

The Epistle

St. John UCC, 409 Park Avenue, PO Box 156, Bolivar, Ohio 44612

FRIENDSHIP•MISSION•SPIRITUALITY July 2021

Dear Friends of St. John,

Things are slowly coming around here at church. We're seeing some new faces in worship, as well as an increase in activities around the church. Our country breakfast returns this Saturday, July 3rd and will continue into the fall on the first Saturday of every month. I had attended these breakfasts in 2019, when I was in at Zoar on Saturday mornings. I could see the fellowship and friendship on display as many people worked together. Now I have the opportunity to not only enjoy breakfast, but also to pitch in and help where needed. I also hope to greet and meet folks from the surrounding area who come to enjoy this fellowship and food. Many Sundays we also have refreshments and fellowship following worship. I hope to see many of you joining us soon.

Masks are now optional for all activities at church. There is still room for social distancing in worship at 10:30. Each Sunday I am thankful for everyone who chooses to be a part of our worship life at St. John. I am aware that many people stepped away from church in the last several years, and I would like them to know that they are more than welcome to come back and join us once again. There is so much we can do working together.

This past month was also the first time I have attended the Strawberry Festival. I saw many faces from church, especially when participating in the parade with several others handing out candy along with an invitation to join us in worship. It was loads of fun. Just as the community is coming back to life, our church also is experiencing a positive revival following a very difficult 2020.

This year I have primarily been preaching out of the Gospel of Mark, which is believed to be the first Gospel written and gets right to the core of the good news of Jesus Christ. Just as Jesus sought to get people's attention through his teaching and miracles, we hope to inspire faith through our growing together and singing God's praises.

It is also a joy to see the faces of those in worship without a mask covering them. It's certainly helped me to learn names. I hope to see you at church soon.

Moving forward together, Pastor Jeff

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July 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Malachi <i>Julia Felgenhauer</i>	2 Matt 1-4 <i>Ron Gauding</i>	3 Matt 5-6
4 Matt 7-8 Independence Day Altar Communion 10:30am Liturgist: Carolyn Birk	5 Matt 9-10 <i>Adam Regula</i>	6 Matt 11-12	7 Matt 13-14	8 Matt 15-17 Consistory Meeting 6:30PM <i>John Hartzell</i>	9 Matt 18-19 <i>Colin Kuharich</i>	10 Matt 20-21 <i>Nick Gauding</i>
11 Matt 22-23 Liturgist: Dale Duerr	12 Matt 24-25 Clothes Closet 9:00am-12:00pm	13 Matt 26	14 Matt 27-28	15 Mark 1-3	16 Mark 4-5	17 Mark 6-7 <i>Ryan Kuharich</i>
18 Mark 8-9 Liturgist: Becky Wolf	19 Mark 10-11	20 Mark 12-13	21 Mark 14	22 Mark 15-16 <i>Rose Brinkman</i>	23 Luke 1 <i>Birdie Wilt</i>	24 Luke 2-3
25 Luke 4-5 Liturgist: Carolyn Birk	26 Luke 6-7 Clothes Closet 9:00am-12:00pm	27 Luke 8-9 Epistle Items Due <i>Cheryl Fry</i>	28 Luke 10-11	29 Luke 12-13 <i>Robert Lee</i>	30 Luke 14-16	31 Luke 17-18 <i>Maggie and Leah Hamilton</i>

Birthdays are listed on the calendar in italics.
Daily bible readings are listed for each day.

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PRAYER LIST/CARD MINISTRY

Every week, our prayer list is updated to the best of our ability. Please notify the office if you have any additions, deletions or suggestions! Remember the shut-ins and those on the prayer list. "Thinking of you" cards, a note, or a telephone call means so much. Contact the church office if you need addresses or phone numbers.

Please remember the following in your prayers:

All frontline/healthcare workers,

Nila Baad, Bob and Joyclin Ely, Pam Farnsworth, Barb Goldsmith, Family of Helen Hall, Mark Hickman, Missy Jones, Holly Myers, Jeanne Nalley, George Rootring, John and Wanda Stucky, Crystal Weaver

ALL YOU CAN EAT COUNTRY BREAKFAST

On Saturday July 3rd from 8:00am-11:00am, our country breakfast will be back in full swing! There will be scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, breakfast bakes, grits, fruit, sweets, biscuits and sausage gravy, pancakes, juice and coffee. Cost: \$7.00 ages 11 and up, \$3.00 ages 6 to 10, Under 6 – Free. Please join us!



THANK YOU

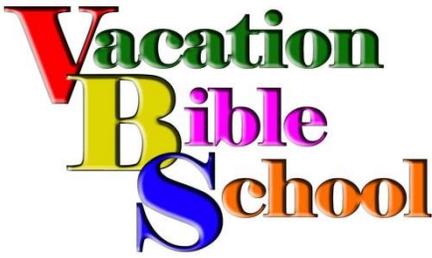


We would like to express our sincere appreciation for everyone who came to celebrate our 70th Wedding Anniversary. We had a lot of people from all around come to see us. All of the friends and members of the church that attended really made our day so special. We received a lot of cards from everyone and really loved reading them. We sure had a great day!

--Sincerely, Bob and Joyclin Ely

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BOLIVAR COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



This year, VBS will be a one day event held on Saturday August 7th at St. Paul Lutheran Church from 1:00pm-4:30pm. Kids that are in Pre-K through 6th grade can attend. The day will be filled with crafts, games, carnival snacks and music! Please call Chris Stevenson or the church office for any questions.

CLOTHES CLOSET

The Clothes Closet was open on one Saturday and one Monday in June. We did have a couple of new customers on Saturday who told us they were unable to come on Mondays, so we will probably be open on an occasional Saturday in the future. We had three new customers visit the Closet on the 28th, including one who just moved into a house across the street. We hope they will all stop in again.



We had a total of 16 customers in June and receipts of a little over 53 dollars. Our band of workers included Cathy, Chris S., the two Beckys, Jean G. and Birdie.

Our next open dates are July 12 and 26. Please stop in if you can, and see what the Clothes Closet is all about. We always have coffee and if the weather continues to be on the *warm* side . . . we will consider some cold beverages also.

EPISTLE COMMUNICATION

We currently send the monthly Epistle by email and regular mail. Please let the office know if you want to change the method in which you receive yours. The office can be reached by 330-874-2822 or stjohnsect@aol.com.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

On the monthly calendar, every day has a passage from the bible. Follow this daily schedule and you will read the entire bible in one year! The schedule will also be listed by the week in the Sunday Bulletin.



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CONSISTORY MEETING SUMMARY – May 13, 2021

The Consistory met on May 13th. Old business discussed was the grass mowing to be taken care of by a church neighbor. The congregation will participate in the festival parade in June and will pass church information and candy out. Dale Duerr has made some railing repairs as well as had the front sign lighting fixed. There will be a guest organist on many Sunday's throughout the summer. New business discussed was repairs that still need done at the church. Also talked about was writing up a letter to pass out to families using church for funerals, weddings, etc. Consistory decided to donate to Tusky Valley for a family in need. Money was also given to a recent graduate, as well as a donation made to Zoar UCC for their new piano.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MAY 2021

<u>May Income</u>			<u>Year-to-Date</u>
5/02/2021 \$ 1,570.00	Income	\$ 7,009.00	\$ 34,393.10
5/09/2021 \$ 1,987.00	Expenses	<u>\$(5,373.56)</u>	<u>\$(30,689.13)</u>
5/16/2021 \$ 885.00			
5/23/2021 \$ 477.00			
<u>5/30/2021 \$ 2,090.00</u>			
Total \$ 7,009.00	Total	+\$ 1,635.44	+\$ 3,703.97

If you would like further details, please feel free to contact the church office.