

*St. John's United Church of Christ
I-946 St. Rt. 108
Holgate, Ohio 43527*

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**NOTICE: Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 13
Election of Elders, Deacons, Christian Education Board &
Delegates as well as Approval of 2023 Budget
Soup and Dessert Meal to follow**

From Pastor Dave's Desk – pages 2-3
Trunk or Treat Oct 23 - 4 pm
Harvest Home Sunday – October 30 – page 7
Autumn Bible Study – page 15
Taste and Talent Event – page 19



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2 9am - Confirmation II 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - World Communion 10:15am - Worship/Communion 11:30am - Confirmation II	3 6:30pm - Spiritual Council	4 SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry	5 9am - Sit & Fit 6pm - Handbell choir 7pm - Sanctuary choir	6 10am - Bible study @ Cornerstone 5:45pm - Finance Team	7	8
9 9am - Confirmation I 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation I 2:15pm - Deacons 3pm - Consistory	10	11	12 9am - Sit & Fit 6pm - Handbell choir 7pm - Sanctuary choir	13 10am - Bible study @ Cornerstone	14	15
16 9am - Confirmation II 9am - Sunday School 9:30am - Newsletter Articles Due 10:15am - Worship/New Members 11:30am - Confirmation II	17	18 SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry	19 9am - Sit & Fit 6pm - Handbell choir 7pm - Sanctuary choir	20 10am - Bible study @ Cornerstone 1:30pm - Vancrest service	21 Wedding David Rettig/Kelsey Herman	22
23 9am - Confirmation I 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation I 4pm - Trunk or Treat	24	25 9am - Newsletter mailing	26 9am - Sit & Fit 6pm - Handbell choir 7pm - Sanctuary choir	27	28	29
30 9am - Conf II-Church visit 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship	31	1	2	3	4	5

The Sentinel

St. John's United Church of Christ
I-946 St. Rt. 108 Holgate, Ohio 43527
OCTOBER 2022

Please Contact us at --

Office Hours: 8-12 Monday - Friday
Church Phone: (419) 264-4401
Interim Pastor: David A. Voll - Cell Phone: 419-410-4090
Parsonage Phone: 419-264-5201
Parsonage Address: 13039 Co Rd J, Holgate, OH 43527
Church e-mail: holgateucc@metalink.net
Pastor e-mail: pastordave.voll@gmail.com
Financial Administrator e-mail - Kristine Maas: stjohnfinadmin@metalink.net
Newsletter Editor e-mail: radurham703@bright.net
Church Website: www.stjohnsuccholgate.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 and ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 A.M. - WORSHIP 10:15 A.M.

Wednesday Night Schedule

Adult and Youth Bells 6:00 P.M.
Sanctuary Choir 7:00 P.M.

In This Issue

October Calendar.....	Inside Mailing Cover
From Dave's Desk..... 2,3	Vancrest Worship Service 15
From Consistory President Ron 4	Autumn Bible Study..... 15
Positive Things Seen and Heard..... 5	Decorating Team Meeting 15
Worship Service on Line..... 5	Financing Our Projects..... 16
Spiritual Council..... 6	Save The Dates..... 16
Consistory Highlights..... 7	October Mission-House of Ruth 17
Harvest Home Sunday-October 30 7	Confirmation I and II 18
Worship Service On Facebook..... 7	Thank You 18
Deacons' Bench 8	CE Board News And Notes 19
From The Pulpit..... 9	Taste and Talent 20
October Worship Participants..... 10	Fall Soup and Dessert Fundraiser..... 21
From The SHALOM Pantry 10	80+ Birthdays 22
Shut-Ins 11	October Birthdays..... 23
Prayer Chain..... 12,13	Prayer Chain Contacts..... Back Cover
Trunk-or-Treat 13	Meeting Information..... Back Cover
Kids Corner - Purple..... 1,2	Newsletter Deadline..... Back Cover
Financial Summary..... 14	Missions Schedule..... Back Cover



THOUGHTS ON COMMUNION...

Here's a bold statement with which I begin, bearing in mind that World Communion Sunday is October 2.

Some have said that the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the Christian's dramatic demonstration of unity, has actually served more to **separate** Christians from each other for generations and continues to do so. On the surface this may seem true, but let's think about it.

It can be true, as I once read, that "unity at the Lord's Table has become 'picky-unity'." Just consider the differences in all the religions and denominations of the world: Individual glasses or a common cup? Wine or juice? Wafer or bread? How often should one commune? Who may commune? At what age? How should it be administered? Stay in the pew or go to the Chancel/Altar? Even the question of whether the elements become – actually become – the flesh and blood of Christ, or merely symbolize his body and blood is a divisive one in some circles.

But all of these questions become somewhat unimportant in view of the **rightness** of what the Sacrament is all about: our need to identify ourselves with Jesus, to in truth **commune** ("fellowship") with him, and to do it as a body of Christ – no matter where we are. This is a family-style meal with a Table that stretches from the St. John's sanctuary (or any institutional worship space) into the homes of those worshipping online and into the vehicles of those worshipping in the parking lot, for this is a Christian family – and indeed around the world! But many churches have become a sort of "spiritual drive-in" where members never get out of their shells, never relate with the rest of the family, and particularly don't consider their religious in-laws in other places, or if they do they often judge them harshly.

Thus, with so much disunity occurring, just what is World Communion Sunday all about?

Continued On Page 3



THOUGHTS ON COMMUNION...

Continued From Page 2

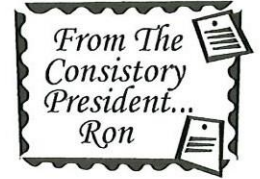
From all directions, from the four corners of the earth, we come to the Christ of the Table. We come from different religious backgrounds and denominations, and we have been taught differently. Each person has their own perspective of the Christian faith and of Christ's call on their lives. No matter! As we come to Christ in the spirit of confession, humbly seeking forgiveness, we all meet at the focal point: the bread and the cup – no matter what forms: bread, crackers, wafers, unleavened, wine, juice – whatever. Each is made sacred in symbolizing the Bread of Life and his poured-out blood. But the point we must see, and the most important point to remember when sharing the Sacrament on World Communion Sunday, is that the closer we come to Christ (and there's nowhere closer than the Sacrament of Communion), then the closer we come to each other! Even if we're not physically together, we are bound spiritually to each other and to Christian forbearers through the ages. Thus, though humanly created differences have separated sister and brother literally for centuries, when it comes to the "how to's" of Communion, it's *at* Communion that we reach the point of unity in Christ!

This unifying Sacrament will be celebrated during worship on Sunday, October 2. Those attending St. John's in person will be offered in the pews. Those of you communing at home are encouraged to pick up prepackaged Communion elements in the church office or have your own ready so you may partake of the Sacrament during the live stream or recorded service. And those of you in the parking lot in your vehicles, while listening on the radio, will be offered prepackaged elements to use.

Remember – the best gift to God is a family of faithful, sincere, and dedicated disciples who desire the unity of the Table and to be unified in spirit. May it be so.

See you in church... **Pastor Dave**

OUR HOUSE



"Our house" has had many critters moving around in it this year. Have you seen them? Did we set traps to catch them? Do they only come out at night? Did we spray to get rid of them? No, we didn't do anything. We actually hope the critters would multiply. Multiply to the extent that a bigger building is required,

These critters, unseen by most, have been very busy doing maintenance projects, social events, fundraising events, upgrading systems, maintaining the Peace Garden, getting St. John's name back out into the community, spreading the word, supporting the church, and much more.

Who are they? They are actually you! The entire congregation are the critters. Each and every one of you provides a means to keep our house functioning. Whether it be financially, doing maintenance, spiritually, or sharing compassion/support for others, it is you! I have heard various members say, "I wish I could do more". You do what you can do, and I say thank you for what you have done. Somebody else will pick up the baton and take it to the finish line. That is the beautiful thing about the St. John's family. WE get it done.

Many items that have been completed are visible. Some projects that are not visible:

- Access points added for better Wi-Fi
- Gutter guards on the parsonage
- Old pipes replaced to eliminate rust in the bathrooms
- Internet upgrade for the parsonage
- And more

Future projects that have been approved and hopefully will be completed before the end of the year are roof repairs for the slate roof (75 slates), flat roof (2 patches), and flashing around the bell tower.

It takes a lot of critters to keep "our house" functioning, and I appreciate each and every one of you for your support of "our house".

Ron Hoellrich 2022 Consistory President



Positive Things Seen and Heard from the Congregation and Consistory

1. Awesome work on floats for Eyes to the Skies and Henry County Fair. Grateful for the faithful folks who helped design, build and staff the floats!
2. New playground is already being used by our kids and others in the community.
3. Thankful for the generosity of our Faith Family that has fully funded the office a/c and heat as well as the Fellowship Hall a/c. Making progress on funding the replacement heating system.
4. Grateful for Pastor Voll exposing us to new aspects of worship.
5. Really great turnout for Rally Day service.
6. Great Ice Cream Social.
7. People like seeing the kids outside on the playground.
8. Thankful for our congregation, love Sue Abshire's enthusiasm.
9. The potluck and pool party was fantastic. Young and old had so much fun cooling off on a hot evening.
10. Painting done in the storage rooms looks great.

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>.



Spiritual Council

Meeting Excerpts

September 6, 2022

Present: Interim Pastor Dave Voll Communion: Rick Fruth (2023)
Head Elder: Maggie Prigge (2024) Visitation: Eric Shank (2025)
Scribe: Pam Desgranges (2023) Membership: Greg Nelson (2025)
Confirmation And CE Board: Kevin Waisner (2024)

After taking a break in August, our Spiritual Council meeting began with devotions from Maggie. Rick Fruth was out of state and Kevin Waisner was absent. We reviewed Pastor's Report. Maggie is our Elder for September and Rick Fruth will be our Elder for the Month of October. Congregational concerns were discussed.

We will resume regular 10:15 worship on Sunday, September 11, with Rally Day, playground dedication and Ice Cream Social. We discussed whether to pass the offering plate for our offerings and decided to leave it as is with the gratitude box. Plans are now in the works for Christmas Eve worship and decided to have an early service geared toward families and a later traditional service like we did last year. Both services will include Communion and candle lighting. The choir will sing only at the late service. Stay tuned for further details.

We currently have 6 of our 10 Confirmands signed up for Confirmation Camp which is September 30 through October 2. There may be several more.

Things are going well for the Visitation Team. Pastor Voll visited the shut-ins and shared Communion with them last month.

We have six people joining our church during worship on October 16.

We will continue to bless our college students/military with a Christmas gift card to let them know we care about them.

We have resumed passing the Communion trays and will observe World Communion Sunday on October 2, 2022.

There being no further business, we closed our meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Pam Desgranges, Scribe



CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

September 12, 2022

Approved Deacons recommendation to replace/repair 75 slates on the roof and to repair the flashing around the bell tower, total cost for both \$9,500 to \$11,000.

Approved Deacons recommendation to repair the flat roof for \$2,950.

Approval given for hot meals to be dispensed at both November Shalom distributions.

Respectfully submitted, Maggie Prigge

Harvest Home Sunday – October 30 In-Gathering of Goods

“Come, ye thankful people, come...Raise a song of Harvest Home.” So says the familiar hymn. We will gather for worship on Sunday, October 30 in celebration of the Fall harvest and in recognition of God’s bounteous and abundant hand. The Sanctuary will be decorated with appropriate fall themes.

You are invited to contribute to an in-gathering of food and other goods in support of the Shalom Food Pantry. Please bring to the bushel baskets by the altar the following most needed items: cereal, other non-perishable food items, and personal care products.

Come and share of your bounty. Come and serve witness to God’s goodness. Come and join your voice with others in praise and thanksgiving. Come....

Our worship service is available on Facebook Live. **You do not need a Facebook account to view this.** Go to the St. John’s UCC Facebook page at

[Facebook.com/StJohnsUCCHolgate](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsUCCHolgate)

This allows those who wish to worship from home to join with others virtually starting 15 minutes before the start of worship. The service is also recorded, so you can watch it at your convenience.



DEACONS’ BENCH

September 8, 2022
Jeri Hoellrich, Scribe

Deacons:

John Hahn (22), Amanda Rettig (22), Rick Desgranges (22), Pat Kirk (23), Ron Hoellrich (23), Jeri Hoellrich (23), Carol Medina (24), Kevin Vajen (24), Sue Abshire (24)

Members present: John Hahn (22), Amanda Rettig (22), Rick Desgranges (22), Pat Kirk (23), Ron Hoellrich (23), Jeri Hoellrich (23), Sue Abshire (24)

Meeting was called to order by Head Deacon, Rick Desgranges.

No minutes to approve due to no meeting in August.

Old Business:

Discussion of quote to repair rubber roof.

Discussion of recommendation to continue with gratitude box (instead of passing the offering plates) on Sunday mornings as discussed and recommended by Spiritual Council.

New Business:

Deacon Schedule for October: See Worship Participants Page 10.

Discussion of next year’s budget.

Discussion of work to be completed at parsonage.

Playground discussion and ideas for basketball court (broken concrete.)

Liaison report from Sue concerning Custodian.

Additional meeting to be scheduled by Rick to work on budget.

Next Deacon’s meeting scheduled for October 9, 2022, at 2:15 p.m.

From the Pulpit...
Worship Services 10:15 a.m.



October 2 – Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

Ephesians 4:1-6
 1 Corinthians 10:15-17; 12:12-13
Holy Communion: Unity, Not Division

October 9 – Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Scriptures and Message – TBD

October 16 – Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
New Members

Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22
 Luke 17:11-19
The Grace of Being One in Ten

October 23 – Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Philippians 2:1-4
 Luke 18:9-14
Don't Think Less of Yourself, Think of Yourself Less

October 30 – Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost
Harvest Home Sunday

Scriptures – TBD
Harvest Home Message

World Communion Sunday – October 2

Christians all over the world will celebrate World Communion Sunday on this special day. We affirm the unity of all Christians in Christ Jesus – no matter what the affiliation or denomination. We feel a sense of kinship as millions of people partake of the Lord's Supper on the same day.

If you are participating in worship via livestream or recording, you're encouraged to have Communion elements ready at home – any kind of bread or cracker, and some juice or other beverage – so you may partake of the Sacrament during the service.

OCTOBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	ACOLYTES	DEACONS
Oct. 2	Nick Evers Neveah Evers	Kevin Vajen Rick Desgranges
Oct. 9	Griffin Tanner	Amanda Rettig John Hahn
Oct. 16	Nick Evers	Sue Abshire Carol Medina
Oct. 23	Bailee Crist	Pat Kirk Rick Desgranges
Oct. 30	Joey Coppes	Ron Hoellrich Jeri Hoellrich



FROM
THE SHALOM
FOOD PANTRY

FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - AUGUST 2022

INCOME

St. John's UCC July Giving	\$ 1,260.00
Farm Distribution	188.87
Chief Receipts	303.91
Individual Donation	<u>20.00</u>

Total \$ 1,772.78

Submitted by Norma Nagel



**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 - #116A

SKLD, 28546 Starbright Blvd., Perrysburg, OH 43551
Betty Yaichner

VANCREST NURSING HOME, 600 Joe E. Brown, Holgate, OH 43527
Sharon Hoff - #110

Don Huber - has moved to New Mexico. Cards or notes may be sent care of his daughter Dawn Boozer, PO Box 420, Jarales, NM 87023-0420

ASSISTED LIVING

GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES, 1036 S. Perry Street, Napoleon, OH 43545
□ **Gib Sonnenberg - #413**

GEORGETOWN PLACE, Apt. 226, 1717 Maplecrest Rd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46815
Ken Rayle

KINGSBURY PLACE, 245 West Rosewood Ave., Defiance, OH 43512
Rose Marie Durham - Apt. 142

VANCREST NURSING HOME, 600 Joe E. Brown, Holgate, OH 43527
Marlene Rettig - #13

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
Jim and Sue Waisner	1542 St. Rt. 108	Holgate, Ohio 43527
Bernard Zimmer	1040 S. Perry St. Apt. 37	Napoleon, Ohio 43545



**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...

Mick Hoff known cause of digestive problems; adjusting treatment
Sharon Hoff in nursing home side of Vancress for rehab and COVID
Becky Ganske (neighbor of Bill and Florence Snyder) health issues
Dorothy Kotowski (friend of Jim and Chris Rettig) starts cardiac rehab at end of September

Gus Ledesma (Shalom client) blood sugar issues

Caden Snyder (grandson of Bill and Florence Snyder) deployed to Poland

Mike Rettig dialysis three days per week

Chad Sorg owner of Spengler's beginning chemo and radiation

Kay Armbruster recovering after hospitalization

Brad Ripke (Geri Ripke's step-son) recovering from procedures for blood clots in his lungs

Maria Noriega (friend of Shirley Tobias) had cancer surgery

John Young (son-in-law of a Shalom client) brain surgery recently, fell out of bed at a nursing home - now has a brain bleed and has not regained consciousness

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 church members who are working with or near COVID-19 patients and all healthcare workers

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

- 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.



Kid's Corner



Sunday School Mission 2022-23 Comfort Blankets for Children

Our Sunday school mission for this year is making fleece tie blankets for children who enter foster care in Henry County. When a child enters foster care, they aren't able to take personal items with them. We want to help in a very stressful time by providing them with a comfort blanket of their own. The Sunday school children will tie the blankets during class, but we need your help too. Each blanket is made of two pieces of coordinating fleece material cut into strips around the edge and tied together.

What we need:

- Donations of bright fun fleece material cut at 1 or 1 ½ yard lengths (or you can buy kits where the material is already matched for you)
- Volunteers to cut 1-inch strips around the edge.

Look for finished blankets in the Narthex. When we get several finished, they will be blessed, and then taken to the foster care agency in Napoleon.

Thank you in advance for helping a child in need.



Kid's Corner



October

10 - 7	Tori Kobilis
10 - 9	Landree Clady
10 - 11	Jamison Morgan
10 - 22	Bella Rettig



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:

Jane and Rick Fruth on the untimely passing of Jane's Brother-in-law Rick Nicols on September 20.



*Trunk-or-Treat
Sunday, October 23
4 - 6 p.m.*

It's an old-fashioned Fall Party!!

Everyone Invited

Come in costume, bring your friends!

Trunk-Or-Treat in North Parking Lot

Fish Pond, Corn Hole, Tic-Tac-Toe Games

Pumpkin and Face Painting

Bonfire and Harides

Cook your own Hot Dogs, Cider, Hot Chocolate, Popcorn

For those adults providing trunks and treats - there is 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 Education Board

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AUGUST REPORT

ST JOHNS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Summary Fund: GENERAL FUND August 2022			
Accounts	AUGUST 2022 ACTUAL	2022 ACTUAL YTD	2022 ANNUAL BUDGET
OPERATING BUDGET INCOME			
Total OPERATING BUDGET INCOME	\$13,662.56	\$131,309.24	\$232,186.44
EXPENSES			
BUILDING & MAINTENANCE			
Total BUILDING & MAINTENANCE	\$2,899.87	\$25,366.04	\$38,399.00
Total MINISTRIES	\$743.16	\$2,991.37	\$7,850.00
Total MISSIONS	\$537.50	\$4,300.00	\$7,004.00
Total ADMINISTRATION	\$4,031.36	\$42,945.63	\$69,924.44
Total PASTORIAL	\$8,052.44	\$64,136.12	\$109,009.00
Total EXPENSES	\$16,264.33	\$139,739.16	\$232,186.44
Net Total	(\$2,601.77)	(\$8,429.92)	
Operating Checking Account Balance as of 8/31/22			\$ 18,479.82
Mission Giving:			
CROSSROAD		\$ 685.00	
MISSION TO GO		\$ 100.00	
OCWM		\$ 150.00	
SHALOM		\$ 1,296.00	
Project Giving - AS OF 8/31/22			
HEAT - CHURCH		\$ 23,102.02	
A/C FELLOWSHIP HALL		\$ 34,656.94	
HEAT/AC OFFICE		\$ 777.81	

The remaining balance of \$777.81 will be put into the Heat for the church.



VanCrest of Holgate Worship Service

Thursday, October 20
at 1:30 P.M.
Singers Needed!



Autumn Bible Study

Pastor Dave is offering an Autumn Bible Study Series on six Thursdays to consider six Parables (or sets of Parables) found in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Parables, an integral part of the Gospels, are stories with common elements or themes that Jesus used to relate religious or moral lessons. Jesus had the wisdom and creativity to simplify the profound spiritual truths he needed to share with humanity in the form of relatable stories that are easy to understand.

Bible Study gatherings will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the Cornerstone Room on the following dates: October 6, 13, and 20 and November 3, 10, and 17. Each session will last about an hour.

If interested please use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact the church office at 419-264-4401 or Pastor Dave directly at pastordave.voll@gmail.com. If you have any questions please address them to him at either of these contact methods.

The Decorating Team will be meeting to decorate for the Harvest Home Festival on Monday, October 24, at 7:00 p.m.



FINANCING OUR PROJECTS

How can you help St. John's meet its budget and pay for the new heating system while helping reduce your own taxes? With recent changes making it more difficult for people to itemize their expenses at tax time, there are a couple strategies some people might use and not increase your income.

Farmers can sell grain in the name of the church. By selling grain this way, the proceeds are not included in your income.

If you have a required minimum distribution from an IRA, you can have all or part of it directed to St. John's. As long as the check is not made out to you, you do not need to claim the income.

If you are considering using either of these strategies, please talk with your tax person. Please let the church office know so we can notify you when the check arrives.

**See the "thermometer" on the office window
for a quick visual update.**

	Total Cost of Project	YTD Gifts	Needed to Finish Funding as of 9/18
Church Heat Upgrade	\$164,900	\$47,399.83	\$117,500.17

Thanks to the generosity of our Faith Family, both the office and Fellowship Hall projects have been fully funded. The heating system replacement is now the only remaining project. Consistory decided that, once projects were funded additional gifts for that purpose would be designated for the heating system replacement.

SAVE THE DATES

October 16 – Reception of New Members

October 23 – Trunk or Treat 4-6 p.m.

November 6 – Worship/Communion and Totenfest

November 12 – Taste and Talent Meal and Revue 5:30 p.m.

November 13 – Congregational Meeting to elect officers/approve 2023 budget --- Soup and Dessert Meal following worship

December 18 – Siberian Solstice Concert – reception 5:45–6:45, concert at 7 p.m.

December 24 – Kid's Christmas program at 5:30 p.m.

Candlelight and Communion at 5:30 and 7 p.m.

December 25 – Celebrate Christ's birthday in worship!



Mission and Stewardship



HOUSE OF RUTH MISSION FOR OCTOBER

Domestic violence and abuse can happen to anyone, no matter what their background is. It can happen to men and women. Statistically one in four women will be a victim of abuse in their lifetime! It can also happen in same-sex relationships. The important thing for victims to remember is that they are not alone and they are not powerless.

The House of Ruth is a domestic violence shelter in Defiance County that provides safe housing for women and children who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The House of Ruth provides housing for up to 22 individuals. Residents of Defiance, Henry, Paulding and Williams counties can stay up to 90 days and those from outside the 4-county area can stay for up to 30 days. The shelter is partially funded by United Way in the 4-county area. No fees are charged for staying at the shelter. Since many women literally leave with "the clothes on their back," the shelter provides clothing including underwear and socks, all personal hygiene products, bedding, towels, etc. as well as room and board.

The shelter is housed in a converted house that is complete with a kitchen, dining room, 5 bedrooms, family room, play room, laundry facility, a fenced in backyard with a play set for the children and patio furniture to allow for a home-like atmosphere. People staying there are encouraged to continue normal daily activities including cooking, laundry and maintaining their personal area. These activities help the women and especially the children to feel a sense of "normalcy" while living in strange surroundings. There is an enhanced security system on the property to protect the safety and privacy of those who are staying there.

While at the shelter, women and their children receive support from staff and peer support. Individual counseling is available if requested. Women and children learn to identify abusive behavior and how to escape from a situation. They are assisted with regaining their independence by getting help with housing, obtaining a job, and by just getting support to find themselves again. There is a staff person on-site around the clock when there are residents in the building.

Any woman experiencing abuse can access the services at the House of Ruth by contacting local law enforcement.

++++++

If your spouse or intimate partner...

- Uses fear, bullying or money to control you or your children
 - Harms you or your children physically or sexually
 - Constantly insults you or your children
 - Prevents you and your children from seeing family or friends
 - Threatens you and your children with harm
- ...they are being abusive.

Confirmation I and II News



Confirmation Has Begun

First- and Second-Year Confirmation classes are meeting every other week, respectively, for an hour before worship and an hour afterwards. Franell Nelson, Kevin Waisner, and Pastor Dave are the teachers.

Members of the Confirmation I class (7th grade students plus one 6th grader) are Natalie Borck, Joey Coppes, Bailee Crist, Neveah Evers, Tori Kobilis, Eric Rettig, and Griffin Tanner. You will soon see these students serving as acolytes during our Sunday worship services.

Confirmation II students are 8th graders who completed the First-Year program last year. They are Nick Evers, Zoe Lulfs, and Ethan Saneholtz. They will continue to serve as acolytes, as well.

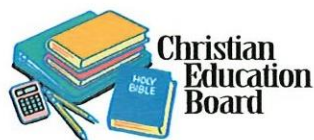
Please lift up in prayer these young people and our Confirmation program.

Thank You

Thank you St. John's congregation for baking pies and cakes for the annual Ice Cream Social! I always hear wonderful comments about the variety of desserts we provide at the social and how delicious the desserts taste.

This is one of the many activities in our church that could not be done without YOU!!

THANK YOU EVERYONE. With your generosity the choirs were able to add \$2,287.00 to the Heating Fund.



News and Notes

Submitted By Franell Nelson

Dear Church Family,

By the time you read this, Rally Day will be a happy memory. The highlight was the dedication of our new playground equipment, and everyone got a chance to try it out. "Thanks a million" to those who donated and worked on this project. It will bless us for years to come.

Looking forward to the Fall...

- Sunday school for all ages. We welcome all to join us for Sunday school. The children gather for opening in the Sanctuary. **Parents:** If you haven't filled out a registration form for your child, please ask their teacher for one ASAP. Birthdays are celebrated each week during opening. The adults meet in the Chapel to view Season 2 of "The Chosen" with discussion to follow.
- Look for children's art creations on the walls in the Sunday school wing.
- Please take note of our new Sunday school mission and see how you can help prepare comfort blankets for kids entering foster care. See Page 2 of the purple pages.
- Our children will share songs they have learned in Sunday school during the October 2 worship service.
- Notice the list of babies on our Cradle Roll on the office window.
- We need volunteers to bring their cars and factory prepared treats to participate in Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, October 23 from 4-6 p.m. We have all kinds of activities planned for that day. All welcome! See page 13 for more information.

Let's make this a great Sunday school year for the entire family!



TASTE and TALENT

Are Your Calendars Marked
For November 12, 2022
at 5:30 p.m.
For an Evening of
FUN AND FELLOWSHIP?

You can now get your **TICKETS** for the
Taste and Talent Revue at
Clubhouse Pizza or
The Cutting Edge in Holgate or
Purchase you ticket any Sunday Morning
Before or After Service

Meal and Revue - \$20.00

Carryout Only - \$12.00



Don't forget, We are still looking for
all that Good Talent out there.
We would like to know as soon as possible
so we can start organizing the show.

Please see
Millie Holzer, Jeri Hoellrich,
Norma Nagel, Van Huber
or Sue Abshire

Proceeds to go the Heating Fund



Fall Soup/Dessert Fundraiser

November 13, 2022

After Worship and
Congregational Meeting

Come and Enjoy

30 Soups And 30 Desserts

Freewill Donation

Proceeds To
The Heating Fund



LOOKING
FOR.....

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 13.

There is a sign-up sheets located in the gathering area. Your participation (by donating soups and desserts, and by attending the event) will help pay for our new heating system.



"Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members

Lynn Gilliland

will celebrate his
80th Birthday
on October 1

1778 Chinook Trail Ct.
Defiance, OH 43512-3498

Janice Rettig

will celebrate her
81st Birthday
on October 7

K402 County Rd 14
Napoleon, OH 43545-9522

Forrest Clady

will celebrate his
81st Birthday
on October 19

16234 Charleston Ave.
Ft. Myers, FL33908-3522

Ruth Medina

will celebrate her
81st Birthday
on October 20

226 S. Turkeyfoot Ave
Malinta, OH 43535-9709

George Medina

will celebrate his
87th Birthday
on October 21

226 S Turkeyfoot Ave
Malinta, OH 43535-9709

Gloria Zimmerman

will celebrate her
92nd Birthday
on October 22

5141 Emory Oak Cir Apt 514
Bessemer, AL 35022-5477



OCTOBER

10 - 1	Lynn Gilliland	10 - 15	Carol Lulfs
10 - 2	Brian Rees	10 - 15	Alexia Roberts
10 - 2	Denton Waisner	10 - 17	Mark Vajen
10 - 5	Diana Evers	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 - 20	Ruth Medina
10 - 7	Timothy Eberly	10 - 21	George Medina
10 - 8	Christopher Clady	10 - 21	Steve Waisner
10 - 12	Beth Waisner	10 - 22	Gloria Zimmerman
10 - 12	Janet Hoffman	10 - 24	Delaney Hall
10 - 12	Rick Fruth	10 - 25	Gary Watson
10 - 14	John Huber	10 - 26	Caleb Franz
10 - 14	Lyndon Dietrich	10 - 27	Jacob Clark
		10 - 28	Peggy Rettig
		10 - 30	Kailey Cutlip

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.)



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 419-592-0589
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 16, 2022**
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 ARTICLES**



October Mission

HOUSE OF RUTH
Domestic violence shelter
for women and children

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.nwoa.org, www.heartlanducc.org and www.ucc.org.