

Holgate, OH Permit No. 3

St. John's United Church of Christ

Address Service Requested

Holgate, Ohio 43527 I-946 St. Rt. 108

NONPROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID



Maundy Thursday, 4/17 - Meal (6:00) Worship (6:45) Sunday, 4/13 - Palm Sunday Worship at 10:15 Good Friday, 4/18 – Worship 6:45

Easter Sunday Services, 4/20 –

7 am Easter Sunrise Service/Communion 8 am Breakfast

10:15 am Easter Worship/Communion

9 am Easter Egg Hunt



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31		_2_	3		5
		SHALOM Delivery In am	10am - Staff meeting	10am - Bible Study		2pm - FH Reserved
		4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry	12:30pm - Pastor McCarn/Area	1:30pm - Van Crest Service		
			6pm - Meal/Worship	6pm - Finance Team		
			8pm - Sanctuary Choir			
			,			
6	7		9	[10 :	11	12 %
9am - Sunday School	6:30pm - Spiritual Council		6pm - Meal/Worship	10am - Bible Study	<u> </u>	
10:15am - Baptism /Worship			8pm - Sanctuary Choir	•		
10:15am - Worship/Communion			opin canalatily chair			
11:30am - Cemelery Assn. mlg						
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Palm Sunday	6pm - Deacons	SHALOM Delivery in am	(10	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	(18
		<u> </u>		<u></u>		
9am - Sunday School	6:30pm - Consistory	4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry		6pm - Meal	6:45pm - Worship	
19:15am - Worship				6pm - Newsletter articles due by 6		
11:30am - CEB meeting				6:45pm - Worship		
7pm - Easter Cantala - Hope						
20	21		23	24	25	26 ::
7am - Sunrise Worship		9am - Newsletter mailing	7pm - Sanctuary Choir			12pm - FH Reserved -
8am - Breakfast						
9am - Easter egg hunt						
10:15am - Worship						
27	28	29	<u>30</u>		_2_	(3 - Carlos Carl
9am - Sunday School			7pm - Sanctuary Cholr			
10:15am - Worship						
1		1	1			



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 MAY

Newsletter is— THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

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



APRIL MISSION
ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIL

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,

The Sentinel

St. John's United Church of Christ I-946 St. Rt. 108 Holgate, Ohio 43527 APRIL 2025

Please Contact us at --

Office Hours: 8-12 Monday - Friday Church Phone: (419) 264-4401 Peggy Schulte, Admin. Asst. Fax: (419) 264-1460

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 (Peggy Schulte)

Pastor e-mail: revimccarn@gmail.com

Financial Administrator e-mail - stjohnfinadmin@metalink.net (Carl Dettmer)

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.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 A.M. - WORSHIP SERVICE 10:15 A.M. Wednesday Night Schedule During Lent

Bells
Light Meal
Worship Service

To Be Announced 6:00 P.M.

Worship Service

6:45 P.M.

Sanctuary Choir After Worship

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EASTER

'There was not a needy person among them.' - Acts 4:34a (NRSV)

This Easter we will continue our Easter tradition at St. John's UCC. We will begin with an early sunrise worship celebrating the discovery of the empty tomb. Following this, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy a tasty breakfast. After breakfast, we will watch the young children hunt Easter eggs around the church. We will culminate the morning with our traditional morning worship centered around the resurrection of Jesus.

These are wonderful experiences we will participate in during Easter: However, I wonder how many of us will contemplate and reach deep into our souls and ask the questions, "What does Easter and the resurrection of Jesus mean to me and the modern church — St. John's UCC?" "How will we share the good news?"

The first Christians certainly did. In Acts, whenever they met, "the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus." Surely they included their own stories, like Peter's transformation from a fisherman into a preacher or Mary Magdalene's experience as the first witness to the Resurrection.

Yet Acts 4:34 doesn't include such personal testimonies. Instead it tells of a community testimony. The first Christians gave up their possessions, just as Jesus had given up his life for others. The early church made sure no one was in need, just as Jesus ensured five thousand hungry people were fed, sick people healed, troubled people comforted and loved.





APRIL

4 - 1	Roland Rettig	4 - 15	Taya Norden
4 - 4	Kirk Fruth	4 - 15	Jerry Waisner
4 - 4	Logan Sidle	4 - 16	Collin Parcher
4 - 5	Jerry Evers	4 - 17	Tammy Vajen
4 - 7	Sue Rettig	4 - 20	Andrew Borck
4 - 8	Madison Burke	4 - 22	Don Huber
4 - 9	Karen Gilliland	4 - 22	Eldon Sickmiller
4 - 9	Tyler Rue	4 - 23	Christine Rettig
4 - 10	Heather Ritz	4 - 23	Jacob Highfield
4 - 11	Molly Rees	4 - 27	Tammy Martin
4 - 12	Sheila Parcher	4 - 27	Peggy Schulte
4 - 13	Millie Holzer	4 - 30	Sean Kobilis

This is the list of birthdays that are recorded in the church office. If we have missed anyone, please contact the office so we can add his or her name to our list.

If anyone, for personal reasons, does not want his or her name and birthday listed, please contact the church office and make your wishes known.

(See the Kids Corner pages for the children and youth birthdays.)



EASTER

Continued From Page 2

The new Christian community wasn't focused on seeing the Risen Body of Christ, but on being the Risen Body of Christ, doing what Jesus had done. They didn't just proclaim God's resurrection power. They became that power by offering new life to others.

Our world needs that resurrection power now more than ever. It also needs the church—St. John's United Church of Christ—to be an Easter people by giving ourselves and our possessions. The first Christians knew they were living into God's new life where no one was in need. They knew this was the way of the Risen Body of the Risen Christ.

Grace and peace, Rev. Jeff McCarn

REMEMBERING



April is upon us, and Spring is finally here! As we continue our journey through the season of Lent, we anticipate the celebration of Easter on April 20.

This is the month I will be celebrating seventy-two years of life. When I think back about my life, my mom comes to mind. I remember asking my mom about how they decided on my name. The Stephens family had three boys prior to me. Mom told me she prayed so hard to Christ for a baby girl that, when I was born, my name was going to be Christine. The feminine form of the name Christian, it means "follower of Christ". I hope I have lived my life in a way that I am measuring up to the meaning of my name.

As Christians, this is the month we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus came to us as a baby, lived life as a human on this earth, learned from his parents, and was obedient to his heavenly Father as he grew to become a man. But, Jesus knew his life was destined for a greater purpose; death on a cross, his resurrection, and ascension to his Father, giving us the promise of eternal life.

1 Peter 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. In His great mercy, he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. NIV

Just as my mom rejoiced in the birth of her girl, may we rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord, knowing that our belief in Him promises us eternal life.

Christine Rettig





"Senior Saints" On Their 50+ Anniversary

John and Shirley Tobias

will celebrate their 64th Wedding Anniversary on April 9

Terry and Linda Rettig

will celebrate their 53rd Wedding Anniversary on April 22

> PO Box 361 Holgate, OH 43527

William and Florence Snyder

will celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary on April 23

> 14224 Co Rd L2 Napoleon, OH 43545







"Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members

Roland Rettig

will celebrate his 86th Birthday on April 1

1162 Chelsea Ave. Napoleon, OH 43545

Karen Gilliland

will celebrate her 82nd Birthday on April 9

1778 Chinook Trail Ct Defiance OH 43512-3498

Jerry Waisner

will celebrate his 84th Birthday on April 15

1624 Hwy 630 W Lot P18 Frostproof FL 33843-2118

Donald Huber

will celebrate his 81st Birthday April 22

Cards in care of Dawn Boozer PO Box 420 Jarales, NM 87023-0420





Positive Things Seen and Heard from the Congregation and Consistory

- 1. Peggy's signature prayer the end of her email, Angel of God..., brightened up someone's morning for the day.
- 2. Grateful to Carl for making the form for members to get their financial statements.
- 3. It was a meaningful Ash Wednesday service.
- 4. Thank you to Bobbie McCarn for coordinating Wednesday evening meals.
- 5. Thank you to all who are providing food for Wednesday evening meals.
- 6. Bible study was well attended with Bobbie leading it.
- 7. Three visitor bags were handed out last Sunday, March 2.
- 8. Thanks to the Clady family for all the organization and effort that went into the successful Ladles of Love soup and dessert luncheon.
- 9. Impressive and well attended Van Crest service last Thursday.

For those watching our **worship service online**, the announcement slides and gathering music begin 15 minutes before the start of worship. You can watch our service at

.https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsUCCHolgate



CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 10, 2025

- The revaluation of our parsonage, church and assets for insurance coverage needs to be scheduled.
- The outside review of financial records and practices is in progress. The reviewer is astounded with the number of financial transactions we handle and the details of our record keeping.
- A new adjustable office chair will be purchased for the Administrative Assistant from Memorial funds.
- The free will offering for the Easter breakfast will support the Operating Fund.
- A policy was adopted to provide a memorial in the case of death of a paid employee or spouse.
- The building improvement task force will be meeting with the Sonnenberg family to determine some direction in line with their wishes.
- There are a few who still need to attend Safe Church Training.
- Due to inclement weather two Sunday services were cancelled in February. However, giving to the church was very good with contributions exceeding expenses.
- The payment for the annual replacement of roof slates was moved from the operating fund to major maintenance.
- Minor changes to the wording on the giving envelopes was approved.
- All reports for consideration by Consistory must be in the office by the Thursday preceding the Consistory meeting – no reminders from the office.
- To comply with county regulations, the septic systems for the church and parsonage will be pumped and inspected.
 Scribe. Bob Rettia



News and Notes

Submitted By Nancy Thomas March 9, 2025

Easter plans were discussed and we again are planning on a Easter egg hunt.

- Mary Kay has volunteered to stuff the eggs for the event.
- There is a box for any candy or monetary donations located in the narthex. Deadline is April 6.
- There will be a drawing for gift baskets for the children also on that day.
- It was discussed to have the children chalk paint the sidewalks in between the church services while the egg hunt is set up inside the church. It was decided to have it indoors due to never knowing weather conditions and to avoid any car traffic for safety reasons.

Unfortunately there will be no pool party this year. There were no open dates at this time. We are giving some thought to other ideas.

VBS was discussed. We are looking for a volunteer(s) to head this up. Anybody interested please let us know. It will be fun!!!!



VanCrest of Holgate Worship Service

Thursday, April 3 at 1:30 P.M.

Angel Choir Needed



We thank everyone for the cards, thoughts, and prayers for the celebration of our 25th Wedding Anniversary.

Keith and Kay Winnie

Thank you St. John's family for all the cards and notes of support, love and prayers.

Love, Anita Sidle

I thank Pastor Jeff, My Faith Family, and Friends for their cards, prayers, and well wishes during my foot surgery. I felt the love from each and everyone, and it was greatly appreciated.

Thank you to my family for their love and support also!

Pam Desgranges



Spiritual Council

Meeting Excerpts MARCH 3, 2025

Those present: Pastor Jeff McCarn

Bob Rettig (25) Mike Haldy(25) *Kay Armbruster (26)
Rolie Rettig (26) Christine Rettig (27) Kirk Fruth (27)

- The meeting was called to order by Pastor McCarn at 6:25.
- · Pastor's Report was reviewed and accepted.
- Ash Wednesday worship will be conducted in the sanctuary with a short children's message (if any are present), imposition of ashes, and Communion by intinction (grape juice). Homily will be shorter than the usual Sunday sermon with the entire service to last around 30 minutes. Chris and Lucy Coppes are sponsoring bulletins.
- In regards to the Confirmation Program, a male member is still needed in the classroom. If a volunteer can be found who cannot attend regularly, one of the Elders volunteered to assist. This being a two-year program, there will be no Confirmation of new members in 2026.
- An outline of memorials to be made by the church at the passing of church leaders or their spouses was reviewed. The family will have the option of choosing the memorial designation. These guidelines will be recommended to Consistory for adoption and inclusion into the policy manual.
- The meeting was closed by Pastor leading in prayer at 7:40.
- The Aprilw meeting will be on Monday, April 7, at 6:30 pm.

Bob Rettig, Scribe



DEACONS' BENCH

March 10, 2025 Amanda Rettig, Scribe

Deacons:

Christ Coppes (25), Jared Clady (25), Ben Thomas (25) Linda Arreguin (26), Janice Rettig (26), Mark Vajen (26) Amanda Rettig (27), Rory Prigge (27), Jay Slagle (27)

Members Present: Linda Arreguin (26),

Rory Prigge (27),

Jared Clady (25), Janice Rettig (26), Amanda Rettig (27), Ben Thomas (25), Mark Vajen (26), Jay Slagle (27)

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 P.M. by chair Jared Clady.

Minutes from the February 10 meeting were approved.

Old Business:

Bigelow Stained Glass was on the premises March 7 to perform an assessment. The results will be received in the near future. A motion made and passed to pay the fee out of Major Maintenance once paperwork is received.

County Septic Inspection Fee: A motion was made and passed to pay the fee out of Major Maintenance once paperwork is received. SPECIAL NOTE: At Consistory, it was mentioned that the fee might have been paid in 2024. Peggy and Kay will look for the paperwork in the office. A recommendation was made for the septic to be pumped and inspected.

Automatic doors: There seems to be an issue with nearly every door. Hopefully this will be taken care of before Easter.

New Business:

A new office chair for Peggy has been requested. A motion was made and passed to recommend that Peggy can shop for an office chair. The cost for the new chair can be up to \$300. Janice will make a request to fund the office chair purchase through the Memorial Fund.

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JOIN US FOR EASTER BREAKFAST



When: Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

Immediately Following the Sunrise

Service Until 9:30 a.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall

Menu: To Be Announced

Sponsored by: The Consistory

Free will offering
will support
The Operating Fund

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, April 13 – Palm Sunday Service at 10:15 a.m. Maundy Thursday, April 17 – Meal (6:00 p.m.) and Worship (6:45 p.m.)

Good Friday Service, April 18 at 6:45 p.m.

Easter Sunday Services, April 20 – Sunrise 7 a.m., Regular Worship 10:15 a.m.

Cemetery Association Annual Meeting

The St. John's United Church of Christ Cemetery Association will have their Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 6, after worship. All lot owners are members of the association and are encouraged to attend.



Attention Chairpersons And Scribes

The newsletter deadline for articles in the May edition of the Sentinel is moved ahead to **Thursday, April 17 at 6:00 p.m.**. This is to allow time for the Chairpersons and Scribes to get their articles to the newsletter Editor before the Easter holiday. Thank you to everyone for your cooperation.



DEACONS' BENCH

March 10, 2025 Amanda Rettig, Scribe

Deacons

Christ Coppes (25), Jared Clady (25), Ben Thomas (25) Linda Arreguin (26), Janice Rettig (26), Mark Vajen (26) Amanda Rettig (27), Rory Prigge (27), Jay Slagle (27)

Continued From Page 8

It was recommended that the proceeds from the Easter Breakfast go to support the Operating Fund.

It was recommended that future shingle repair payments be made out of the Major Maintenance account.

Rory Prigge brought a request from the "Ladies of the Church" that a concrete walkway be added outside of the double doors of Fellowship Hall to the section of the basketball court that will remain. A donor has agreed to fund the project. The project was approved.

Motion to adjourn at 6:34 P.M.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

During times of disaster faith-based organizations and individuals are at the forefront to deliver supplies, hands, support and care. Would you consider being the hands and feet to provide much needed supplies to put together Hygiene Kits and Disaster Buckets. Whether you are able to provide supplies or a cash donation, all is appreciated! We also have the opportunity for matching funds so we can double our efforts! Our goal is to have kits and buckets assembled and ready to deliver to the **NWO Association Annual Meeting**, April 26, 2025, in Marion, OH. Complete lists of items needed will be available at church or email Tammy Vajen at ktvajen@gmail.com or call at 419-766-1100 for lists, more information, and if you would like to help in any way with this worthwhile cause. THANK YOU!!

APRIL WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	ACOLYTES	DEACONS
APRIL 6	Deacons	Jay Slagle Ben Thomas
APRIL 13	Deacons	Linda Arreguin Jared Clady
APRIL 20	Deacons	Janice Rettig Mark Vajen
APRIL 27	Deacons	Amanda Rettig Rory Prigge



FROM THE SHALOM FOOD PANTRY

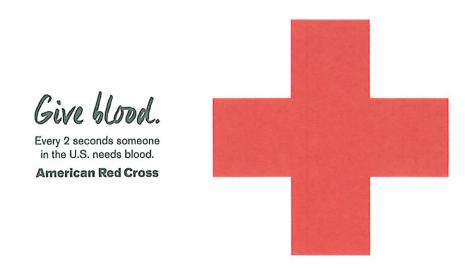
FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - FEBRUARY 2025

INCOME

St. John's UCC January Giving	\$ 485.00
Holgate Lions Club	 200.00
Chief Receipts	648.73
Pleasant Bend UMC	 74.00

Total \$ 1,407.73

Submitted by Norma Nagel



St. John United Church of Christ

Fellowship Hall 13039 County Road J Holgate, OH 43527

Monday, March 31, 2025 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: STJOHNHOLGATE



Give in March for a \$10 Gift Card by email & successful donations get A1C testing, roblood.org/March



1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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

	February 2025 Actual	2025 Year To Date	2025 Annual % of Year Actual Budget Complete YTD	% of Year Complete	Actual YTD
OPERATING BUDGET INCOME	\$18,877	\$35,250	\$238,988		15%
EXPENSES					
BUILDING & MAINTENANCE MINISTRIES	\$4,007	\$8,351	\$46,996 \$9,500	17%	18%
MISSIONS	\$540	\$1,080			17%
ADMINISTRATION	\$6,513	\$12,507	\$79,909		16%
PASTORAL	\$7,373	\$14,571	\$96,853		15%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$18,518	\$37,508	\$239,738		16%
NET OPERATING TOTAL	\$359	-\$2,258			

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FEBRUARY 2025

uary:	\$28,557 (Total of two gifts: \$	\$1,270	\$575	
Mission and Restricted Fund Giving of Note for February	Second Major Gift from Member	Shalom Food Pantry	Major Maintenance:	

556,557)



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

TRUSTWELL LIVING AT KINGSBURY PLACE, 245 West Rosewood Ave., Defiance, OH 43512 Rose Marie Durham - Apt. 142

VANCREST NURSING HOME, 600 Joe E. Brown, Holgate, OH 43527

Janell Honeck - 6919 Mountain Creek Lane, Missouri City, TX 77459-5786

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

Peggy Franz
John & Shirley Tobias
Sue Waisner
Bernard Zimmer

15396 St. Rt. 281
10011 Co Rd Y
10011 Hamler, Ohio 43527
1001 Hamler, Ohio 43527
1001 Hamler, Ohio 43527
1001 Hamler, Ohio 43527

Napoleon, Ohio 43545



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

Earl Abshire health issues
George Medina health issues
Anita Sidle health issues
Baby Henry Hahn hospitalized with health issues

(*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 III, Undergoing Treatment, In Grief, Or Are Recovering With Prayers, Cards, And Visits

Within the Jellowship:

- 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:

The Family of Pam (Mengerink) Wetmore and Cindy Mengerink, on the passing of their brother, Carson Mengerink, who died on March 1, 2025.



Theodore Jeff Thomas February 23, 2025

Parents: Benjamin and Taryn Thomas

Sister: Annabelle Thomas

Grandparents: Nancy Thomas

Traci and Jeff Conklin

Sponsors: Rebecca Johnson,

Andy Brinkmann Zachery Davis



Henry Harrison Hahn February 21, 2025

Parents: Jacob and Kortney Hahn

Sister: Harmony Hahn

Grandparents: Paula and Larry Maurer

John Hahn



Kid's Corner





APRIL

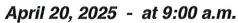
4 - 3	Annabelle Thomas
4 - 4	Sophia Snyder
4 - 9	Levi Herman
4 - 13	Lottie Mckenzie
4 - 19	Millie Brown
4 - 20	Carmen Medina
4 - 26	Ellis Moyer
4 - 27	Harmony Hahn



Kid's Corner

St. John's UCC

Easter Egg Hunt





All children ages 0-13 are invited

Proceed outside to chalk paint on the sidewalk

Then proceed for the Egg Hunt

The egg hunt will be held Inside the church

Drawing for Gift Baskets

Candy and prizes for all

Parents-be sure to sign up your child for the special

EASTER BASKET DRAWING!

Sponsored by the Christian Education Board

