for Humanity of Fulton County Ohio- (HFHFCO)

The construction of the new home has begun! The footer was poured on July 22nd and the crawl space walls a week later. Each Friday and Saturday, 8am to noon and 12:30pm to 4pm, are build days open to volunteers (must be 14 years of age). The home is being built at 910 Zenobia Street in Wauseon.

# stewardship



**IYF Building Campaign Total Receipts as of July 31, 2019 - \$718,346.37**

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

**What do Stephen Ministers Do?** Stephen Ministry is our congregation’s one-to-one caregiving ministry. They plant a seed of hope and healing in a person whose life seems barren and hopeless because of some crisis or tragedy. Stephen Ministers care for people who are: grieving, in a crisis, in need of long-term care, dying, hospitalized, divorcing, experiencing losses as they age, going through a crisis of childbirth, and other life issues. **What skills do Stephen Ministers need:** listening, exploring feelings, prayer, sharing Christ’s love, maintaining confidentiality, attending to the caregiving process and leaving the results to God. St. John’s needs to find men and women who are willing to answer Jesus’ call to serve as Stephen Ministers, beginning with 50 hours of stimulating and useful training in Christian caring skills. During training, a variety of topics will be covered to equip you to attend the needs of others. On Sunday, August 11th during the Sunday School hour there will be an informational meeting. Think and pray about this exciting opportunity. For more information, contact someone on the Stephen Ministry Leadership Team: Pastor Alex, Gary Frazier, Betsy Redd or Nancy Rupp.

## ministry happenings

Dear St. John's Christian Church,

Thank you for your latest check for \$750. Your congregation is always so faithful in your support of the Friendship House. Your support keeps the lights on. You are a blessing! Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Gloria Lauber

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### Ministries:

#### Junior High Youth

Tuesday Morning Bible Study - Pastor Alex and Eliot Nofziger co-lead a Bible study on Tuesday mornings, 7:15-8am, at the Archbold Middle School, open to all middle schoolers.

#### SYF

Senior Youth Fellowship exists for high school students to connect with each other, with the SYF leaders, and with God. We're excited to add Katie Wyse to the leadership team, and leaders returning from last year include Ryan Christman, Caleb Wooley, and Alex and Jenny Young.

#### Friday Morning Bible Study

The high school girls are meeting together for breakfast and Bible study every Friday morning. For more information, contact Jenny Young.

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### Events/ Activities:

#### Book Bag Bash – Sunday, August 4th:

The 2018 Book Bag Bash will be held from 2PM to 4PM. Please mark checks or envelopes with "BBB". If you are volunteering, please be at the church by 1:40. Thank you!

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The big screen advertisement at Skye Cinema is changing. The following "Why I Love St. John's" posters will be featured the month of August: Teylan Gilroy, Blake Grime, Joshua Reeb and Ollie MacDonald. Thanks for your great art work!

## ministry happenings

### Events/ Activities:

"COME, LET US SING FOR JOY TO THE LORD;....."

".....let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song." Psalm 95:1-2

The chancel choir is on the lookout for people who enjoy doing what Psalm 95 states. What is needed are people who enjoy music, singing, worshiping and fellowshiping together with a desire and commitment to have a church choir.

At this point rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 21st at 7:30 in the sanctuary. Rehearsals are on the 3rd and 4th Wednesday of each month and maybe the 5th Wednesday when there is one. The choir then participates in the 10:30 a.m. worship service, approx. 2-3 times a month depending on the scheduling of other special music.

Take time to prayerfully consider your part in this ministry of your church and Come Join Us. Any questions or communication can be directed to Lynne Christman or Andrew Rohrs.

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YFC presents Jason Crabb in concert  
October 6, 2019 at 6:00PM at Founders Hall  
To purchase tickets or for more information, call the  
Youth For Christ Office at 419-782-0656.  
All profits go to fund YFC Camp.

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### Third Thursday Luncheons

August's lunch and fellowship will be on August 15. The luncheon will begin at 11:30am with a time of welcome and fellowship, with lunch to be served at 11:45am. Following the meal, folks will have opportunity to enjoy a group activity – a game, program, discussion or study topic. Come on out and enjoy some friendly Christian fellowship.

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### Men's Ministry

This month, Men's Prayer Breakfast is on Sat., August 10 at 7:40AM. A monthly time to gather, enjoy breakfast, fellowship, hear a testimony, share joys and concerns, and pray together. All are welcome.



# consistory/committees

## Leadership Development

The Spiritual Council is asking everyone to be praying for the people of this congregation that Jesus has equipped to serve and be leaders. The Spiritual Council is praying for discernment and wisdom, asking God to help guide them to men and women He has equipped to lead St. John's.

There is also an awareness that many leaders might not believe they are fully equipped to accept a leadership nomination, so the Spiritual Council will be offering some leadership development classes in the near future.

How many leadership positions are there in SJCC? Currently, the following positions are filled in the ministry of SJCC:

- Officers – 2 (Must be a member of SJCC)
- Elders – 6 (Must be a member of SJCC)
- Deacons/Deaconesses – 9 (Must be a member of SJCC)
- Accompanists/Worship Leaders/Song Leaders/Children's Message Leaders/Techs/Band – 21
- Committee Members – 62 (with some serving on multiple committees)
- Ministry Teachers/Leaders/Servants – over 70 (many serve in multiple capacities)
- That's a total of 170 leadership positions! Wow!

What are the basic qualifications of being a leader in SJCC ministries? A quick list includes:

1. Engage in daily devotions, daily prayer and be active in the ministries of the congregation
2. Be representative of the congregation
3. Willingness to volunteer time towards meetings and activities
4. Openness to share in discussions and decision making in committee meetings
5. Enthusiasm and commitment in participating in the committee's work

## Evangelical Association News

The 2019 Annual Convocation of the Evangelical Association will be held here at St. John's on September 20-22. The theme of the three day event is "Equip and Empower," drawing upon Ephesians 4:12 – "To equip God's people to do the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

In order to host this event, we are in need of many, many willing volunteers! From greeting people to keeping the facility clean, from singing in worship to baking cookies, from helping with registration to making signs – so many different tasks! The bulletin board across from the church office has a full array of sign-up opportunities to help host this special event! Your consideration would be appreciated.

## Update on the Facility Committee

The committee members have asked the members of the Property Committee to research ways to improve more of our entrances with automatic door mechanisms, as well as explore the installation of a digital sign.

The Facility Committee will be meeting with a representative from Sauder Manufacturing in exploring potential renovation of the sanctuary, and then will be meeting with an engineer to discuss accessibility and restrooms.

## Consistory Meeting Minute Highlights – July 22, 2019

### Committee Reports

- o Personnel Committee – Laura Johnson - Housing allowance. Did more talking with Brent Winzeler, worked with a salary calculator. Brent stated that both pastors are allowed to have different housing allowances. Motion by Jeff Rutledge, upon the request of Pastor Alex, we move to change his 2019 compensation package from \$31,505 salary and \$12,500 housing allowance, to \$24,005 salary and a \$20,000 housing allowance, with total compensation for the year to remain at \$44,005. 2nd the motion, Brad Roth. Motion approved.
- o Budget & Stewardship Committee – Keith Kern - Quarterly meeting was July 8th. Budget looks good. Investments with EGR up 3.2%. Next meeting will be in October.
- o Christian Preschool Board – Ann Fether – Meeting will be July 30th to discuss year end budget and begin discussion with board concerning the budget for next year. The Sunday School room across from the preschool has been cleaned, so the Women's class can meet in that room.

## consistory/committees

- o Facility Committee – Jeff Rutledge – Accessibility, Restrooms and Worship are top priority. It has been decided to engage with Chelsea Roth (Sauder Manufacturing), she will come and meet with the committee on thoughts and ideas about the Sanctuary.
- o Mission Committee – Mark Nofziger – spoke with the Suon's regarding 2020 DR Trip. What can we do on that trip for the Suon's? Next meeting will be in August.
- o Property Committee – Pastor Erich – energy savings, longer life for lightbulbs in hallways and classrooms (wherever there is a 4-foot bulb). Gloria Lauber made a motion to spend \$2,904 on replacing current light bulbs with LED on the first and second floor, money to come out of the Operating Supply line item. 2nd the motion Todd Nafziger. Motion approved. There are 2 spotlights that shine down on the lectern – three years ago, one of those burned out, now both lights for the lectern are burnt out. Creighton Electric is going to give recommendations on which bulbs to change to. Boiler - Erie Welding has removed the asbestos. They removed quite a bit of rust, soot and dust, and have installed the required safety valves.
- o Evangelism Committee – Todd Nafziger – BBB preparations are underway, Denny Hornish made wooden crosses, Greg Walker sprayed them, to be given out to each student. Jen Hurst made Sunday school signs to tie to the crosses.

### Pastor's Report – Pastor Erich

- o Accounting System Review – Met with Roger Miller, his last day as church treasurer will be December 31st. Accounting review committee will meet this Thursday, we hope to have someone on board December 1st, so Roger can be of assistance for one month.
- o EA Convocation – Big stuff is in place. Getting people signed up for different responsibilities.
- o Chapel – Organ/Audio/Visual Systems – A youth praise team has been practicing in the Chapel. They hope to be playing for SYF and JYF. Permission is needed to move the drum set to where the organ is, in the Chapel. The organ has not been played in 15 years. Mark Nofziger made a motion to move the organ out of the Chapel, 2nd the motion Carrie Wooley. Motion approved.
- o Mike Henry is in need of a kidney transplant. He has been placed on a transplant list at Cleveland Clinic, and working to be placed on similar list at UTM. Mike is asking for the approval of Consistory for the concern of his need to be spoken of publicly. He would like the information put out there that he is looking for a living donor. Ann Fether made a motion to have Mike Henry's need of a kidney made public to the congregation. Gloria Lauber, 2nd the motion. Motion approved.
- o Pastoral Discernment and Planning Time Review – Spent a lot of time looking at where we've been, reading, checking with others, trying to come across items to pursue. Spiritual Council will discuss the document handout given tonight. Much information will be shared with the Congregation at the January 2020 Congregational meeting.

**Associate Pastor's Report** – Pastor Alex – Church Directory for SJCC. Kelly Stahl is also helping with this project. Goal of having a print directory by the end of 2019, including updated mailing addresses, email addresses, phone contacts.

### Church Treasurer

For forty years, Mr. Roger Miller has served very well in the role of Church Treasurer, taking over the duties from his mother in 1979. Having faithfully fulfilled all of the bookkeeping duties since then, Roger will be retiring from this position on December 31st of this year. We praise the Lord for Roger and his humble heart of service!

An Accounting Group has been meeting to plan for this time of transition, and a new job description is being put together. Anyone of the congregation who would either like to apply for this position or wants to recommend someone, may talk with Laura Johnson (Personnel Committee Chairperson), John Graber (Budget and Stewardship Committee Chairperson) or Pastor Erich.



**Planning Ahead...for Winters Snow Removal Season!**

The Property Committee is in the process of searching for someone to take on the responsibility of clearing snow from the parking lots this coming winter. Before they search for a company, the committee wanted to open it up to the congregation to see if there was anyone interested in assuming this seasonal task. If so, please contact Scott Short or Tim Beck, chair and vice-chair of the Property Committee.

**Additional Custodial Help**

Through the work of the Personnel Committee and the approval of the Consistory, St. John's has entered into a contract with Advance Cleaning Contractors for custodial help.

Dean Buckenmeyer continues as the custodian of the church, continuing to work 12.5 hours per week. In June, Anthony (Tony) Vincenti, as an employee of Advance Cleaning Contractors, began working 15 hours per week. Tony will typically work Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9am to 2pm.

Advance Cleaning Contractors provides supervision of Tony, as well as provides equipment and cleaning supplies for him to use. Advance Cleaning Contractors provides services in several area businesses and has a very good reputation. The first two months of Tony's work has gone very well.

**Pastor Erich's Discernment and Planning Time**

As shared in previous newsletters, I spent July 8th through 19th focused on planning for the future. In order to do so, I stepped back from the normal day to day responsibilities of pastoral ministry and spent much of the time sequestered in my office. It was both a blessed and fruitful time, in my opinion.

Through the time of reading, praying, discerning and looking through twenty some years of files, notes and books, I produced a 19 page document which includes:

- Guiding thoughts for the process
- Measurement practices in terms of Church Health
- Current Concerns and Words of Hope
- Fourteen pages of short-term goals, long-term goals and some vision statements (the goals of the Discernment Team are included, as they were a key part of the planning process)

I also began compiling a spreadsheet of the goals in order to assign responsibilities to staff, committees and leaders in working towards these goals. On July 22nd, I shared both documents with the Spiritual Council and the first document with the Consistory. Both groups will be studying the information over the course of the month and come to the August 19th meetings prepared to discuss the hopes and visions, pros and cons, and the insights of my results.

After those initial discussions of the documents, more and more will be shared with the congregation as we seek input, prayer and involvement for the future health and ministry of St. John's.

**Charging Items at Archbold SuperValu and Lugbills**

We could use everyone's assistance regarding the recordkeeping of charges made at the following stores:

1. If you purchase anything for St. John's at Archbold SuperValu and charge it to the church account, please do your best to turn the sales receipt into the church office, noting on the receipt what event or ministry the items were purchased for. Signing your name legibly would be helpful, too!
2. If you purchase anything for St. John's at Lugbills and charge it to the church account, Lugbills will email a copy of the sales receipt to the church office. Signing your name legibly would be helpful in tracking down the purpose of the charge.
3. And obviously, such recordkeeping would be helpful in all situations, but these are the two local places where such charges occur on a frequent basis.

<h1 style="text-align: center;">August 2019</h1>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:00AM Worship 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM Faith Village 9:15AM Confirmation 10:30AM Worship	Mission-A-Month— Back Bay Mission Trip			1 7:00AM Every Good Endeavor Men's Study 8:00AM SHSS Teachers' Meeting 7:00PM Mission Comm.		3
4 2:00PM Book Bag Bash 4:00PM Youth Praise Band Practice	5 11:00AM Staff Meeting 7:00PM Discernment Team	6 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Capital Campaign Com.	7	8 7:00AM Every Good Endeavor Men's Study	9	10 7:40AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
11 9:15AM Stephen Ministry Informational Meeting 4:00PM Youth Praise Band Practice	12 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Peer Support	13 9:15AM Bible Study 4:00PM Laundry Buddy Minis- try 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM SYF Leaders Mtg. 7:00PM Property Com.	14 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 7:00PM Facility Com.	15 7:00AM Every Good Endeavor Men's Study 11:30AM Thursday Luncheon	16	17
18 <b>Rally Sunday</b> 4:00PM Youth Praise Band Practice	19 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:15PM Spiritual Council 7:30PM Consistory	20 9:15AM Bible Study 5:00PM Community Meal	21 7:30PM Choir Practice	22	23	24
25 4:00PM Youth Praise Band Practice	26 11:00AM Staff Meeting 6:30PM Stephen Ministry Peer Support	27 9:15AM Bible Study 4:00PM Laundry Buddy Minis- try 5:00PM Community Meal 7:00PM Evangelism Com.	28 9:00AM W. Haven Bible Study 7:00PM SYF—Pond Party @ Yoder's 7:30PM Choir Rehearsal	29	30	31

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Julie Ruffer   | 15 Erich & Lynne Christman, Randy & Kathy Layton,                       |
| 4 Dale & Sharon VonDeylan, Braden Eichler  | 17 Tyler Bechstein, Gavin Walker, Tony Warncke                          |
| 5 Mary Beck, Bettie Perry, Jack & Barb Stover  | 18 Bonnie Grieser, Sandy Miller, Eric Yoder                             |
| 6 Lynne Roth, Cameron & Kristen Ruffer, Dave & Karen Walker                            | 21 Jill Nafziger, Burdell & Janice Nofziger, Janice Nofziger            |
| 7 Roger & Jean Beck, Gary & Sandy Frazier, Tom Lovejoy, Cayla Walker                   | 22 Dale & Lori Flint  |
| 8 Amanda Walker  | 23 Tom Johnson, Jon & Deb Rupp  |
| 9 Rollin & Suzette Nafziger, Larry Woolace, Curtis Wooley                              | 24 Kathryn Graber   |
| 10 Heather Sears, Paul Sigg  | 26 Brad Roth  |
| 11 Jacob & Esther Rupp   | 27 Josh Grime, Jeremy Kinsman, Morgan McCandless, Bruce & Carrie Wooley |
| 12 Bob & Carol DeVries   | 29 Jeremy Mann, Nancy Ries  |
| 13 Darby Stevens   | 30 Pam Reeb, Don LaFountaine  |
| 14 Deb Kauffman, Kyle & Alicia Jackson, Toni Neuenschwander, Dianne Wyrick, Silas Rupp |   |

☀ Please let us know if we do not have your special day correct. Thank you.

# worship

## August Worship Schedule

- August 4     Scriptures – Psalm 80:1-7, Hebrews 10  
                   Sermon – “Christ’s Sacrifice” – Pastor Erich  
                   Special Music – Hannah Bowers – “Rebel Heart”  
                   Blessing of the Book Bag Bash
- August 11    Scriptures – 1 Peter 1:3-9, Hebrews 11  
                   Sermon – “By Faith” – Pastor Erich
- August 18    Rally Sunday  
                   Scriptures – Psalm 70, Hebrews 12  
                   Sermon – “Enduring Hardship as Discipline?” – Pastor Alex
- August 25    Scriptures – Psalm 91:1-2, Hebrews 13  
                   Sermon – “Final Thoughts” – Pastor Erich



### Pictorial Directory

Think about this: if your family has a child under 10...they weren't pictured in our last printed directory! It's time for us to take on this project again. Here are just 5 reasons why you should participate:

1. Everyone photographed gets a free directory. (Don't worry, the church will buy the rest of you directories too...but why not save the church some money?)
2. Everyone photographed gets a free 8x10 portrait. (You'll have the option to purchase other pictures too, but just for coming, you get a free 8x10 portrait).
3. Everyone photographed gets a picture in the directory for free. (If you don't get photographed at the church, you'll be asked to pay the \$12 fee to include your family's picture in the directory...why not save yourself some money?)
4. Being pictured in the directory enables newer families and individuals to more readily get acquainted with you, remember your name, and develop relationships in our church family.
5. Everyone photographed gets their contact information updated. (This may not sound like a big deal to you, but the church is about to acquire new management software, which, for example, will give us the capacity to send out optional text messages and e-mail alerts for weather-related cancelations or event notifications and updates. We're looking forward to how this new software and updated contact information will improve our communication abilities).

So help your church staff, your church family, and yourself out by being a part of our new pictorial directory! Save the dates: 9/30, 10/1, and 10/2. You'll have opportunity to register for a 10 minute appointment between 2pm-8:30pm. We'll start registering this month during our worship services.



# August Daily Scriptures

(From "Discovery" Daily Devotional)

**Discovery®** is a daily Bible reading guide that provides clear Bible explanation, prayers and relevant application questions. You can access this guide online at <http://www.scriptureunion.org/Bible%20Reading/Discovery>.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 "Show Me the Money!" -----Matthew 22:15-22      | 16 He Protects His Own ----- Amos 9:1-10          |
| 2 One Bride-Seven Brothers ----- Matthew 22:23-33 | 17 Hope of a Rapid Harvest ----- Amos 9:11-15     |
| 3 No More Questions-----Matthew 22:34-46          | 18 Empty Hearts: No God ----- Psalm 14            |
| 4 A Flawless Filter.. ----- Psalm 12              | 19 On Team ----- Philippians 1:1-6                |
| 5 The Roar of One Who Cares ----- Amos 1:1-10     | 20 Sharing in God's Grace -----Philippians 1:7-11 |
| 6 Life Matters ----- Amos 1:11-2:5                | 21 Unstoppable ----- Philippians 1:12-26          |
| 7 Respond to the Rescuer ----- Amos 2:6-16        | 22 Citizens of Heaven ----- Philippians 1:27-30   |
| 8 God Reveals His Plans ----- Amos 3:1-15         | 23 Follow the Spearhead ----- Philippians 2:1-4   |
| 9 Attention Please!-----Amos 4:1-13               | 24 Blind Visionaries -----Philippians 2:5-11      |
| 10 Seek Me and Live-----Amos 5:1-17               | 25 Sponsored Walks of Old----- Psalm 15           |
| 11 An Explosion of Questions!-----Psalm 13        | 26 The Outworking ----- Philippians 2:12-18       |
| 12 Empty Ritual -----Amos 5:18-27                 | 27 HR Briefing----- Philippians 2:19-30           |
| 13 Taking It Easy --- -----Amos 6:1-14            | 28 The Real Deal -----Philippians 3:1-11          |
| 14 God Cannot Be Dismissed-----Amos 7: 1-17       | 29 The Finishing Line ----- Philippians 3:12-21   |
| 15 The Worst Kind of Famine -----Amos 8:1-14      | 30 One Mind ----- Philippians 4:1-9               |
|   | 31 Source of Joy----- Philippians 4:10-23         |

Phone 419-446-2545  
 Website [www.stjohnsarchbold.org](http://www.stjohnsarchbold.org)  
 Sunday Worship 8AM & 10:30AM  
 Sunday School 9:15AM

**Pastor** Rev. Erich Christman  
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 Cell Ph. 419-551-0401

**Assoc.** Rev. Alex Young  
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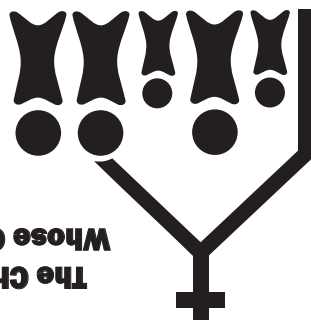
**Treasurer** Roger Miller

**Custodians** Dean Buckenmeyer  
 Richard Spiess

**Security**

Holy Communion:  
 New Year (1/6), Ash Wednesday (3/6), Maundy Thursday (4/18),  
 Pentecost (5/19), Mid-Summer (7/14), World Wide Communion  
 (10/6), First Sunday of Advent (12/1)

**Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together**



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