



REMINDER THAT WE ARE ON SUMMER SCHEDULE WITH CHURCH AT 9:30 AM ON SUNDAY BEGINNING MAY 28 AND AT 7 PM ON WEDNESDAYS BEGINNING ON JUNE 7 THROUGH JULY.

You are encouraged to attend a reception on June 24 to meet Pastor Jeffrey McCarn and his wife. Special Congregational Meeting following worship on June 25. See details on insert.



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**Wear Red on
Sunday, May 28 for
Pentecost.**



**All of them were
filled with
the Holy Spirit!**

Acts 2.4

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4 9:30am - Worship 10:30am - Evangelism team	5 6:30pm - Spiritual Council	6 SHALOM Delivery In am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry	7 9am - Sit & Fit 7pm - Midweek Worship	8 5:45pm - Finance Team	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Hold FH for Rummage Sale						
9:30am - Worship/Communion	6:15pm - Deacons 7pm - Consistory		Flag Day 9am - Sit & Fit 7pm - Worship/Communion	9am - Rummage Sale	9am - Rummage Sale	9am - Rummage Sale
18 Father's Day 9:30am - Worship 10am - Newsletter Articles Due	19 Juneteenth	20 SHALOM Delivery In am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry	21 9am - Sit & Fit 7pm - Midweek Worship	22	23	24 Eyes to Skies 2pm - Reception Pastor McCam
25 9:30am - Worship- Trial Sermon 10:30am - Cong Meeting/Vote 10:30am - Faith Family gathering	26	27 9am - Newsletter mailing	28 9am - Sit & Fit 7pm - Midweek Worship	29	30	1



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

TRANSITIONS

By now you're aware that St. John's has a candidate to become your next settled pastor. While I'm delighted for you at the prospect of you moving into this next chapter as a faith family and experiencing the exciting things that God has in store for you, pending your affirmative vote, I'm also sensitive to other feelings and emotions that may accompany this news. When an interim pastor and a congregation come to a point in their relationship when they prepare to say goodbye, it can be difficult. Congregational life at St. John's with which we've grown accustomed these past nearly 18 months will change. I formed relationships with so many of you that quickly became comfortable and meaningful, and those will change. Some of us shared joys and sorrows together, or we talked about issues of faith and life on a personal level, and real fondness and care developed. These are significant! All of this means that we face the future knowing that things will be different. But as hard as it may be for some of us, our time for saying farewell will likely happen soon.

Your pastoral candidate will lead worship and preach his trial sermon on June 25, after which you, as a congregation, will vote on the recommendation to call Rev. Jeff McCarn as your new settled pastor. Now that these wheels are set in motion, what this means for me is that I am in the process of seeking a new Intentional Interim position. I've already had discussions with a few churches and Association/Conference Ministers – all out of state. So this is a time of significant transition for all of us.

My goal in interim ministry at St. John's has been to provide this church family with positive and enthusiastic leadership following the retirement of your previous pastor, to be a non-anxious presence by fostering a healthy transition to a new settled pastor, maintain vital programs and the "good health" of this faith family, and assist in assessing its ministries. With regard to the latter, it's common for an interim pastor and congregation to address some important topics: Who are we? Who is our neighbor? What is God calling us to do or to be? How does our history inform the answers to these questions?

Continued On Page 3

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 - Tyler Rue: 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

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL - WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.

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TRANSITIONS



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Are there any new directions in ministry to be explored? Are we using our time well with regard to the needed time for a change in pastoral leadership? We dealt specifically with these and other questions last Spring during a town hall-type gathering, during which we especially talked about the recent history of St. John's and its pastors, about its identity today, and about a vision for its future; we had conversations in various committee settings about the state of things at St. John's and the possibilities for the future; and I touched a few times on them, in writing and from the pulpit.

I'll say more when there is a clearer and definitive transition timeline, pending a vote of approval on your new pastor, but for now I simply yet sincerely give gratitude to God for bringing us together and blessing our mutual ministry; and offer special thanks to you for being so warm and caring toward Janise and me, as well as being accepting and supportive of my efforts as your interim pastor.

As I close, consider these words from Paul from Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV):

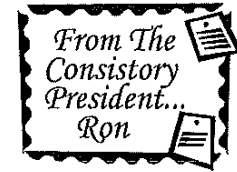
"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

May God richly bless you always!

And for at least the near future, I'll see you in church!

Pastor Dave

for-give



[fər 'giv]
VERB

stop feeling angry or resentful toward (someone) for an offense, flaw, or mistake:

Yep, I was surfing the internet again and found the following on www.goodreads.com. There are some sixty forgiving quotes that can be found. There is a book available, "The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World" by Desmond Tutu

About the author

Desmond Mpilo Tutu was a South African cleric and activist, who rose to worldwide fame during the 1980s as an opponent of apartheid. In 1984, Tutu became the second South African to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. He was the first black South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, and primate of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa (now the Anglican Church of Southern Africa). Tutu chaired the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He was vocal in his defense of human rights and used his high profile to campaign for the oppressed. Tutu also campaigned to fight AIDS, homophobia, poverty and racism.

Some of the Quotes:

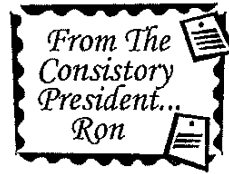
"Forgiveness does not relieve someone of responsibility for what they have done. Forgiveness does not erase accountability. It is not about turning a blind eye or even turning the other cheek. It is not about letting someone off the hook or saying it is okay to do something monstrous. Forgiveness is simply about understanding that every one of us is both inherently good and inherently flawed. Within every hopeless situation and every seemingly hopeless person lies the possibility of transformation."

"We are not responsible for what breaks us, but we can be responsible for what puts us back together again. Naming the hurt is how we begin to repair our broken parts."

"Forgiveness is truly the grace by which we enable another person to get up, and get up with dignity, to begin anew. To not forgive leads to bitterness and hatred. Like self-hatred and self-contempt, hatred of others gnaws away at our vitals. Whether hatred is projected out or stuffed in, it is always corrosive to the human spirit.

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for·give



Continued From Page 4

"We do not need to succumb to the temptation to meet such a violation with retaliation. The only way to heal this hurt is to give voice to what ails us. It is only in this way that we can keep our pain and loss from taking root inside us. It is only in this way that we have a chance for freedom."

"Ultimately, forgiveness is a choice we make, and the ability to forgive others comes from the recognition that we are all flawed and all human. We all have made mistakes and harmed others. We will again. We find it easier to practice forgiveness when we can recognize that the roles could have been reversed."

"When we accept our own pain we can begin to see past it to the other person's woundedness. We can begin to consider that if we were in their shoes, if we stood inside their story, we might have done to others what they did to us."

"Prayer Before the Prayer, I want to be willing to forgive; but I dare not ask for the will to forgive in case you give it to me and I am not yet ready. I am not yet ready for my heart to soften. I am not yet ready to be vulnerable again; not yet ready to see that there is humanity in my tormentor's eyes, or that the one who hurt me may also have cried "I am not yet ready for the journey," I am not yet interested in the path. I am at the prayer before the prayer of forgiveness. Grant me the will to want to forgive. Grant it to me, not yet, but soon. Can I even form the words "Forgive me?" Dare I even look? Do I dare to see the hurt I have caused? I can glimpse all the shattered pieces of that fragile thing, that soul trying to rise on the broken wings of hope, but only out of the corner of my eye. I am afraid of it, and if I am afraid to see. How can I not be afraid to say "Forgive me?" Is there a place where we can meet? You and me, the place in the middle. The no man's land. where we straddle the lines. Where you are right, and I am right, too. And both of us are wrong and wronged Can we meet there? And look for the place where the path begins. The path that ends when we forgive Supplies."

I hope these quotes can give you peace.

Ron Hoellrich 2023 Consistory President



Positive Things Seen and Heard from the Congregation and Consistory

1. Beginning to see kids using the playground.
2. Peace Garden and North planter box looking nice - thanks to those caring for those areas.
3. Exciting to see so many people coming out for exercise class each week! Thank you Janisel!
4. Love seeing the sun shinning through in the stained glass!
5. Great seeing so many kids and families in church!
6. Great presentations from the Confirmands.
7. The party for Pastor Voll's ordination went over well, was great.
8. Loved hearing the children sing during the church service.
9. Appreciate all the smiles and friendly faces I encounter when I walk into your church.
10. Love to see all the life and new growth outside of the church as well as inside the church.



Logan Sidle graduated from NW State Community College with an Associates' Degree in mechanical engineering. He is currently looking for a job in his field.

Garrett Sidle graduated from NW State with his Associates' Degree in Computer Science. He will continue his education for his Bachelor's Degree with online classes through Miami University.

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

May 8, 2023

- Earl's Mechanical has been paid in full. We have received \$3,000 toward the \$11,000 that was borrowed from our CD's.
- Recommendation to increase custodial fee for Fellowship Hall from \$25 to \$50 if the custodian does setup and cleanup for members and from \$50 to \$100 for non-members. - Recommendation approved.
- Request to allow the Coppes family to do a fundraiser for a school trip using Fellowship Hall. Request approved.

Respectfully submitted, Maggie Prigge

Dedication of Paraments and Flags

Unless you have served as a Deacon or Custodian and have had the task of changing them, you probably don't think much about the paraments, the cloths on the altar, pulpit and lectern. These change according to the liturgical calendar. Most recently, the cloths were white during the Easter season, changed to red for Pentecost, back to white for Trinity Sunday, and then we will settle into the long season of green paraments. The previous white cloths were purchased in September 1979 and had become stained. The company, Kanel Brothers, that made the original paraments is still in business and they were pleased to make our new ones. New green paraments were also purchased to replace the current ones which were purchased in 1980. Both sets were paid for with money given as memorials.

The white paraments are given in memory of Doug Armbruster, Janet Bichan, and Pamela Hahn. The green cloths are in memory of Jim Armbruster as are the new American and Christian flags that replace those that were showing wear.

Both sets of paraments and the flags will be dedicated on June 4.



Spiritual Council

Meeting Excerpts

May 1, 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 devotions led by Kevin Waisner. All Elders were present except Bob Rettig, who joined via phone. The only congregational concern brought forth was the recovery of a member from a circulatory problem.

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

May Elder of the Month is Kevin Waisner. Bob Rettig will serve in June. Kevin cannot serve as Elder on May 28, so Maggie or Bob will fill in for him.

On May 7, Communion will be offered. Confirmation will be on May 14 with First Communion for the Confirmands and their families on that day. On May 21, there will be a guest speaker from Washington UCC, Cincinnati. Pentecost Sunday, May 28, will begin the summer schedule with Communion as well. Midweek summer services will be offered in June and July beginning June 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Looking forward to June and July, since Communion is being served the last Sunday of May, in June it will be moved to June 10, the second week of the month. Also, considering the July 4 holiday weekend, it will be moved to the second Sunday in July. For the midweek services, there will be Communion on June 14 and July 12.

The Confirmation Banquet for the Confirmands is planned for May 13. Elders will have conversation with Confirmation I students at 9:00 a.m on Sunday May 21. Suggested conversation topics will be distributed to the Elders.

In regards to visitation, Kay Armbruster will coordinate the visitation to a member who was discussed last month. The name of this member is being withheld until more details of the visit are arranged.

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Spiritual Council

Meeting Excerpts

May 1, 2023

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For those members who have not responded to the request to update their membership, a second letter has been drafted urging them to let us know their desires. The letter sets a positive tone, but also stresses the importance of responding.

All the new paraments have been received and will be dedicated on Sunday, June 4.

An outline of "Love Gift" guidelines was distributed for review and will be discussed at the next meeting on June 5 at 6:30 p.m. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Bob Rettig, Scribe
from notes submitted by Kevin Waisner*

Midweek Summer Worship Services

We will again offer midweek gatherings at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings, which are not the same as previous Sunday morning worship services. For most of these services Pastor Dave will again share hymn stories (as he did during July last year) and focus on the background behind some much loved hymns of our faith. The setting regarding the tunes and the motivation behind writing the lyrics can be fascinating, informative, moving, and meaningful.

All are welcome to these gatherings to hear hymn stories, sing some favorites, be worshipful midweek, and share in fellowship.

Communion will be served on the Wednesdays following having had Communion during Sunday worship.



DEACONS' BENCH

May 8, 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)

No quorum this evening so unable to conduct official business but did hold open discussions on the following:

- Finance team information about CDs
- Recommendations from church treasurer about current banking situation
- Tennis court ideas
- Deacon schedule proposed see Page 13

Next Meeting June 12 at 6:15 p.m.

Pentecost / Holy Communion / Memorial Day Weekend

On Sunday, May 28 be sure to wear red, symbolizing celebration and the Holy Spirit, as we observe Pentecost – the birthday of the Church – and participate in Holy Communion. This will be the first Sunday of our summer schedule, with worship at 9:30 a.m. The choir will sing for the final time this season. We will also have an observance for Memorial Day.

Membership Exploration

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about becoming a member of St. John's, please contact the church office to get more information, including a membership exploration packet. We already have some folks who are interested, so Membership Exploration Sessions will soon be scheduled.

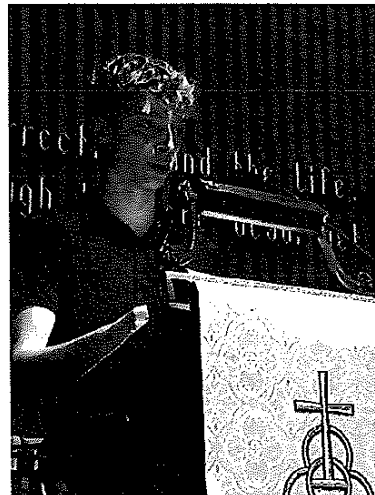
Meet Our Confirmands



Nicholas Wayne Wallace Evers
Parents Jerry and Diana Evers



Zoe Elizabeth Lulfs
Parents: Chad Lulfs and
Amber Miller



Ethan John Saneholtz
Parents: Beth Saneholtz and
Sean Saneholtz

Worship Services 9:30 a.m.



June 4 – Trinity Sunday – Dedication of New Paraments

Romans 8:14-17
1 John 4:7-12
Matthew 28:16-20
Was Elvis Really Talking About the Trinity?

June 11 – Second Sunday After Pentecost – Communion

1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Matthew 5:1-12
Matthew 9:9-13
Are We Just Being Foolish?

June 18 – Third Sunday After Pentecost – Father's Day

Galatians 2:17-21
John 20:24-29
Can I Have a Show of Hands?

June 25 – Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

TBA



Summer Schedule

Beginning on Sunday, May 28, our worship service will begin at 9:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School during the summer. This Summer Schedule is in effect through Sunday, Sept. 3.

JUNE WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

ACOLYTES	DEACONS
June 4 and 7	Kevin Vajen Jared Clady
June 11 and 14	Ben Thomas Adam Stevenson
June 18 and 21	Pat Kirk Chris Coppes
June 25 and 28	Ron Hoellrich Jeri Hoellrich



FROM
THE SHALOM
FOOD PANTRY

FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - APRIL 2023

INCOME

St. John's - January, February, March Giving	\$ 3,080.00
2021 Final Farm Distribution	409.57
Pleasant Bend UMC	135.00
Individual Donation	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$ 3,724.57

Submitted by Norma Nagel



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

Within the Fellowship:

Please hold the following persons in your daily prayers...

Those on our hearts and minds

Mason Franz healing from a broken leg
Lincoln Brown healing from a broken leg
Neveah Evers recovering from surgery
Jim Shisler (Millie Holzer's brother) doing very well
Mick Hoff recovering at home after surgery and rehab
Gary Cole hospitalized in Toledo following a stroke and heart surgery
Bob Rettig recovering with a blood clot in his leg
Georgena Nanson recovering from knee replacement

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 work of the Search Team** and keep the members of the Team in your prayers.

Sympathy To:

To the family of **Heather Cutlip** who passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, May 10 at the age of 44. She is survived by daughter Kailey Cutlip, mother Peggy Rettig, brother Nick Davis, grandparents Larry and Darlene Hockman and aunts Pam Desgranges, Patty Kirk, Cheryl Woodring and Cindy Baker.

Millie Margie-Jane Brown
April 18, 2023



Parents: Matthew and Alexa Brown
Siblings: Kinley and Lincoln
Grandparents: Dan and Karen Brown
John and Tricia Fryinger
Great-Grandfather: Theodore Brown



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

NURSING HOMES

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

Sue Mohr - #126

Gerl Ripke - #221

SKLD, 28546 Starbright Blvd., Perrysburg, OH 43551

Betty Yaichner

Don Huber - Cards or notes may be sent care of his daughter
Dawn Boozer, PO Box 420, Jaraies, 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 APRIL REPORT

April Report Not Available



C H U R C H

RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday - Friday - Saturday
June 15, 16, 17

Rummage Sale Month Has Arrived!

By now, most of you are aware of the rummage sale that will be held here at St. John's June 15-17. Thursday and Friday the hours will be 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. and Saturday's hours are 9 a.m.- noon.

On June 11, after worship, we are asking all who are able, to help set up the old tables in the fellowship hall, and to carry items for the rummage sale from the Sunday school room to the Fellowship Hall. Then on Sunday afternoon from 1:30 P.M. - 5 p.m. we will begin working to sort and set up sale items for display.

Monday, June 12 - Wednesday, June 14, from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. we will continue with the organizing, placing, and pricing of items for the sale. Also, during those days and times, you can bring items for the sale. Let your family, friends, and neighbors know that we will gladly take their donated items for our sale. If you need assistance getting items to the church for the sale, feel free to contact Christine Rettig or Jeri Hoellrich to arrange pick-up of your items.

Thursday, June 15 will be a busy morning, as we usually have a crowd of shoppers anxiously waiting outside our doors. Friday, the sale continues, and then the Buck-A-Bag Saturday arrives. Hopefully, we will raise a good sum of money to help repay the costs of the new heating system. As a community service, Ruth Ann's Lunch Wagon will be available each day for our shoppers and volunteers to have lunch or a snack for a freewill donation.

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

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

Continued From Page 18

Please take time to look at the sign-up sheets in the gathering area. On Monday-Wednesday, the work will continue with setup and pricing. You can come at any time between 9 a.m.-7 p.m. just sign up for the day(s) that work(s) for you! Thanks to the folks who have already signed up for time slots on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Check to see if there are open slots you could help fill. And if you can donate items for the lunch wagon, please indicate it on the signup sheets.

If you cannot help due to physical or time limitations, please consider a monetary donation to help with the costs incurred for advertising and purchase of needed items. You can make a check out to St. John's and in the memo line mark it for the rummage sale.

Thanks so much for your consideration to help with the rummage sale in whatever manner works for you!

*Co-Chairs of the 2023 Rummage Sale,
Christine Rettig and Jeri Hoelrich*



*Mission and
Stewardship*



**MISSION_TO_GO
MISSION FOR JUNE**

In 2010, the Missions Committee created "Mission-to-Go." This fund assists members of our congregation that wish to take part in a mission trip. In the past your support has helped for portions of over 30+ mission trips to Mexico, Honduras, Haiti, Houston, Kentucky, and Mississippi. Your support has also provided funds to the missions directly to help purchase building supplies for the work that needed to be done as well as other essentials for families in need.

The biggest obstacle in taking a mission trip is the cost of it. There are transportation costs that can be from a couple hundred dollars up to thousands of dollars. Most organizations, also, require a donation to offset their costs for housing, staff and many other miscellaneous items.

Many members of the church have expressed interest in mission trips. Again costs are always a factor. Please give generously to Mission-to-Go. If you would like to have more information or would like to go on a mission trip please contact the Mission Team. They will help you with the information.

Heating Project Update

It has been a while since we last updated the congregation on the status of heating system replacement. All of the bills have been paid for the heat and air conditioning in the Pastor's Study and church office, the air conditioning in the Fellowship Hall, and, most recently, the new hot water heating system. What a generous Faith Family!!

You may recall that we cashed in a CD last Fall and "borrowed from ourselves" to finish paying for this project. We have repaid \$3,000 of that, so **we still owe ourselves \$8,000**. This is money we have had in reserve for unplanned expenses. We know that there will be costs as we call a new settled pastor and trust that this money will be there when needed. Thank you again to all who have given toward any of these important improvements!!



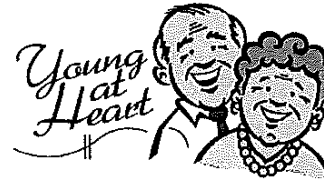
News and Notes

Submitted By Lucy Coppes
April 30, 2023

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

- **Consistory:** The Mission and Stewardship Team will be promoting financial and material items/clothing drive for Washington UCC in Cincinnati Summer Camp. Looking to collect clothing items for 4-10 year-old children such as shoes, bathing suits, or other summer clothing items, items can be gently used. Linda Arreguin will take the donations down to Cincinnati at the end of May in order to have time for more donations to be collected.
 - **Easter Breakfast and Opening/Egg Hunt:** Pastor Voll suggested writing a Thank You Letter to Consistory for conducting the breakfast and donating the funds to the Summer Family Faith Gatherings. Lucy volunteered to take care of this. Board discussed potential changes for next year.
 - **Confirmation:** Confirmation II is in the home stretch. Presentation Sunday (April 30) went well and second year Confirmands will be confirmed on May 14. Confirmation I will meet with the Elders May 7 and a make-up class will be held for first year students due to the power outage on April 2.
 - **Sunday School:** Last day of Sunday School will be May 21. CE Board will be hosting the end of Sunday School Celebration. Will be continuing to use Spark Curriculum in the Fall, Year A. Request that more Spark Bibles be ordered for classrooms. Upon review, CE discussed it may be wise to use Spark Story Bible for younger children, transition grades 4 - 5 to Spark Bible to prepare for receiving Study Bible upon entering Confirmation. Faith and Family Summer Gatherings dates were determined for June 25, July 16 and August 12. Topics will be Noah, Jesus and the Great Catch of Fish, Baptism of Jesus.
- Birthdays:** Cards continue to be sent to all active children at the beginning of the month.
- **Youth Ministry:** Youth Ministry Event scheduled for April 30 went well.

Next meeting scheduled for May 21, 2023, after worship.



"Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members

Don Rettig

will celebrate his
90th Birthday
on June 13

15976 St. Rt. 281
Holgate, OH 43527

Kay Raines

will celebrate her
89th Birthday
on June 13

4741 73rd St
LaMesa, CA 91942

Herbert Fruth

will celebrate his
95th Birthday
on June 23

13567 Co Rd H
Holgate, OH 43527

Gene Crawford

will celebrate his
86th Birthday
on June 24

11708 Co Rd N
Napoleon, OH 43545

John Tobias

will celebrate his
84th Birthday
on June 28

10011 County Rd. Y
Hamler, OH 43524



George & Ruth Medina
will celebrate their
62nd Wedding Anniversary
on June 9

226 S Turkeyfoot Ave
Malinta, OH 43534

Gary & Marilyn Watson
will celebrate their
57th Wedding Anniversary
on June 25

M687 Co Rd 17D
Napoleon, OH 43545

Larry & Darlene Hockman
will celebrate their
65th Wedding Anniversary
on June 29

854 W Graceway Dr
Napoleon, OH 43545

Thank You!

Thank you very much for the support, love and prayers I received during my recent hand surgery. It turned out to be much more serious than I had anticipated, but prayers were answered. Joe and I are thankful for the St. John's family we are becoming acquainted with. There is a spirit in this church, and we are honored to share it with you.

Lynne Long

Thank You!

To the members of

St. John's UCC, Holgate

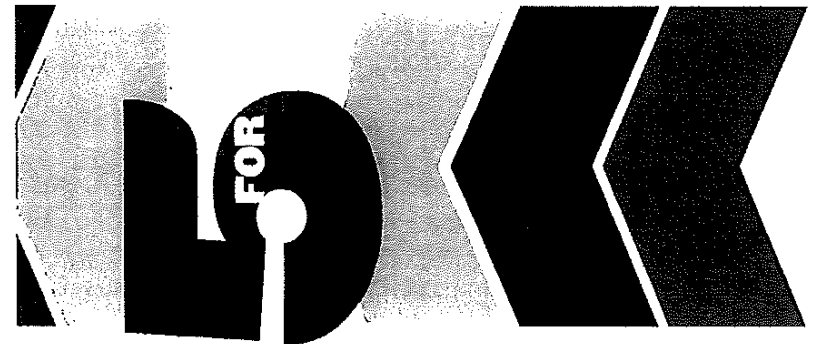
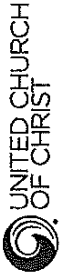
**for being a 5 for 5 Congregation of
the United Church of Christ in 2022.**

5 for 5 Congregations support Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support and the
Neighbors in Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, The Christmas Fund, and Strengthen
the Church Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ.

John C. Durbauer
John C. Durbauer
General Minister and President
United Church of Christ

Rev. David Long-Higgins
Rev. David Long-Higgins
Conference Minister

Rev. Donald St. Rumbach
Rev. Donald St. Rumbach
Association Minister



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST SAYS

Thank You!

To the members of

St. John's UCC, Holgate

For your **2022** contribution of

\$6,790.00 Basic

For Basic Support of

Our Church's Wider Mission

... lives

John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President
United Church of Christ

Rev. David Long-Higgins
Conference Minister

Rev. Daniel L. Busch
Association Minister



May 9, 2023

St. John's United Church of Christ
1946 State Route 108
Holgate, OH 43527-9712

Dear St. John's United Church of Christ,

Thank You! Your gift is a blessing. Thank you a million times over for the support that you give to Crossroad Child & Family Services, not just for your donations but for cheering us on and lifting us up. It's because of YOU, and people like you, that Crossroad has been able to serve children and families for 140 years.

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,092.20. Because of you, St. John's United Church of Christ, clients are thriving every day! Your generosity is inspiring. You make an amazing difference to Crossroad Child & Family Services and the lives of the children and families we serve.

Our mission is to create promising futures for children in difficult circumstances by providing therapy, education, and family support services. You provide the promising future these children need and deserve. They come from difficult circumstances but with you by their side, these children have a chance. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for believing in these children and the work that we do at Crossroad. You are a hero.

With Gratitude,

Beth A McCord
Beth McCord
Chief Development Officer
260.484.4153 x 2090
bmcord@crossroadcares.org

*Dear Members of St. John's UCC,
your support & generosity to crossroad is both transformative to the mission and an encouragement to our hard working staff! We are better because of all of you!
Thank you! Beth*

PS -I would love to hear from you anytime, St. John's United Church of Christ, please reach out!

Visit our new website at www.crossroadcares.org • Please follow us on Facebook!

Retain this gift receipt portion for your records.
Crossroad Child & Family Services
1825 Beacon St., Fort Wayne, IN 46805 • 260-484-4153 • EIN # 35-0869050

St. John's United Church of Christ • 1946 State Route 108 • Holgate • OH • 43527-9712

Date	Amount	Fund
5/9/2023	\$1,092.20	Unrestricted

No Goods Or Services Were Provided In Return For This Gift



JUNE

- | | | | |
|------|------------------|------|-------------------|
| 6-1 | Anthony Meyer | 6-14 | Melanie Anderson |
| 6-2 | Jenny Kobilis | 6-15 | Serapio Medina |
| 6-2 | Chris Coppes | 6-17 | Nancy Thomas |
| 6-3 | Rick Desgranges | 6-18 | Sean Saneholtz |
| 6-5 | Greg Franz | 6-20 | Karen Yaichner |
| 6-7 | Isaac Franz | 6-21 | Patricia Kirk |
| 6-11 | Darlene Snyder | 6-21 | Eric Shank |
| 6-12 | Virginia Rettig | 6-23 | Herb Fruth |
| 6-13 | John Vajen | 6-24 | Gene Crawford |
| 6-13 | Craig Franz, Sr. | 6-26 | Tanner Davis |
| 6-13 | Peg Franz | 6-28 | John Tobias |
| 6-13 | Don Rettig | 6-29 | Ashlynn Highfield |
| 6-13 | Kay Raines | | |

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 419-966-2389 Church Office at 419-264-4401

PLAN AHEAD FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS
See Calendar on Inside Mailing Cover

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for news articles to appear in the **JULY** Newsletter is **SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 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**



MISSIONS CORNER

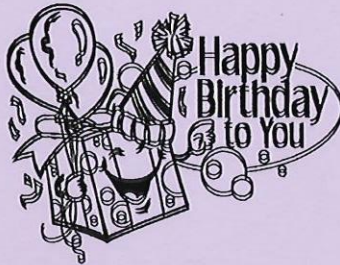
June Mission

MISSION-TO-GO

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.



Kid's Corner



June

- 6 - 8 Olivia Haver
- 6 - 10 Kaelen Roberts
- 6 - 11 Brooklyn Fruth
- 6 - 11 Logan Eberly
- 6 - 19 Parker Rozevink
- 6 - 20 Makayla Meller
- 6 - 21 Kinley Brown
- 6 - 24 Jordyn Borck
- 6 - 30 Miriam Kibisu



Kid's Corner



"SPLASH"

Summer Family Gathering

Sunday, June 25 after worship

Everyone Invited!

Learn about John Baptizing Jesus

Enjoy Some Water Games

Bring A Dish to Share for Lunch

Hot Dogs and Drink Provided

Sponsored by the Christian Ed. Board

Mark your calendars...

ALL CHURCH POOL PARTY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 – 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

NAPOLEON COMMUNITY POOL

EVERYONE INVITED AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

(watch for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex)

Sponsored by the Christian Ed. Board

The Christian Education Board thanks our Sunday School teachers, helpers, and all who provided faithful service this past year. What you do is so important in the lives of our children and our church. We hope to see you all back next Fall!