

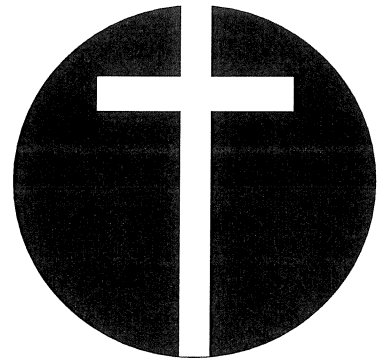
Tower Times

St. John's United Church of Christ

515 East Third Street

Dayton, OH 45402

August 2018



Somebody recently asked me: "How do yourself and council make decisions about ministries that we undertake or efforts that we engage in?" That's a pretty good question. I would imagine that more than a few folks think that plotting the life of a church is something akin to throwing darts at a wall and seeing what you might hit. Truthfully, there is a certain amount of "guess-work" required, but there's also—at least in our case—a distinct method to our madness.

One of the things that council, committees, and the pastoral team work together on is in first identifying "What do we need? What are we interested in?" Once we can see a decent answer to those questions, we ask ourselves "How or who will do this? Do we have the people to handle this, or do we need to wait until we do some more growing? Do we have the skills and resources to do this with excellence? If so, how?" Sometimes, we even stop to re-evaluate ministries, positions, etc., with these thoughts.

In the business world, this process is known as creating economies of scale. We first look to see if we have the interest, then we check if we have the capacity to build upon that interest, and finally we scale our operations to support that interest and capacity.

If you think that this sounds like a lot of work, believe me, it is. Things like "Caring for Caregivers," "Good Grief," or even upgrades to tech and equipment all require a distinct amount of discussion and planning. That planning and plotting might not be obvious on Sunday mornings, but it happens all the same. With all that said, I hope that in this issue you'll see some of the myriad discussions and workings that have helped us begin to revitalize and reinvent ourselves at St. John's UCC!



August Tower Times – VP Report

NOMINATIONS: (Oh, here she goes....)
We have accomplished SO many things at St. John's, because "Somebodies" have been willing to make things happen.



Look at what has been happening in our:

- Community (St. John's Outreach)
- Church environment where more & more people wish to worship with us.
- Building (inside & garden) that is our Home Church

And now we need YOU! We are looking to fill spaces on committees and council for the upcoming year; we are particularly looking for someone to step into the role of Treasurer.

Please speak to Rev. Adam or Nominations (Chris van Breukelen, Jeff Gerrior, Doug Goudy, Karen Clark or Brian Dunkle) if you are interested in sharing your time and talents in the leadership and direction of St. John's UCC!

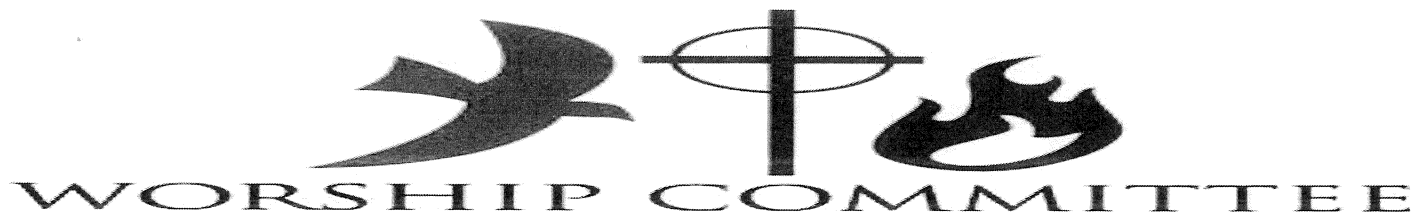
Congratulations to the Papenbrock Family on the Baptism of Emma Rose and Jessica!

SAT., Aug. 25 – CARE FOR CAREGIVERS at Olive Garden, Miamisburg Centerville Road at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris van Breukelen, VP





PRAYGROUNDS

We have asked Building and Property to remove the front pew on the east side of the sanctuary to provide space for our PRAYGROUNDS program. Committee members are checking with retail stores for items - small table/chairs, area mat or rug in order to better define the space. We hope to have everything ready by early September. We know this is something quite different from what has been traditional for children in church --- opening worship, children's sermon and dismissal from sanctuary to nursery or classes. Our primary goal is to provide our children the opportunity to participate in and feel a direct connection with the worship service. We will have something to offer when children are present. While we are not over run with children now, we are looking to the future.

BAPTISM-- BABIES-- BLANKETS - We were pleased to offer the sacrament of baptism to a year old little girl and to a mother and her 5 month old daughter within the last few months. It has been the custom for the congregation to present a handmade baby blanket to the child as a gift of love from St. John's congregation. Thank you to Dee Goudy for her handiwork. If anyone is interested in helping make these blankets, let Christian Nurture committee know.

PERCY JONES SCHOLARS FOR SACRED CHORAL MUSIC STIVERS FUND

September 9 will see choir back in the loft. We'll welcome back our regulars and, maybe a few new singers. Logan Van Bibber, our Stivers student will be back. We were disappointed when the young soprano interested in coming, cancelled out at the last minute. Our Stivers contact person is looking for another candidate. We have a small balance in the Stivers Fund to begin the school year. This is not a budget item and contributions are always welcome.

Envelopes can be found on the credenza in the narthex. Thanks to Anita Hedeker and Philomene King for contributions over the summer.

SUMMER MUSIC

Guest artists

August 5 Leeann Harker, viola;

Aug. 12 Rocky Creek Band;

Aug. 19 Lynn Norton, soprano and Doug Norton, piano;

Aug. 26 Logan Van Bibber. baritone.

Hymn Sings continue through September 2 Labor Day weekend. We had an overwhelming response of your favorite hymns. Adam and Jeff are using as many as possible not only on the 4th Sunday but within our worship services during the summer.

ARCHIVES - We understand Wright State has just about finished archiving all the materials we gave them for safe keeping over a year ago. Time to get everything we've collected/accumulated since then - letters, pronouncements, bulletins, Tower Times, photos, birth, marriage, death records, etc. We've been told, 'don't throw anything away'.

GOOD GRIEF meets third Saturday Aug. 18 at Olive Garden, Miamisburg Centerville Road at 4:30. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Pat Kern

Pat Kern

Worship Committee—Chair



The below letter of thanks for the generous donation of Toilet Paper, not only goes out to the members of our church, this letter also goes out to our friends at MJ's on Jefferson, as well as the people at Square One Salon and Spa. We are very grateful that these businesses step up to the donation plate each time we send out the call for donations at different times during the year.

Thanks to everyone who donated to the "Tissues for Tushies" Drive.

Ethel Burns
Christian Nurture Committee

St. John's UCC
515 E. Third St.
Dayton, Ohio 45402

Dear Members of the St. John's United Church of Christ,

THANK YOU so very much for the donations you collected for the clients of Good Neighbor House during your "Tissues for Tushies" Campaign. It was definitely "Christmas in July" when the toilet paper was dropped off today. This item is something that our client's always ask for and we can never keep enough in stock. Thanks to the generosity of your church members we are able to have this item on formerly empty shelves.

Thank you again for being "good neighbors". And please know, you have made a difference.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcia Ehlers".

Marcia Ehlers
Assistant Director of Community Services and Outreach
Good Neighbor House

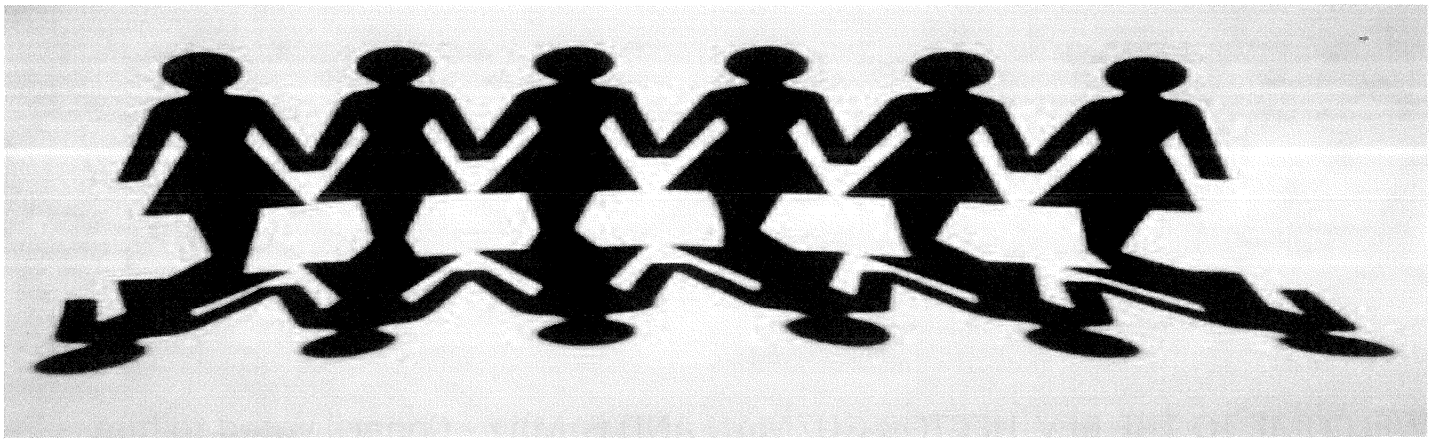


THANK
YOU!

WELCOME!

WELCOME TO THE REV. HECTOR GUZMAN AND FAMILY - Council voted to hire Rev. Guzman for the position of Director of Family Life Ministry (DFLM). Hector will be working closely with Rev's Adam and Jeff to help sustain and/or develop internal ministries at St. John's that help us grow both physically and spiritually. The Rev. Guzman, an ordained pastor in the United Methodist Church, and his family are from the Philippines. They are living in Dayton while he continues his studies at United Theological Seminary, where he is pursuing a Master's in Theological Studies degree under the direction of Rev. Adam. He, his wife and two daughters have attended St. John's several times this summer. A third child, a son, remained in the Philippines attending college. Hector begins his time with us Aug. 1 and we are very excited to welcome Hector and his entire family! If you haven't already, please take some time to say "hello" and get to know this wonderful addition to our St. John's team!





FROM THE WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S

Trinity Birthday Party

The Women of St. John's appreciated the help of everyone who participated in the annual Trinity Community of Beavercreek Birthday Party on July 23 rd . We distributed 17 birthday bags which we filled with small gifts for the residents whose birthdays were in July. Members of St. John's served ice-cream cups, donated by Sue Delaney, cookies and punch to approximately 55 residents. This year Rose Papenbrock hand made small picture frames to decorate the tables and which were given to all residents attending the party. We thank her once again for volunteering to do the decorating. Rev. Jeffrey Campbell pitched in at the last minute to substitute as our Master of Ceremonies since Rev. Wirrig was called out of town unexpectedly due to the sudden illness of his grandfather. Rev. Campbell then led the entertainment with a good old fashioned sing along with the residents. He was assisted by Raymonde Rougier at the piano. We thank them both for their participation. Thanks also to all of members who donated cookies and for the 20 members from St. John's who attended the event and helped out in many ways to make this another successful birthday party.

Janet Neubauer,
President, Women of St. John's

E.S.O.L.SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We are collecting school supplies for students attending classes at the International School. Classes are held Monday thru Friday from 9:30 AM until 11:45 AM Monday through Friday right here at St. John's. Last year there were over 500 students registered at different times throughout the year. The normal daily attendance is approximately 90 students from countries all over the world.

We are in need this year of only the ruled spiral notebooks and the large pink erasers.

We have marked a container in front of the chapel for you to place your donations. Deadline for donations is August 26th.

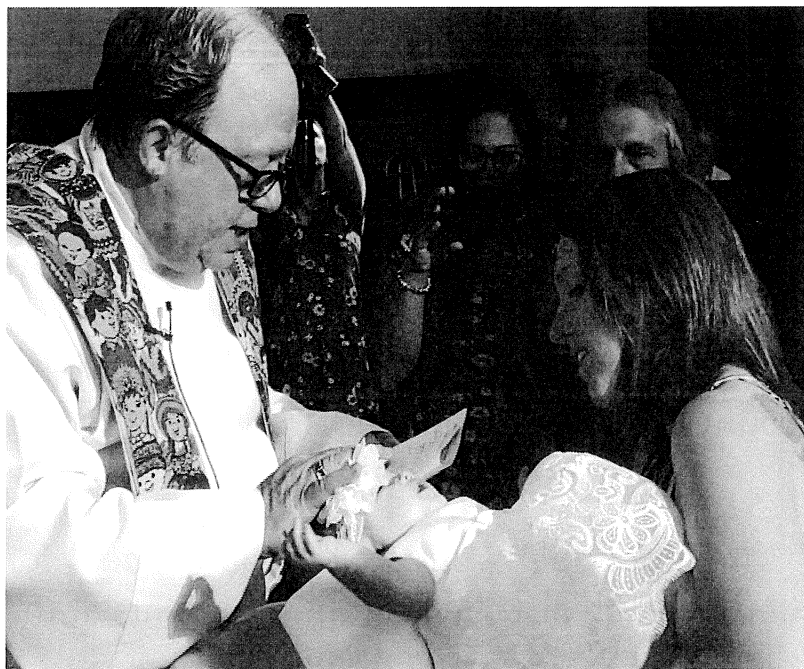
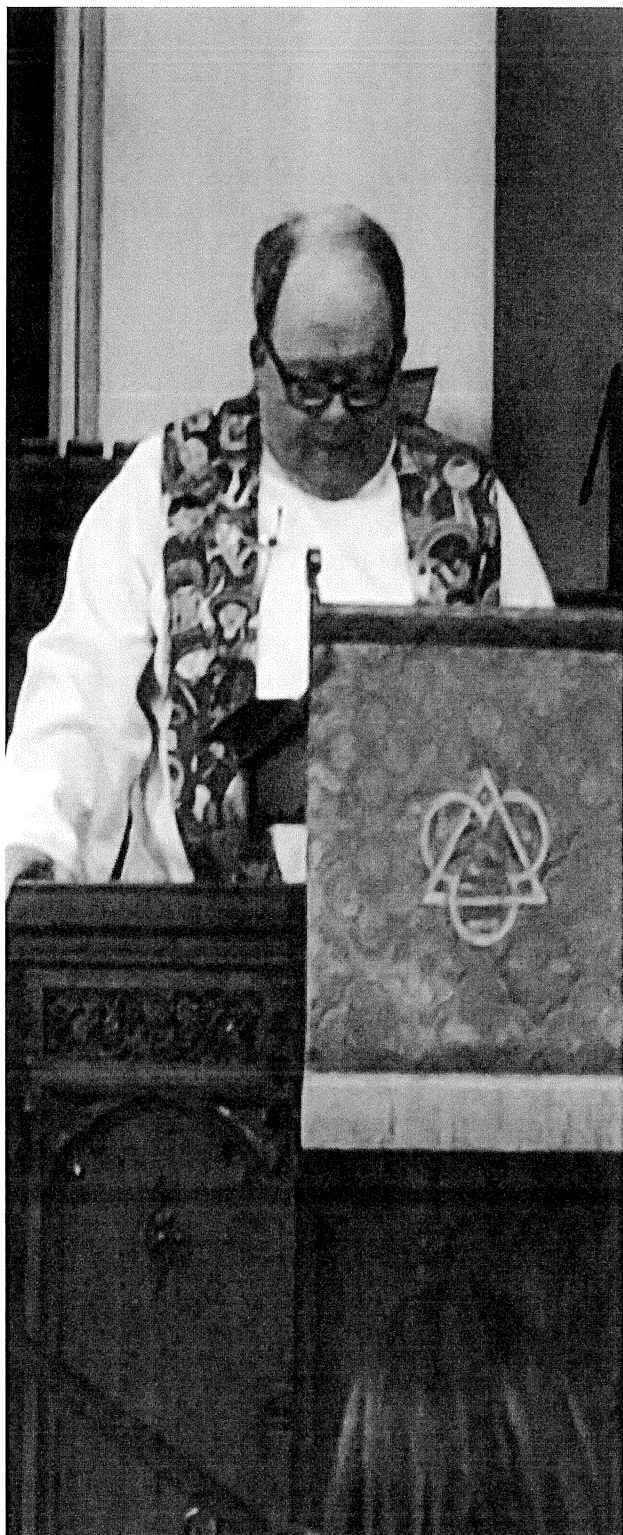
In September a reception will be held for the students and these items will be distributed to the students at that time.

Thanks for any donations of the above mentioned items. Cash donations can be made to the women listed below to purchase these same items.

Nancy Duckson, Janet Neubauer, and Anne Pepiot

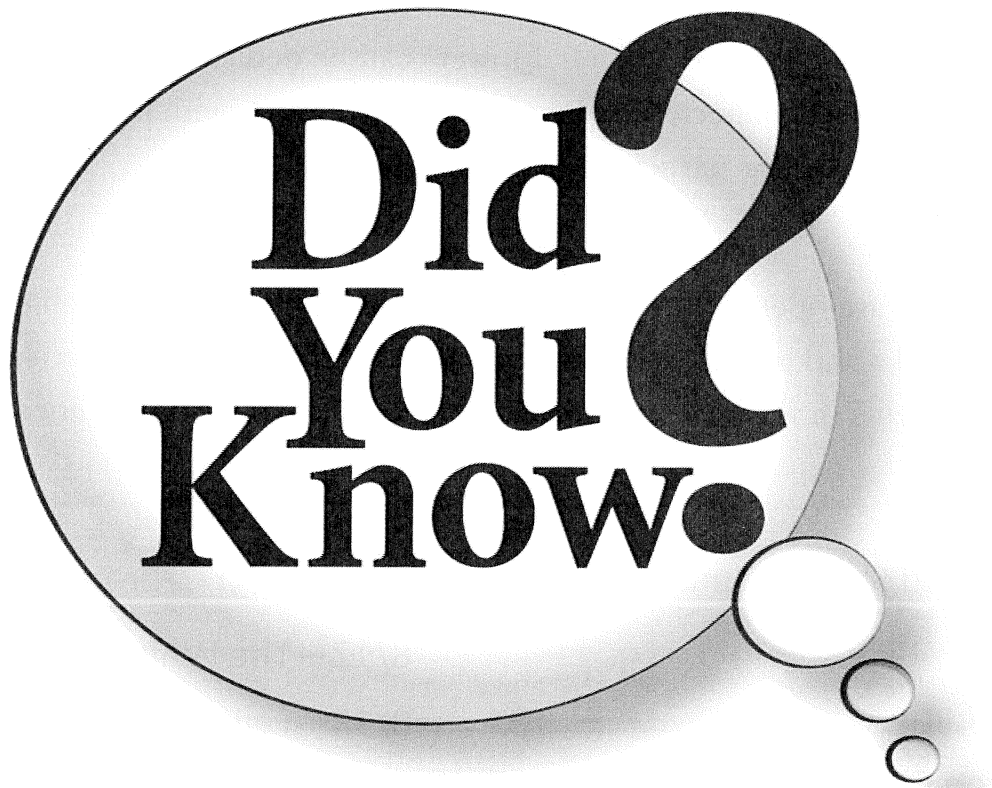


A HUGE thank you to Rev. Jeff for “manning the fort,” while Rev. Adam was away on vacation. Jeff presided over memorials, baptisms, and preaching while Adam was away, all while still providing St. John’s with amazing worship and music to enjoy! Jeff, you are truly an asset around here and we are blessed to have you!



Did you know that we have a digital answering machine at St. John's?

When you call the office, if nobody answers, please leave a message! Your message won't get stuck on an old-fashioned machine, but instead—through the wonders of the internet—goes directly to Rev. Adam and/or Rev. Jeff's e-mail. This way, even though our pastoral team is "here, there, and everywhere," they are able to get back with you as soon as possible. This is just one of many ways that council is working to be good stewards of the church's time, talent, and treasure! If you have any questions about this, please see Rev. Adam asap!



Birthdays

06 - Ruth Muncy

07 - Linda Murray

10 - Betty Lou Martin

14 - Ingeborg Hedeker

14 - Anita Hedeker

16 - Deborah Watts

16 - Steven Watts

22 - Diane Peters

27 - Charlyn Botteri

28 - Karen Clark

28 - Nathan Compton

28 - Chris
van Bruekelen



Flowers & Fellowship

Flowers for the altar in the sanctuary can be purchased each week to help beautify the worship service and then take and enjoy in your home. Sign ups for the flowers are on the corner by the coat rack beside Reverend Adam's office, and priced as follows: one bouquet is \$13.75 and two bouquets are \$27.50. Flowers can be dedicated in memory or in honor of a loved one or event. Checks can be made to the church with indication that they are for flowers. Thank you for participating in this tradition.

Fellowship hours are open for sign up as well. Please contact the church office if you can help supply snacks and refreshments for our weekly fellowship hour here at St. John's. A new sign up sheet is in the basement fellowship hall for your convenience.

Flowers

8/5—Brian and Sharon Dunkle

8/12—Still Available

8/19—Pat Caroots

8/26—Karen Clark

Fellowship Hour

8/5—WOSJ

8/12—The White Family

8/19—Fellowship Committee

8/26—Still Available

In Loving Memory

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Edie Jenkins by Marilyn Kohring, Patricia Goin,

A Memorial Contribution was made in memory of Dail Carpenter by Chris and Wilfred van Breukelen.

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Frank Caroots by Butch and Betty Lou Martin, John and Dawn Schiller, Fred and Judy Platfoot, Mary Jo and Dick Roth, Bill and Peg Schleuker, Jack and Peggy Prater, Philomene King, Norm and Janet Neubauer, Steve Boggs, and Dottie Norton.

A memorial was given in honor of Emma and Jessica Cassell's baptism.

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	Aug 1	2	3	4
<div>Church Picnic Day</div> <div>● 10:30am Worship Service</div>						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<div>● 9am Budget and Finance</div> <div>● 10:30am Worship Service</div> <div>● 12pm Building and Property</div>			<div>● 5:30pm Martial Arts</div> <div>● 6:30pm Church Council</div>		<div>German Fest</div>	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<div>German Fest</div> <div>● 10:30am Worship Service</div>						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
● 10:30am Worship Service			● 5:30pm Martial Arts			<div>● 10:30am HTWHTG @ St. Vinc</div> <div>● 4:30pm Care 4 Caregivers</div>
26	27	28	29	30	31	Sep 1
● 10:30am Worship Service			● 5:30pm Martial Arts			

