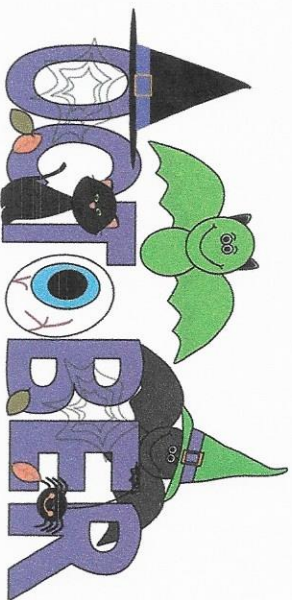


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St. John's United Church of Christ
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Holgate, Ohio 43527
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VISIONING SUMMIT – Pastor Jeff is inviting everyone to attend 1 of 3 sessions to talk about our visions for the future at St. John’s. Dates are Sunday, October 13, Thursday, October 17, and Sunday, October 20. Wrap-up session will be on Sunday, October 20. See page 15 for more details.

From Pastor Jeff – pages 2-3

Consistory President Eric Shank – page 4

Worship Participants – page 9

Financial Summary – page 13

Save the Dates – page 14

Trunk or Treat – page 16

Fall Soup & Dessert Meal – page 17

Birthdays – pages 19 and 20



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>29</p> <p>9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship/Communion</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30pm - Spiritual Council</p>	<p>1</p> <p>SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry</p>	<p>2</p> <p>12:30pm - Pastor McCarr/Area 6pm - Handbells 6pm - Medicare-Tyler Rue 7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6pm - Finance Team 6pm - Medicare-Tyler Rue 6pm - Pastoral Relations Council</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship/Communion</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6pm - Handbells 7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Visioning Summit</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6pm - Deacons 6:30pm - Consistory</p>	<p>15</p> <p>SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6pm - Handbells 7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6pm - Visioning Summit</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>FH reserved LaTasha Solis</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9am - Sunday School 10am - Newsletter Articles Due 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Visioning Summit</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30am - Reunification Practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4pm - Trunk or Treat</p>
<p>27</p> <p>9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Visioning Summit</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9am - Newsletter mailing</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6pm - Handbells 7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>

The Sentinel
 St. John's United Church of Christ
 I-946 St. Rt. 108 Holgate, Ohio 43527
OCTOBER 2024

Please Contact us at --

Office Hours: 8-12 Monday - Friday
 Church Phone: (419) 264-4401
 Pastor: Jeff McCam - Cell Phone 812-202-8273
 Parsonage Phone: 419-264-5201
 Parsonage Address: 13039 Co Rd J, Holgate, OH 43527
 Church e-mail: holgateucc@metalink.net
 Pastor e-mail: jeffmccam@gmail.com
 Financial Administrator e-mail - stjohnsadmin@metalink.net
 Newsletter Editor e-mail: zackdunn203@bright.net
 Church Website: www.stjohnsunitedholgate.com
 SHALOM Food Pantry open the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 4:30 to 6:00 P.M.

Betty (Bob) Rettig, Admin. Asst.
 Fax: (419) 264-1460

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 A.M. – WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15 A.M.
Wednesday Night Schedule
 Bells 6:00 P.M.
 Sanctuary Choir 7:00 P.M.

In This Issue

From Pastor Jeff's Desk.....	2,3	Save The Dates	14
From Consistory President Eric	4	The Visitation Team	14
Positive Things Seen And Heard	5	Visioning Summit.....	15
Worship Service Online	5	Trunk-or-Treat.....	16
Consistory Highlights	6	Fall Soup/Dessert Fundraiser	17
Spiritual Council.....	7	VanCrest Worship Service	18
Deacon's Bench.....	8	Birthdays 80+	19
October Worship Participants	9	October Birthdays	20
From The SHALOM Pantry	9	Prayer Chain Contacts.....	Back Cover
Prayer Chain.....	10, 11	Meeting Information.....	Back Cover
Shut-Ins	12	Newsletter Deadline.....	Back Cover
Purple Kids Pages.....	Pages 12	Missions Schedule.....	Back Cover
Financial Summary February	13		



Pastor
Jeff's
Desk...

VISIONING SUMMIT

What is the future of St. John's UCC? Have you ever thought, "I wish someone would ask me what I think." Now is your chance! During the month of October, we will have a Visioning Summit, which consists of several opportunities to explore and openly discuss the future of St. John's UCC. Getting together as a congregation allows us to actively be the Body of Christ and discern how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus today, a year from now and five years from now.

One may ask, "What is a Visioning Summit?" Visioning is a process whereby an organization defines the future it wants. This is achieved by exploring topics such as looking at the core values of an organization, examining the current mission of an organization and taking a deeper look into the purposes of an organization. Communities and other organizations are increasingly using a visioning process to help guide the future of the organization. The purpose is to build consensus around an organization's future. James J. Mapes says, "A vision is like a lighthouse, which illuminates rather than limits, giving direction rather than destination."

A visioning exercise can bring an organization together as people allowing them to recognize their shared values and purposes. The vision serves to lay out what the organization should look like in both the near and distance future. A visioning summit creates a sense of ownership and gives voice to all members of an organization.

Continued On Page 3



Pastor
Jeff's
Desk...

VISIONING SUMMIT

Continued From Page 2

There are three opportunity sessions (you only need to pick one) for congregants to choose the best time to attend. Then, there will be ONE ending, culminating session where everyone is invited back to listen to what other groups discerned and design a vision. Each session will begin with a light meal followed by a guided discussion. The sessions will last approximately two and half hours which includes the meal.

Pick one of the opportunity sessions to share:

- Sunday, October 13 at 11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, October 17 at 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 20 at 11:30 a.m.

Then ALL attend the culminating session on Sunday, October 27 at 11:30 a.m.

A sign up sheet will be placed in the narthex in order to have an idea for the amount of food that will be needed for each session. However, people may still attend if not signed up. All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend, including recent confirmands as these young people are active members and their voice is important. Child care will be provided.

*Grace and peace,
Rev. Jeff McCarn*

Service



If you look around our Church, you will see all manner of tasks to do and folks busy doing them. Some of those “things to do” are more visible than others, but all are important to our faith journey, together.

Coming soon, on November 17, we will meet as a congregation to fill various leadership positions within the church. If you have been asked about one of these positions and were moved to accept, I am grateful. If you have ever thought about one of these ways to share, but have not been asked, please find a way to let someone know your interest. I was not raised or Confirmed in this church, but joined around 1990. Five years or so after that, I was asked to serve as a Deacon. Doing that job and serving on Consistory was a great way for me to learn some of the “business” of the church while getting to know some of the members much better. I won’t try to name names because I will surely screw up, but some very knowledgeable and caring folks took me under their wings and showed me that even a shy kid from down south could help out.

Besides the folks that will be approved as a slate of candidates, many others are needed to fill various committees. Please keep an open mind about saying YES when asked. I have always said and believed that no one will be asked to work on something beyond their ability, and there will always be someone to help you when you need it.

Thank You!
Eric

On Service

“Honor bespeaks worth. Confidence begets trust. Service brings satisfaction. Cooperation proves the quality of leadership.”

– James Cash Penney

“Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others.
– Booker T. Washington



Positive Things Seen and Heard from the Congregation and Consistory

Enjoyed the mid week worship service, especially the format of the 2nd series

Grateful to Kevin and Tammy for maintaining the North flower bed, Mary Kay Altman for the planters, Norma Nagel for the work in the Peace Garden, Shane Eberle and anyone else who helps to keep the building and grounds looking good.

Excited for the beginning of a new Sunday School year!

Grateful for Diana Evers, Taryn Thomas, and others for facilitating a youth SS/Youth Group.

Nominating Team is encouraged by those who have agreed to serve St. John's in 2025

Thanks to all the Volunteers who helped to staff the Fair gates

Messy church was Fun

Thankful for Shalom and everyone that makes it happen

The Ice Cream Social was a Big hit! Nice to see some people from the community.

For those watching our worship service online, the announcement slides and gathering music begin 15 minutes before the start of worship. You can watch our service at

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsUCCHolgate>



CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

Monday's meeting had six Elders and six Deacons in attendance along with Pastor McCarn and Betty (Bob) Rettig.

Consistory discussed the upcoming Siberian Solstice concert on December 1. The reception before the concert seems to be a big draw. We will check with Jeri Hoellrich to see if she is willing to help coordinate that.

Made final decisions on personnel policies and talked about how we will post the upcoming vacancy of Administrative Assistant online.

Made some updates to the policy and procedure manual.

We have a group who will be working on the 165th Anniversary of St. John's.

Approved a new phone system for the church and Parsonage. One advantage is that it will show the church name and number when calling people on their personal phone.

Approved fundraisers for the high school/youth group from Diana Evers.

Approved the Orphan Grain train to do a pop up clothing and supply give away in October with Shalom.

Ohio schools are now required to have AEDs. Consistory approved getting an AED machine for the church. Info will be put in the newsletter and bulletin to help solicit funds to pay for the AED.

*Submitted by
Carol Medina, Scribe*



Spiritual Council Meeting Excerpts SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

Pastor: Jeff McCarn
Head Elder and Evangelism Liaison: Kay Armbruster (26)
Scribe: Bob Rettig (25) Worship and Music Liaison: Greg Nelson (24)
Communion Stewards: Greg Nelson (24) and Mike Haldy (25)
Confirmation and Backup Scribe: Eric Shank (24)

- Those present: Pastor Jeff McCarn - Eric Shank (24) - Greg Nelson (24) - Bob Rettig (25) - *Kay Armbruster (26) - Rolie Rettig (26)
- There were no questions concerning the Pastor's report, but comments were made that the new format is appreciated.
- Winter worship schedule will begin on Rally Day, September 8, with Sunday school at 9:00 a.m. and worship at 10:15 a.m.
- Communion will be offered on Rally Day and then on the first Sunday of each month for the remainder of the year. Four Elders will serve most Sundays except for special occasions.
- Confirmation planning is in progress, but there will be no classes for the upcoming year.
- Pastor was complimented for the support he provided to those in the congregation during their time of need.
- Pastor's annual review and self-evaluation was briefly discussed. Pastor would like to initiate monthly meetings with the staff to assure good communication among them.
- Pastor's vacation will begin Tuesday, September 17, and he will return Thursday, September 26. He will attend the annual Heartland Conference gathering in Columbus later on Friday and early Saturday. Patsy Yaichner will take care of the Thursday Vancrest service.
- The request from Ryan Franz to transfer his membership to Immanuel Lutheran in Desher was approved.
- Advent devotionals will be similar to those used in previous years.
- Pastor proposed conducting a Visioning Summit consisting of three informal meetings at various times during the week in October for members to air their thoughts and views to provide direction for the future of the church. Council was supportive.
- The meeting was closed at 8:20 p.m. by Pastor leading in prayer.
- The October meeting will be on Monday, October 7 at 6:30 pm.

Bob Rettig, Scribe



DEACONS' BENCH
 September 9, 2024
 Adam Stevenson, Scribe

OCTOBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Deacons:

- Carol Medina (24), Kevin Vajen (24), Adam Stevenson (24)
- Chris Coppes (25), Jared Clady (25), Ben Thomas (25)
- Linda Arreguin (26), Janice Rettig (26), Mark Vajen (26)

Members Present: Carol Medina (24), Adam Stevenson (24), Kevin Vajen (24), Jared Clady (25), Janice Rettig (26), Linda Arreguin (26)

Others in attendance: Betty and Bob Rettig, Pastor Jeff McCarr.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by head Deacon Carol Medina.

Minutes of previous July 8 meeting approved. No meeting in August.

Old Business

Main board/computer of electronic sign was bad, was replaced, and is up and running.

Hills Asphalt: was out and has completed the parking lot. Invoice has been received and paid. Did not exactly match original quote, and was found to be a glitch in the computer.

New Business

Aline phone proposal was discussed, phone service is becoming more troublesome with landline, sometimes can't hear at parsonage if ground is damp. Would simplify and make church more business oriented and would show as St. John's on folks phones. Will be taken to Consistory for further action.

Discussion about our current insurance provider through Frost, since renewal is coming in October. Another provider has contacted us about a quote. Deacon's will meet with a representative from Frost to discuss current coverage.

Trustees raised the idea if we could put a small sidewalk to Peace Garden to assist those with walkers and wheelchairs to have better access to that area outside. Will be taken to Consistory for further action. Also in discussion was the sinks on the south wall of kitchen are leaking into wall. Will be looked into.

Last item of discussion was meeting dates for Deacon's to prepare budget and have a finished product to take to Consistory.

Motion to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

Next Deacon's meeting: Actual October meeting to be announced.

ACOLYTES

DEACONS

Oct. 6 Deacons Jared Clady
Janice Rettig

Oct. 13 Deacons Jared Clady
Mark Vajen

Oct. 20 Deacons Linda Arreguin
Carol Medina

Oct. 27 Deacons Chris Coppes
Ben Thomas



FROM THE SHALOM FOOD

FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - August 2024

INCOME

St. John's UCC July Giving \$ 635.00

Total \$ 635.00

Submitted by Norma Nagel



Remember Those Who Are Ill,
Undergoing Treatment,
In Grief, Or Are Recovering
With Prayers, Cards, And Visits

Within the Fellowship:

*Please hold the following persons in your daily prayers...
Those on our hearts and minds*

- *Kylan Aitfen, infant son of Ricky and Aurora Aitfen (great-grandson of Deb and Steve Walsner) heart issues
- *Donna Abshire undergoing testing
- *Missy Lane health issues
- *JoAnne Harrison recovering after surgery
- Cody Woodring heart and breathing issues
- Betty (Bob) Rettig recovering from vocal cord injections
- *Pastor Dave Voll recovering from surgery
- *Sunny Van Hoy liver and stomach issues
- *Robert Van Hoy congestive heart failure
- Gib Sonnenberg recovering after hospitalization
- *Carolyn Babcock sympathy for recent passing of her husband Robert
- *Mikenna Smith in coma at Grant Hospital, Columbus
- *Larry Slagle VA hospital in Ann Arbor

(*Non-member family and friends)

Other Members of our Faith Family who are dealing with illnesses

Please pray for our members and others who are isolated at home or in care facilities. They would welcome a phone call or card

Prayers for those in areas of conflict throughout the world

Those who are anticipating procedures, testing, and/or test results, or recovering from procedure



Remember Those Who Are Ill,
Undergoing Treatment,
In Grief, Or Are Recovering
With Prayers, Cards, And Visits

Within the Fellowship:

- Let us pray for those of St. John's Faith Family who are dealing with health issues or other changes in their lives.
- Let us pray for the church and its leaders and people.
- Let us pray for our service men and women and their families.

Sympathy to:

Former member Jerry Eitzman passed away on August 14. We extend our condolences to his sister-in-law Sonya Eitzman and her family.

We are grateful that no one was injured in the fire at Kathy and Michael Finkenbiner's barn on August 18.





**Remember With
Prayers, Cards and Visits
Those Not Always With Us
Especially For Services**

NURSING HOMES

**GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES, 1036 S. Perry Street,
Napoleon, OH 43545**

Sue Mohr - #126

Gerl Ripke - #221

SKLD, 28546 Starbright Blvd., Perrysburg, OH 43551

Betty Yaichner

**Don Huber - Cards or notes may be sent care of his daughter
Dawn Boozer, PO Box 420, Jarales, NM 87023-0420**

ASSISTED LIVING

**GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES, 1032 S. Perry Street,
Napoleon, OH 43545**

Gib Sonnenberg - #413

TRUSTWELL LIVING AT KINGSBURY PLACE,

245 West Rosewood Ave., Defiance, OH 43512

Rose Marie Durham - Apt. 142

**Janell Honeck - 6919 Mountain Creek Lane,
Missouri City, TX 77459-5786**

HOME - Send a greeting to these folks or drop by and visit!

Peggy Franz	15396 St. Rt. 281	Holgate, Ohio 43527
Herbert Fruth	13567 Co Rd. H	Holgate, Ohio 43527
John & Shirley Tobias	10011 Co Rd Y	Harrier, Ohio 43524
Sue Waisner	1542 St Rt 108	Holgate, Ohio 43527
Bernard Zimmer	1040 S. Perry St. Apt. 37	Napoleon, Ohio 43545

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY
AUGUST 2024**

**ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Revenues and Expenses
Operating Fund**

	August 2024 Actual	2024 Year To Date	2024 Annual Budget	% of Year Complete	Actual YTD
OPERATING BUDGET INCOME	\$15,343	\$121,656	\$226,450		54%
EXPENSES					
BUILDING & MAINTENANCE	\$2,588	\$22,875	\$48,172	67%	47%
MINISTRIES	\$739	\$3,984	\$9,700		41%
MISSIONS	\$538	\$4,300	\$6,450		67%
ADMINISTRATION	\$6,316	\$50,121	\$75,334		67%
PASTORAL	\$7,221	\$52,953	\$84,409		63%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,402	\$134,233	\$224,064		60%
NET OPERATING TOTAL	-\$2,059	-\$12,577			

Mission and Restricted Fund Giving of Note for August:

Mission of the Month - Crossroad	\$1,140
Major Maintenance Fund	\$990
Shalom Food Pantry	\$775

Mission and Restricted Fund Expenses of Note for August:

Major Maintenance Fund (Parking Lot Reseal)	\$8,781
Technology Fund (Electronic Sign Parts)	\$1,628
Love Gift (Confidential)	\$850

Save The Dates

- October 6 – Worship with Communion - World Communion Sunday
- October 13 – First Visioning session after worship
- October 17 – Second Visioning session 6:00 p.m.
- October 20 – Third Visioning session after worship
- October 26 - Trunk or Treat - 4 - 6 p.m.
- October 27 – Harvest Home – Wrap-up Visioning session after worship
- November 3 – Totenfest Sunday
- November 17 – Congregational Meeting/Soup and Dessert Meal
- November 24 – Community Thanksgiving service 7:00 p.m.
Host Church: St. John's UCC
- December 1 – First Sunday of Advent/Siberian Solstice concert 7:00 p.m.

THE VISITATION TEAM

The Visitation Team is looking for an individual or a couple to join the group to visit shut-ins.

Generally this would involve visiting one or two people each month or sending cards.

If you are interested or want to learn more, contact Maggie Prigge at 419-789-2797.

Visioning Summit



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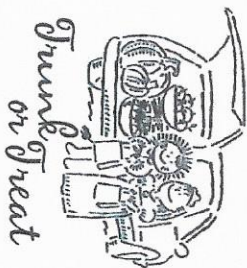
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Grace and peace,
Rev. Jeff McCann



Trunk-or-Treat Saturday, October 26 4 - 6 p.m.

It's an old-fashioned Fall Party
Everyone is invited
Come in costume, bring your friends!

Trunk-or-Treat in North Parking Lot
Fish Pond, Corn Hole, Tic-Tat-Toe Games
Pumpkin and Face Painting
Bonfire and Hay Rides
Cook your own Hot Dogs, Cider, Hot Chocolate, Popcorn

For those adults providing Trunks and Treats - there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Factory wrapped treats only please. (In case of rain, set up will be in Fellowship Hall.) See you there!

Sponsored by the
Christian Board of Education

Fall Soup/Dessert Fundraiser

November 17, 2024
After Worship and
Congregational Meeting

Come and Enjoy
30 Soups And 30 Desserts
Freewill Donation
Proceeds To
Operating Fund



Soups And Desserts

Calling All St. John's Cooks

The Clady Family is once again coordinating the Fall Soup and Dessert Luncheon. It cannot be a successful event without your help. They will need donations of soups and desserts on Sunday, November 17.

There is a sign-up sheet located in the gathering area. Your participation (by donating soups and desserts, and by attending the event) will help the Operating Fund.

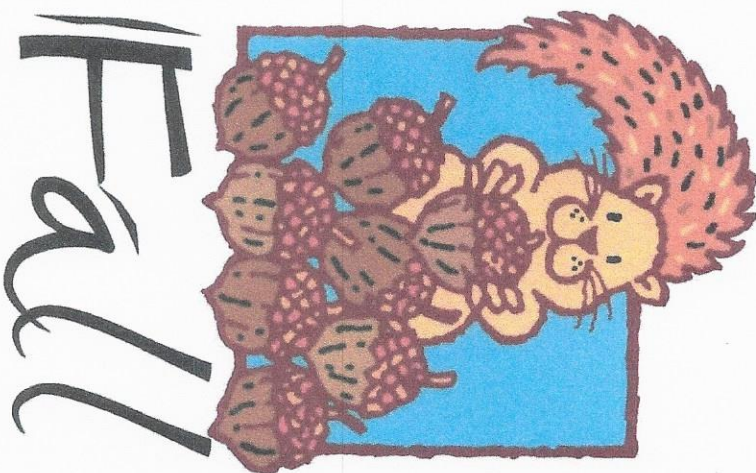


Our Nursing
Home Ministry

VanCrest of Holgate
Worship Service

NO SERVICE
IN OCTOBER

Next Service November 7



"Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members



Lynn Gilliland

will celebrate his
82nd Birthday
on October 1

Janice Retfig

will celebrate her
83rd Birthday
on October 7

1778 Chinook Trail Ct.
Defiance, OH 43512-3498

1162 Chelsea Ave
Napoleon, OH 43545

Forrest Clady

will celebrate his
83rd Birthday
on October 19

Ruth Medina

will celebrate her
83rd Birthday
on October 20

16234 Charleston Ave.
Ft. Myers, FL33908-3522

226 S. Turkeyfoot Ave
Mallinca, OH 43535-9709

George Medina

will celebrate his
89th Birthday
on October 21

Gary Watson

will celebrate his
81st Birthday
on October 25

226 S Turkeyfoot Ave
Mallinca, OH 43535-9709

M687 Co Rd 17D
Napoleon, OH 43545



OCTOBER

10 - 1	Lynn Gilliland	10 - 15	Carol Lufks
10 - 2	Brian Rees	10 - 15	Alexia Roberts
10 - 5	Diana Evers	10 - 17	Mark Vajen
10 - 5	Kimberly Haver	10 - 19	Forrest Clady
10 - 6	Terry (Linda) Rettig	10 - 19	Kenneth Huber
10 - 7	Doug Rettig	10 - 19	Pam Desgranges
10 - 7	Janice Rettig	10 - 19	Linda Snyder
10 - 7	Timothy (Brooke) Eberly	10 - 20	Ruth Medina
10 - 8	Christopher Clady	10 - 21	George Medina
10 - 12	Beth Waisner	10 - 21	Steve Waisner
10 - 12	Janet Hoffman	10 - 24	Delaney Hall
10 - 12	Rick Fruth	10 - 25	Gary Watson
10 - 14	John Huber	10 - 27	Jacob Clark
10 - 14	Lyndon Dietrich	10 - 28	Peggy Rettig

This is the list of birthdays that are recorded in the church office. If we have missed anyone, please contact the office so we can add his or her name to our list.

If anyone, for personal reasons, does not want his or her name and birthday listed, please contact the church office and make your wishes known.

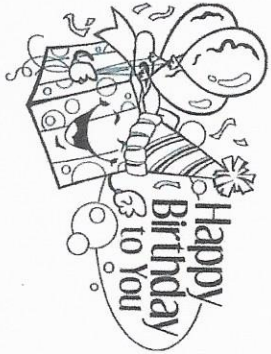
(See the Kids Corner pages for the children and youth birthdays.)



OCTOBER



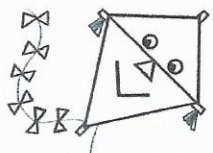
Kid's Corner



- 10 - 7 Tori Kobills
- 10 - 9 Landree Clady
- 10 - 11 Jamison Morgan
- 10 - 18 Mateo Solis
- 10 - 22 Bella Rettig



Kid's Corner



Youth News! St John's is starting a Youth Group!

Youth Group is open to anyone in grades 7 through 12
Please join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.
for fun activities, devotions, and, of course, snacks

- Stay tuned to find out our new name...
Will it be:
- Way Makers
 - The Odyssey
 - Developing Disciples

The group will also be selling Fall mugs and decorations in the Narthex before and after worship in October.
Funds will go towards funding our activities and service projects.
Thank You for your support!



PRAYER CHAIN CONTACTS

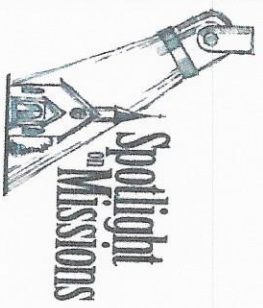
Contact the Prayer Chain if you have any needs.
This Prayer Chain has been updated; they will
faithfully pray for you. Contact one of the following persons:
Betty (Don) R. at 419-264-4321 Kay A. at 419-966-2389
Church Office at 419-264-4401

PLAN AHEAD FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

See Calendar on Inside Mailing Cover

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for news articles to appear in the **NOVEMBER**
Newsletter is---**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024, at 12 NOON**
Please leave your article in the folder in the wall file
on the South Wall (Directly across from the door)
of the church office marked Newsletter



OCTOBER MISSIONS NEIGHBORS IN NEED

St. John's is a member of the Northwest Ohio Association of the Heartland
Conference United Church of Christ. Information and resources are available at
www.nwcoa.org, www.heartlanducc.org and www.ucc.org.