



### **Holy Week Services**

April 2 – 10:15 am Palm Sunday

April 6 – Maundy Thursday – 6:30 pm Simple Meal  
7 pm Worship/Communion

April 7 – Good Friday service @ St. John's 7 pm

April 9 – 7 am Easter Sunrise Worship/Communion  
8 am Breakfast  
9 am Easter Egg Hunt  
10:15 am Easter Worship/Communion

From Pastor Dave's Desk – pages 2-3  
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Graduates – page 13  
Reception for Pastor Voll – page 20  
Birthdays – pages 26 and 35  
Photo Directory – page 28  
Rummage Sale – page 29

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 12pm - Hold FH for Ben/Taryn
2 Palm Sunday 9am - Confirmation II 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship Palm Sunday 11:30am - Confirmation II	3 6:30pm - Spiritual Council	4 SHALOM Delivery in am 3:30pm - Setup for Maundy 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry	5 9am - Sit & Fit-NO CLASS 7pm - Sanctuary choir	6 Maundy Thursday 6:30pm - Simple Meal 7pm - Worship with Communion	7 5pm - Set up for Easter 5:30pm - Finance Team 7pm - Good Friday Worship	8 10am - Decorating Team - flowers
9 Easter 7am - Sunrise Worship 8am - Breakfast 9am - Easter Egg Hunt 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation	10 6:15pm - Deacons 7pm - Consistory-Conf.class	11	12 9am - Sit & Fit 7pm - Sanctuary choir	13	14 15 FH set for Ordination Reception	
16 9am - Confirmation II 9am - Sunday School 10am - Newsletter Articles Due 10:15am - Worship-Ordination 11:30am - Confirmation II	17 3pm - FH reserved	18 SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry	19 9am - Sit & Fit 7pm - Sanctuary choir	20	21 22 2pm - FH reserved 10:30am - FH reserved Taryn	
23 9am - Confirmation I 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Confirmation I	24	25 9am - Newsletter mailing 6:30pm - PRC/Search Team	26 9am - Sit & Fit 7pm - Sanctuary choir	27 1:30pm - Vancrest	28	29 FH reserved 8:30am - NWO Assn mtg Wapak
30 9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship-Falth	1	2	3	4	5	6

# The Sentinel

St. John's United Church of Christ  
I-946 St. Rt. 108 Holgate, Ohio 43527  
APRIL 2023

## 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](mailto:holgateucc@metalink.net)  
Pastor e-mail: [pastordave.voll@gmail.com](mailto:pastordave.voll@gmail.com)  
Financial Administrator e-mail - Tyler Rue: [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.

## WORSHIP and ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

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

### Wednesday Night Schedule

Sanctuary Choir

7:00 P.M.

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## "HUMILITY"

Having grown up in a South suburb of Chicago that was near the Indiana state line and having served a UCC church for 11 years in Northwest Indiana, I remember that on any given Sunday in those parts one would see dozens of school buses, some rather rickety looking, bearing the inscription: "First Baptist Church, Hammond, Indiana," and then underneath, "World's Largest Sunday School."

They were probably right. Their fleet of buses, drivers, and mechanics was larger than most school districts. They would pick up kids on regular routes all over the metropolitan area, including the South side of Chicago. Some parents probably liked it because they'd have their Sundays to themselves - free baby-sitting. Kids liked it - they met new friends and had something to do. I heard there were always prizes or giveaways. One year the church distributed live baby chicks at Easter, thousands of them, and got the ASPCA up in arms because of it. What are urban, inner-city, and suburban kids going to do with baby chicks?

First Baptist Church may have done a lot of good with their Sunday School busing program. But the motto "World's Largest Sunday School" was bothersome to many. I remember a Lutheran pastor saying something to the effect: Is the aim of this church to bring children to Christ or is it an ego trip? It seems that they're saying: "We're the First Baptist Church and we're #1, the World's Largest Sunday School. Hooray for us!"

Does this reaction appear overly judgmental? Does this motto better reflect the values of the world, which often focuses on size and fame, rather than on kingdom values?

Continued On Page 3



## “HUMILITY”

*Continued From Page 2*

The end of Lent is here...and with it: Holy Week. For me, this time in the church calendar is a lesson in humility. The humble Christ entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, not on a white charger as a military hero but on a donkey as the sacrificial Saviour of all. The humble Christ washing the disciples' feet in the Upper Room on Maundy Thursday and offering himself as spiritual food in the first Sacrament of Holy Communion. The humble Christ fulfilling the prophecy as the suffering servant on Good Friday. The humble women who found the empty tomb on Easter morning, looking not for a miracle but for a dead friend whose body they would lovingly prepare for burial. But amidst the power-hungry Jewish leaders, the humble Christ and his humble followers realized a victory that was out of this world!

We need to be careful, as a church and as individuals, that we not get caught up in the world's definition of success: size, power, and superiority. For us as Christians, Jesus is our example of victory. By his resurrection he defeated the last and greatest fear of so many: death. And he did it humbly, on a cross. Holy Week was the path that led him there...and beyond.

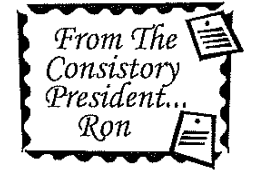
Please take special note of the Holy Week worship services described elsewhere in The Sentinel: Palm Sunday at 10:15 a.m., Maundy Thursday simple meal at 6:30 p.m., worship at 7:00 p.m. and Good Friday (just added) at 7:00 p.m., and Easter Sunday at 7:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. I urge you to attend each of these special days and nights in order to receive the full meaning and blessing from Holy Week.

Let us journey together through Holy Week, to the cross and beyond – to the empty tomb! Come humbly and experience the awe and meaning of our Holy Week services at St. John's.

See you in church!

**Pastor Dave**

## WHERE DOES IT ALL GO?



### Heating

The heating system original cost was \$164,900. Since demolition was done by church volunteers, we received a reduction of \$2,500 from Earl Mechanical. This puts the system cost at \$162,400.

As of February 26, we have generated \$154,872.88 (audit team to confirm) towards the total of \$162,400. Many thanks for your generosity. This gives us an outstanding balance of \$7,527.12.

We (Consistory) cashed in an \$11,025.54 CD that matured with the Henry County Bank last Fall and utilized it to make a payment to Earl Mechanical last November. This dollar amount IS NOT included in the \$154,872.88. The CD money is considered by Consistory to be a loan, with expectations that it will be paid back to ourselves in full.

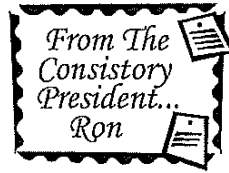
### Roofs

In calendar year 2022, we spent almost \$8,100 in roof repairs. The flat roof was patched and a small area was replaced. We incurred wind damage to the roof on Fellowship Hall and repairs were made. We put a deposit down with Durable Slate to replace 75 slates and repair the flashing on the bell tower.

This year (February) we paid the balance due to Durable Slate of \$7,100. At the last Consistory meeting, a motion was approved to take \$5,000 from the COVID funds to replace more slates. The new slates will be black in color. These will be new as the slates we have been using are reclaimed and new ones of that color are scarce. We plan to continue to work with Durable Slate to replace damaged slates.

*Continued On Page 5*

## WHERE DOES IT ALL GO?



*Continued From Page 4*

### **Parking Lot**

Cracks that were greater than .25 inch were resealed for almost \$1,200.

### **Utilities**

Electricity, propane, internet, phones, etc. cost almost \$28,000 for calendar year 2022.

### **Taxes and Insurance**

\$8,629

### **Office Supplies**

Copier, paper, toner, postage, and other items for calendar year 2022, cost was \$11,000.

As you can see, I have not mentioned any monies for the staff, custodian supplies, Sunday school materials, mission giving, and many more items.

It is amazing that we have, in less than a year, almost amassed the necessary funds to pay for all of the projects and keep the rest of our financial commitments fulfilled.

It takes a huge financial obligation to maintain our facilities, and I commend each and every one of you.

*Ron Hoellrich, 2023 Consistory President*



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

1. Great attendance at Midweek Worship
2. Lots of individuals doing the behind the scenes work of the church
3. Love the Wednesday night Lenten services, soul searching.
4. New faces at Great Potato Bake!
5. Open Discussions at Midweek services were inspiring
6. Joy about having new faces, some returning members, and young families in worship. Our services are full of life and enthusiasm!
7. Thank you to Pastor Dave for the excellent explanation of uses for attendance pad information at 3/12 worship service.
8. Huge Thank you to Norma Nagel for 31 years of service to Cemetery Association



*VanCrest of Holgate  
Worship Service*

*Thursday, April 27  
at 1:30 P.M.  
Singers Needed!*

Pastor Dave will be leading an afternoon chapel service at Vancrest on Thursday, April 27. If you'd like to assist by serving as a lay reader or offering special music (besides our Angel Choir) please let him know.

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

March 13, 2023

Welcome aboard! Tyler Rue is officially our Financial Administrator.

Recommendation to close the line of credit for the Heating Fund at Civista Bank, approved

Motion to pay all but \$10,000 of the bill to Earl's Mechanical for the heating system, approved. The balance is being held until the faulty sensor has been replaced. The delay has been due to supply chain issues.

Recommendation to use \$5,000 from the COVID-19 funds to replace 75 slates on the roof in 2023, as recommended in 2022. On recommendation of the Trustees and Deacons, Consistory agreed to change to new North Country slates which are a true black product rather than continuing to use the reclaimed (used) slates that match the current roof. With pricing being the same for new or used, the decision was to change to the better quality product. If the cost exceeds \$5,000, the balance to be paid from Major Maintenance Funds. Motion approved.

Recommendation for Consistory to take over the Easter Breakfast with the help of the CE Board, with proceeds going to the Summer Faith Family Activities, Approved.

*Respectfully submitted, Maggie Prigge*

## PRESENTATION SUNDAY/FAITH STATEMENTS

On Sunday, April 30, our three Second-Year Confirmands – Nick Evers, Zoe Lulfs, and Ethan Saneholtz – will participate in our worship service, each having written a Faith Statement to present to our Faith Family. This will give the congregation an opportunity to know these young people who will be confirmed on May 14.



# Spiritual Council

## Meeting Excerpts

March 6, 2023

Interim Pastor: Dave Voll	Confirmation: Kevin Waisner (24)
Head Elder: Maggie Prigge (24)	Backup Head Elder: Erick Shank (25)
Scribe: Bob Rettig (26)	Backup Scribe: Kevin Waisner (24)
Communion: Greg Nelson (25)	Asst. Communion: Mike Haldy (26)
Membership/Visitation: Eric Shank (25)	

The meeting opened with Mike Haldy leading devotions. Kevin was on vacation. Maggie was visiting her new granddaughter, but joined us via phone. Congregational concerns included our members who are hospitalized and those anticipating surgery or medical testing.

Pastor's Report was reviewed with no questions or comments.

March Elder of the Month is Mike Haldy. Eric Shank will serve in April. Lenten services on Wednesday evenings will continue until Holy Week when Maundy Thursday worship will be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning with a simple meal at 6:30 and worship at 7:00 with Communion. Communion will not be served on Palm Sunday April 2, but will again be offered on Easter Sunday, April 9.

Pastor reported that the Confirmation program is going well with the second year students on schedule for their interviews with the Spiritual Council on April 16.

There were no updates from last month on the visitation program.

Denton Waisner requested a transfer of membership as he and his family are attending and joining a church in Maumee. Mike moved to grant his request with a second from Greg. The vote was affirmative.

It was decided to bring back the attendance pads used prior to the COVID outbreak to help identify visitors and monitor those attending worship to help maintain accurate membership records. This will be implemented as soon as the logistics of tracking and entering the information into the data base can be arranged.

Pastor presented a letter he had composed to be sent to those members who have not been active in the church for two or more years. The Spiritual Council consented that it be sent out under his signature on behalf of the Council. A return card will be enclosed giving the recipient several options regarding their membership.

Greg reported that 100 persons received Communion on Sunday.

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

The next meeting will be April 3, at 6:30 in the Cornerstone Room.

*Bob Rettig, Scribe*



## DEACONS' BENCH

March 13, 2023  
Jeri Hoellrich, Scribe

### Deacons:

Pat Kirk (23), Ron Hoellrich (23), Jeri Hoellrich (23),  
Carol Medina (24), Kevin Vajen (24), Adam Stevenson (24)  
Chris Coppes (25), Jared Clady (25), Ben Thomas (25)

Kevin Vajen (24), Adam Stevenson (24) Chris Coppes (25), Jared  
Clady (25) Guest: Eric Shank, VP Consistory, filling in in March for  
Ron Hoellrich

Meeting was called to order by Head Deacon, Adam Stevenson.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed, motion to accept, and  
accepted.

### Discussion of Old Business:

Slate Roof - Doug Rettig has made the recommendation (on behalf of  
Trustees) that we switch and use the North Country Slates. They will  
be more noticeable, true black, but they are the same price as the  
reclaimed ones we are currently purchasing. Will last longer than the  
used ones. Don't want to hold out for new slates that match our  
current ones (supplies limited). Durable Slate said there is no coating  
that will protect the slates.

Dividers in Fellowship hall should be removed this month.

### New Business:

CE board has asked the Deacons for help with the Easter breakfast.  
The Deacons have gladly accepted the call and plan to help run the  
event with the CE board.

Insurance for the cemetery was a concern for the church. Looking into  
the situation, we have found that we are already insured.

Back door of the kitchen entrance will be replaced. Just waiting on  
measurements from the vendor.

Certificate of Insurance is now needed for any vendors working in the  
church (required by our insurance carrier).

Deacon schedule for April: See Worship Participants on Page 11

Motion to adjourn brought to floor and seconded. Motion passed,  
meeting adjourned.

Next Deacons meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2023, at 6:15 in  
Fellowship Hall.

Jared Clady, Back up scribe 2023

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



### April 2 – Palm Sunday

Psalm 118:19-29; Matthew 21:1-11  
*Who Loves a Parade?*

### April 6 – Maundy Thursday

1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 34-35  
6:30 p.m. – *Simple Meal in Fellowship Hall*  
7:00 p.m. – *Communion Service with Tenebrae  
in Fellowship Hall*

### April 7 – Good Friday

The Last Words of Christ – from Matthew 27, Mark 15,  
Luke 23, John 19  
*Pictures and Descriptions of Landmarks on Jesus' Journey*

### April 9 – Easter Sunday – Communion at Both Services

7:00 a.m. *Easter Sunrise Service*  
Colossians 3:1-4; Mark 16:1-8  
*A Meaningful Story About God, the Fixer*  
10:15 a.m. *Easter Worship*  
1 Corinthians 15:1-9; John 20:1-18  
*Rescued!*

### April 16 – Second Sunday of Easter –

*Celebration of Pastor Dave's Ordination Anniversary*  
1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31  
*Is Doubting So Bad?*

### April 23 – Third Sunday of Easter

1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35  
*On the Road With Christ*

### April 30 – Fourth Sunday of Easter –

*Presentation of Confirmands and Faith Statements*  
Psalm 23; John 10:1-10  
*Being Good Sheep for the Good Shepherd*

## APRIL WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	ACOLYTES	DEACONS
Apr. 2	Zoe Lulfs Ethan Saneholtz	Chris Coppes Jared Clady
Apr. 6 (Maundy Thurs.) Apr. 7 (Good Fri.)		Chris Coppes Jared Clady
Apr. 9 (Sunrise)	Griffin Tanner	Kevin Vajen Pat Kirk
Apr. 9 (10:15)	Natalie Borck Joey Coppes	Kevin Vajen Ron Hoellrich
Apr. 16	Zoe Lulfs	Jeri Hoellrich Ron Hoellrich
Apr. 23	Joey Coppes	Pat Kirk Carol Medina
Apr. 30	Zoe Lulfs	Adam Stevenson Jeri Hoellrich



Holy Week begins on **Palm Sunday**, April 2. Our focus is on the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, where he was greeted with shouts of "Hosanna!" Our choir will sing and will be joined by Sunday School children in a special processional. Palm branches will be distributed to add to the festive atmosphere of worship. We will not have Communion this day because of participating in the Sacrament three times later in the week.

On **Maundy Thursday**, April 6, we remember Jesus' gathering with his disciples in the Upper Room for the Last Supper. The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a simple meal in the Fellowship Hall. Then at 7:00 p.m. we'll remain in place and transition into a special service to include Communion, Candlelight, and Tenebrae (shadows) and the gradual extinguishing of candles. The choir will sing for this worship gathering.

Our thoughts turn to the crucifixion of Jesus when we worship in our Sanctuary on **Good Friday**, April 7, at 7:00 p.m. This is a new worship opportunity at St. John's since there will not be a Community Service. We will focus on Jesus sealing our redemption on the cross and hear his Seven Last Words from the cross. A special feature of this service will be the use of pictures to show Jesus' journey from Maundy Thursday to Good Friday to Easter.

Sadness is turned to joy and the resurrection promise is fulfilled as we worship and celebrate together on the holiest day of the year – **Easter Sunday**, April 9. The morning will begin with all being invited to gather outside at 7:00 a.m. for sunrise over the cemetery (at 7:07), after which we'll assemble indoors in the sanctuary for our **Sunrise Service**, which will include Communion. At 8:00 a.m. or after the Sunrise Service, we are all invited to enjoy the return of our annual **Easter Breakfast** in the Fellowship Hall. Then Sunday School students and all who are interested are invited to go back into the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. for **music and a special Easter program**. After this the kids will be taken outside for an **Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Basket Raffle** – parents and all members are invited to watch! Our second **Easter Service** (different from the Sunrise Service) with Communion at 10:15 a.m. will be in the sanctuary and will include a choir anthem. Come and celebrate the resurrection amidst the special Scriptures, hymns, and Easter garden of flowers in and around the Chancel. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!



### FROM THE SHALOM FOOD PANTRY

#### FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - FEBRUARY 2023 INCOME

Holgate Lions Club	\$150.00
Chief Receipts	303.49
St. Paul Lutheran Church (Flatrock)	134.00
Sacred Heart Catholic Church	90.00
Pleasant Bend Methodist Church	69.00
Emanuel's Christian Church	135.00
Harrison Arbor #275 of Gleaner Insurance	<u>223.56</u>

**Total \$ 1,105.05**

*Submitted by Norma Nagel*



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**Parents, Guardians, and Grandparents** - please let the office know if you have a student who will be graduating from High School, College or completing other educational milestones. We like to recognize these achievements during May each year and count on the graduate or their family to let us know.

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**Graduation Parties** - we have wooden tables, folding chairs, roasters, and other kitchen items which can be borrowed by members on a first come, first served basis. Please check with the office if there are things you wish to borrow so we can reserve them for you.

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### FREE TAX PREPARATION

RICHARD COOK -- DESHLER -- CPA -- TAX PREP  
PHONE 567-230-0526  
CALL FOR APPOINTMENT

Will do taxes for people who cannot afford to get them done, for FREE  
Will take donations, but not necessary.

Can also go to the Senior Center and get taxes done for FREE  
Paul Heddaeus PH 419-599-5515

Thank You to Scott and The Shalom Team

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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.



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

**Wayne Stevens** (Christine Rettig's brother) recovering from surgery  
**Jerry Rettig** rehab after hospitalization  
**Dawn Fry** recovering after procedure  
**Skylar Smith** PH 2nd grader with brain tumor  
**Janice Rettig** recovering after procedure now has COVID  
**Roland Rettig** recovering from COVID  
**Jim Yocom** recovering from COVID  
**Leland Rettig** dealing with health issues  
**Kevin Vajen** recovering after hospitalization  
**Chad Luifs** anxiously waiting to reschedule knee replacement  
**Heather Thomas Eiden** recent surgery and beginning chemo  
**Gary Jones** fell several months ago, broke both arms - beginning therapy

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 who died or were displaced by earthquakes in Syria and Turkey

**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.
- Let us pray for the Search Team

Please pray for the work of the Search Team  
and keep the members of the Team in your prayers

***Izabelle Ann Waisner***

**February 16, 2023**

**Parents:** Denton and Wendy Waisner  
**Grandparents:** Kevin and Beth Waisner  
 Mark and Mary Ann Kidd  
 Teresa and Kurt Wilhelm  
**Great Grandparents:** Jim and Sue Waisner  
 Don and Suzi Slight  
 Bob and Judy Wilhelm



***Elleigh Mable Dunfee***

**February 24, 2023**

**Parents:** Glynnis (Prigge) and Dustin Dunfee  
**Grandparents:** Lennie and Maggie Prigge  
 Herbert and Annabell Dunfee



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*

*Geri 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*

**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

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY FEBRUARY REPORT

St. John's United Church of Christ  
Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Summary  
Fund: General Fund  
Feb-23

	Feb-23	YTD Actual
<b>OPERATING BUDGET INCOME</b>		
OFFERINGS	\$19,018.00	\$29,388.00
Fundraising	\$15.00	\$295.00
MISC. INCOME	<del>\$646.00</del>	\$926.00
<b>Total OPERATING BUDGET INCOME</b>	<b>\$19,679.00</b>	<b>\$30,609.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Total BUILDING & MAINTENANCE	\$9,035.18	\$12,493.38
Total MINISTRIES	\$1,159.40	\$4,617.60
Total MISSIONS	\$0.00	\$3,458.20
Total ADMINISTRATION	\$4,523.82	\$7,982.02
Total PASTORAL	\$2,582.30	\$6,040.50
Total Expenses	\$17,300.70	\$34,591.70
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$2,378.30</b>	<b>-\$3,982.70</b>
Operating checking Acct Balance as of 1/31/2023		\$31,340.10
Mission Giving:		
Mission -to-Go	\$3,650.00	

## St. John's Faith Family Can Help

Reminder to the St. John's Faith Family - People sometimes hit a hard stretch - it could be an unexpected layoff, an illness that results in medical bills or time off work, breakdown of a vehicle or major appliance, an especially high utility bill, an increase in rent or other payments. We recognize that it is often difficult to ask for help but remember that God doesn't want people to be stressed. The St. John's Faith Family is prepared to help our folks in two ways and there is a process for St. John's folks to protect their privacy and dignity.

The Shalom Food Pantry exists to help anyone in need of food with no questions asked. You do not need to come in during the regular Shalom distribution times when other people are around. In situations like this, the only record that is kept is that "a family of (#) received food." Your name is not attached to any record. If you contact Pastor Voll or Betty (Bob) Rettig, either one will arrange for you to come in at a time when you can pick up food at a time that works best for you. No one else needs to know.

There have been folks who have found themselves behind on a rent or utility payment, a doctor's bill, car payment or something similar. Our Love Gift fund exists to help people in situations like this. Any member can request a Love Gift once in a calendar year. Contact the Pastor if a Love Gift would help you or your family.

St. John's has been blessed to have generous donors. Shalom is most happy when they can share the food they have with those in need. The Love Gift Fund has been a blessing with those in need. There are no strings attached and people involved are dedicated to maintaining confidentiality.

The Luminary Seven of Hamler is sponsoring an

## *Easter Cantata*

**AT ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
435 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
(1 block east State Route 109 at Cleveland Street)  
Hamler, OH

**PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023**  
7:00 p.m.

**COMMUNITY CHOIR FROM AREA CHURCHES**

The director will be Sue Abshire  
with Marilyn Abshire as accompanist

### **NEW FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR**

We are pleased to announce that Tyler Rue has been hired as our new Financial Administrator. We are grateful to Kristine Maas for her ten years of service to St. John's.

Tyler joined St. John's in the Fall 2022. He is married to Jillian (Clady) and they have a daughter, Remi, who is 16 months old.

We look forward to working with Tyler in his new role!



*In all you say and do make a joyful noise unto the Lord.*  
*Ref: Psalms 98, 4-6; Psalms 100, 1-5*

We are pleased to announce that we will be celebrating the 35th Anniversary of Ordination of Rev. David Voll, our Interim Pastor, on Sunday, April 16, 2023. Rev. Dan Busch, Association Minister, will make a presentation during our 10:15 a.m. worship service. There will be an informal reception after worship in the Fellowship Hall. St John's United Church of Christ

**Benefit For Skyler Smith**  
**Saturday, April 15, 2023**  
**Bavarian Haus**  
**Doors Open At 4:00 p.m.**  
**See Insert For More Information**

We are asking our local churches to donate Baked Goods for the meal and possible Raffle Items. We are requesting Pies, Cakes, Cupcakes, and Cookies in non returnable containers.

Baked Goods can be brought to the Bavarian Haus on Saturday by 1:00 p.m. or dropped off a Immanuel Lutheran Kitchen between 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. For additional information, please contact Barb Powell at 419-265-2465.



For The Heating Fund



We Have Heat! And it should last us a good long time! So now we are asking for a little more help and we'll have it all paid off!!

**We are selling Rada cutlery!**  
Whether you're an avid cook or hate to cook,  
Rada has what you need!

There are so many amazing products besides knives that Rada sells.

**From cooking utensils  
to baking sheets  
to spices - to soups**

Rada has something for everyone! We will be selling  
online and the catalog!

Catalogs will be available in the narthex to browse.  
Take it home and bring it back with your order.

Every purchase you make using the catalog  
or this unique shopping link  
<https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=7157123.4ee8d5>

helps our group meet our goal!

Thank you for supporting St. John's UCC  
with your purchase!

*Carol Medina, Coordinator*



## EVANGELISM TEAM MEETING FEBRUARY 26, 2023

The Evangelism Team met on February 26. Current members of the team are: Mary Kay Altman, Christine Rettig, Pastor Voll, and new members Jim Rettig, Lori Clady and Christopher Clady. The meeting opened with prayer, and a moment of silence for member Doug Armbruster, who unexpectedly passed away on February 10, 2023.

**Our team reviewed the following:** placing an advertisement in the Northwest Signal to inform the public about our services and activities on Easter Sunday, reviewed inventory of supplies, and updating the pamphlet about our church and how to best use it.

**New business included:** the Evangelism Team Purpose Statement, discussion of visitor greeting and follow-up, assimilation and care of new members, and activities we could lead in order to get our church "out there" where we can reach out to folks. We are asking the nominating team to recruit a member to fill Doug Armbruster's unexpired term.

**Our next meeting** will be June 4, after worship.

*Summarized by Christine Rettig*

### Association Meeting to Be Held in Wapakoneta

The 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the UCC's Northwest Ohio Association, "Missions – Making All Things New," will be held Saturday, April 28 at St. Paul UCC, Wapakoneta. Participants will share worship, fellowship, and music, hold elections and do other business, affirm those newly ordained, vote on the new NWOA budget, and receive reports and updates from our Heartland Conference and mission partners. The keynote speaker is Rev. George Graham, Vice President of the Council of Health and Human Services Ministries (CHHSM), UCC National Staff.

Voting delegates from St. John's are Christine Rettig, Terry (Linda) Rettig, and Tammy Vajen. Pastor Dave also has voice and vote by virtue of being an Authorized Minister, and Betty (Bob) Rettig will be attending with voice and vote since she is a past Moderator. If anyone else from St. John's would like to observe in person or join the Zoom option online, please contact the church office.

## *Extravagant Welcome*

The Evangelism Team met on February 26, and began working to reactivate our team. Some folks may not realize the purpose of the team because when COVID hit, pretty much everything came to a halt for over two years.

We wanted to have you look at the first part of our team purpose statement:

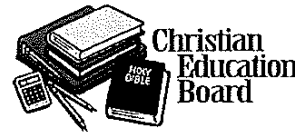
**Create** a place of **extravagant welcome** for members and guests.

That is a goal we certainly want to meet, but...what exactly does **extravagant welcome** mean?

From the United Church of Christ website, it states: "Jesus didn't turn people away, neither do we." Following Jesus's lead, the UCC strives to keep doors open to all. Even though there were powerful people who opposed Jesus's extravagant welcome, he still embraced those who were often shunned. Jesus declared, there is room for all-children, those who are hungry, thirsty, homeless, ill, poor, grieving, persecuted, and in prison.

**Extravagant welcome** is not only a matter of opening our doors to all, it's making a commitment to make the world a more hospitable place for all God's children.

The members of the Evangelism Team will be working to fulfill the goal but **we need your help!** It takes all of us to reach out to someone who is visiting St. John's or perhaps exploring the possibility of a new church home. Prayerfully consider what you can do to create an **extravagant welcome** here at St. John's.



## **News and Notes**

Submitted By Lucy Coppes  
February 19, 2023

Present: Pastor David Voll, Diana Evers (23), Katie Borck (23), Lucy Coppes (24) Elleigh Franz (25) and Latasha Solis (23) and Lisa Haldy (25)

Katie opened the meeting and Lucy led devotions and opening prayer.

- **Easter Breakfast:** Funds will go to Family Faith Summer Events. Sign up sheet for casseroles will be need and announcement to be made in church on Sunday starting in March. Possibility of asking Fellowship Team to assist with breakfast.
- **Confirmation:** Pastor Voll reported that Confirmation I now has six Confirmands rather than seven. Due to attendance, a friend of one of the Confirmands will not be confirmed but has been encouraged to continue attending for faith formation. Confirmation II Church visits have been going well, working on their Confirmation papers as well as getting ready for Confirmation Sunday. There are some issues with meeting the attendance requirements for some Confirmands due to family arrangements out of their control, Elders are looking to revise the attendance requirement from 26 to 20. Pastor Voll also wanted to note that Kevin and Franell are doing an amazing job.
- **Sunday School:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade still has some open slots for teachers in March and April. Diana was working to get them filled. Sunday School has now started using the Year A Spring Curriculum.
- **Birthdays:** Nothing new to report, cards continue to be sent to all active children at the beginning of the month.

*Continued On Page 25*



## News and Notes

Submitted By Lucy Coppes  
February 19, 2023

*Continued From Page 24*

- **Youth Ministry:** Nursery to Pre-Kindergarten to sing God Loves Me. 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Ancient Words and 4 - 5 Lord's Prayer (It's Yours). It was noted that Mother's Day is Confirmation Sunday, so it was decided to move Youth Ministry event to Presentation Sunday on April 30.
- **Cradle Roll** - Latasha reported that Betty had given her new names for the Cradle Roll, and she will get the display updated.
- **Easter Sunday:** Request for candy donations has been announced in bulletins and newsletters, can stuff eggs at March 26 meeting. Easter skit planed for after breakfast, LaTasha's aunt agreed to be speaker. Discussion on how to divide up the egg hunt, have section for Nursery – Pre- K, K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Ellie volunteered to make new signs for the egg hunt. Prize baskets will be provided by anonymous donor who has donated for past Easter events. General prize still needs to be ordered, possibly contact Franell for estimation of amount ordered in the past.
- **Next meeting scheduled for March 26, 2023,** after worship.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Lucy Coppes, Scribe*

# Thank You

The Christian Education Board thanks everyone for donating Easter candy and Mary Kay Altman for taking the time to stuff the eggs. A big thank you also goes to our Secret Bunny Basket Maker for donating the prize baskets. We appreciate everyone's help to make Easter "eggstra" special for our youth!



## "Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members

### **Roland Rettig**

will celebrate his  
84th Birthday  
on April 1

K402 County Road 14  
Napoleon, OH 43545

### **Karen Gilliland**

will celebrate her  
80th Birthday  
on April 9

1778 Chinook Trail Ct  
Defiance OH 43512

### **Jerry Waisner**

will celebrate his  
82nd Birthday  
on April 15

1622 Hwy 630 W Lot R11  
Frostproof FL 33843





*"Senior Saints" On Their 50+ Anniversary*

**John and Shirley Tobias**

will celebrate their  
62nd Wedding Anniversary  
on April 9

10011 Co Rd Y  
Hamler, OH 43524

**Terry and Linda Rettig**

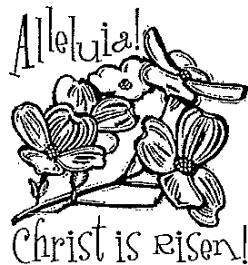
will celebrate their  
51st Wedding Anniversary  
on April 22

PO Box 361  
Holgate, OH 43527

**William and Florence Snyder**

will celebrate their  
63rd Wedding Anniversary  
on April 23

14224 Co Rd L2  
Napoleon, OH 43545



It has been a while since we last printed our **Pictorial Directory**. Children who were "babes in arms" are now running up for the Time with Children, families have welcomed new babies and folks have joined the Faith Family. This directory can be very helpful to help newer folks learn names and updated pictures will be extremely important when we call a new settled pastor.

So, Linda Arreguin and/or Betty (Bob) Rettig will be available before and after worship to take pictures. You are also invited to send selfies or formal pictures. Maybe you can get pictures at Easter or other Spring gatherings. The Peace Garden is a wonderful backdrop!

Betty can also take pictures during office hours, Monday through Friday, 8 to noon. We can scan good quality photos in the office or you can email pictures to [holgateucc@metalink.net](mailto:holgateucc@metalink.net).

PLEASE keep in mind that the pictures will be cropped to a 2 1/2" square so having the faces close together makes a much better picture than having everyone in a long row (although sometimes that's the best you can do). You might look through the current directory to get ideas.

The goal will be to have this project complete by Pentecost (May 28).







**C H U R C H  
RUMMAGE SALE**

**Thursday - Friday - Saturday  
June 15, 16, 17**

We are finally over Winter and into Spring! Remember: when you are changing out seasonal clothing, decorations, cleaning cupboards, straightening out your garage or shed...you can donate the clothing that doesn't fit, decorations you no longer use, dishes that you are no longer using, or items from the garage or shed that no longer are needed to our rummage sale!

Our all-church rummage sale is going to be held June 15 through the 17. We will have a date when you can start bringing items to the church for the sale. It will coincide with the ending of Sunday School, so watch for that date. This all-church event is going to benefit the heating fund, to pay us back for the loan we made to ourselves to pay off the balance on our new heating system. We will need help from many as we prepare and conduct the sale. It will involve setting up tables, sorting and placing items on tables and hanging racks, cashiers, folks to bag up purchased items, folks to help take large items to their cars, assisting shoppers with items that might need carried to the checkout, and most importantly...being the face of St. John's to the public!

Please mark your calendars for the week of June 11 after church-June 17 after the cleanup! We are looking forward to this opportunity to raise funds to repay the heating fund loan, and we need all of you to help us do it!

*Thank you, Christine Rettig*

# Thank You

The Family of Shirley Huber thanks Pastor Dave for the great words of encouragement and wonderful service. Thank You to Sheri Plotts for the music, the ladies who prepared the meal after the service, and all who donated to the memorial for Shirley.

*Shirley Huber Family*

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Dear St. John's Family,

Thanks so much for all the prayers, kind well wishes and beautiful cards for my foot surgery. I am healing well and feel so blessed.

*In Christian love, Janise Voll*

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The third and fourth grade CCD students from New Bavaria Sacred Heart had a garage sale at the Rosary Altar Old Fashioned Christmas event. The money raised from this service project was divided up among various organizations. The students chose SHALOM as one of their places they wanted to help with a gift of \$90.

*Sincerely,  
New Bavaria Sacred Heart CCD Grades 3 and 4*

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February 2023

Dear PPM Partners,

I just wanted to take a moment of your day and say THANK YOU! Your prayers, love and support are so encouraging to me personally. I believe that this coming year is going to be a year of growth in so many ways, and I am so excited to see where the Wild Goose leads. God is using people like you to truly advance the Kingdom in Honduras. So, please continue to be in prayer for the ministry as we continue to look to God for His vision of how we can best serve His people! Exciting days!

Again thank you and may God's favor be upon you!

*Pastor Ed Shonkwiler, Overseer*



# APRIL

- |        |                 |        |                    |
|--------|-----------------|--------|--------------------|
| 4 - 1  | Roland Rettig   | 4 - 15 | Taya Norden        |
| 4 - 4  | Kirk Fruth      | 4 - 15 | Jerry Waisner      |
| 4 - 4  | Logan Sidle     | 4 - 16 | Collin Parcher     |
| 4 - 5  | Janise Voll     | 4 - 17 | Christine Badenhop |
| 4 - 5  | Jerry Evers     | 4 - 17 | Tammy Vajen        |
| 4 - 7  | Sue Rettig      | 4 - 20 | Andrew Borck       |
| 4 - 8  | Madison Burke   | 4 - 22 | Don Huber          |
| 4 - 9  | Karen Gilliland | 4 - 22 | Eldon Sickmiller   |
| 4 - 9  | Tyler Rue       | 4 - 23 | Christine Rettig   |
| 4 - 11 | Molly Rees      | 4 - 23 | Jacob Highfield    |
| 4 - 12 | Sheila Parcher  | 4 - 24 | Lydia Badenhop     |
| 4 - 13 | Millie Holzer   | 4 - 27 | Tammy Martin       |
| 4 - 13 | Wendy Waisner   | 4 - 30 | Sean Kobilis       |

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 **MAY** Newsletter is

**SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023**

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**



*April Mission*

**PRAYER PLAN MISSION**

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).



- **Midweek Lenten services** – 7 p.m. Wednesdays
- **4/2 Palm Sunday Worship** – beginning of Holy Week
- **4/6 Maundy Thursday** – simple meal at 6:30 p.m.  
Worship with Communion at 7 p.m.
- **4/7 Good Friday** worship at 7 p.m.
- **4/9 7 a.m. Easter Sunrise Worship** with Communion
- **4/9 8 a.m. Easter Breakfast** – everyone welcome –  
sponsored by Consistory and CEB - freewill  
offering to Summer Family Activities
- **4/9 9 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt**
- **4/9 10:15 a.m. Easter Worship** with Communion
- **4/16 Ordination Anniversary** for Pastor Voll



## JOIN US FOR EASTER BREAKFAST



**When:** Easter Sunday, April 9  
Immediately Following the Sunrise Service  
Until 9:30 a.m.

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**Menu:** Egg Casseroles, Scrambled Eggs  
Sausage Gravy and Biscuits,  
Cereals/Yogurt, Coffee Cakes,  
Fruit, Juice, Milk, Coffee

**Sponsored by:** The Consistory and C. E. Board

Free will offering  
will support  
Summer Faith Family Activities



# Kid's Corner



## April

- 4 - 3      Annabelle Thomas
- 4 - 4      Sophia Snyder
- 4 - 9      Levi Herman
- 4 - 13     Lottie Mckenzie
- 4 - 20     Carmen Medina
- 4 - 26     Ellis Moyer
- 4 - 27     Harmony Hahn



# Kid's Corner



**St. John's UCC**

**Easter Egg Hunt**

**April 9, 2023 - at 9:00 a.m.**



**All children ages 0-13 invited**

**Gather in the Sanctuary**

**Hear the Easter Story told by a special guest!**

**Then proceed to the circle drive**

**The egg hunt will be held on the West lawn**

**Candy and prizes for all**

**Parents—be sure to sign up your child for  
the special EASTER BASKET DRAWING!**

**(IF INCLEMENT WEATHER THE EGG HUNT WILL BE  
HELD INSIDE)**

**Sponsored by the Christian Education Board**

