



*St. John's United Church of Christ*  
*I-946 St. Rt. 108*  
*Holgate, Ohio 43527*  
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St. John's UCC							Sep 2025 (Eastern Time - New York)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	9:30am - Office Closed - Labor Day	SHALOM Delivery in am 4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry	6pm - Handbells 6pm - Spiritual Council 7pm - Sanctuary Choir	10am - Book Study - Chapel 1:30pm - Vancress Service 6pm - Finance Team			9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship/Communion 11:30am - Rally Day/St. John's	6pm - Deacons 6:30pm - Consistory	8am - Pastor vacation through to September 23, 2025 6pm - Tech Team meeting			2pm - Fellowship Hall Reserved -	6pm - Time ? - St. John's UCC
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Pastor Out		SHALOM Delivery in am				
Pastor vacation through to September 23, 2025							9am - Sunday School 10am - Newsletter Articles Due 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - CEB meeting		4:30pm - SHALOM Food Pantry				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	Pastor Out	9am - Newsletter printing	9am - Newsletter mailing	9am - Pastor Jeff back 12:30pm - Red Cross Blood Drive		8am - Heartland Assn. Conference - Pastor Attending	
Pastor vacation through to September 23, 2025							9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:30am - Cemetery Assn.						
28	29	30	1	2	3	4	9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship - Baptism (Rue)						

# The Sentinel

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

## Please Contact us at --

Office Hours: 8-12 Monday - Friday  
Church Phone: (419) 264-4401  
Pastor: Jeff McCam - Cell Phone 812-202-9273  
Parsonage Phone: 419-264-5201  
Parsonage Address: 13039 Co Rd J, Holgate, OH 43527  
Church e-mail: [holgateucc@msalink.net](mailto:holgateucc@msalink.net) (Peggy Schulte)  
Pastor e-mail: [jeffmccam@gmail.com](mailto:jeffmccam@gmail.com)  
Financial Administrator e-mail: [stjohnfinadmin@metalink.net](mailto:stjohnfinadmin@metalink.net) (Carl Dettmer)  
Newsletter Editor e-mail: [jadurham703@bight.net](mailto:jadurham703@bight.net)  
Church Website: [www.stjohnschurchholgate.com](http://www.stjohnschurchholgate.com)  
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

Starting September 7, 2025

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...

## MIRACLE PERFORMED BY JESUS

*When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."*

(Matthew 14:13-16 CEB)

When we hear the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand, many feel that this is the greatest miracle that Jesus performed. It very well may be; however, other miracles Jesus performed had just as powerful impact on the people.

This week's story allows us to envision how we would react to the given situation if we were one of the disciples. How would we feel about Jesus' command, "You give them something to eat."

If we put this story into context, Jesus was very tired and grieving the death of his closest friend and cousin, John the Baptist. All Jesus wanted to do was to get away, rest and grieve.

Jesus and the disciples had been traveling, preaching, teaching and healing. Not only was Jesus tired and probably grumpy, but the disciples were very tired too. However, the large crowds kept following them. If we were one of the disciples, we may have said, "Come on Jesus. We are tired. Let's lose this crowd and get something to eat. These people are probably hungry and ready to get some food for themselves anyway. Let's get them out of here so we can do the same."

Continued On Page 3



Pastor  
Jeff's  
Desk...

## MIRACLE PERFORMED BY JESUS

### Continued From Page 2

What Jesus told them came as a shock, "You give them something to eat."

"What do you mean, feed them? Haven't you noticed, Jesus, but there's like five thousand of them on this hill and all we only have with us is a couple of stinky fish and a few loaves of bread."

"You give them something to eat."

We know what happens next. Jesus takes those two stinky fish and bread, and he feeds the crowd with leftovers. This story is about the compassion of Jesus. Jesus uses the disciples, even when they would rather look after themselves, to tend the needs of these thousands of men, women and children.

Using words and actions of the Last Supper, Matthew depicts what happens when we move from a worldview of scarcity, "We have nothing here but five loaves and fishes," to one of abundance, "Thank you, God, for these five loaves and fishes."

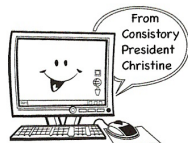
Whatever their initial skepticism or doubt, the disciples are caught up in Jesus' words of abundance and gratitude. They distribute what they have and participate in the wonder and joy that all were fed. God used even these reluctant disciples to care for the poor and hungry that God loves so much.

God still cares deeply and passionately for those who are most vulnerable — the poor, the homeless, the hungry and the outcasts of our society. God continues to use us to care for them. God does not like our excuses of we are tired, too busy or have no means to help people. Instead God has given us the ability and resources to care for all of God's beloved children.

Grace and peace,  
Rev. Jeff McCam



## REMEMBERING



I have been writing tidbits of my life for eight months. This month, I am changing directions a little because of my years as a nurse, my volunteer work here at the church, and my role as a new Elder this year.

Former Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy was interviewed shortly before he left office. I read the article and was so moved by his words that I felt I needed to share them with you.

In the article, entitled, "A Parting Prescription for the Country I Love", he talked about his father's life in a rural village in India. Dr. Murthy said something important about how his father lived. "My father never felt emptiness." His father's mother had died when his father was just ten years old. "In the village, people took care of each other. They shared food, looked out for each other's kids, and helped out in a crisis - like when my father's mother died. Neighbors stepped in like surrogate parents. People also knew each other, not just their names, but their stories and families." Further into the article, Dr. Murthy said, "relationships keep us grounded and bonded to each other. Service, from formal volunteering to informal small acts of kindness, is about helping each other. And purpose gives our life a sense of direction."

When I was reading his words, it made me think about St. John's. We all have the opportunity to take action each day to help someone. We, as a congregation, already take action with supporting and serving others through the Shalom Food Pantry. We have an active visitation team, whose members serve to keep a connection with our shut-ins. And if you look further, I am sure you can find ways to help others, whether it is through our church or within our surrounding communities.

1 Peter 4:10-11 says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord."

If we all follow the words of Dr. Murthy, and these words of scripture, imagine how many lives could be touched and how fulfilled everyone could be. This is how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Christine Rettig



## Spiritual Council

## Meeting Excerpts

August 4, 2025

Those present:

Pastor Jeff McCam  
Mike Haldy (25)  
Rolie Rettig (26)  
Kirk Fruth (27)

Bob Rettig (25).  
\*Kay Armbruster (26)  
Christine Rettig (27)

- The meeting was called to order by Pastor McCam at 6:30 p.m.
- Pastor's Report was reviewed and accepted with some discussion concerning the health of several members.
- Summer worship services in Fellowship Hall are well attended and no negative comments have been voiced.
- Worship will be in the Sanctuary on Rally Day, September 7.
- The question of continuing to serve only juice for communion when we return to the sanctuary was raised. Wine as well as grape juice will be offered.
- Confirmation orientation will be on August 24. Since pastor will be on vacation, it was discussed if an alternate date would be better. Unless the leaders of the Confirmation program can suggest a more acceptable date, it will not change.
- Visits by Pastor to those in need of pastoral care were reviewed.
- Preferred symbols and wording for the red paraments and altar cover were selected so pricing could be determined.
- There were two "Love Gifts" requested and honored recently.
- Reverend Dan Busch is retiring soon, and he will be leading worship services on August 24. A reception will be held in his honor after worship.
- Rev. McCam and Rev. David Orr will be leading worship services for the 165th Anniversary Celebration on Rally Day, Sept. 7 with Rev. Marv Rettig being invited to make comments. Rev. John Fruth plans to submit written comments.
- Occasionally when coming to the church when it is unoccupied, staff and Consistory members have found doors unlocked, water running, and lights left on. We all are responsible for being watchful for these things.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m., and Pastor led in prayer.
- Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 3 at 6:00 p.m.

Bob Rettig, Scribe

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	ACOLYTES	DEACONS
September 7	Deacons	Janice Rettig Jay Slagle
September 14	Deacons	Ben Thomas Rory Prigge
September 21	Deacons	Linda Arreguin Jared Clady
September 28	Deacons	Amanda Rettig Mark Vajen



FROM  
THE SHALOM  
FOOD PANTRY

FROM THE PANTRY REPORT - JULY 2025

## INCOME

St. John's June Giving	\$ 875.00
Chief Receipts	607.01
Individual Donation	150.00

Total \$ 1,632.01

Submitted by Norma Nagel

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Congregation Members Information

Help - we need your updated contact information such as: a new email address, phone number, street address, etc. so we can get our information updated. Please check your REALM account and verify that your information is correct. Please call or check with Peggy or Carl if you have any questions. Our church number is 419-264-4401, you can select whom to speak with from the phone greeting recording. Your updated information will also be useful for an updated family directory and also with the giving envelopes.

Thanks, Office Administrative Assistant

## Taking care of our church home:

In recent weeks we have found that when folks arrived in the morning, there have been lights that were left on overnight. In another incident, a hot water faucet in the women's restroom was found to have been running for more than twenty hours. Sometimes when folks leave, despite the doors being locked, they are not secure to prevent someone from entering our building when no one is here. We all need to be caring for our church building in the same way we do our own homes. Please: if you are in the building for a meeting, gathering or other purpose, make sure when you leave that lights are off (unless it is marked otherwise), water faucets are off, and that doors are securely latched. Our doors are many years old, and made of wood that can be affected by the humidity. When you exit, push on the door from the outside, then pull to make sure it is secured. Thank you all for doing your part to be good stewards in caring for our building.

## Commemorative Plates:

On Rally Day, as we celebrate our 165th Anniversary, St. John's United Church of Christ, commemorative plates will be available at no cost for anyone who would like one. They will be available in the narthex before and after worship.

## ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY ASSOCIATION -

There will be a meeting of the St. John's Cemetery Association on Sunday, September 21 at 11:30 a.m. All lot owners are members of the Association and are encouraged to attend.



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...*

- Shirley Tobias** health issues  
**Mike Rettig** health issues  
 \* **Graham Pohlman** (9 mos. old, grandson of Kenneth Pohlman) brain cancer  
**Beth Waisner** recovering from surgery  
**Beth Saneholtz** recovering from surgery  
 \* **Daniel Gomez** health issues  
 \* **Vickie Flores** health issues  
 \* **Robert and Sunny VanHoy** health issues  
 \* **Brenda Clevenger** health issues  
**Terry (Linda) Rettig** had surgery  
 \* **Melody Drews** health issues  
 \* **Mario Moreno** health issues.  
 \* **Jim Bishop** (father of former member Julie Rees) cancer

(\*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 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**

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

Peggy Franz	15396 St. Rt. 281	Holgate, Ohio 43527
Anita Sidle	665 W. Maumee	Napoleon, Ohio 43545
(Call before visiting)		
John & Shirley Tobias	10011 Co Rd Y	Hamler, Ohio 43524
Bernard Zimmer	1040 S. Perry St. Apt. 37	Napoleon, Ohio 43545



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:*

**The family of Herbert E. Fruth** who passed away on August 11, 2025.  
Funeral services were held on August 16, 2025, at St. John's United Church of Christ with burial in the church cemetery.

**The family of Gary Delventhal** (husband of Dianna Delventhal) who passed away on August 15, 2025. Funeral services were held on August 21, 2025, at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Hamler with burial at Marion Township Cemetery.

### **HENRY HARRISON HAHN** **Baptised on July 27, 2025**



Parents: Jacob and Kortney Hahn  
 Sister: Harmony Hahn  
 Grandparents: Larry and Paula Maurer  
 John Hahn and the late Pam Hahn  
 Sponsors: Brandon Behnfeldt  
 Vanessa Cash



## Kid's Corner



## SEPTEMBER

9 - 6	Griffin Tanner
9 - 14	Eric Rettig
9 - 15	Westin Rozevink
9 - 18	Summer Haldy-Hoeffel
9 - 21	Jaidyn Medina
9 - 23	Kasey Waisner



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY JULY 2025

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Operating Fund Revenue and Expenses				
July 2025	2025 Year To Date	2025 Annual Budget	% of Year Complete	Actual YTD
\$11,036	\$118,292	\$238,988	49%	
<b>OPERATING BUDGET INCOME</b>				
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
BUILDING & MAINTENANCE	\$2,926	\$25,896		\$46,996
MINISTRIES	\$943	\$3,743		\$9,500
MISSIONS-OPERATING	\$540	\$3,780		\$6,480
ADMINISTRATION	\$7,016	\$41,875		\$79,909
PASTORAL	\$7,363	\$51,236		\$96,853
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$18,788</b>	<b>\$126,530</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>\$239,738</b>
<b>NET OPERATING TOTAL</b>	<b>-\$7,752</b>	<b>-\$8,239</b>		
<b>Mission and Restricted Fund Activities of Note for July:</b>				
Mission of the Month - Our Church's Wider Mission:				<b>SPENT</b>
Shalom Food Pantry Giving:				\$320
G. Sonnenberg Fund:				\$885
Sharla Farm Income:				\$1,856
Love Gift:				\$933
Major Maintenance:				\$3,000
Technology Team:				\$1,240
Vacation Bible School:				\$542
				\$547



### 2025 Tomato Festival Parade St. John's UCC Holgate



First Place in the Religious Category  
First Place in All Categories

Thank you to everyone involved with the **BEST OVERALL FLOAT** in the 2025 Tomato Festival Parade. The list of folks to thank will take some time to compile. In the meantime, please know how fortunate our faith family is to have so many giving, creative, hard-working people who know how to come together and do great things. When a hot Sunday arrived in August, there was an amazing float ready to go, proving that our members are truly the hands and feet of Jesus.



Our Nursing  
Home Ministry

### VanCrest of Holgate Worship Service

Thursday, September 4  
at 1:30 P.M.

Angel Choir Needed

### Henry County Fair Gate Fundraising Project

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who manned the gates at the Henry County Fair on August 14. It takes many folks to accomplish this project. Through their efforts, we were able to raise \$1,200.00 for the operating fund. Thank you to the following volunteers who gave their time to make this fundraising project a success. Rolie and Janice Rettig, Franell Nelson, John Hahn, Mike Haldy, Tyler Rue, Rory Prigge, Carol Medina and Pam Murcek, Kathy Finkenbiner, Mary Kay Altman, Debbie and Tom Eberle, Kevin and Tammy Vajen, Dave and Linda Snyder, Kirk and Lynette Fruth, Jeri and Ron Hoellrich, Sue Rettig, Tammy Martin, Kay and Keith Winnie, Chris and Lori Clady, Jared Clady, Linda Arrequin, Jay Slagle, Pat Kirk, Junior Hoff, and Jim Rettig.

Christine Rettig, Team Captain

### CHIEF RECEIPTS

I recently submitted Chief cash register receipts and received a check in the amount of \$607.01 to be donated to the Shalom Food Pantry.

It's such a simple thing for a person to save cash register receipts and drop them off in the basket at church.

We appreciate Chief for allowing us to do this as a fundraiser.

Keep those receipts coming in!

Carol Luifs, Tabulator



## Sunday, September 7, 2025

### Rally Day - St. John's 165 Years

### 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

Proceeds to  
be determined by Choirs



In 1888: Wins Added In 1913

### St. John's United Church of Christ

1860 - 2025

Celebrating 165 Years

Sunday, September 7, 2025

Dear members and friends of St. John's,

2025 marks the 165<sup>th</sup> year of serving God and our community. Please join in the celebration, with special Sunday school activities at 9:00 a.m., worship with Communion at 10:15 a.m., and ice cream social to follow worship. Pastor Emeritus David Orr and Pastor Marv Rettig, a son of the congregation, will be here to share in the worship service. Our history in pictures and written word will be displayed, as well as a DVD from our 2010 cornerstone celebration.

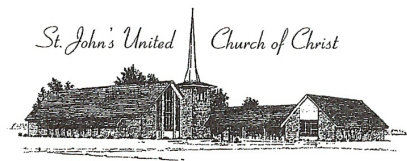
This is also Rally Day - it would be a good day for Confirmation class reunions. If any classes would like to share some time to reminisce, we can offer a designated space in the church for you.

Plan to attend and share this special day.

Sincerely,

165<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee - Eric Shank, Rolie Rettig,

Bob Rettig, Jeri Hoellrich, Franel and Greg Nelson



### Updates On The Sonnenberg Donation Task Force Progress

As you have read in previous articles, St. John's UCC has been blessed with a monetary donation from Gib and the late Dona Sonnenberg for the purpose of improvements to our church facility. A task force was formed, consisting of the Consistory Chair, Vice-Chair, an Elder, a Deacon, and two Congregation Representatives.

After many meetings and approval from the family, a list of items for improvement for our church building was compiled. Consistory then gave approval for the projects presented. We are pleased to announce the following items on the list have been completed:

- Ceilings were painted in the Chapel, • Sunday school hallway
- coat room, • Fellowship Hall, and • ceiling repair and painting of the Narthex. • An air conditioner/heat pump unit was installed in the Chapel. • The draperies in the Chapel were removed and replaced by a modern remote-control roller shade, which will allow for darkening the room when needed for video viewing. • New chairs were placed in the Chapel as an addition to the chairs that were present. The improvements in the Chapel will allow the area to function for multiple uses. • A new computer was purchased for the office.

Still to come are the complete renovation of the office and painting of the office, pastor's study, and pastor's restroom.

We are working in phases and in cooperation with the family and approval from Consistory to be good stewards of the gift that has been given by the Sonnenberg family. Be on the watch as the office gets temporarily relocated in the coming months and work begins!

*The Sonnenberg Task Force: Christine Rettig, Ben Thomas, Rolie Rettig, Jared Clady, Caryn Luffs, Doug Rettig, Pastor McCam (ex-officio member)*



Dinner and  
Silent Movie Night  
September 13, 2025  
At  
St John's UCC - Holgate, Ohio  
Music by Lynne Long

### ITALIAN DINNER AT 6:00 P.M.

Menu: Choice of Spaghetti or Lasagna  
Salad, Garlic Bread  
Dessert and Drink

### MOVIE AT 7:15 P.M.

Tickets On Sale Starting Sunday, August 24, 2025

Meal only \$6.00  
Silent Movie only 6.00  
Dinner and Silent Movie \$10.00

Tickets can be purchased on Sundays in the Narthex or  
Call the Church Office at 419-264-4401 or  
Tickets can be purchased at the DOOR that evening

Proceeds go toward advancing our Youth Group  
Developing Disciplines  
And  
A couple of their Community Service Projects



### News and Notes

Submitted By Alexa Brown  
August 10, 2025

Present: Alexa Brown (2026) Lynette Goldsmith (2027)  
Deb Stevenson (2027) Pastor Jeff McCam  
Kirk Fruth (Liaison to the Consistory)

**Sunday School Mission** for the year has been chosen and will be the Orphan Grain Train.

Finished discussion with Sunday school and teaching. Due to the lower numbers of children who are in grades 4-6 we will be doing a combined class of grades 1-6. Combining with 1-3rd as we only have 1-2 kids in grades 4-6 at this time. If we have a 5-6th grader we can have them help with younger kids in both of the other classrooms. (suggested they can read the story, discuss the scripture for the week, or paired with a younger child etc.)

**Registration Forms** for Sunday school will be distributed to parents on Rally Day. Will also leave some for teachers in their classroom the first few weeks of Sunday school for those who did not attend Rally Day.

We will continue to have the children's crafts made in SS to be displayed in the hallway.

We will reach out to SS teachers soon and will also place the sign up sheet in the library.

Diana will continue with the opening as she is able. Teachers will have to fill in on the days she is not available. Youth group will only meet once a month.

**Confirmation plans continue.** We will still accept letters from students who received them. We have some in the office currently. Lisa and Alexa will reach out to parents to be sure they were received. Confirmation orientation is August 24.

**Rally Day** - September 7 we will have activities and snacks/ refreshments for kids.

Meeting Adjourned





### "Senior Saints" Our 80+ Members

#### **Darlene Hockman**

will celebrate her  
85th Birthday  
on September 11

854 W Graceway Dr  
Napoleon, OH 43545

#### **James Yocom**

will celebrate his  
89th Birthday  
on September 26

N416 SR 109  
Napoleon, OH 43545

#### **Esther Bischoff**

will celebrate her  
90th Birthday  
on September 27

814 Third St  
Napoleon, OH 43545



#### **Joe and Lynne Long**

will celebrate their  
55th Wedding Anniversary  
on September 5

22735 Long Judson Rd.  
Grand Rapids, OH 43522-9749



### *In Loving Memory*

**HERBERT E. FRUTH**

June 12, 1926 - AUGUST 11, 2025

Herbert Eugene Fruth, 97, of Holgate, Ohio passed away peacefully on Monday August 11, 2025, at Vancrest of Holgate.

He was born on June 23, 1928, to William H. and Catherine (Aglar) Fruth of Napoleon. Herb honorably served our country in the United States Army during the Korean War.

On February 27, 1954, he married the love of his life, Arlene Joyce Hire, who preceded him in death on February 28, 2006. He was a lifelong member of St. John's United Church of Christ of Holgate.

Herb was a farmer for his entire life. On his farm he raised various crops, hogs and typically kept a Jersey cow. He was scrupulous about maintaining his farmland by enhancing the drainage systems and generally making the land more productive. At age 95 he could still be found spraying the ditch banks from his Gator.

His first priority was his family. He worked hard to provide a roof over their heads and space for his wife to have a garden and an orchard to sustain them. He enjoyed giving his grandchildren rides on the tractor and taking them to see the baby barn swallows.

Left to cherish his memory are his children, Rick (Jane) Fruth and Sandra (Amy Ingram) Fruth; grandchildren, Emily Fruth, Katie and Jack Ingram; and step-granddaughter, Caitlin (Brad) Armstrong. He was also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Along with his parents and his wife, Arlene, he is preceded in death by his sisters, Evelyn Brubaker, Marjorie Savage and Marcella Brink.

Visitation was held on Saturday, August 16, 2025, at St. John's UCC of Holgate (1-946 St. Rt. 108) from 9-11 a.m. with Rev. Jeff McCann officiating. Burial was in at the church cemetery followed by a lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

In lieu of flowers the family requests  
memorial donations be considered to

St. John's United Church Of Christ Shalom Food Pantry, or  
The Henry County Senior Center Meals on Wheels Nutrition Program

Friends are invited to share a memory of Herb and sign the online guest book at [www.hoeningfuneralhome.com](http://www.hoeningfuneralhome.com)

### Open House For Esther Bischoff



On Saturday, September 27, 2025  
from 4 pm to 7 pm,  
at Oberhaus Park,  
750 W Maumee,  
Napoleon, OH 43545

Come to the Open House  
for Esther Bischoff  
to celebrate and wish her a  
Happy 90th Birthday.  
Everyone is welcome to attend.



### SEPTEMBER

9 - 9	Dustin Dunfee	9 - 23	Reed Waisner
9 - 11	Darlene Hockman	9 - 25	Chad Lulfs
9 - 12	Brittany Morgan	9 - 26	James Yocom
9 - 13	Maggie Prigge	9 - 27	Debbie Eberle
9 - 15	Colin Waisner	9 - 27	Esther Bischoff
9 - 18	Norma Nagel	9 - 28	Brian Lulfs
9 - 19	Paul Prigge	9 - 28	Courtney Woodring
9 - 19	Terry (Sue) Rettig	9 - 29	Georgena Nanson
9 - 21	Denny Behnfeldt	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 419-966-2389  
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 **OCTOBER**  
Newsletter is—**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 at 10:00 A.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



## SEPTEMBER MISSION

## NAZARENE FUND

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).