

Welcome Home!

to the Church you remember....Welcome home to....

St. John's

The 2021 January Chimes

United Church of Christ



Prayer List

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all of our shut-ins and the following members, David Hummel, Alison Armstrong, Glenda Prescott, Brooke (McDonald) Hall, Barbara & Mel Cunningham, Mary Lou Hostetler, Jeanette Morris, Sandra Donson, Machele & John West, Dick Boyd, Kate Hannum Rose, Debi Snow, Kathy Wilson, Judy Armstrong, Braxton Picklesimer, Vicky McGee, Virginia Lavelle, Brenda Simross, Paula Hatfield, Donna & Loren Hewitt, Harriett Applegate, Bill Jansheski, Charles & Lois Meyers, Mike Boyce, Relna Cornell, Esther Gillham, Helen McGaughy, Bill McInturf, Chuck Chirdon & Barbara McKee.

Please contact the church office if you know of any sick or hospitalized members. Remember if you want someone on the Bea's Blessings prayer chain, you can email Michelle Reedy jmichele.reedy@gmail.com

Thank You

Thank you for your support during Bob's last months and his passing. Thank you to Rev. Katrick for conducting the funeral service and lifting me up throughout this process, everyone who has gifted the church in memory of Bob, those calling me, those who emailed me, and those who sent me cards. It is all much appreciated and good to know my church family is always there.

Member News!



Colleen Kroah earned her Girl Scout Gold Award November 24, 2020. The Gold Award is the highest award in Girl Scouting. It requires 100 hours of research, planning, creating the project.

Colleen chose to create a Prayer Walk at St. John's UCC. With the help of Elaine Gard, she was able to plan the Prayer Walk around the four stations of prayer (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication). After many meetings and emails with the Girl Scout council, they approved the project. Then she was finally able to get to work, burning scripture points into wood, building benches, and planting flowers. She completed the walk in September and it was dedicated by Rev. Katrick on September 13, 2020 following service with the congregation in attendance. With all the paperwork in and reviewed, the Girl Scout Council honored Colleen with the Girl Scout Gold Award. She will receive her Gold Award Pin at a special ceremony in June 2021.



for your generosity!

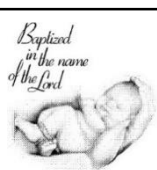
Keep The Bells Ringing

at St. John's United Church of Christ

Our Goal:	\$ 37,470.00
As of December 27, 2020:	\$ 38,105.00
Available for any additional unexpected repair expenses:	\$ 635.00

Financial Update

Monthly Faith Promise goal	\$ 9,002.59
Income as December 27, 2020	\$ 8,528.00
Month to Date Balance	(\$ 474.59)



Baptized
in the name
of the Lord

Briggs Tanner Kibler

Born: June 2, 2020

Baptized: November 25, 2020

Parents: Connor & Kalie Kibler

Godparents: Jillian and Heath Heyden



Dear members and friends of St. John's:

In my condominium I have two big windows, one in the living room and one in the master bedroom. Each one has a venetian blind. The blind in the living room gets opened and closed each morning and evening, respectively.

But the blind in the bedroom hardly ever gets opened. It's because I mostly go in there to sleep and change clothes. When I do, my light source comes from turning on a switch or the remote control for my television set.

One bright, sunny December Sunday, I decided to get out storage bins and sort through some things. I've been on a desperate search for old black and white family photographs that somehow disappeared in my move here.

So I placed them on the bed and went to flip on the light fixture above it. Noticing a more natural, reliable source filtering through the blinds, I pulled them all the way up. The room was immediately awash in brilliant sunshine.

My eyes were drawn to the top left hand side of the window and a stained glass creation, hand-crafted by a member of St. John's, Bill Jansheski. It is a strikingly beautiful portrait of Mary holding her baby, Jesus.

Its radiance took my breath away. Their beauty that was visible to people on the outside could be seen from the inside. They had been watching and waiting patiently for me through some of the darkest, hardest times of my life.

Do you remember the song by Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons that goes, "You're just too good to be true, can't take my eyes off of you!"? Well, that's how our Lord and Savior, perfect in every sense of the word, feels about you and me and all people, as imperfect as we are.

This is especially so when we try to shut out the Lord's light and his love, intentionally or unintentionally.

Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there;

if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning

and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead me,

and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me,

and the light around me become night',

even the darkness is not dark to you;

the night is as bright as the day,

for darkness is as light to you. (Psalm 139:7-12)

One of the most amazing things about my stained glass window is that you can see it after dark, through the cracks in the closed blinds. That Sunday night, when I went to bed and turned off all the lights, the eyes of Jesus and Mary were still upon me.

My brothers and sisters, in this month of January, when the daylight hours continue to increase, let's be more aware of and thankful for the light that will never decrease.

For, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:1-5)

May you all be blessed with a happy, hope-filled and radiant New Year!

In Christ' love,

Rev. Mark

The Afternoon Circle -

does not meet in January due to the possibility of bad weather. This January is no exception, especially with the high numbers of Covid 19 in the area. There will be no get-together on January 6. But watch your mail, ladies, for an Epiphany study.

FROM THE VILLAGE NETWORK FOSTER CHILDREN -

thank you for all the clothes and toys given to:

Brandon	Anthony	Willow	Neveah	Jack
Waylen	Arcadia	Nicholas	Sage	Alex
Ashley	Carson	Cash	Kimberly	Brooklyn
Austin	Ariel	Myanah	Shannon	Wyatt
Rayne	Lissbeth	Jaxson	Addison	

Extra clothes and toys were also sent along in case someone was overlooked.

Thanks to all of you who took a tag from the Angel Tree and shopped for these youngsters. The back of the car really did look and feel like Santa's sleigh as all the huge bags of goodies were transported across town. God bless you everyone.

FROM CHURCH COUNCIL -

Church Council did not meet during the month of December. However, committee work went on as usual.

MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE: Owen Lee

Thanks to all who participated in making the Angel Tree outreach a success.

December donations were given to:

Community Health Clinic

Licking County Sheriff's Office - provide materials for children against drug abuse

Salvation Army

St. Vincent de Paul

Newark Homeless Outreach

Next ZOOM meeting scheduled for January. 12, at 5:30 p.m.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP: Frank Davis

Due to the Covid pandemic, the 2021 budget was voted on by paper ballot sent to all members. The results are as follows:

54 voted to approve the budget

1 member voted against approval

The 2021 budget is approved on December 13, 2020.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Michele Reedy

240 of the Candy Canes intended for Parting Gifts for BREAKING NEWS IN BETHLEHEM were given to those in attendance at the two Christmas Eve services on December 24.

CHURCH AND MINISTRY: Gary Kinser

Members of the Church and Ministry Committee and its subcommittee, The Altar Guild, were hard at work behind the scenes decorating inside the parking lot area for Advent and Christmas. The beautiful display of poinsettias and the serene display and lighting of the Advent Wreath were welcome and enhancing additions to our Outdoor Worship experience during the season.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Elaine Gard

Curriculum continues to be available for Sunday School children, youth and adults to be picked up at the church, online, or with occasional in person meetings. See the CE page for more details. THANKS to Julie Kroah for her research and creativity in offering to all of us quality educational opportunities during this time apart.



Rental Assistance Needed

"Hello everyone. I am writing to ask if anyone has a room for Jo Jo and me to rent until we can get into government housing. I can also offer cleaning services. A basement or anything would be fine. The people I live with are moving very soon, and we can't go with them. Soon after the first of the year, we will be homeless. Please let me know if you can help or know someone with an open property. God bless." My number is 740-644-5514



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LIBRARY FOCUS FOR JANUARY

Gentle Moon: The Story of Molly Lee by Deana Windon. Join Molly on her fascinating journey and be inspired by the many heroes who touched her life.

Herods Temple: The Temple Jesus Knew DVD. Fascinating examination of an ancient wonder.

For Children

The Kids Book of Awesome Bible Activities by Vicki Save. Fun-filled Bible based activity book.

***** These featured books and DVD's can be found in the church library on the center shelves*****



February 7, 2021

Canned Soup Drive

This year the Youth will be holding a canned soup drive instead of cooking soup for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

On February 7, 2021 bring canned soups and stews of all kinds to benefit the Licking County Food Pantry.

The Youth will be on hand to collect the cans as you enter the parking lot for the Outdoor Drive-In service at 9 and 11 am.



Like everything else this past year, the **Souper Bowl of Caring** will have to be different too. This year instead of making soup for donations, we will be having a **Canned Soup Drive** to benefit the Licking County Food Pantry. On **February 7, 2021** bring in canned soups and stews of all kinds. The Youth will be on hand to collect the cans as you enter the parking lot for the Drive-In service.



The Adult Sunday school class will be studying the book **Gentle and Lowly** by Dane C. Ortlund starting on January 31. If you would like a book, please email Julie Kroah. Starting in January, we will be looking at Movie Discussion Bible Study. We will continue to meet at 10am in the large meeting room, but there will be a virtual option as well. If you would like to be a part of either the in person class or the virtual class, please let Julie Kroah know at stjohnsucc.ce@windstream.net.



Cradle Role and Bible Discovery Zone class will be done through **email** or **Sunday morning paper-pick-up**. We are currently studying people of the Bible.



Sunday School Classes



Adult class – Meets Sunday at 10:00 am or by email
Bible Discovery Zone - By email or Sunday morning pick-up
Cradle Role - By email or Sunday morning pick-up

January Worship Service Duties
Ushers: Larry Jones, Chair, Frank Davis & Gary Kinser



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 5:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car! 11:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car!	28	29	30 6:00 PM Private Use- Church Practice - Cancelled until further notice	31  Thursday Evening Prayer Service on Facebook	1 	2
3 Communion Sunday 5:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car! 10:00 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car!	4	5 5:00 AM Church & Ministry Meeting	6 10:00 PM The Afternoon Circle of the Women's Guild Meeting - Cancelled 6:00 PM Private Use- Church Practice - Cancelled until further notice	7 7:00 PM Live from St. John & UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service Live streamed at 7:00pm.	8	9
10 5:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car! 10:00 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car!	11	12 7:00 PM Finance & Stewardship Meeting	13 10:00 AM Christian Education Meeting 6:00 PM Private Use- Church Practice - Cancelled until further notice	14 7:00 PM Live from St. John & UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service Live streamed at 7:00pm.	15	16
17 5:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car! 10:00 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car!	18 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting	19	20 6:00 PM Private Use- Church Practice - Cancelled until further notice	21 7:00 PM Live from St. John & UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service Live streamed at 7:00pm.	22	23
24 5:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car! 10:00 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Outdoor Drive-In Service - Come as you are.....Stay in your car!	25	26	27 6:00 PM Private Use- Church Practice - Cancelled until further notice	28 7:00 PM Live from St. John & UCC Chapel - Join us for our Thursday Prayer Service Live streamed at 7:00pm.	29	30
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St. John's United Church of Christ
285 W. National Drive
Newark, Ohio 43055

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Worship Services!

9:00 a.m. – Outdoor Drive-In Service
10:00 a.m. – Adult Sunday School
11:00 a.m. – Outdoor Drive-In Service
Volume 21 Number 1

Address Service Requested



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Organist/Choir Director
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Julie Kroah
Christian Education Director
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The Bells will Ring for Years to Come



Thanks to all of the members and friends of St. John's the bells in the church tower will ring throughout south Newark for many more years. The initial goal of \$35,000 and the additional amount for refurbishing the bell yokes has been met. There are a few contingencies and we have received an extra 635.00 towards these. Any additional money received will be held to cover the final bill for the bells. Anything beyond the bell cost will be put into the property maintenance fund to be used for future needs of the church property. The bells are now silent as the restoration has started. We hope the restoration will be completed in time to ring them on Easter Sunday.

Many thanks to all who have donated to make this project possible.