

Happy  
**Valentine's**  
Day



*St. John's United Church of Christ  
1-946 St. Rt. 108  
Holgate, Ohio 43527*

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*February*



| Sun   | Mon   | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri       | Sat                                   |
|---|---|--|---|---|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| <p>1</p> <p>9am - Sunday School<br/>10:15am - Communion<br/>10:15am - Worship</p>   | <p>2</p>  | <p>3</p> <p>SHALOM Delivery in am<br/>4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry</p>  | <p>4</p> <p>10am - Staff meeting<br/>6pm - Handbells<br/>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>          | <p>5</p> <p>10am - Bible Study<br/>1:30pm - Vancrest Service - Angel<br/>6pm - Finance Team</p> | <p>6</p>  | <p>7</p>                              |
| <p>8</p> <p>9am - Sunday School<br/>10:15am - Worship<br/>11:30am - CEB meeting<br/>12pm - Fellowship Hall Reserved</p>         | <p>9</p> <p>6pm - Deacons<br/>6:30pm - Consistory</p>                     | <p>10</p>  | <p>11</p> <p>6pm - Handbells<br/>7pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>                                  | <p>12</p> <p>10am - Bible Study</p>   | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> <p>FH Reserved</p>          |
| <p>15</p> <p>9am - Sunday School<br/>10am - Newsletter Articles Due<br/>10:15am - Worship<br/>11:30am - Ladies of Love ~ FH</p> | <p>16</p>   | <p>17</p> <p>SHALOM Delivery in am<br/>4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry</p> | <p>18</p> <p>6pm - Handbells<br/>7pm - Ash Wednesday Service<br/>8pm - Sanctuary Choir</p>  | <p>19</p> <p>10am - Bible Study</p>   | <p>20</p> | <p>21</p> <p>10am - FH - Reserved</p> |
| <p>22</p> <p>9am - Sunday School<br/>10:15am - Worship</p>  | <p>23</p> <p>9am - Newsletter printing<br/>6:30pm - Spiritual Council</p> | <p>24</p> <p>9am - Newsletter mailing</p>                              | <p>25</p> <p>6pm - Handbells<br/>7pm - Wednesday night Lenten<br/>8pm - Sanctuary Choir</p> | <p>26</p> <p>10am - Bible Study<br/>3pm - Fellowship Hall Reserved</p>                          | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p>                             |

# The Sentinel

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

FEBRUARY 2026

## Please Contact us at --

Office Hours: 8-12 Monday - Friday  
Church Phone: (419) 264-4401  
Pastor: Jeff McCarn - Cell Phone 812-202-9273  
Parsonage Phone: 419-264-5201  
Parsonage Address: 13039 Co Rd J, Holgate, OH 43527  
Church e-mail: [holgateucc@metalink.net](mailto:holgateucc@metalink.net) (Peggy Schulte)  
Pastor e-mail: [revjmccarn@gmail.com](mailto:revjmccarn@gmail.com)  
Financial Administrator e-mail - [stjohnfinadmi@metalink.net](mailto:stjohnfinadmi@metalink.net) (Carl Dettmer)  
Newsletter Editor e-mail: [radurham703@bright.net](mailto:radurham703@bright.net)  
Church Website: [www.stjohnsuccholgate.org](http://www.stjohnsuccholgate.org)  
SHALOM Food Pantry open the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 4:30 to 6:00 P.M.

Peggy Schulte, Admin. Asst.  
Fax: (419) 264-1460

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 A.M. – WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15 A.M.

### Wednesday Evening Activities

Bell Choir 6:00 P.M. – Sanctuary Choir 7:00 P.M.

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Pastor  
Jeff's  
Desk...

## IN AWE OF GOD

*But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house; I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you.*

Psalm 5:7 NRSV

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "lengthen" and refers to the lengthening days of Spring. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on personal relationships with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer to give of ourselves for others.

As we enter into Lent, I encourage us to enter into a time of deeper reflection. Yes, it is good to give up something like chocolate, French fries or Facebook. However, I encourage us to go deeper, reflecting on how this time of repentance will allow us to imitate Jesus.

Repentance is about transformation. In Spring, the earth transforms from being dormant to coming to life as buds form and then flowers, shoots or leaves. During Lent, prayer and reflection move us to a our own transformation centered on living out the hopes and dreams of God on earth as it is in heaven.

Awe is a deep emotional response that can significantly impact our well-being and perception of the world. Awe often arises from experiences that transcend our usual understanding, such as viewing beautiful landscapes, listening to powerful music,

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Pastor  
Jeff's  
Desk...

## IN AWE OF GOD

*Continued From Page 2*

encountering extraordinary acts of kindness or having a deep feeling of Divine presence. When we engage intentionally in a deeper spirituality and reflection of God, then we are able to feel in "awe" of God. Feeling in awe about God will not only help us individually, but it will radiant with people we have interactions.

This Lent may we be in awe of God!

*Grace and peace,  
Rev. Jeff McCarn*

## WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN WORSHIP

Beginning Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 7 p.m. we will start our Lenten journey with our Ash Wednesday worship. Each Wednesday during Lent we will gather for worship in the Chapel at 7 p.m. During Holy Week we will gather on Thursday, April 2, 2026, to observe Maundy Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with a Seder meal followed by worship. Good Friday worship will be in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m.

Each Wednesday during Lent we will become "Purveyors of Awe." A purveyor is a person or group that spreads or promotes an idea. Awe is a profound emotional response that can significantly impact our well-being and perception of the world. Awe often arises from experiences that transcend our usual understanding, such as viewing vast landscapes, listening to powerful music, encountering extraordinary acts of kindness or feeling heightened devotion and a Divine Presence connecting us all. To be a "Purveyor of Awe" is to be intentional about curating a life of spiritual depth. This has implications not only for one's own life, but also as motivation to tend to the well-being of others.

We will become "Purveyors of Awe" exploring the elements of Beauty, Wonder, Meaning, Curiosity, Delight, Connection and Self-Giving through the writings of biblical poets. Let us approach this Lent as "Purveyors of Awe!"

# Special FOR ST. JOHN'S UCC

M • E • S • S • A • G • E

## Emergency Medical Information

Several years ago, a congregant experienced a medical emergency during worship. 911 was called, first responders arrived at the church, and the person was transported to a local hospital. However, the local hospital was not the person's routine healthcare facility, and therefore did not have access to the health history of the patient. In the age of electronic medical records, many healthcare facilities can easily access a patient's records if the EMRs are of the same system used by other facilities. There are at least six different EMR companies that serve hospitals and medical practices in the U.S. For example, EPIC may serve your healthcare facility for your EMR, but in an emergency transfer, you may go to a facility that uses Oracle Cerner. Generally, different EMR companies are not compatible to easily share information with a facility that uses a different company to administer their EMR system.

You have an opportunity to complete a form here at the church which would contain pertinent demographic and medical information that could be needed at the time of a medical emergency. Your completed form can be presented to the office in a sealed envelope, and kept in a locked file cabinet. In the event of a medical emergency requiring transfer to a healthcare facility, your envelope can be pulled and sent with the emergency responders. Having this information available could be of utmost importance to make sure you get the care that you need in the case of an emergency.

If you would like to complete an emergency medical information form, just contact the administrative assistant to obtain the form and envelope. If you currently have an emergency form on file, and you have had changes in medications, medical/surgical information, or emergency contacts information, feel free to contact the office so that you can update your information.

*Thanks, Christine Rettig*



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

- ♦ Thank you to Lillian Schulte for the beautiful bulletin cover for Christmas Eve.
- ♦ Thanks to the congregation for staff Christmas gifts.
- ♦ Baptism renewal on January 11 was well received and was a powerful moment.
- ♦ A big thank you to Phillip Rettig and his electrical expertise. A thank you also to Ethan for helping his dad.
- ♦ All of the Christmas services went really well and were joyful.
- ♦ Rolie and Janice Rettig extend thanks for the cards, words, and for 65 years of marriage!



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  
January 12, 2026**

Consistory met on January 12th at 6:30 p.m. Items to note are as follows:

- ♦ The office project is nearly finished!
- ♦ The Annual Congregational Meeting is set to take place on January 25.
- ♦ A motion was made and passed to distribute the profits from the Shiarla Farm once a year instead of three times per year.
- ♦ Safe Church Training sessions have been well attended.
- ♦ Fund Raising opportunities including working the gates at the Henry County Fair and the Rummage Sale were discussed. More information will be available closer to their dates.
- ♦ Ladles of Love: Soup and Dessert Luncheon date was finalized. The event will take place on February 15. The proceeds of the free will offering will be split between the Disaster Bucket Kits and the Operating Fund.
- ♦ The Financial Team Report was accepted pending audit.
- ♦ Prayers and concerns were shared with the Consistory and were included in the closing prayer.
- ♦ The next Consistory meeting will take place on February 9 at 6:30 p.m.

*Scribe, Amanda Rettig*



**DEACONS' BENCH**

*January 12, 2026  
Amanda Rettig, Scribe*

Deacons:

Linda Arreguin (26), Janice Rettig (26), Mark Vajen (26)  
Amanda Rettig (27), Rory Prigge (27), Jay Slagle (27)  
Chris Clady (28), Lori Clady (28), Caryn Lulfs (28)

**Members Present:**

Janice Rettig (26), Linda Arreguin (26), Mark Vajen (26),  
Rory Prigge (27), Amanda Rettig (27), Jay Slagle (27),  
Christopher Clady (28), Lori Clady (28), Caryn Lulfs (28)

**Old Business**

- ♦ Circle Drive Lighting update – The lights are up and work great!
- ♦ Building Rental Agreement - a motion was made and passed to update the form. It needs to be simplified for those wishing to rent the available space.

**New Business**

- ♦ The farm report was presented by Rolie Rettig
- ♦ Potential Updates include repairing the pews and getting a back rest for the organ bench.
- ♦ An updated acolyte schedule is in the works.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

## FEBRUARY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

|         | ACOLYTES        | DEACONS                      |
|---------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Feb. 1  | Lottie McKenzie | Amanda Rettig<br>Jay Slagle  |
| Feb. 8  | Bryce Kobilis   | Caryn Lulfs<br>Janice Rettig |
| Feb. 15 | Mason Franz     | Linda Arreguin<br>Mark Vajen |
| Feb. 22 | Bella Rettig    | Lori Clady<br>Chris Clady    |

**Shalom** FROM THE SHALOM FOOD PANTRY  
 FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - DECEMBER 2025

**INCOME**

|                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| St. John's November Giving   | \$ 800.00     |
| Pleasant Bend UMC            | 150.00        |
| St. Paul's Catholic Church   | 50.00         |
| Hope Lutheran Church         | 241.00        |
| Sacred Heart                 | 290.00        |
| Memorial - Rose Marie Durham | <u>325.00</u> |

**Total \$1,856.00**

*Submitted by Norma Nagel*



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

**NURSING HOMES**

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

**Sue Mohr - #126**

**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**

**HOME - Send a greeting to these folks or drop by and visit!**

|                       |                   |                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Peggy Franz           | 15396 St. Rt. 281 | Holgate, Ohio 43527 |
| John & Shirley Tobias | 10011 Co Rd Y     | Hamler, Ohio 43524  |



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...**

**Cindy Mengerink** health issues  
**Marsha Lambert** health issues

- \* **Autumn Valdez** health issues
- \* **Brenda Clevenger** end is near. (Parents are Robert and Sunny Van Hoy)
- \* **Lori Ward Bowser** moved to rehab (Niece of Don and Betty Rettig)
- \* **Trese Rettig** health issues (Daughter-in-law of Don and Betty Rettig)

**“Prayers for family, friends, and acquaintances with strength, comfort,  
and peace in their lives at this time.”**

(\*Non-member family and friends)

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 in areas of conflict and disasters throughout the world

**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.

*Sympathy to:*

**To the family of Anita Sidle** who passed away on December 20, 2025.  
Funeral service was held on December 24 here at the church.

**To the family of Muriel Murchek,** (Pam Murchek's mother), who passed away on December 28, 2025.

**To the family of Eldon (Hop) Sickmiller** who passed away on January 10, 2026. A Memorial Service was held on Monday,

**BAPTISM**



**Violet Joan Moyer  
And  
August Franklin Moyer**  
December 21, 2025

**Parents:** W. Taylor and Ashley Moyer  
**Brother:** Ellis

**Grandparents:** Rob and Kris Lawson  
William and Jackie Moyer

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY DECEMBER 2025

## ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Operating Fund Revenue and Expenses

|                                   | Dec. 2025 |           | 2025 Year To Date |         | 2025 Annual Budget |          | % of Year Complete |  | Actual YTD |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|---------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|--|------------|
|                                   | Actual    | To Date   | Actual            | To Date | Budget             | Complete | YTD                |  |            |
| <b>OPERATING BUDGET INCOME</b>    | \$24,228  | \$211,640 | \$238,988         |         |                    |          |                    |  | 89%        |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                   |           |           |                   |         |                    |          |                    |  |            |
| <b>BUILDING &amp; MAINTENANCE</b> | \$2,209   | \$43,671  | \$46,996          |         |                    |          |                    |  | 93%        |
| <b>MINISTRIES</b>                 | \$614     | \$4,881   | \$9,500           |         |                    |          |                    |  | 51%        |
| <b>MISSIONS-OPERATING</b>         | \$540     | \$6,480   | \$6,480           |         |                    |          |                    |  | 100%       |
| <b>ADMINISTRATION</b>             | \$6,479   | \$68,634  | \$79,909          |         |                    |          |                    |  | 86%        |
| <b>PASTORAL</b>                   | \$8,096   | \$90,403  | \$96,853          |         |                    |          |                    |  | 93%        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>             | \$17,938  | \$214,069 | \$239,738         |         |                    |          |                    |  | 89%        |
| <b>NET OPERATING TOTAL</b>        | \$6,290   | -\$2,429  |                   |         |                    |          |                    |  |            |

Operating Fund Checking Account Balance as of 12/31/2025: \$32,754

**Mission and Restricted Fund Activities of Note for December:**

|   |               |                |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Cemetery Fund:                                    | <b>GIVING</b> | <b>EXPENSE</b> |
| Missions to Go:                                   | \$6,240       |                |
| Shalom Food Pantry Giving:                        | \$3,050       |                |
| The Christmas Fund-V.O.C. (Mission of the Month): | \$3,263       |                |
| Major Maintenance:                                | \$580         |                |
| Peace Garden:                                     | \$4,730       |                |
| G. Sonnenberg Fund:                               | \$970         | \$19,083       |
| Shilaria Farm Account Rent Received:              | \$11,226      |                |



# Kid's Corner



## FEBRUARY

- 2 - 2            Nicholas Evers
- 2 - 16           Brooke Squires
- 2 - 16           Izabelle Waisner
- 2 - 21           Henry Hahn
- 2 - 23           Logan Waisner
- 2 - 23           Elleigh Dunfee
- 2 - 26           Hazel Kibisu

## Thank you's from the Staff at St. John's UCC:

I gratefully thank the congregation for the Christmas Check this year. I am constantly amazed at the open hearts and generosity of this congregation. This is a tough time of year to give extra money but a wonderful time to receive extra just in time to help with the bills. Again, thank you so much!  
*Linda M. Rettig*

I thank the congregation for the Christmas check given to the staff as well as the other Christmas gifts that I have received in the office. I thank everyone for your generosity. Thanks for all of your help during this time of year.  
*Peggy Schulte*

Thank you, congregation, for your generous employee appreciation gift. I am so grateful for the many forms of support provided by the St. John's UCC faith family.  
*Carl Dettmer*

Thank you to everyone for the generous Christmas gift from the congregation. It was much appreciated. Hope you all had a great Christmas, and I wish you all a blessed and Happy New Year.  
*John Hahn.*

Thank you to the members of St. John's for the extra gift of money this Christmas. I love playing the piano for you on Sundays and knowing you appreciate it makes it more worthwhile. Yours in Christ,  
*Sue Abshire*

Dear St. John's Faith Family, I sincerely thank everyone of you for your thoughtful and gracious Christmas gift. I appreciate your generosity very much. I feel very blessed to be able to praise God through music. I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and have a Healthy and Happy New Year in 2025. May God bless you all. Thank you again!  
*Sheri Plotts*

## Thank you's from the Staff at St. John's UCC:

It is very kind of the St. John's congregation to remember staff members at Christmas. I sincerely thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness, and I am pleased to be part of the musical team. Joe and I are so thankful to be members of this loving, supportive church family. We wish you a blessed New Year!  
*Lynne Long*

To St. John's Faith Family Thank you for your generous Christmas gift. It is my pleasure to serve the St. John's Faith Family each month with the newsletter. Thank you to all the team scribes or anyone who is responsible for monthly articles. Without your help and cooperation my job as newsletter editor would not be possible.  
*Ruth Ann Durham, Newsletter Editor*

Thanks so much for the Christmas gift. You are truly a generous faith family.

*Greg Nelson*

Dearest Church Family,  
Thank you for the showering of cards, gifts, and well-wishes during the holiday season. We are truly appreciative of every kind thought and gesture. We thank you for the Staff Christmas Bonus, as well. We are blessed to be a part of this generous congregation.  
*Grace and peace, Rev. Jeff and Bobbie*

Thank you congregation for your wonderful gift. Here's to another great year.  
*Cody Coppes*



## FEBRUARY MISSION SHALOM

The mission for February is our own Shalom food pantry. This is a very busy food pantry supported by several volunteers.

The pantry is open twice a month and serves approximately 80 families and up to 500 people each month.

These people are able to get food and hygiene items to better their lives. Much of the food and other items needs to be purchased some is donated free or at a reduced cost.

Your support to this wonderful mission at St. John's is greatly appreciated by many.

## Thank You

St. John's United Church Of Christ,  
Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$690.00 from your November Congregational giving. We are truly grateful for your support and the kindness behind this Gift.  
We also appreciated the opportunity to visit, share more about our organization, and speak with your congregation about our mission. Thank you again for investing in the children and families we serve. Your support helps make a lasting difference

*With heartfelt appreciation,  
Northwest Ohio CASA*

We thank everyone of St. John's and the community for words, thoughts, cards, and prayers as we celebrated our 65th Wedding Anniversary. You all mean so much to us.

*Janice and Rolie Rettig*



♥ Ladles Of Love ♥

♥ Soup And Dessert Luncheon ♥

♥ February 15 - 11:30 A.M. ♥

♥ 30 Soups And 30 Desserts ♥

*This is a fundraiser sponsored by the Consistory for **Disaster Kits/Operating Fund**. Not only does the Consistory appreciate your willingness to cook for us, but also all the people who stay for food and a great time of fellowship.*

**Plan to come to church  
and then stay for the luncheon.  
Freewill offering will be taken to  
support the Disaster Kits/Operating Fund**



## To Provide Soups And Desserts

- ♥ Ladles Of Love Soup and Dessert Luncheon needs **YOUR** help.
- ♥ **Thirty soups and thirty desserts are needed.** Sign up sheets will be in the narthex area for you to volunteer to bring your favorite soups or desserts. All Homemade by the Great COOKS at St. John's Church.
- ♥ If you have any questions, contact a Consistory member.

## ENDOWMENT MEETING

The Endowment Team met after church on January 18, 2026. Those in attendance were Kevin Vajen - Chairman, Mike Haldy, Christopher Clady and Rick Desgranges. Also in attendance was Kirk Fruth as Endowment consultant.

Kevin called the meeting to order and led us in prayer. We reviewed our investment and discussed that we have three CD's at Civista Bank totaling \$42,389 that will be maturing in February and March of this year.

Kirk then guided us through a review of our Jackson National Annuity which has turned out to be a good investment with a guaranteed withdrawal currently at nearly \$10,000 per year. As of 12/31/25 it had a cash value of \$179,519.

Next we discussed the American Funds investment which on 12/31/25 had a value of \$131,322. This fund has had good returns. Also we discussed our Vanguard investment which had a value of \$122,118. The checking account had a balance of \$80. Bringing the Endowment investment total to \$475,428. We discussed what to do as the CD's matured over the next two months. Mike made a motion to renew them as they matured, as being a fixed rate investment they somewhat help balance out our investments. Rick seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

We then discussed that we have had no requests recently from members for funds for any projects. Also discussed was how the team might handle requests in the future, as well as ways we might make our congregation aware that there are funds available for projects that meet the criteria of the charter for the Endowment.

Next we discussed how often we should submit reports to the church. Mike made a motion to begin submitting biannual reports rather than annual. Christopher seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

It was decided that our next meeting will be March 29, 2026. With no further business, Kevin adjourned the meeting.

*Respectfully submitted:  
Rick Desgranges, Scribe*



### "Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members

#### **Junior Hoff**

will celebrate his  
83rd Birthday  
on February 2

895 Kenilworth Ave.  
Napoleon, OH 43545-1207

#### **Vandella Huber**

will celebrate her  
82nd Birthday  
on February 23

PO BOX 64  
Holgate, OH 43527-0064

#### **Sonya Eitzman**

will celebrate her  
80th Birthday  
on February 24

607 Broadmoor Ave.  
Napoleon, OH 43545



### *VanCrest of Holgate Worship Service*

*Thursday, February 5  
at 1:30 P.M.*

*Angel Choir Needed*



### Poinsettias

Thank You to all who provided poinsettias to decorate St. John's!

*In Memory Of*

*Given By*

**Jim and Sue Waisner**

Kevin and Beth Waisner,  
Diana and Jerry Evers

**Barb Landis**

Kevin and Beth Waisner

**Dear friend, Melissa Rupp**

Carol Medina

**My dear twin children, Serapio Santiago  
and Alejandra Maria**

Carol Medina



### Memorials To Other Projects

Thank You to all who provided Gifts for gifts to support other projects at St. John's!

#### CEMETERY ASSOCIATION FUND

*In Memory Of* **Doug Armbruster**

*Given By* The Armbruster Family

*In Memory Of* **Jim Armbruster**

*Given By* The Armbruster Family

*In memory Of* **Thelma Breece**

*Given By* Fred Breece

*In Memory Of* **Clarence and Frances Prigge and  
Don and Ruth Plummer**

*Given By* Rory and Janice Prigge



### Memorials To Other Projects

Thank You to all who provided Gifts for gifts to support other projects at St. John's!

#### LOVE GIFT FUND

*In Memory Of* **Brandon Daniel Schulte and  
Ruth and Luke Wilcox**

*Given By* Daniel and Peggy Schulte

*In Honor Of* **Lillian, Collin and Shannon Schulte**

*Given By* Daniel and Peggy Schulte

#### MAJOR MAINTENANCE FUND

*In Memory Of* **Clarence and Frances Prigge and  
Don and Ruth Plummer**

*Given By* Rory and Janice Prigge

*In Memory Of* **Clarence and Frances Prigge**

*Given By* Lennie and Maggie Prigge

#### MISSION-TO-GO

*In Memory Of* **Wayne and Mary Fruth,  
Lloyd and Margie Moneghan, and  
Audrey Buckmaster**

*Given By* Kirk and Lynette Fruth

*In Memory Of* **Departed Loved Ones  
of Both Families**

*Given By* Roland and Janice Rettig



## Memorials To Other Projects

*Thank You to all who provided Gifts  
for gifts to support other projects at St. John's!*

### PEACE GARDEN

*In Memory Of **George and Marguerite Hahn***

*Given By Ruth Ann Durham*

### SHALOM FOOD PANTRY

*In Memory Of **Nancy Haldy***

*Given By Michael, Lisa and Lauri Haldy*

*In Honor Of **The McCarn Family***

*Given By Edward and Diane Huneycutt*

*In Memory Of **Carolyn J. Slagle***

*Given By Jay C. Slagle*

### UNDESIGNATED FUND

*In Memory Of **Our Parents***

*Given By Joe and Lynne Long*



## In Loving Memory

**Anita Ann Sidle**

*August 8, 1945 - December 20, 2025*

Anita Ann Sidle, 80, of Napoleon, passed away Saturday, December 20, 2025, at her home after an extended illness.

She was born on August 8, 1945, to Fred and Vacia (Reynolds) Wolfe, Sr., and was delivered at home by her father. On April 11, 1964, she married Larry Sidle at McClure United Brethren Church. They shared 58 years of marriage prior to his passing.

Anita was a 1963 graduate of McClure High School. She worked at and later retired from the OSU Henry County Extension Office, where she served as the 4-H secretary for 25 years. She was a faithful member of St. John's United Church of Christ in Holgate.

Anita always looked forward to the Henry County Fair. She loved sitting at the camper visiting with everyone who stopped by to talk. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren all have fond memories of staying overnight with her at the fair.

Above all else, Anita loved her family. Her greatest joy was having everyone together, and no one ever went hungry at her family gatherings. She was preceded in death by her husband, Larry Sidle; her parents; a brother, Fred Wolfe Jr.; and sisters, Betty Hackett and Sandra Rogers. Anita is survived by her children, Lori (Christopher) Clady and Scott Sidle; grandchildren, Jared Clady, Jenna (Kyle) Keeterle, Jillian (Tyler) Rue, Jack (Jessi) Clady, Madison (Sheldon) Burke, Logan Sidle, and Garrett (Makenzie) Sidle; and great-grandchildren, Etta, Dawson, Bo, Landree, Eloise, Remi, Rhett, and Sage.

Visitation was held from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 23, at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home in Napoleon, Ohio, and from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday at the church. Funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 24, at St. John's United Church of Christ in Holgate, Ohio. Interment followed the luncheon at Richfield Township Cemetery.

*Memorial contributions are suggested to  
St. John's United Church of Christ*



*In Loving Memory*  
**Eldon Carl Sickmiller**  
 April 22, 1949 - January 10, 2026

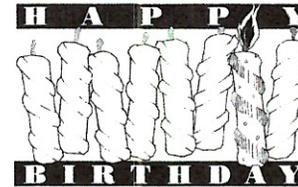
Eldon Sickmiller age 76, died in his Malinta home on Saturday, January 10, 2026. He was born April 22, 1949, to Lester and Leota (Rettig) Sickmiller. After high school graduation and a year of college, he served with the United States Army. Eldon was employed with GM Powertrain for 41 years. On August 16, 1986, he married Rebecca Bishop in Hope Lutheran Church. He was a member of the American Legion, VFW, Moose, and AMVETS.

Eldon is survived by his wife Becky; and siblings: Clara, Sharon, and Martha. He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings: Ed, James, Arnold, Shirley and an infant sister, Lois Marie.

There was a memorial service for Hop at St. John's United Church of Christ, Holgate on Monday, January 19, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. with Reverend Jeff McCarn officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery with military honors.

*Memorial contributions can be made to Elara Caring Hospice  
 or St. John's United Church of Christ*

The arrangements were entrusted to the Zachrich Family Funeral Home of Holgate.



## FEBRUARY

|         |                    |        |                 |
|---------|--------------------|--------|-----------------|
| 2 - 2   | Junior Hoff        | 2 - 17 | Jerry Rettig    |
| 2 - 4   | Deb Waisner        | 2 - 18 | Sheila Franz    |
| 2 - 5   | Katie Borck        | 2 - 19 | Jeri Hoellrich  |
| 2 - 6   | Su Jones           | 2 - 22 | Tim Eberle      |
| 2 - 8   | Scott Zimmer       | 2 - 23 | Vandella Huber  |
| 2 - 11  | Lynne Long         | 2 - 24 | Sonya Eitzman   |
| 2 - 14. | Lynnette Goldsmith | 2 - 25 | Shaunda Squires |
| 2 - 15  | Sue Mohr           |        |                 |
| 2 - 15  | Rory Prigge        |        |                 |
| 2 - 15  | Lee Franz          |        |                 |

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

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## PLAN AHEAD FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

See Calendar on Inside Mailing Cover

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## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for news articles to appear in the **MARCH**  
Newsletter is— **Sunday, February 15, 2026, at 10:00 A.M.**  
Please leave your article in the folder on the counter  
to your left as you enter the office  
marked Newsletter



**FEBRUARY MISSION  
SHALOM**

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).