

SEE INSERT FOR AGENDA, SLATE OF OFFICERS AND PROPOSED BUDGET  
Nov. 14 – Congregational meeting following worship  
Soup and Dessert Luncheon will follow

Join us in thanking Pastor Orr and Sharon for their time with us  
Dec. 3 from 4:30-7 pm – Reception for Pastor and Sharon Orr Retirement

November 24 at 7 pm  
Community Thanksgiving  
Service @ St. John's

December 5 at 7 pm  
Siberian Solstice Concert

From the Pastor – pages 2-3  
Retirement Reception – page 5  
Search Team Update – page 15  
Church Photo Directory – page 16  
Kids' Corner – purple pages  
Birthdays – pages 26-27



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 Election Day SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food 7pm - Spiritual Council	3 6:30pm - CardioDrumming	4 5:45pm - Finance Team @ 6:30pm - Search team	5	6
7 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - CE Board 7pm - Deacons	8 12pm - Red Cross Blood 7pm - Consistory Zoom	9	10 6:30pm - CardioDrumming	11	12	13 3pm - FH Reserved for
14 9am - Confirmation 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Congregational 11:45am - Soup/Dessert 12:30pm - Shalom	15	16 SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food	17 6:30pm - CardioDrumming	18 1:30pm - Vancrest service	19	20
21 9am - Sunday 9:30am - Newsletter 10:15am - Worship 2pm - Wilma Rettig	22	23 9am - Newsletter mailing	24 6:30pm - CardioDrumming 7pm - Community	25 Office closed Thanksgiving Day	26	27
28 9am - Confirmation 9am - Sunday 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation	29	30	1	2	3	4

# The Sentinel

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

NOVEMBER 2021

## Please Contact us at --

Office Hours: 8-12 Monday - Friday  
Church Phone: (419) 264-4401  
Pastor David Orr - Cell Phone: 419-966-2781  
Parsonage Phone: 419-264-5201  
Parsonage Address: 13039 Co Rd J, Holgate, OH 43527  
Church e-mail : [holgateucc@metalink.net](mailto:holgateucc@metalink.net)  
Pastor e-mail: [stjohnpastor@metalink.net](mailto:stjohnpastor@metalink.net)  
Financial Administrator e-mail - Kristine Maas: [stjohnfinadmin@metalink.net](mailto:stjohnfinadmin@metalink.net)  
Newsletter Editor e-mail: [radurham703@bright.net](mailto:radurham703@bright.net)  
Church Website: [www.stjohnsuccholgate.com](http://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 Bell Choir 7:00 p.m.  
Sanctuary TBA

## In This Issue

November Calendar.....Inside Mailing Cover

From The Pastor.....	2,3	Church Photo Directory.....	16
Notes From The Consistory Pres.....	4,5	Save The Dates.....	16
Pastor Orr Retirement Reception.....	5	SHALOM Christmas.....	17
Positive Things Seen and Heard.....	6	Note From The Office.....	17
Special Congregational Meeting.....	6	Message About Stewardship.....	18
Vancrest Worship Service.....	6	Sacrament Of Baptism.....	19
Consistory Highlights.....	7	Daylight Savings Time Ends.....	19
Mask Information.....	7	November Mission.....	20,21
Worship Service (Facebook).....	7	Thank You.....	21
Spiritual Council.....	8	Mission And Stewardship Team.....	22
Deacon's Bench.....	9	Sale Of Adjacent Farm Land.....	22
From The Pulpit.....	10	Trustees Report.....	23
November Worship Participants.....	11	Chief Supermarket Receipts.....	23
From The SHALOM Pantry.....	11	C.E. Board Highlights.....	24,25
Prayer Chain.....	12	Decorating Team Meeting.....	25
Shut Ins.....	13	80+ Birthdays.....	26
Financial Summary.....	14	50+ Anniversaries.....	26
Purple Page.....	Kids Corner	November Birthdays.....	27
Purple....Fall Soup - Dessert Fundraiser		Prayer Chain Contacts.....	Back Cover
Congregational Meeting.....	15	Meeting Information.....	Back Cover
Search Team Update.....	15	Newsletter Deadline.....	Back Cover
		Missions Schedule.....	Back Cover

## Ten Things I Love About St. John's

*I have not stopped giving thanks for you,  
remembering you in my prayers.  
- Ephesians 1:16*



During my years as your pastor, I have seen many wonderful qualities in St. John's UCC. Here are a few.

**Caring** - There is a spirit of genuine care and concern in this congregation. It extends beyond church members to include our whole community. Sharon and I have experienced this and have been richly blessed by all the kindness you have shown us.

**Generosity** - I can't count the number of times I have said, "If there is a need, I am sure that someone from St. John's will meet it." Every time a need arises, that has been the case. Christmas hams for Shalom, new Bibles for the pews, repairs for the boilers, help after natural disasters, it all is given freely and joyfully. Even when the pandemic kept us from coming together, you remembered to mail in tithes and offerings.

**Tradition** - St. John's is blessed with a rich heritage that is passed on from generation to generation. Worship is valued, forbearers are remembered, service is honored, Christ is celebrated, and children are nurtured. While valuing these traditions, the church is not tradition bound but is open to new ideas and practices that enhance life together.

**Service** - St. John's has an admirable commitment to service. It is shown through Shalom, Mission to Go, and mission and service trips. It is quietly expressed in the way members reach out to help each other. This commitment energizes the entire being of the congregation and follows the example that Jesus set for us.

**Diversity** - The church includes people with a variety of perspectives and commitments. Members aren't required to think alike or agree on every theological point. The congregation is enriched and strengthened by differences as well as by the things that are held in common.

**Continued on Page 3**

## Ten Things I Love About St. John's

*I have not stopped giving thanks for you,  
remembering you in my prayers.  
- Ephesians 1:16*



### Continued From Page 2

**Transparency** - When I first came to St. John's, you told me of your recommitment to transparency and openness. I have been impressed with how often Consistory and other leadership teams take time to consider how to get input from the congregation, to hear minority views, and to communicate plans clearly.

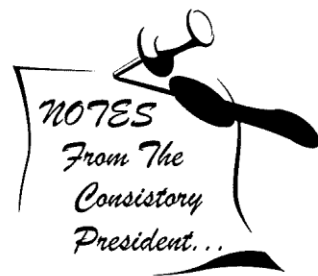
**Responsibility** - Rev. Sather told me that St. John's is made up of "people who know their job and do it." As a pastor, I have been amazed at the number of things I haven't had to give a second thought because they are taken care of. Needs are almost always met before anyone has a chance to mention them.

**Respect** - As a pastor, I greatly appreciate the respect and trust I have experienced at St. John's. No one has shown anger or hostility. Everyone has been unflinching kind. You have always given my perspectives your careful attention and thoughtful consideration.

**Partnership** - At St. John's, the partnership between congregation and pastor is not a lofty ideal that is seldom realized. It is a constant reality. Burdens do not rest on one or another individual but are shared and those who bear them are supported by those they serve.

I am constantly thankful for you.

*Your partner in Christ's work,  
Pastor David*



## NOVEMBER MEMORIES

November is an important month in my life. *First*, I would not be here at St. John's if I had not become Mrs. James Rettig on November 16, 1974. It is difficult for me to believe that it has been forty-seven years this month! *Second*, November is National Adoption Awareness Month. This is when I celebrate how my life has been enriched by the adoption of our daughter, Michelle, in 1986, and our son, Christopher, in 1988. My mind drifts back to the days that our children were baptized here at St. John's. What a glorious day we celebrated as each of our children were enfolded in the love of our faith family!

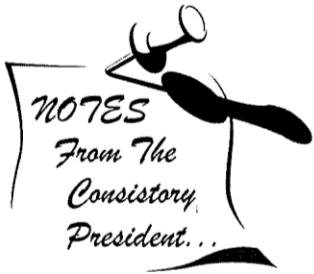
But with wonderful memories that resurface during this month, also a sad time comes to my memory. A year ago this month, Jim and his siblings lost their mother, Wilma. Wilma lived a long life. It was not easy dealing with the pandemic, and adding Wilma's death, into the mix.

Well, this past year, Bob, Jim, Carol and Doug have had the task of cleaning out Wilma's house. Having lived in the same home since August of 1957, Wilma and Dallas had many years of life's "things" that come into the home. Records, bills, cards...I think you can picture this scene, especially if you have had to do this type of task. Jim and his family passed around memorabilia among themselves, so that all could share in the history of so many years of marriage and life in general.

Here is a tidbit of what they found. As Consistory President I found it quite interesting and wanted to share it with you. It is from the May, 1961 "St. John's Visitor", the name of the newsletter at that time. It caught my eye because of the relevance it has even today. Here is the article, but I cannot give credit to the author because none was indicated.

**Continued On Page 5**





## NOVEMBER MEMORIES

Continued From Page 4

### *"A Word of Appreciation"*

"It too often happens that we give little recognition to the people who handle the financial and supervisory affairs of the congregation. On the Consistory, we have a fine group of conscientious persons who give a great deal of time and concern to the important tasks before them. They are always aware of the responsibility that is theirs. Knowing that they cannot please all, they do attempt to keep the best interests of the church always before them. Many of them have stated: they did not realize how much was involved until they were elected to this office. Whenever we have the opportunity, let us commend them, encourage them, and take an interest in their important work."

Wow...that was written SIXTY YEARS AGO! But look how relevant it is today! As a third-year member of Consistory about to complete my term, I understand so well what this says. Please...as we prepare for new leadership in our congregation, consider how you could serve our church and how you could support those who do.

*Christine Rettig, Consistory President*

### *Retirement Reception for Pastor Orr*

*Friday, December 3, 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.*

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate this milestone in his life as we wish Pastor Orr and Sharon the best in their future.

**Appetizer/Dessert Buffet** served from 4:30 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.

**Program** to begin around 6:00 p.m.

**Mark your calendar**, and we look forward to seeing everyone!



## *Positive Things Seen and Heard from the Congregation and Consistory*

1. Glad to see folks in the sanctuary again.
2. Grateful to the Tech Team for their work with the new camera system.
3. Thankful for the great attendance at Sunday School.
4. Grateful for the people that manage Shalom and have the adequate food to give to clients.

### **Special Congregational Meeting**

Please plan to attend the **Special Congregational Meeting** on **November 14**. Items for discussion and vote include **election** of Elders, Deacons, CE Board and delegates to begin terms in January 2022, as well as discussion and approval of a **budget** for 2022.

Your input and support of the **proposed budget** is important, especially as we prepare to call a new settled pastor.

We also hope to be able to provide several **informational updates**. Following this brief meeting, you will be able to go directly to the Fellowship Hall to enjoy the Soup and Dessert luncheon. Free-will offerings will go toward sending our kids to Confirmation Camp.



*VanCrest of Holgate  
Worship Service*

*Thursday, November 18  
at 1:30 P.M.*

*Angel Choir Needed!*



## CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

October 11, 2021

- Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as written.
- Motion to accept the nominating team’s list of candidates for 2022.
- Motion to accept the mission schedule as noted for 2022.
- Motion to remove the water cooler and make bottled water available.
- Motion to transfer money from the Payroll Protection account into the operating fund to cover the cost for Sanctuary/Bell choir director and accompanist.
- Motion to allow the Confirmation class to have the sale of cheese balls.
- Motion to accept the Financial reports pending audit.
- Motion to gather the group that worked on recommendations for use of the pipeline money to research and develop long-term recommendation for heating and cooling systems to bring to Consistory and eventually to Annual Meeting for congregational vote.

*Respectfully submitted, Maggie Prigge*

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***Henry County Health Department now recommends that everyone wear masks when indoors in public settings regardless of vaccination status. Please use your best judgment to protect yourself and others while in the building.***

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Our worship service will be 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/St.JohnsUCCHolgate](https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnsUCCHolgate)

This allows those who wish to worship from home to join with others virtually at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays. The service is also recorded, so you can watch it at your convenience.



## Spiritual Council

Meeting Excerpts

October 10, 2021

Present: Pastor, David Orr      Communion: Betty (Bob) Rettig (2022)  
 Head Elder: Betty (Don) Rettig (2022)  
 Visitation: Maggie Prigge (2024)      Scribe: Pam Desgranges (2023)  
 Membership: Rick Fruth (2023)      Confirmation: Kevin Waisner (2024)

Our meeting began with Pastor Orr leading us in prayer and discussing congregational concerns. All Elders were present except Rick Fruth who was traveling. Pastor’s report was given. Vancrest services have resumed. We are making plans for Totenfest on Sunday, November 7, and a Community Thanksgiving Service is scheduled at St John’s UCC for Wednesday, November 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor is planning a farewell type of service on Sunday, December 19. He is planning to share some personal things during worship. Also there will be a Transitional Sunday on December 26 with a blessing on the congregation and Pastor and Sharon This will end his ministry here at St. John’s.

Pastor David Voll has accepted our call to be our Interim Pastor. He is scheduled to begin worship with us in mid-January.

**Upcoming Communion Dates:**

November 7, All Saints/Totenfest,  
December 5, and December 24 – Christmas Eve.

Meeting closed with prayer.

**Next Meeting** is November 2 at 7:00 p.m.

*Pam Desgranges, Scribe*



## DEACONS' BENCH

October 10, 2021  
Lori Clady, Scribe

**Those in attendance:** Christine Rettig (21), Lori Clady (21), \*Christopher Clady (21), John Hahn (22), Rick Desgranges (22), Amanda Rettig (22), Pat Kirk (23), Ron Hoellrich (23), Jeri Hoellrich (23)

Christopher Clady brought the meeting to order

With permission of the chair, Betty (Bob) Rettig gave an update to the Deacons regarding an Interim Pastor for St. John's until a settled pastor is found by the search committee. She then exited the zoom meeting.

Christine Rettig moved to accept the October minutes,  
Rick Desgranges seconded. Motion carried.

### Old Business:

Acolyte schedule filled for October, November and December with the exception of Communion Sundays and Christmas Eve. Christopher Clady will work on those items.

Soup and Dessert Luncheon – November 14. Sign up sheet in the gathering area.

Congregational Meeting in Sanctuary before the luncheon.

### New Business:

Deacon schedule for November was filled.  
11/7 – Amanda Rettig and Christine Rettig  
11/14 – Rick Desgranges and Pat Kirk  
11/21 – Ron and Jeri Hoellrich  
11/28 – Christopher and Lori Clady

### Ministry Liasons:

**Technology Team** – New cameras up and running

**Mission and Stewardship** – Mission focus for 2022 ready for Consistory approval.

**Decorating** - Poinsettias will be for sale – sign up forms in box – pay by check.

Christine Rettig moved to adjourn the meeting, and Pat Kirk seconded. Meeting Adjourned.

**Next Meeting** – Sunday, November 7, 2021, via Zoom

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



### November 7 - All Saints Sunday/Totenfest - Communion

Hebrews 9:24-28

*On Our Behalf*

Jesus is our advocate with God, saving all who trust in him.

### November 14 - Veteran's Sunday

Mark 13:1-8

*Wars and Rumors of War*

While brave men and women defend the nation,  
Christ bids us to trust in a future that is  
beyond our sight.

### November 21 - Thanksgiving Sunday

Reign of Christ

John 18:33-37

*A Different Kind of King*

The reign of Christ cannot be perceived with  
worldly eyes.

### November 24, 7:00 p.m. at St. John's UCC Holgate Community Thanksgiving



Matthew 6:25-33

*Godly Thanksgiving*

The blessings of God extend far  
beyond food, drink, clothing,  
and long life.



### November 28 - First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16

*The Improbable Promise of God*

In the darkest hours of the past and in these  
troubled times, God gives hope.



## NOVEMBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

USHERS	ACOLYTES	DEACONS
Nov. 7	Ethan Saneholtz	Amanda Rettig Christine Rettig
Nov. 14	Zoe Lulfs	Rick Desgranges Pat Kirk
Nov. 21	Nick Evers	Ron Hoellrich Jeri Hoellrich
Nov. 28	Ethan Saneholtz	Christopher Clady Lori Clady



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...**

- Diane Dietsch's Husband Lee** stage 4 lung cancer (Diane is a former Shalom Volunteer)
- Norma Eldridge** in hospice at her daughter's home
- Sue Meyer (Marie Eberle's daughter)** thyroid cancer spread to lungs
- Janell Honeck** doing rehab following surgery to repair a broken hip - **see note below**
- Jacob Harmon** (half-brother of Andy Borck) able to walk with a cane now
- Tim Meyer** continued testing

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 procedures**

- 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.

Janell Honeck's daughter Juli Goetz has informed us that Janell fell on September 3 and broke her hip. She had surgery and spent several days in the hospital before going to a rehab hospital for two weeks of intensive therapy. She has returned home and continues therapy there. She is not texting or taking phone calls right now but does enjoy cards. Address: is 6400 Oilfield Rd Apt 236, Sugar Land, TX 77479.

### **Sympathies to:**

**Larry and Darlene Hockman, Pam and Rick Desgranges, Pat Kirk, Peggy Rettig, Cheryl Woodring, Cindy and Tom Baker and their families** on the passing of Larry's brother Jim (Roy) Hockman on October 11.



FROM  
THE SHALOM  
FOOD PANTRY

### FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - September 2021

#### INCOME

St. John's August Giving	\$ 720.00
Memorial Donations	400.00
Memorial Donations	390.00
Emanuel's Christian Church	170.00
Pleasant Bend UMC	113.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,793.00</b>

*Submitted by Norma Nagel*



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

**NURSING HOMES**

**INDIAN MEADOWS NURSING HOME**, 303 West Leggett,  
Wauseon, OH 43567  
*Thelma Breece*

**THE LUTHERAN HOME**, 1036 S. Perry Street, Napoleon, OH 43545  
*Sue Mohr - #116A*

**NORTHCREST**, 240 Northcrest Dr., Napoleon, OH 43545  
*Don Huber - #107*

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

**ASSISTED LIVING**

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

**VANCREST NURSING HOME**, 600 Joe E. Brown, Holgate, OH 43527  
*Marlene Rettig - #33*

**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
Shirley Huber	E251 St. Rt 108	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

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY  
SEPTEMBER REPORT**

ST JOHNS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Summary  
Fund: GENERAL FUND  
September 2021

Accounts	SEPTEMBER 2021 ACTUAL	2021 ACTUAL YTD	2021 ANNUAL BUDGET
<b>OPERATING BUDGET INCOME</b>			
Total OPERATING BUDGET INCOME	\$17,473.75	\$134,820.75	\$211,835.69
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Total BUILDING & MAINTENANCE	\$3,096.78	\$24,139.09	\$39,000.00
Total MINISTRIES	\$99.91	\$2,893.30	\$7,800.00
Total MISSIONS	\$537.50	\$4,837.50	\$6,950.00
Total ADMINISTRATION	\$4,953.46	\$44,621.93	\$64,565.51
Total PASTORIAL	\$5,781.40	\$60,224.97	\$93,520.18
Total EXPENSES	\$14,469.05	\$136,716.79	\$211,835.69
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$3,004.70</b>	<b>(\$1,896.04)</b>	
Operating Checking Account Balance as of 9/30/21			\$ 24,198.17
Mission Giving:			
SHALOM	\$	740.00	
NEIGHBORS IN NEED	\$	610.00	
MISSION TO GO	\$	100.00	
CROSSROAD	\$	100.00	

## Congregational Meeting

November 14, 2021

Following worship



**Happening  
November 14**

The only items on the Agenda will be:

- Election of Elders, Deacons, Christian Education Board Members and Delegates
- Approval of the proposed budget for 2022.

The Fall Soup and Dessert Meal will follow the meeting. Proceeds to the Confirmation Camp Fund.



## Search Team Update

The Search Team and St. John's Consistory are excited to announce that **Pastor David Voll** has accepted our call to be Interim Pastor at St. John's beginning in January.

Some people may remember Pastor Voll from when he served St. John's in Archbold. He was Pastor at St. Paul's UCC in Oak Harbor until being called to Interim Ministry. He will finish his commitment at Trinity UCC in Tiffin at the end of 2021.

Calling Pastor Voll will allow the Search Team time to find the right person to be called as our settled pastor without feeling pressured to fill this important position. Pastor Voll and his wife Janise will join us in January.

## Church Photo Directory



**Photo Directory** – We are working to update our photo directory – the last one was published pre-COVID. It will be nice to have pictures of new folks and especially to have pictures of our kids as they change so quickly.

Pastor and Sharon Orr will certainly enjoy being able to look back at these pictures and having up-to-date pictures of folks will help Pastor Voll and Janise to learn faces to go with names.

If you have digital pictures you can send to the church email at [holgateucc@metalink.net](mailto:holgateucc@metalink.net), that would be ideal.

Linda Arreguin, Jim Rettig and Betty (Bob) Rettig will be available to take pictures before and after worship.

Please keep in mind that photos will be reduced to a 2" square.

Photos need to be received **no later than December 1** to be included in this edition.

## Save the Dates

**November 14 After Worship - Congregational Meeting**

**November 14 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Fall Soup and Dessert Luncheon**

**December 3 from 4:30-7 p.m. – Reception for Pastor and Sharon Orr Retirement**

**December 5 - 7 p.m. – Siberian Solstice Concert**



## SHALOM CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY

We will be operating the Shalom Christmas Giveaway as we do each year. Because of the continued presence of COVID and the support of our congregation and our supporting churches, **we will not be asking for food donations or extra funds to buy the food items to be given away.**

**We do, however, still need your support in purchasing the gifts for the kids** of the families we will be helping with Christmas this year. We will have the gift tags out on the boards Sunday, November 14, for you to pick to purchase gifts for the children.

We ask that you wrap the gifts with wrapping paper, put the gift tags on the outside of the gifts, and **bring them back to the church no later than Sunday, December 12.** Our pack up night will be the night of the December 12 with the giveaway being Tuesday, December 14 from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

We appreciate your continued support of our local mission, the Shalom Food Pantry!

*The SHALOM Team*



If you leave things in the office, please put a note on the item(s) indicating who it is from so we can follow up if there are questions and what you want the office folks to do with the item(s). Thank You!

## *A Message about Stewardship*



As the 2021 Consistory President, Deacon, and Consistory liaison to the Mission and Stewardship Team, I have been deeply involved in the finances and stewardship aspect of St. John's this past year. And as a friend of Rev. Lenore Kure, pastor of First Congregational UCC, Sandusky, I wanted to share a message which she shared with her faith family earlier this year in their church newsletter.

As my husband Jim has been working with his siblings in clearing out their parents home, so Lenore has been doing the same following the death of her mother earlier this year. Lenore found a handwritten note of her mother's on which was written "my favorite poem". The poem has a message that I felt would be wonderful to share with all of you, especially at this time of year when we are considering our budget for the next year ways each of us can share our time and talents. The poem was written by Grace Crowell (1877-1969), a popular American poet. Even though this poem was written long ago, it rings true throughout the ages.

### ***The Stewardship of Giving***

God loaned me a life and I must pay  
Him back a portion of each day.  
In loving service, I must give a part of every day  
I live in thoughtful, kindly deeds to others  
who are my sisters and brothers.  
God loaned me coins I cannot spend  
for any wasteful, selfish end.  
They are a trust that I must hold  
as sacred as all the world's bright gold.  
They belong to him and in my spending,  
I must repay his gracious lending.  
God put his love within my heart,  
a love I ever must impart  
to a world in desperate need of care.  
All things God gave me, I must share.  
This is the Stewardship of living;  
a spontaneous and a joyous giving.

*Christine Rettig*



**Ellis Emerson Moyer**

October 17, 2021

**Parents:** Ashley and Taylor Moyer

**Grandparents:** Bill and Jackie Moyer,  
Rob and Kris Lawson

**Great-grandparents:** Jean Keller,  
Barney Zimmer, and Claris Lawson.



**Amelia Sue Waisner**

October 17, 2021

**Parents:** Denton and Wendy Waisner

**Godparents:** Adrienne Waisner, and Matt Hendrix

**Grandparents:** Theresa and Kurt Wilhelm,  
Kevin and Beth Waisner

**Great-grandparents:** Don and Suzi Slight,  
Jim and Sue Waisner,  
Bob and Judy Wilhelm.



*Mission and  
Stewardship*



**ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN  
NOVEMBER MISSION**

**The Beginning**

In 1992, Rev. Ray S. Wilke, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Norfolk, Neb., volunteered with a group of Lutherans who traveled to Latvia and Russia to help with a church mission. There they met people with "no hope" in desperate need of spiritual, emotional, and humanitarian aid after the breakup of the former Soviet Union. The Latvians begged Rev. Wilke to help them more after he went home and he promised he would. Wilke envisioned a train that would travel through America's Midwest, picking up cars of donated grain along the way, until it reached a port from which the grain would be shipped to feed starving orphans in Eastern Europe. Upon his return to the United States, Wilke contacted Clayton Andrews, president of Andrews Van Lines and told his story. Together, they founded Orphan Grain Train. The railroad operating protocol made the original grain train concept impractical, but Orphan Grain Train was born nonetheless. Within a year OGT's first shipment, a container of clothing and quilts, arrived in Riga, Latvia.

**Present Day**

Since 1992, Orphan Grain Train's 29 regional locations have delivered more than 36 million meals and 3,973 shipments of humanitarian aid to needy people in several states and 69 countries on 5 continents. Orphan Grain Train built a mobile chapel with help from a grant funded by LCMS Disaster Relief. In October 2017 hurricane Michael ravaged the shoreline of Texas and a majority of Houston. Orphan Grain Train purchased and delivered 15 shipments of building construction materials and 5 semi-loads of groceries to help stock shelves in a food pantry. OGT also had 400 turkeys delivered for Thanksgiving meals in October of 2018 to families still rebuilding after the hurricane devastation.



**TURN YOUR  
CLOCKS  
BACK!**

**Daylight Savings  
Time  
Ends  
NOVEMBER 7**

*Continued On Page 21*



*Mission and Stewardship*



**ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN  
NOVEMBER MISSION**

*Continued From Page 20*

**Locally**

The mission of Orphan Grain Train is uniquely dependent upon dedicated volunteers, many of whom have given numerous years of service for the sake of others. The OGT's local warehouse is located at 500 Independence Dr., Napoleon, Ohio. OGT accepts many different types of donations. Some popular donations include: gently used or new clothing all kinds and sizes, household items that are clean in good working condition and all parts must be included, as well as blankets, sheets, towels, wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, crutches, canes, bicycles, children's books and toys, and also Bibles.

The average cost of shipping a box of donated goods is \$10 while the average cost of shipping a semi-load of donations overseas is \$9,000. Monetary donations are greatly appreciated as they help to defer shipping costs.

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*Thank You*

Thank You to everybody for your well wishes and cards following my recent knee surgery. I'm getting along fine now.

*Cindy Mengerink*

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Thanks for the cards and prayers while I had COVID recently. I'm doing better, and all of your well wishes were really appreciated.

*Patricia Rettig*

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Thank you to the St. John's Faith Family for the generous monetary gift to help with Zach's expenses. Thank you even more for the prayers for Zach and his family. Please continue to pray for them.

*Zach Waisner and family*



*Mission and Stewardship Team Message*



The Mission and Stewardship Team met on Sunday, September 19, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

Team chair Adam Stevenson presided at the meeting. Other members present were Chad Lulfs, Chris Coppes, Jim Rettig, Rachel Thomas, and Nancy Thomas. Christine Rettig was present as the Consistory liaison.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

The members reviewed the remaining Mission Focus months of the year. Members were given assistance in finding information to explain the Mission Focus for each month.

Discussion was held regarding the Mission Focus for the months of 2022. Members shared possible projects as a Mission Focus, and rationale for the inclusion of that particular mission. By consensus vote, the 2022 Mission Focus months schedule was planned. Christine Rettig will take the proposed Mission Focus schedule for 2022 to the October Consistory meeting for approval. Chad Lulfs will take responsibility for the January Mission Focus.

**The next meeting** will be on Sunday, December 12, 2021, with new members invited to the meeting.

*Jim Rettig, Scribe*

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**Sale Of Adjacent Farm Land**

Many folks have seen the auction signs on the farm adjacent to the church. We are **currently negotiating with the family for the purchase of land** for future needs as has been discussed at congregational meetings in the past. We will update the congregation when we are free to discuss the details.



## Trustees Report October

The water system had Preventative Maintenance this week. However, the service tech forgot to turn the water supply back on so there was no water in the church the next day. Thanks to Earl Abshire we figured it out soon. Thanks to Rory Prigge for continuing taking care of our water samples.

Earl Mechanical serviced the boilers for the Winter start up. One boiler was not working last Spring. Possible problem was a leak that prevented the flame to light properly. As of this writing we are watching for the leak to reappear. Options depend on the leak, where it is and how bad.

Consistory has commissioned a team to make recommendations to Consistory and congregation at the annual meeting in January

*Greg*

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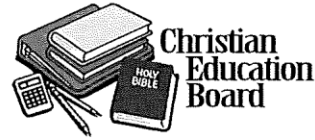
### CHIEF SUPERMARKET RECEIPTS

The Shalom food pantry has had a long-standing fundraiser through the Chief Supermarket. Chief returns a portion of the receipts in the form of a donation to our food pantry.

For a number of years, Marlene Rettig has been in charge of that project, and we thank her for her service. Well, the time has come that Marlene is retiring, and we are pleased to announce that Carol Lulfs has agreed to take over the position.

Carol will be taking the many receipts that are brought into the church, tabulating totals, and submitting the paperwork to Chief.

Once again, thank you to Marlene for her many years of service, and thank you Carol for stepping up to serve Shalom by doing this important task.

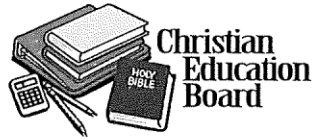


## Highlights September 19, 2021 Submitted By Caryn Lulfs

In attendance: Diana Evers, Caryn Lulfs, Franell Nelson, Katie Borck, Consistory liaison, Chris Rettig.

- Diana opened the meeting with prayer.
- First Sunday School classes were held today. Opening video did not work. Diana is going to check to see if our digital download includes a digital download for the opening. The leader's guide needs to be re-organized in the binders so that it is easier to find lesson materials. Glue needed in grade 1-4 classroom. Chris will get two clocks and put one in the grade 1-4 classroom. We had a great turnout today for our first sessions.
- Franell decorated a box for the Crossroad donations. We have not had any donations yet, and the children were reminded of what to bring next time.
- **Adult Sunday School book reimbursement** was discussed. It was decided that Jerry Evers will be reimbursed through the CEB account. If individuals want to reimburse the church for their books they can do that. Each book was \$14.99. There is an issue with the exercise balls being stored in the Chapel. This only occurs if there is an event in the Fellowship Hall. We discussed some options, but could not come up with an available space in the church to store them. We tabled this for the time being.
- We decided to keep **Trunk or Treat** every other year, which means that next year we will have it again.
- **Soup and Dessert Luncheon** will be held on November 14, 2021, after church. Confirmation students will help with this. After the luncheon they will be shopping for SHALOM Christmas presents.

**Continued On Page 25**



**Highlights**  
September 19, 2021  
Submitted By Caryn Lulfs

**Continued From Page 24**

- **Sunday School Christmas Program** will be on December 12, 2021. The children's nativity "A Savior is Born" will be practiced on the three Sundays during the Sunday School hour. The teachers have been told and will be reminded of the shortened time for teaching on those Sundays. Sue and Greg will be working with the children on some Christmas Carols to be sung as part of the program, if we are allowed to have the children sing as a group at that time. We will have parents fill out a form in October telling us if their children will be in the program. We will assign parts after we get a list of who will be there.
- **Potato Bake** will be held on March 20, 2022. This helps to fund the youth SHALOM Shopping. Kids will be asked to bring potato toppings.
- **Board members** were discussed. Chris was asked to join for two years. She said she would think about it and get back to us.
- **Next meeting** will be October 10 after church.
- Meeting was adjourned.



**Decoration Team will meet**  
**at 6:00 p.m. on**  
**Monday, November 29**  
to prepare the church  
for the Christmas Season

*Thanks, Christine*



*"Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members*

**Delores Willamson**

will celebrate her  
85th Birthday  
on November 5

565 Rohm Dr  
Napoleon, OH 43545

**Gib Sonnenberg**

will celebrate his  
94th Birthday  
on November 18

1162 Chelsea Ave  
Napoleon, OH 43545

**Bernard Zimmer**

will celebrate his  
94th Birthday  
on November 25

1040 S Perry St Apt. 37  
Napoleon, OH 43545

**Fred and Thelma Breece**

will celebrate their  
67th Wedding Anniversary  
on November 14

17952 Co Rd G1  
Holgate, OH 43527



**Robert and Betty Rettig**

will celebrate their  
50th Wedding Anniversary  
on November 20

12103 Co. Rd. L  
Napoleon, OH 43545-6565



# NOVEMBER

- |         |                     |         |                    |
|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| 11 - 3  | Shane Eberle        | 11 - 14 | Benjamin Thomas    |
| 11 - 3  | Harold (Gene) Brown | 11 - 14 | Leslie Dietrich    |
| 11 - 3  | Caryn Lulfs         | 11 - 17 | Robert Eberle      |
| 11 - 5  | Delores Williamson  | 11 - 18 | Gilbert Sonnenberg |
| 11 - 6  | Shanna Sidle        | 11 - 18 | Kathy Finkenbiner  |
| 11 - 7  | Emilio Medina       | 11 - 21 | Jeff Stevenson     |
| 11 - 9  | Ron Hoellrich       | 11 - 22 | Nick Davis         |
| 11 - 10 | Gweneth Erman       | 11 - 22 | Brooke Eberly      |
| 11 - 10 | Doug Armbruster     | 11 - 22 | Nathan Meller      |
| 11 - 10 | Krista Lawson       | 11 - 25 | Bernard Zimmer     |
| 11 - 11 | Lori Clady          | 11 - 25 | Jillian Clady      |
| 11 - 12 | Brian Tilse         | 11 - 27 | Amy Franz          |
| 11 - 12 | Julie Rees          | 11 - 28 | Sydney Lawson      |
| 11 - 13 | Gabriel Roberts     | 11 - 30 | Owen Fry           |

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 **DECEMBER**

Newsletter is **Sunday, November 14, 2021**

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**



**November Mission**

**Orphan Grain Train**

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](http://www.nwoa.org), [www.heartlanducc.org](http://www.heartlanducc.org) and [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org).