

# The Epistle

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

**FRIENDSHIP•MISSION•SPIRITUALITY June 2024**

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Hello family,

Every day for the last month I have been driving up and down Park Street on my way to and from the church. Not much changes in town until it really changes. What has changed is the tearing down of the old Bolivar Intermediate School Building.

I watched as the fencing went up to protect people from what was to come. I read of how folks were welcome to come into the building and view what remained, to make a bid on items from some past memories. I then noticed the heavy equipment moving in and within a matter of a few short days the entire building was torn down and trucked away to some landfill. It was gone!

I couldn't help but reflect on that change in our community. I have noticed on many of the home makeovers programs on TV the ones doing the renovations always say their favorite part is "Demo Day". I'm not sure I understand that. Yes it is easier and faster to tear something down than it is to build it, but is there not greater joy in seeing and experiencing a completed job?

Here are a few life applications to think about from the demolition of the school building.

1. Change is inevitable. All things change, whether we like it or not, the world does not stand still. Maybe you are going through some changes in your life right now. This is the season for graduations and maybe you or someone in your family will be changing from one level of education to another, or changing from classroom to the working world. Not all change is bad. Enjoy the excitement of this new adventure in your life or in the life of someone you love.
2. What took a long time to build was destroyed in a matter of a few days. Be careful to guard your reputation and your life. My dad was very intentional about living a life that resulted in a good reputation in his community. And he passed that thought onto me. The choices we make will affect not only ourselves but many others as well. Let us live lives that are known for a good reputation, but even more so, live a life that does good and not harm. This will please the Lord.
3. Building up is better than tearing down. This is true for buildings and people. I have noticed that many buildings have the name or names of individuals who have contributed to the building being built. But, I have never seen a plaque with the designation of the people who tore down the building. People are more important than buildings and they are in need of other people who will build them up as well. Invest your life into building others up and let's stop tearing one another down.

Just something to think about,

Pastor Don

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June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 Worship begins at 10:30am Communion	3	4	5 Bell Choir Practice 6:30pm	6	7	8 Funeral and Meal for Rev. Don Schumaker Calling Hours begin at 10:00am
9 Graduate Recognition	10 Clothes Closet 9:00am-12:00pm	11	12 Bell Choir Practice 6:30pm	13	14	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20 Consistory Meeting 6:30pm	21	22
23	24 Clothes Closet 9:00am-12:00pm	25 Epistle Items Due	26	27	28	29
30						

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## BIRTHDAY LIST

- June 3 – Dave Scott
- June 4 – Jake Beun
- June 7 – Ezra Kuharich
- June 8 – Carol Kinsey
- June 9 – Hallie Carpenter
- June 10 – Connie Burris
- June 26 – Dane Kocher

## 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! Please remember 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:

Tusky Valley Band, Students, Staff and Families, Zach Brinkman (mission trip), Michael Digman, Bob and Joyclin Ely, Missy Jones, Mike Koch, Pam Miller, Clara Mae Millhorn, Holly Myers, Tyler Nathan, Jane Regula, The Rev. Don Schumaker Family, Clare Stevenson, Mary Timmons, Don Wagler



## WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

Beginning June 2<sup>nd</sup>, our worship time will begin at 10:30am. Please note this change and pass along to others who may not be aware.

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## IN SYMPATHY

We were saddened to hear of the passing of our former Rev. Don Schumaker. He served at St. John UCC from 1977-1988. His funeral will be held on Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>, at St. John. Calling hours begin at 10:00am, followed by the funeral, and then there will be a meal in the Fellowship Hall.



## BAPTISM OPPORTUNITY



Are you interested in getting baptized? Let us know!! Pastor Don would like to offer the opportunity of baptism to anyone who is interested. The baptism will take place on July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Wolf's cabin in Gnadenhutzen. Please see Pastor Don or Kaley Hamilton if you would like more information.

## THANK YOU

**Dear Congregation,** We would like to thank you for all of your visits, help and food that you have provided us. We truly appreciate your kindness and generosity.

**From, Bob and Joyclin Ely**

**Dear St. John UCC,** We at Tuscaraws County Council for Church and Community would like to take this time to thank you for your generous donation to our non-profit organization. Your contribution allows us to serve others in our community. The services we currently offer are Bed in a Bag, Community Laundry Days, Eviction and utility disconnect services. We also offer a Youth Booster Program and Healthy Choices for Youth. We appreciate you and your assistance in our efforts.

**Thank you,**

**Leslie Booth, Executive Director**



**St. John UCC,** Thank you for contributing to the Christian Outreach Food Pantry. It is appreciated.

**Blessings, Janice Currance, Treasurer**

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## VBS

Community Vacation Bible School will be held this year July 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Holy Trinity in Zoar. The program theme this year is Stellar-Shine Jesus' Light. St. John will be handling the snacks. Helpers will be needed in various departments. More info to be announced.



## CLOTHES CLOSET



The Clothes Closet was open on May 11, the day of the community garage sale. We only had 7 customers but they made a lot of purchases, especially baby clothes. Proceeds for the day (including one sale from the previous week) were a little over \$73. On our regular open date on Monday, we had 9 customers and receipts of \$35. Helpers for the two days included Jane Hough, Ginny Digman, Lynn Rootring, Chris Stevenson, and Cathy Fenstermaker.

Donations from Clothes Closet funds were made this month to T4C for the "Bed-in-a-Bag" program and to Beneath the Shade for their program and housing for women recovering from addiction. Funds from the Closet were also used to buy flowers to plant around the flagpole for the Memorial Day Observance at Fort Laurens Cemetery.

Our next open dates will be in June on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup>.

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## FINANCIAL REPORT – April 2024

<u>April Income</u>				<u>Year-to-Date</u>
04/07/24	\$ 2,305.00	Income	\$ 7,258.00	\$ 32,697.40
04/14/24	\$ 1,183.00	Expenses	<u>\$(5,802.88)</u>	<u>\$(22,778.49)</u>
04/21/24	\$ 1,415.00			
<u>04/28/24</u>	<u>\$ 2,355.00</u>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,258.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,455.12</b>	<b>\$ 9,918.91</b>

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

## CHURCH INFORMATION

**Help us keep our church roster updated. Contact the office with any address or phone changes. Thank you!**

### WORSHIP HOURS

**Sunday School** (Sept-May)

9:30am – Adults and Children

**Worship** 10:30am

### PASTOR

Pastor Don Perks

740-310-4557

[pagaperks@gmail.com](mailto:pagaperks@gmail.com)

### LET'S COMMUNICATE

OFFICE – Kaley Hamilton, Secretary 330-874-2822

EMAIL – [stjohnsect@aol.com](mailto:stjohnsect@aol.com)

WEBSITE – [www.stjohnbolivar.org](http://www.stjohnbolivar.org)

**If you know someone interested in receiving the Epistle by mail or email, please contact the church office.**