

Rally Day – Sunday, September 12
Sunday School party 9 am
Worship with Communion 10:15 am
Ice Cream Social 11:30 am



**Results of Congregational Survey
on insert in center of newsletter**

From the Pastor – pages 2
Sunday School Teachers Needed – page 7
Worship Participants – page 9
Safe Church training – page 13
Ice Cream Social – page 15
Memorials – pages 18, 20-21
Kids' Corner – purple page
Birthdays – pages 19, 23

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
		6:30pm - CardioDrumming				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30am - Worship 10:30am - 3pm - Search Team 6:30pm - CardioDrumming	Labor Day Office Closed	SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food 7pm - Spiritual Council	12pm - Red Cross Blood 6:30pm - CardioDrumming	5:45pm - Finance Team @		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship-Rally 11:30am - Ice Cream Social 6:30pm - CardioDrumming 7pm - Deacons	7pm - Consistory Zoom		First Day of Hispanic 6:30pm - CardioDrumming			9am - FH reserved
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9am - Confirmation 9am - Sunday School 9:30am - Newsletter 10:15am - Worship 11:15am - Search Team 11:30am - Confirmation 6:30pm - CardioDrumming		SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food	6:30pm - CardioDrumming	1:30pm - Vancrest 3pm - Fellowship Hall		Pastor Orr vacation
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Pastor Orr vacation						
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Safe Church 6:30pm - CardioDrumming		9am - Newsletter mailing	6:30pm - CardioDrumming			

The Sentinel

St. John's United Church of Christ
I-946 St. Rt. 108 Holgate, Ohio 43527
SEPTEMBER 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
Pastor e-mail: stjohnpastor@metalink.net
Financial Administrator e-mail - Kristine Maas: stjohnfinadmin@metalink.net
Newsletter Editor e-mail: radurham703@bright.net
Church Website: www.stjohnsuccholgate.com
SHALOM Food Pantry open the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 4:30 to 6:00 P.M.

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

WORSHIP and ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

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

Wednesday Night Schedule

Adult and Youth Bell Choir TBA
Sanctuary Choir TBA

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Faith and Action

*Do not merely listen to the word,
and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.*
- James 1:20



Not long after I became a believer in Jesus Christ, I realized that I should probably start going to church. So, I started visiting mainline protestant churches, like the one in which I had been raised. Sermons there called upon members to stand for justice, march for civil rights, and help the poor. Those were all good things but somehow they seemed disconnected from belief in the Good News of Jesus.

I visited other churches and heard the pastors preach about the grace of God and the salvation that is ours through Jesus Christ, themes that resonated with my new faith. But there was something missing there as well. All we were asked to do was believe in Jesus and get others to believe in him as well.

Although I did not know it at the time, it was my first experience of the tension that exists between orthodoxy (believing the right things) and orthopraxy (doing the right things).

The Epistle of James challenges believers to put their faith into action. It speaks to Jewish Christians who were focused on their faith in Jesus but were neglecting to let their doctrine propel them into good works. It pronounces faith dead, unless it is accompanied by action (James 2:17). Clearly, James is concerned with orthopraxy.

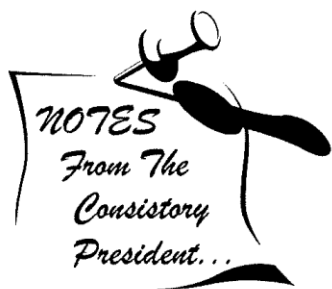
The reformer, Martin Luther, regarded James' teaching on the importance of works as fighting words. He was concerned with orthodoxy, especially with the doctrine of salvation by grace through faith and not by works (Ephesians 2:8-9). He had little use for the Epistle of James. At one point, he dismissed it as, "an epistle of straw."

Richard Rohr says, "It is so important to balance orthodoxy with orthopraxy." That balance is what I was seeking as a new believer. It is what many find lacking in the church today. Even the Apostle Paul knew the importance of keeping faith connected with action. In the verse immediately following his "grace not works" declaration he went on to write, "we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10).

Jesus taught his followers, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16) James urged believers to let their faith give birth to actions and thought that their actions would deepen and enrich their faith.

We will be talking about and learning from this short book during the first three Sundays of September. I invite you to take time to read James' brief five chapters and to consider the balance between your beliefs and your actions.

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



THOUGHTS ON THE SEASON

Well, we are approaching the change of seasons, again. Summer is winding down, and soon we will notice significant differences outside. Back during Lent, I gave you some thoughts from my bathroom, when I changed my shower curtain. And with this change of season came a change of my shower curtain, again! Changing my shower curtain made me think of the following verses from the Holy Bible.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. NIV

The change of seasons reminds us that time is moving forward. My shower curtain has the following on it: *happy Fall, hello autumn, and be thankful.* As I reflect on those words and the words from Ecclesiastes, I hope that we can all embrace God's beauty in the Fall season. Autumn is a time that we are all busy, whether it is activities with harvest, school, church, work, or family obligations. Take the time to search, and give up, if needed, to make sure you have time for yourself, and family. The last words on my shower curtain, be thankful, should be a part of us every day of every season, not just at this time of the year.

May you and your family enjoy the upcoming cooler weather, the beauty of our earth, and may we raise praises to the Lord God who has created all of this for us.

Blessings to you, Christine Rettig



Positive Things Seen and Heard from the Congregation and Consistory

- Wonderful to have the improved Wi-Fi signal in the church.
- Congratulations to Gavin Miller who has been participating in Summer Theater in Maumee, along with working this summer.
- Thanks to Betty (Bob) Rettig, Kevin Vajen, and Doug Rettig for working on the electronic sign after that Wi-Fi was updated.
- Thanks to Doug Rettig and Greg Nelson for their behind the scenes work at the church.
- Thankful for unseen things, youth involved in summer sports and a successful season.
- Shout out to Betty (Bob) Rettig, Amanda Rettig, and Linda Rettig for a wonderful Safe Church Training session.



Our Nursing
Home Ministry

*VanCrest of Holgate
Worship Service*

*Due to restrictions the
Worship Service
is resuming with
limited number of
participants*



CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

August 9, 2021

- * Motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting as distributed.
- * Motion to trim up all 4 evergreen trees to allow for mowing.
- * Motion to accept with gratitude the fuel contract with Kinsman Propane for 2021-2022 year.
- * Motion for the Trustees to look into the cost for air conditioning for Fellowship Hall.
- * Motion to accept the financial reports pending audit.

Respectfully submitted, Maggie Prigge

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.

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 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. The service is also recorded, so you can watch it at your convenience.



DEACONS' BENCH

August 8, 2021
Lori Clady, Scribe

The Deacons met on Sunday, August 8. Vice-chair of Deacons Christine Rettig called the meeting to order.

Minutes were approved with corrections.

Rick Desgranges reviewed the upcoming contract for LP for the next contract year. Our budget for LP will be \$1,160/month. The price will not exceed \$1.39/gal.

The Deacon schedule for September was filled.

The Head Deacon will look at reinstating the acolytes as a part of the worship service.

Liaison reports: Trustees: will begin the cement repair at the South door after the Henry County Fair.

CE Board: will have the last summer event scheduled for August 22.

Shalom: numbers of clients has been down. Will continue with the drive-through format.

Technology: visited several churches, formulating a plan to update equipment for live streaming.

Visitation: planned to start in home visits with guidance from family members, continuing phone calls and cards to folks in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Mission and Stewardship: will be meeting to plan mission focus for 2022.

Next meeting will be Sunday, September 12, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Meeting summarized by Christine Rettig

You should find a **better WI-FI signal** in the church now. The Technology Team was finally able to have Metalink come in and install four additional access points (routers). Password for the church's guest WI-FI is *jesuslovesyou*. The team is currently looking at camera systems to enhance our ability to project and record worship.



Charlotte Rose Whiteside
July 31 3021

Parents: Jessica Waisner and Cody Whiteside

Grandparents: Tim and Amy Waisner

Great Grandparents: Jerry and Joan Waisner

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

The Christian Ed Board is looking for men and women to teach Sunday school. Everyone has a busy schedule and we understand people can't commit to teaching every week. A sign-up sheet is posted in the church library. Please sign up to teach when you can.

We are using "Celebrate Wonder" materials which include a Bible story and activity. You do not need to be a Bible scholar to teach Sunday school. The only requirement is that you like kids and want them to learn about the Christian faith.

All teachers are required to attend Safe Church training which is scheduled September 26. Remember, if we don't teach our kids to believe in Jesus, the world will teach them not to.

Thank you, CE Board members Deb, Caryn, Diana, Katie and Franell

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported Zach Waisner with monetary donations to help him financially as he fights his cancer battle. A generous check has been sent to him which will help pay medical bills, pay for the day-to-day expenses of being a dad to his daughter, general expenses of life, and assist with expenses for him and his parents as they continue to travel back and forth to Cleveland. Thank You to all who continue to pray for Zach as he fights his battle with testicular cancer.



Dear St. John's UCC,

Thank You for your recent gift, through the Northwest Ohio Association! Crossroad is incredibly grateful for your continued and generous support.

Blessings to you!
Liz Bergen, Development Director

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

SEPTEMBER

September 5 - Labor Day Sunday

James 2:1-17

The Work of Faith

God honors hard work and wants us to work
hard in Christ's name.

September 12 - Rally Day

Communion

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8

Come Near to God

Our way of life shows our devotion to God.

September 19

James 5:13-20

Bringing Back Wanderers

In our individualistic age it is easy to let people
go their own way, but we are called to restore
them to the faithful path.

September 26

Hymn Sing



SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

USHERS	ACOLYTES	DEACONS
Sept. 5		Ron Hoellrich Jeri Hoellrich
No Ushers In September	No Acolytes In September	
Sept. 12		Amanda Rettig John Hahn
Sept. 19		Pat Kirk Rick Desgranges
Sept. 26		Christopher Clady Lori Clady



FROM
THE SHALOM
FOOD PANTRY

FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - July 2021

INCOME

St. John's UCC June Giving	\$ 460.00
St. John's UCC July Giving	1,120.00
Farm Income	300.09
Pleasant Bend UMC	<u>92.00</u>

Total \$ 1,972.09

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...

Zach Waisner (Tim and Amy's son) recovering at home following a second stem cell infusion

Tony Rettig (Terry (Sue) Rettig's brother) discharged from rehab on August 4 following a stroke

Roger Weis (Betty and Don Rettig's son-in-law) cancer on lip has returned

Gary Delventhal (husband of Dianne) recovering from surgery

Tim Meyer in process of being put on liver transplant list

Izzy Leininger 4 year old recovering from surgery

Gib Sonnenberg recovering from heart valve surgery

Shane Eberle recovering following hospitalization

Pastor Juli Lejman Guy from St. Peter's Lutheran recovering from surgery

Jacob Brock (step-brother of Andy) in ICU at St. Luke's in Toledo with COVID

Angelia Stephens Culver (Christine Rettig's niece) recovering from bilateral mastectomy for treatment of breast cancer

Darlene Hockman recovering from outpatient surgery

Charlotte Rose Whiteside (daughter of Jessica Waisner and Cody Whiteside) born 3 months prematurely in Indianapolis

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.

Sympathies to:

Gib Sonnenberg and family on the death of Dona Sonnenberg who passed away on August 1 and was laid to rest Tuesday August 10 at St. John's with Burial in the church cemetery.

Andy and Katie Brock and family on the passing of Andy's step-brother Evan from COVID 19.



**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 Breese

LOGAN ACRES CARE CENTER, 2739 County Road 91,
Bellefontaine, OH 43311
Janet Bichan

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 JULY REPORT

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

	2021 JULY ACTUAL	2021 ACTUAL YTD	2021 ANNUAL BUDGET
Accounts			
OPERATING BUDGET INCOME			
Total OPERATING BUDGET INCOME	\$ 10,500.82	\$102,789.54	\$211,835.69
EXPENSES			
Total BUILDING & MAINTENANCE	\$1,552.58	\$18,248.58	\$39,000.00
Total MINISTRIES	\$316.65	\$2,585.83	\$7,800.00
Total MISSIONS	\$537.50	\$3,762.50	\$6,950.00
Total ADMINISTRATION	\$4,321.18	\$35,026.61	\$64,565.51
Total PASTORIAL	\$5,458.60	\$45,633.01	\$93,520.18
Total EXPENSES	\$12,186.51	\$105,256.53	\$211,835.69
Net Total	(\$1,688.51)	(\$2,466.99)	\$ -
Operating Checking Account Balance as of 7/31/21			\$ 25,102.35
Mission Giving: One Great Hour of Sharing			\$ 645.00
SHALOM			\$ 1,510.00
Zach Waisner's Donations			\$ 2,700.00
2nd 2020 Crop Year Farm Rent check was distributed.			\$ 2,000.67



CHOIR NOTES FROM GREG

There will be an **important meeting of Sanctuary and Handbell Choirs Sunday, August 29 after church** in the front of the sanctuary. We will discuss the upcoming ice cream social and resumption of practices. Both items are very important so please try to come. If you cannot, you can call me with your thoughts.

The Ice Cream Social is scheduled for
Rally Day, September 12

after worship. Menu: Hot chicken sandwiches and hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad. Ice cream is still the same vendor and the pies and cakes are from our church bakers. Hope to see 150 people there for church and lunch!!!!

Attention all leaders, staff and Sunday School teachers/helpers

Safe Church training for people working with our children and other vulnerable folks is scheduled **September 26 immediately following worship**. While this training helps protect our kids, participation also protects teachers and others who are in leadership positions. If you are serving in any of these roles or if you are just interested in learning about this, please plan to attend one of these half-hour sessions.



Archie Joseph Bockrath

August 1, 2021

Parents: Adam and Angie Bockrath

Godparents: Dylan Bockrath

Rachel Desgranges



*Mission and
Stewardship*



NEIGHBORS IN NEED

SEPTEMBER MISSION

Hello Neighbor! Have you ever really thought about what an impact a neighbor can have on your life? A neighbor can be right next door or live miles away. Could be any race or ethnicity, another religion or simply put have a background different than yours.

For the September mission, Neighbors in Need focuses in on two main aspects. One third of the gifts collected supports (CAIM) or Council for American Indian Ministries. Just a small sample: the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota all mostly from North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska, were assisted and had help setting up churches from early UCC. It is pretty cool today to see 20 UCC congregations on reservations and even one multi-tribal UCC in Minnesota! CAIM supports the church and the pastors of those churches. In addition to those churches established, CAIM also assists more than 1,000 individuals who are part of other nations and tribes, but congregational members of other UCCs. So, where does the other two thirds of support get directed to?

The other two-thirds directly supports Justice and Witness Ministries. The Justice and Witness Ministries steps in on local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. This office focuses on communication and brings to light action alerts, news updates, and offers resources for a multitude of justice issues. Alongside the Justice and Peace Action Network, (Peace and Justice advocates from the UCC), issues like: federal budget, voting rights, immigration, healthcare, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice are where work on strong policy advocacy is placed.

Just, like those neighbors who may be near or far, be of a different race or ethnicity, or just have a different background, neighbors in need is that "unfailing love". The love and support that never gives up, that always breaks through for justice and compassion in a time of necessity. Simply put, a neighbor, a friend has at one point or another done the same. Please consider sharing your "unfailing love", time and talent offering, to a "neighbor in need".

Psalm 33:5 "The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love."



Sunday, September 12, 2021

Rally Day

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Hot Chicken Sandwiches

Hot Dogs with Fixin's

Baked Beans

Potato Salad

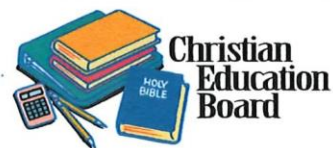
Homemade Desserts

Hand Cranked Ice Cream



Sponsored by the Sanctuary
and Hand Bell Choirs

Freewill offering



Highlights

July 18, 2021

Submitted By Caryn Lulfs

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

- Diana opened the meeting with prayer.
- The Wednesday evening schedule for the Sunday School children was discussed for the Fall. It was decided that we will discuss this again in December. Cardio drumming will be using the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday evenings this Fall.
- A list of active Sunday School students was presented and reviewed to make sure all the children were included and placed in the appropriate classroom. We currently have 11 in Preschool and Kindergarten, 7 in first - fourth grade, 6 in fifth and sixth grades and 3 who will be in their first year of Confirmation. Rooms were decided for each class. The pre-k and K will be in the room next to SHALOM, 1st - 4th will be next to the office, 5th - 6th will be upstairs, and the Confirmation class will be in the room off the Fellowship Hall. The request to order the curriculum was sent to Betty on July 8, 2021, Diana is going to check with Betty in regards to this.
- Sunday School teachers were discussed. Pre-K-K is covered, Linda A, agreed to teach 1 week a month for grades 1-4. Caryn, Diana, and Chris offered to cover classes as needed. Other possible teachers are Sue Rettig, Amanda Rettig, Tammy Miller, Hannah Frate, Gavin Miller, Alexa Brown, Sarah Rozevink, Tori Medina, Beth Saneholtz, Jenny Kobilis, Jeri Hoellrich, and Lucy Coppes. Jeri will be asked to do the Sunday School opening. Terry Rettig has agreed to be Sunday School Superintendent. We will be focusing on Crossroad for our Sunday School Mission. We will be asking the students to bring in items to donate. For the month of September we are asking them to bring in non-spiral notebooks.
- Everyone will need Safe Church Training this year. This will be offered on September 26.

Continued On Page 17



Highlights

July 18, 2021

Submitted By Caryn Lulfs

Continued From Page 16

- An additional CEB member is needed. Kevin is going to ask Lucy Coppes. Jenny Kobilis is also an option.
- Blessing of the Backpacks was held on August 22. Caryn ordered 30 sequined cross key chains from Oriental Trading.
- CE Board will meet on August 21 at 9 a.m. to organize the Sunday School rooms, set up for the family event, and conduct our August meeting. August 22 is the next Celebrate Noah Family Gathering. We will have a make your own sub sandwich station. Supplies will be provided by Diana and Franell. Caryn will bring carrots, ranch, and plastic containers for the ranch. Katie will bring ice cream bars and supplies and water. Diana will have a Noah scavenger hunt prepared.
The Schedule for the event is:
 - 10:30 - 11:00 Scavenger Hunt
 - 11:00 - 11:30 Lunch
 - 11:30 - 12:00 Kickball games
 - 12:00 - 12:15 Clean up/Dismissal
- Orientation for Confirmation 1 is set for August 22 at 8:40 a.m.
- Rally Day will be September 12. We discussed possibly doing an Olympics theme.
- Next Meeting will be August 21 at 9 a.m.

Save the Dates

September 12 – Ice Cream Social after worship

September 26 – Safe Church Training – call office to RSVP

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

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



Anticipating the return of Sunday School beginning on Rally Day, September 12, **we will pause Kid's Zoom** beginning September 1.

Thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who have enabled the children to meet weekly with Pastor Orr using Zoom!

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR FORMER MILITARY MEMBERS WANTED

We are still looking for information about our former military members from St. John's. We have a list of those who served in the military in World War II and before. This was published in a book called *War Stories*. We would like to try to find out **who has served our country since 1945** so we can do an addendum. We would like their name, branch of service, years served, what they did and where they served as well as a contact person if we need more information. We hope to include those who have passed away as well to recognize their service. Please send or e-mail the information to the church. We don't want to miss honoring these people and their service!

DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER

Former member Ken Snyder notified us that his wife, Bev Snyder, passed away on August 3.

Burial will be in Crossville, TN.



"Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members

Darlene Hockman

will celebrate her
81st Birthday
on September 11

854 W Graceway Dr
Napoleon, OH 43545

Thelma Breece

will celebrate her
88th Birthday
on September 22

Indian Meadows Nursing Home
303 West Leggett
Wauseon, OH 43567

James Yocom

will celebrate his
85th Birthday
on September 26

N416 SR 109
Napoleon, OH 43545

Esther Bischoff

will celebrate her
86th Birthday
on September 27

814 Third St
Napoleon, OH 43545



Memorial Service

Ralph Zimmerman Jr.

May 4, 1928 - January 3, 2021

Ralph Zimmerman, Jr., 92, died January 3, 2021, in Daytona Beach Shores, Florida. He was formerly of Napoleon, Ohio.

A memorial service was held on July 31, 2021, at 11 a.m. at St. John's United Church of Christ, Holgate.

Graveside services were held for the immediate family prior to the Memorial.

HELP REV. DAN BUSCH CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Rev. Dan Busch is celebrating 50 years of ordained ministry in 2021. He has spent the last fifteen of those years as our Northwest Ohio Association Minister, and we would like to show our appreciation to Rev. Busch with a **card shower**. We are hoping to have as many cards as possible to help celebrate this special milestone in Rev. Busch's ministry. If it seems appropriate, please consider sending a personalized sentiment with your card, perhaps making mention of a particular remembrance or occasion when Rev. Busch was especially helpful to you or your church. It is our hope that this effort will be a fitting demonstration of our thanks to God for the blessing of Rev. Busch's faithful ministry among us.

Please send cards to the Association office to arrive on or around **September 1**. Thank you all!

Office address: NWOA 416 Wentz Street, Tiffin, OH 44883



In Loving Memory
Dona M. Sonnenberg
November 20, 1924 - August 1, 2021

Dona M. Sonnenberg, 96, of Napoleon, Ohio, died peacefully Sunday, August 1, 2021, at Genacross Lutheran Services, Napoleon Campus.

She was born November 20, 1924, in Malinta, Ohio, to the late Harry and Vena (Latta) Stevens. She was previously married to Cecil Finks, who preceded her in death in 1970. She then married Gilbert Sonnenberg on June 21, 1980, at St. John's United Church of Christ, Holgate, Ohio.

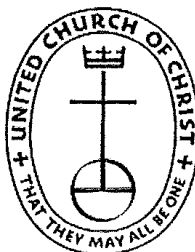
Dona worked at McCord Corporation, Wauseon, Ohio, for over 40 years, retiring in 1987. She was a lifelong member of St. John's United Church of Christ and served on the church council, memorial committee, and the visitation team. She also volunteered at the Henry County Hospital and the Shalom Food Pantry at the church. She enjoyed crocheting, playing cards, puzzles, traveling, and polka dancing.

She is survived by her husband, Gib; step children, Craig (Jeanine) Sonnenberg, John (Beth) Sonnenberg, Cathy (Patrick) Dyer; sister, Janet Jones; seven step grandchildren; five step great-grandchildren; and a brother-in-law, Donald Ahleman.

She was also preceded in death by a step son, David Sonnenberg; siblings, Harry Stevens, Jr., Nelda Kepling, Una Mae Webster, Marilyn Ahleman; and infant brother; and brothers-in-law, Ferris Kepling, Keith Webster and Jim Jones.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, August 10 at St. John's United Church of Christ, Holgate, Ohio. Interment followed at the Church Cemetery. Visitation was held Monday from 4-7 p.m. at the funeral home and Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. at the Church. The family requested that masks be worn for those attending visitation and services.

Contributions can be made in Memory of Dona to
St. John's United Church of Christ
or
SHALOM Food Pantry



Washington United Church of Christ

2950 Sidney Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45225
Phone (513) 541-7757 Fax (513) 541-7579

August 2, 2021

St. John's United Church of Christ
I-946 State Route 108
Holgate, OH 43527

Dear Friends,

Thank you! We have received your generous mission gift of \$642, and we are grateful. Only through the support of others can our outreach ministries continue.

Our "not quite normal" Summer Youth Program has just ended. Even though several mission groups had to cancel, we were able to host children onsite for five weeks – they received breakfast and lunch, and had activities that included Bible stories, arts/crafts, recreation, nutrition education, gardening, reading tutoring, and field trips.

The other weeks we delivered lunch and next-day breakfast to their homes.

We continue to serve lunch on weekdays – still carryout - to anyone who comes. And Camp Cupboard and Closet – where everything is free – is open two days a week, offering food, clothing and household items.

We're gearing up now for our Back-to-School ministry, providing school uniforms to children connected to the church. We plan to resume Homework Club, our after-school tutoring program, in September.

On behalf of all those who will benefit from your gift and our pastor, Rev. Dr. Aaron Saari, thank you!

Sincerely,

Laurel Humes

Laurel Humes
Church Council, Washington UCC



SEPTEMBER

9 - 1	Jennifer Bortz	9 - 23	Reed Waisner
9 - 11	Darlene Hockman	9 - 25	Chad Lulfs
9 - 12	Brittany Medina	9 - 26	James Yocom
9 - 13	Maggie Prigge	9 - 27	Debbie Eberle
9 - 18	Norma Nagel	9 - 27	Esther Bischoff
9 - 19	Paul Prigge	9 - 28	Brian Lulfs
9 - 19	Terry (Sue) Rettig	9 - 28	Courtney Clay
9 - 21	Denny Behnfeldt	9 - 29	Georgena Nanson
9 - 22	Thelma Breece	9 - 30	Dennis Jones

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 **OCTOBER**
Newsletter is **Sunday, September 19, 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



September Mission

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

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