

# Tower Times

St. John's United Church of Christ

515 East Third Street

Dayton, OH 45402

## September 2018

Here. We. Go!!!!



There are all sorts of things a-brewin' at St. John's in September! From new types of study groups, to self-care, to constitutional reform, to new and innovative worship experiences, to birthdays, and, well, that's really only about the half of it!

One of the neatest and newer things that I have noticed at St. John's is a change in outlook. When I got here in 2015, there was a palpable sense that "these are our final days and we'll be closing in a few years." To be honest, you could hardly fault anyone at that time. We'd been through some pretty harrowing journeys and things were definitely not looking entirely encouraging. Over the last few years, I think that outlook has markedly changed. We still have a ways to go on a number of issues and it's not as though any one program has made the difference for us. What I think we can say, however, is that we've realized and opened ourselves to a belief that "just because we are small, just because we have had hard times, that does not mean God is done with us and with our church!" With this excitement in mind, I hope you find all sorts of new things in this issue!



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Thank you to all the St. John's Family that helped make the Germanfest Pretzel Booth such a success! You were awesome!



## Nominations:

You care about St. John's. Is there an additional way, you would like to add to St. John's growth? Please contact Rev. Adam or the Nominations Committee. Our committee includes Jeff Gerrior, Doug Goudy, Karen Clark, Brian Dunkle & myself.

## Sat., Sept. 22 – Care for Caregivers

Caregivers are wonderful people. Please join us.

Time & place-TBD



## Soldiers Serving Overseas:

Do you have family/friends who serve in our military overseas?

Care Packages will be mailed from GBU through Operation Reach-Out. If interested, please provide me the mailing address ASAP or BEFORE late October. First priority is given to service members who are far away from BX Facilities. GBU shipped 2100 Care Packages to our Service Personnel last year.

Respectfully,

Chris van Breukelen, Vice President



Budget and Finance is looking for your 2019 Stewardship Cards! These cards help us formulate our budget, plan for our mission outreach, and better link gifted folks into the ministry of the church! Your information remains confidential and there is no such thing as a too-small or too-large commitment!

## **Loft-y Thoughts**

Rev. Jeffrey Campbell, Minister of Worship

***Our Choir resumes on Sunday, September 9, 2018.*** As I welcome all choir members back to the loft, I hope that more people (AKA – YOU) will join us! We rehearse on Sunday from 9:15 to 10:00 in the choir loft. Our music is not difficult and there are plenty of leaders to guide the choir through each piece. A choir's main purpose is to lead the congregation in the singing of hymns and liturgy. The choir also presents an anthem – a special piece of music to praise God and hopefully inspire the congregation. It is a lot of fun and singing is good for you! See you on September 9?

***We welcome our Stivers Students to the loft.*** Our newest student is **Jaelynn Mack**. She is a very lovely and talented young woman. We also welcome back for his third year, **Logan Van Bibber**. We enjoy Logan's presence and talent. Pat Kern has included information about these two musical gems in her Worship Committee report. ***Thank you to all who contribute to the Stivers fund to support this program!***

***I hope you enjoyed our guest musicians all summer!*** We had some wonderful music, didn't we? I hope they come back throughout the year.

***Soon you will see a Pray-ground in a small section of our worship space.*** The purpose is providing ways to include 5 to 11-year olds in the worship service. There will be materials related to the themes of the day, as well as other worship and biblical materials. Parents of newborns through age four are encouraged to take advantage of our Nursery/Cry Room if their little one needs a short break. There are rocking chairs, a playpen and other materials available. Audio of the service is broadcast there.

***The fall season is going to be wonderful and busy at St. John's!*** Check your Sunday bulletin for dates and times of things like a Homecoming Service, a German Heritage Festival, a Pet Blessing, Totenfest, and lots more!

***Thank you*** for your on-going love and support of me and our worship life together!

Rev. Jeffrey





## WORSHIP REPORT

**Worship Committee** is back in full swing. Pastors Adam and Jeff have given us a full schedule through the end of the year. Labor Day weekend marks the 'official' end of summer.

**Choir** will be back Sept. 9. We met with **Stivers student Jaelynn Mack** this past week and she is looking forward to joining us on the 9th. She is a soprano, also sings alto and is a member of the Stivers Chorale and Women's Choir. She is now a junior having begun as a 7th grader at Stivers five years ago. Her major is vocal music. She is somewhat familiar with our Stivers program knowing both Logan and Camryn.

And **Logan** will be back. He's had a busy summer with visits to Capital University, UC College Conservatory of Music, U of Michigan, Otterbein. He was chosen to be one of 150 voices in the All-State Choir. In further competition he was chosen to join other young singers in the All-Nationals Choir of 2018 in November.

'Way to go,' Logan! We **welcome** any who want to come and sing with us. Rehearsal -one only - before the morning service 9:15 to 10 a.m. **Thanks to Ballard Yates and Susan Kolze** for recent contributions to the Stivers fund. Envelopes on the desk in the narthex if you would like to contribute.

**Praygrounds** - the front pew has been removed. Now we are able to better visualize the space we are working with. Some furniture - small child size table and chairs , an area rug or mat to define the space are being shopped for.**UP COMING DATES**

Sept 2 Holy Communion

Sept 6 Thursdays Bible Study 7 pm

Sept 9 Choir is back! 4 pm Spirits Bar Church 3rd Anniversary!

Sept. 16 Homecoming Sunday

Sept. 23 Prayer Walk

Sept. 30 Scott Kisker Guest Minister

Oct. 7 World Communion Spirits Bar Church 4 pm

Oct. 14 German Heritage Sunday

Oct. 21 Blessing of the Animals 2 pm

Oct . 28 Reformation Sunday

Pat Kern

**Good Grief group** meets Saturday September 15 at 4:30. Location to be announced.







Do you look around the sanctuary and notice that some folks are missing?

Are you a St. John's attender who's maybe been away for any number of reasons?

Whatever your story, Homecoming Sunday is for YOU!

September 16th we invite you to c'mon back and spend some time in worship with us. We'll even have our first carry-in dinner of the fall after the service! (You know how we eat around here!)

Feel free to invite friends, family, etc. to come join us in a traditional, but inclusive, time of worship and some wonderful fun and fellowship after the service!

We hope to see YOU on the 16th! :)





Bible Study begins Thursday, September 6th at 7pm in the Parlor. This year, Bible Study will be taught by Rev. Hector. Please consider joining us for a fun and enlightening time!

Starting Monday, September 17th at 6:30pm, a stress and relaxation session will be held in the chapel. These sessions will utilize quietness, meditative breathing, and will be taught by a local professional in the field. Please consider joining us to stop your busyness, quiet your heart and your mind, and hear what God might be telling you or showing you.

If you've any questions on either of these, please see Rev. Adam.

## **“Connection: Neighbor to Neighbor” Discussion Group**

Divisions within the United States seem wider than ever. Politics, race, economics, sexuality issues, you name it, contention seems to exist creating a “we/them” attitude. Even with social media, technology that is to heighten human connection, many feel more disconnected than ever.

St John’s UCC is hosting a discussion topic entitled “Connection: Neighbor to Neighbor”. The goal of the discussion group is to increase our understanding of one another through compassionate listening, meaningful dialogue, and caring hearts. There are three nights of discussions focusing on our human need for connection/belonging, dialogue with civility, and speaking compassionately with candor ending with a final wrap up session.

If you are interested in connecting with your neighbors, making a difference in our world, come join in the discussion. Come to all or any of the scheduled nights! All views welcome.

### **WHEN/WHERE:**

Oct 2	7-8:30p	Dayton Main Library Conference Rm <b>3A</b>
Oct 9	7-8:30p	Dayton Main Library Conference Rm <b>1B</b>
Oct 16	7-8:30p	Dayton Main Library Conference Rm <b>1B</b>
Oct 23	7-8:300p	Dayton Main Library Conference Rm <b>1B</b>



## Kroger Community Rewards Program

New Number for St. John's - **WD785**

Krogers assigned St. John's a new number for the Community Rewards Program.

This new number is **WD765**.

If you are currently enrolled, you can still access your account with the old number, the new number, or by searching the church name.

If you are enrolling as a new member search by **WD765** or St. John's United Church of Christ, Dayton.

Instructions for signing up as a new Community Rewards member are in the Church office.

You can also see Dottie Norton or Rev. Adam with any further questions.

# FORMING THE New Constitution

Beginning Sunday, September 2nd, a draft of a potential new constitution will be available for review by members of the congregation!

The Church Council has been working on this draft amongst itself and would now like to open things up to the congregation for their own time of review, reflection, and recommendation. We ask that you take the month of September to review this potential new constitution and to offer careful consideration and feedback as you will. Please have all feedback sent to Rev. Adam by September 30th. All suggestions will be discussed at the October Church Council meeting and a finalized draft will then be submitted with the Annual Report in late October. We will then vote on implementing this constitution at our Annual Meeting on November 11th.

If you've any questions, please see Judy Humphrys or Rev. Adam.





# Prost!

Dayton Niederkrantz-Turner  
**GERMANFEST PICNIC**









Let's Celebrate!

Jim Francis is  
turning 90!

You are invited to a birthday luncheon  
hosted by Jim's daughters.

Sunday, September 23, 2018

St. John's UCC Fellowship Room

11:30 a.m., following the church service

The Francis Family requests no gifts

please.

Can't attend? Send birthday wishes:

Jim Francis, 5790 Denlinger Rd.,  
Apt.





### **Birthdays**

05 - Adam Wirrig  
08 - Albert Thompson  
09 - Ballard Yates  
15 - Gary Barlow  
21 - Arleen Mandelik  
22 - Pat Caroots  
27 - Kim Kindred  
28 - Jack Papenbrock  
29 - Jim Francis



## **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**

9/2—Francis Family  
9/9—Ann and Tony Morrissey  
9/16—Ed and Judy Humphrys  
9/23— Karen Clark  
9/30— Francis Family

### **Fellowship Hour**

9/2—Open  
9/9—Fellowship Committee  
9/16—B&F Carry-In  
9/23—Francis Family  
9/30—Judy and Brian Thompson

# *With Sympathy*

We send our condolences to Pat Caroots, at the passing of her beloved husband, Frank.

We send our very best to Terri, Spencer & Sophie Kerivan, at the passing of Jim Kerivan. The Spencers were very active at St. John's several years ago, & we have very fond memories of them.

## PLEASE NOTE:

Rosemarie Gerwick has entered Hospice of Dayton, please keep Mike, Linda, and their extended families in your prayers.

Norm Neubauer's brother, Don, and sister, Karen, have also entered Hospice care. Please keep Norm, Janet, and their extended family in your prayers as well in this time.

# *In Loving Memory*

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Frank Caroots by: Ann and Tony Morrissey, Chris and Wilfred van Breukelen, Dottie Norton, Anita Torgeson, Fred and Else Schiller, Kirsten and Mike Morris, Patricia Goin, Dottie Boedeker, Marilyn Kohring, and Chris and Deb Schlemker.

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Dail Carpenter by Steve Boggs, Dottie Boedeker, and Ron and Nancy Duckson.

A Memorial Contribution was made in memory of Emma Sheridan by Dottie Boedeker.

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Edie Jenkins by Dottie Norton and Dottie Boedeker.

# September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	Sep 1
● 10:30am Worship Service			● 8:30am Breakfast Club ● 5:30pm Martial Arts			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
● 10:30am Worship Service			● 8:30am Breakfast Club ● 5:30pm Martial Arts	● 7pm Bible Study		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
● 10:30am Worship Service ● 4pm Spirit(s) Bar Church			● 11am ESOL Welcome 2 more	● 7pm Bible Study		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
● Homecoming Sunday! ● 10:30am Worship Service	● 6:30pm Relaxation Meditatio		● 8:30am Breakfast Club 2 more	● 7pm Bible Study		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
● 10:30am Worship Service ● 1pm Prayer Walk	● 6:30pm Relaxation Meditatio		● 8:30am Breakfast Club ● 5:30pm Martial Arts	● 7pm Bible Study		
30	Oct 1	2	3	4	5	6
● 10:30am Worship Service ● 1pm Teens to Kings Island	● 6:30pm Relaxation Meditatio		● 8:30am Breakfast Club ● 5:30pm Martial Arts	● 7pm Bible Study		Create event

