

The Epistle

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

FRIENDSHIP•MISSION•SPIRITUALITY September 2022

Dear members and friends of St. John UCC,

It's 200 years and counting! The focus for any church is to always be looking forward. Therefore, our emphasis needs to be on the counting portion of my opening sentence, looking forward. Pastors as a rule tend to think in one week increments for their planning and scheduling of their ministry. Each year we have 52 services of worship to impact, educate, and inspire on Sunday mornings. It is my sincere desire that whether you come to our church by yourself, with friends, or as a family that all would feel that they are a part of the St. John family and the family of God. This is not a matter to be taken lightly. Family is where we go for refuge and renewal in challenging times. Our church family provides a place where everyone can belong, grow, serve, and make a difference. The disciples following Jesus realized that they had the power of God and could use that to change people's lives! We have that same power today. Let us never hesitate to use it.

I want to emphasize to everyone that St. John Church is a positive safe place filled up with people who know God and want to share his love with others. I hear many people say that they are "looking for a church". Let's see if we can help them by inviting them to join us Sunday mornings or to any of the fellowship activities that we plan this fall and winter.

Beginning September 11th, our Sunday morning worship service will begin at 10:45. This will provide for a consistent start time each week. In addition I will be able to greet people before they leave the Zoar worship service with the additional time this provides.

I also want to say a word of thanks to Mary Elaine Metzka who has played this summer. She will be returning to her own church in September to provide music on Sunday mornings. It's hard to believe that I met her over 20 years ago when I served that church as a designated interim minister. It is amazing how time flies.

Thank you for the schedules of events that our youth participate in at Tusky Valley High School. I know there are other events outside of the high school in which many of our youth are involved. Keep those schedules coming so that I may attend as many as possible. If anyone would like to go to a football game or other event with me feel free to speak up. I enjoy the company.

Anticipating great things,

Pastor Jeff

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September 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29 Basement Sale Donations Accepted 9:00am-5:00pm	30	31	1 <i>Richard McFeeders</i>	2 <i>Jordan Felgenhauer</i>	3 Country Breakfast 8:00am-11:00am <i>Laine Bradford</i>
4 Communion 10:30am	5	6	7	8 Consistory Meeting 6:30pm	9	10
11 Rally Day Worship now begins at 10:45am	12 Clothes Closet 9:00am-12:00pm <i>Ken Bee</i>	13	14 <i>Barbie Harrower</i>	15 Free Community Lunch @ St. Paul Lutheran 11:30am-1:00pm	16 Basement Sale 9:00am-5:00pm	17 Basement Sale 9:00am-1:00pm
18	19	20	21	22 <i>Dale Duerr/ Dennisyn Kocher</i>	23 Basement Sale 9:00am-5:00pm	24 Basement Sale 9:00am-1:00pm
25	26 Clothes Closet 9:00am-12:00pm <i>Kody Mizer</i>	27 Epistle Items Due	28 <i>Chris Scott</i>	29	30	<i>Birthdays are listed</i>

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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! 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:

Continued Prayers: Bob and Joyclin Ely, Missy Jones

Medical: Collin Henry

Cancer: Missy Horn, Cindy Kirkbride, Holly Myers, Peter Stenz

COUNTRY BREAKFAST

Our next breakfast of the summer will be held on Saturday September 3rd from 8:00am-11:00am. Breakfast will include: Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, breakfast bakes, grits, fruit, sweets, biscuits and sausage gravy, pancakes, juice and coffee. Cost: \$9.00 ages 11 and up, \$4.00 ages 6 to 10, Under 6 – Free. All proceeds from this event benefit local mission projects.



CLOTHES CLOSET



The Clothes Closet had all seven regular helpers show up during the month of August. We had a total of 17 customers and receipts of just over 59 dollars.

We will be open three times in September: Mondays, September 12 and 26 and Saturday Sept. 17 (during the basement sale.) Our Sept. 17 hours will be 9:30 to noon (or a little later if we still have customers.) On Sept. 12 we will have a Dollar-a-Bag Sale to start reducing our summer inventory. On the basement sale day, all remaining summer clothing will be a dollar a bag. At some point after the basement sale a work day will be scheduled to sort through the remaining summer clothing and put out the winter clothing which has been stored since April.

Please stop by anytime to shop, help or just visit. We'd love to see you.

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BASEMENT SALE

The church's annual basement sale will be held on September 16th and 23rd from 9:00am-5:00pm and September 17th and 24th from 9:00am-1:00pm. All proceeds from this event go to the Tusky Valley Affordable Christmas project which gives a "hand up, not a hand out" to families in the district to assist with their Christmas. Donations are now being accepted. Monday August 29th, the church will be open for donations from 9:00am-5:00pm. If this does not work, please see Chris Stevenson or call the church office to arrange a time for drop off.



CONSISTORY MEETING SUMMARY

There was no July Consistory Meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT – July 2022

<u>July Income</u>				<u>Year-to-Date</u>
7/03/22	\$ 2,540.00	Income	\$ 8,349.00	\$ 46,350.83
7/10/22	\$ 1,222.00	Expenses	<u>\$(8,282.99)</u>	<u>\$(50,215.67)</u>
7/17/22	\$ 2,418.00			
7/24/22	\$ 1,212.00			
<u>7/31/22</u>	<u>\$ 957.00</u>			
Total	\$ 8,349.00	Total	\$ (66.01)	\$ (3,864.84)

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

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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 10:45am

PASTOR

Pastor Jeff Shultz

330-844-1377

LET'S COMMUNICATE

OFFICE – 330-874-2822

EMAIL – stjohnsect@aol.com

WEBSITE – www.stjohnbolivar.org

OFFICE HOURS

Kaley Hamilton, Secretary (Tues-Thurs)

9:00am-12:00pm