

# Tower Times

St. John's United Church of Christ

515 East Third Street

Dayton, OH 45402

## July 2018



When I first came to St. John's, an area I specifically identified, that I wanted to improve upon, was "initiative in lay leadership." For many years, the church has functioned on a model where the pastor has directed what happens, when things happen, and how things happen in the life of the church. In the business world, this is something akin to managers making decisions and then employees acting upon them. For many years, this was a very workable model for the life of the church and it very much turned out some neat results. Unfortunately, much as in the business world, we have reached a point in time where this just simply isn't a healthy practice anymore. Long-gone is the era of 20-30 year pastorates in one church. Instead, pastors, like most people, like to move around in their career. This can create situations where churches don't know who to be without a pastor, lose momentum, and never quite get enough inertia to really grow into something amazing. Thus it is that encouraging lay leadership and spurring it's independent growth is something I and many other pastors are deeply passionate about.

I am pleased to say that our church council and committees have really stepped up to the plate with this challenge. Council is making big decisions about who and how we'll be in the next few years. Worship Committee is working on some neat ways to incorporate younger ages into our worship on Sunday morning. Building and Property and Budget and Finance are working together to source grants, estimates, and a host of other things to repair our exterior and make us handicap accessible, and Christian Nurture just ran a very successful mission project, all of their own initiative. Sure, I've been cheerleading, coaching, and helping when asked, but, by and large, these have all been "lay-lead" projects and I can't tell you how happy that makes me and how excited it should make you! Well done, St. John's!



**Please note the address:**

Mrs. Rose Gerwick  
Miller Farm Place  
8130 Miller Farm Lane, Dayton 45458  
9374356114

Ms. Amy Lynn  
342 Gunther Road  
Central Square, NY 13036  
9374097243



Flowers – Thank you to Rev. Adam, Diane Peters & her friend, and all the others who have made the flower beds look so beautiful!!

ESOL Health Fair — St. John’s hosted the ESOL – Premier Community Health Fair in our Fellowship Hall. As you can see, many ESOL students attended.

It was very successful.

**CARE FOR CAREGIVERS:**

Saturday, July 28

Location & Time – we’ll have more information soon.



**GERMANFEST – RiverScape Metro Parks – Downtown Dayton**

Fri., Aug. 10 - 5-11:00 / Sat., Aug. 11 - 11-11:00 / Sun., Aug. 12 – 11-6:00

Please mark your calendar & plan to join us!



Chris van Breukelen – Vice President



The minutes from the May 2018 meeting were not available but will be reviewed and at the July meeting.

Jeff Gerrior reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2018 noting that Offerings were low but still up over 2017 for the month in the amount of \$135 and year-to-date \$6,835. Expenses included the Easter Organ Tuning, the last of the large gas bills for the season and copier service contract. The Holding Account for Parking Ministry has now been eliminated and funds coming in from parking handled by ABM are in a separate account under the General Income. A new holding account has been set up for specific giving i.e. someone wants to contribute to a specific repair need or event but it is not an established item – so we can keep track better. Income this month is from a Wedding, the Marshall Arts facility use, parking and dividends – totaling \$1,766.33. The Stivers program fees have been paid current and will not be incurred until we start back with Choir in the fall. Also noted, the audit for the second half of 2017 was completed and the first quarter audit scheduled.

A quick review was done regarding old business, it was noted that the Constitution and By-Laws update is still in process and Patty will have a better update at the next meeting. Parking & Parking Ministry – the first funds have come in and while they are not a large amount due to the weather in the month of April and the upfront fees for ABM it is expected to continue to increase as the season progresses with reports and payments coming in around the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. With respect to the Administrative Assistant position, at this time we will not be filling the position but will evaluate the need as the work load is not currently there to justify the hours and alternatives are being assessed. As to the Director of Family Life Ministries position, we have an interested candidate for the position and more will be provided as information is available. Patty requested the mem-

bers of the committee provide her with their input for the Stewardship package and she will draft the packet to provide to the committee members either electronically or in person with the goal to provide the packets to the congregation in July. Financial control information from the insurance board was given to Jeff Gerrior by Patty Staley, copies will be given to the committee members as well. They will review and update the committee on any issues that need to be addressed. Credit Card Kiosk & Website Giving – in process – the bank has a new representative and we are just working out the final details.

In new business and the reason that Building and Property Committee Members were present at the meeting, to address issues regarding ADA Compliance, various building repairs and financial needs for those and other areas. Patty had requested Committee Members to search and bring information regarding grants and available funds to address these needs – Patty had information on several possible grants and funds that we can look into. In particular, Otis Elevator Company has a grant that we are most definitely eligible for. Ed Humphrys will work on the details for submission of the application which must be submitted by June 30<sup>th</sup> for first quarter 2019 grants. Patty addressed the committee members with a need to put together a base package of information that would be required on most grant/fund applications so that we can have template information available to be able to work from to make submissions to different funds, pools, entities to raise the monies needed for repairs, ADA Compliance needs, fund new and/or ongoing programs. Steve Boggs presented a list of fund raising ideas including: (i) trunk sales where people sell rummage items from vehicles in the parking lots (on a Saturday) for 4 hours with a \$10.00 donation per vehicle to St. John's, (ii) monthly organ or music concerts with free will offering; lunch available after also for free will offering, (iii) Open House with pizza, (iv) increase use of print and social media to promote events and (v) encourage all members to talk and invite others to St. John's. These and many other viable ideas are being considered and it's great to try to think outside the normal box. All of this will go a long way to making St. John's accessible and desirable for the community use and support. There was a good understanding by everyone that the need is there and that if we are to fulfill this need, it will go to helping build St. John's to a more secure outlook for the future.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting of the Budget & Finance Committee meeting will be on Sunday, July 8, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

If anyone has any questions or concerns regarding the information discussed here or in the Budget & Finance Committee, I welcome you to speak with me at any time. I also invite anyone who would like to attend the meetings to join us as a guest. If you have something that needs to be addressed at the meeting, let me know so that I can place the information on the agenda.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patty Staley, Chair  
Budget & Finance Committee

P.S. Just a quick reminder that ACH Transfer (regular automatic payments or one-time payments) directly from your Checking Account to St. John's is available for making your weekly or special contributions. To find out more, contact Reverend Wirrig or Patty Staley.



## **Words About Worship**

Rev. Jeffrey Campbell

Our summer music program is well underway. We've enjoyed soloists, a harpist and a wonderful guest choir. Plus we had our first summer hymn sing.

The music continues in July and August!

July 1 brings us Gregory Ashe, a wonderful tenor, and David Wion, the extraordinary pianist.

July 8 will be soprano April Bennett and our own Chris van B on the organ and piano.

July 15 brings David Wion back and Reneé Franck-Reed singing for us.

July 22 is Mark Kennedy, a tenor from our choir.

July 29 Jerry Kenney from WYSO will sing at our Church Picnic!

Our St. John's Church Picnic is Sunday, July 29 in the Fellowship Hall! Our 10:30 service will be informal and fun downstairs. There will be singin' and prayin' and preachin'! Dress casually, like you are going to a picnic! Who will have the most summery shirt and funniest shorts? There will also be some good eatin' after the service. The meat dish will be provided. Please bring picnic food to share. Invite your family and friends!

Looking ahead to August special music:

August 5 - Leeann Harker, viola.

August 12 - The Rocky Creek Band

August 19 - Lynn and Doug Norton

August 26 - Logan Van Bibber

Finally, mark your calendar: You know you want to join the choir and be at our first rehearsal on Sunday, September 9 at 9:15 am.





### **PERCY JONES SCHOLARS FOR SACRED CHORAL MUSIC**

A great big CONGRATULATIONS to Stivers School for the Arts Choir Magnet student and our own beloved baritone, Logan Van Bibber! Logan was recently chosen for the All-National Honors Choir! Students from all 50 states will be participating in a three day festival in Orlando, Florida in November. Well done and break a leg!

The scholarship fund, that allows us enjoy students like Logan , ended the year with \$655 dollars. A humongous ***thank you*** to all who donated funds this year. Please remember that, even though we won't have Stivers students with us again until the fall, you can always donate towards the scholarship fund by using the envelopes found in the narthex.

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

Council has approved the appointment of Diane Peters to fill the vacancy on the committee. Last fall, Diane expressed a desire to become more involved and was invited to sit in with the Worship committee. She's attended every meeting, helped with communion and other activities- helping tend the flower beds outside the church. Diane fills the vacancy left by the unexpected death of long time, dedicated committee member Edie Jenkins.

## **PRAYGROUNDS**

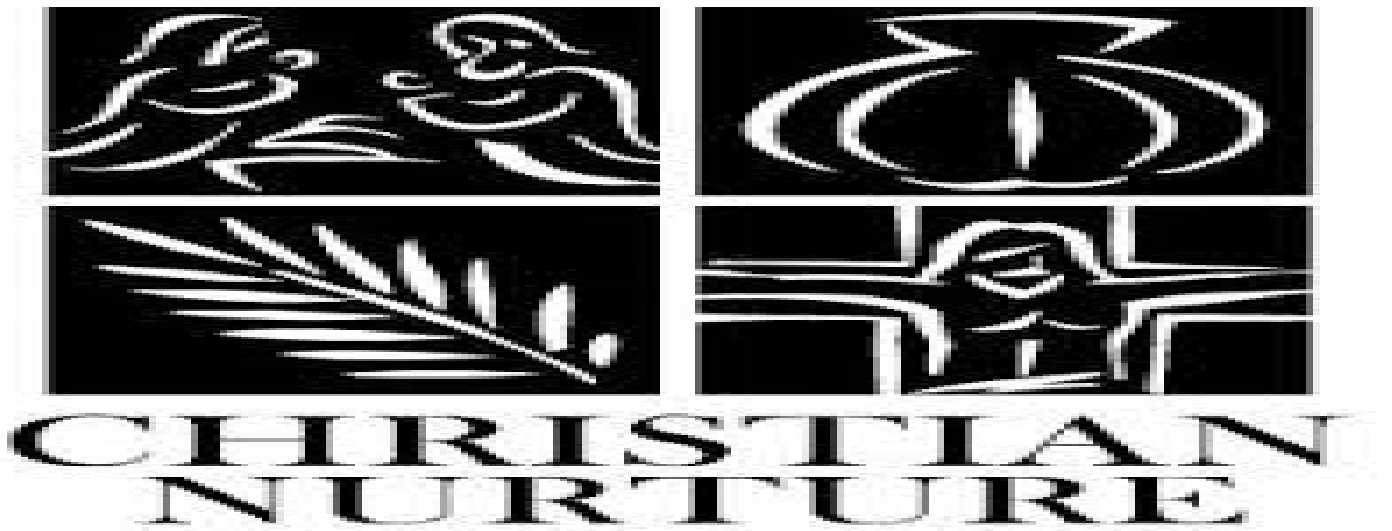
Worship committee people spent a good deal of their meeting June 27 in the church sanctuary discussing implementation of a PRAYGROUNDS ministry. Praygrounds is a new concept, although we have been discussing the possibilities for a year or more, established in mainline churches across the country. One church explained it "we wanted to be intentional about including young worshipers and their families" (at worship). Another "wanted to make the changes necessary to attract young families". While we realize we do not have young families with children now (we do have members who bring grandchildren occasionally) we feel it is important that we have something to offer when they do attend a Sunday service. The committee met in the sanctuary to determine a 'space' for a Praygrounds program. Our next step is our meeting with Building and Property. Eventually Christian Nurture will be involved in implementation.

**GOOD GRIEF** group meets Saturday July 21 at 4:30 at the Troll Pub.. The restaurant is located at 216 Wayne Avenue, halfway between the Cannery and the Oregon District. Parking lot off Wayne and a back parking lot off 4th Street. Invitation extended to all interested to join us.

Pat Kern

**small church  
Bible  
WORSHIP**





Hello everyone,

A huge “thank you” to everyone who was able to donate toilet paper for Good Neighbor house in the month of June! Week after week, folks kept bringing us lots and lots of that squeezable stuff! With your help, and the help of some of our community partners, like MJ’s on Jefferson, we raised 527 rolls of toilet paper for a very worthy cause!

Thanks for all you did and all you will do.





# Fellowship

On behalf of the Fellowship Committee, we thank our St. John's Family for 2 successful Sunday's of Fellowship and good food after our Morning Worship Services.

On June 10th, we had our first Salad Sunday. The members of the Fellowship hope to make this an annual event.

On June 24th, we had yet another Sunday that our St. John's Family participated in during the Fellowship Hour. This even was, "Dip Sunday." The Fellowship Committee wishes to thank our St. John's Family for your participation in this successful event





The Women of St. John's will be hosting the July Residents Birthday Party for the residents of Trinity Community Homes of Beavercreek on Monday, July 23, at 6:30 P.M.

Rev. Dr. Adam Wirrig will be the Master of Ceremonies and Rev. Jeffrey Campbell will provide the entertainment. Rose Papenbrock is making special centerpieces to decorate the tables. Sue Delaney is donating the ice-cream. The Women of St. John's will provide filled birthday gift bags, punch, and home made and store bought cookies.

We are in need of volunteers to make/buy 2 dozen cookies to serve to the residents. If you would like to donate 2 dozen cookies, please bring them to the church's kitchen on or before July 22 and mark them for Trinity and place them in the box marked Trinity Birthday Party Cookies.

We can also use assistance in set-up, serving and clean –up. If you can help with any of these tasks or need any further information please call me at 836-8582.

Everyone from St. John's is invited to enjoy the party. It is always nice to have people from St. John's visit with the residents. Please plan to attend!

~Janet Neubauer

President, Women of St. John's





Are you earning cash for Women of St. John's when you shop at Krogers?

No?

Sign up for the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

It's easy:

1. Go to [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com)
2. Sign into your Kroger Plus card account using the number on the back of your card.
3. Select organization by typing in St. John's UCC #81615

If you have any questions or want to know more about the program, please see Rev. Adam or Dottie Norton.

Thanks!

## **FELLOWSHIP HOUR MEMORIAL LUNCHEON JULY 8TH**

The Women of St. John's will be hosting the Fellowship Hour after the morning worship service on July 8th with a Memorial Luncheon in memory of Edie Jenkins, a faithful member who passed away on May 5th . We invite everyone who knew Edie to attend this special luncheon and to reminisce of their memories of her.







**WHETHER IN THE  
SANCTUARY OR IN THE  
GARDENS**



**ST JOHN'S IS IN  
BLOOM!!!**







H  
E  
A  
L  
T  
H  
  
F  
A  
I  
R



## HAPPENINGS AT ST. JOHN'S IN JUNE!



G  
U  
E  
S  
T  
  
M  
U  
S  
I  
C



GRADUATION FOR ALBERT AND JUDY  
THOMPSON'S GRANDSON!

## **Birthdays**

3—Lisa Robinson

5—Patty Staley

6 - Andrea Harker

9 - Tony Morrissey

13 - Annita Torgeson

15—Timothy Rhode and Jimmy Austin

19 - Steve Carroll

27 - Helen  
Zappe

27 - Ramah Tri-  
plett



## **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**

7/1—Diane Peters in memory of Arthur Peters.

7/8—Steve Boggs in honor of Wanda Boggs.

7/15—Marlene Miller

7/22—Diane Peters in memory of Debra Bailey

7/29— Kim Kindred in honor St. John's

### **Fellowship Hour**

7/1—Martin and Clark

7/8—WOSJ in memory of Edie Jenkins

7/15—Fellowship Committee

7/22—Still Available

7/29—Basement Picnic



# *In Loving Memory*

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of Edie Jenkins by: Ann and Tony Morrissey, Diane Peters, Butch and Betty Lou Martin, Philomene King, Anne Pepiot, and The Women of St. John's.

A Memorial Contribution was made in memory of Tom Norton, by Diane Peters.

A Memorial Contribution was made in memory of Terese Haber by Philomene King.

A Memorial Contribution was made in memory of Emma Sheridan by The Women of St. John's.

# July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jul 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am Worship Service</li> <li>12pm Building and Property</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Christian Nurture</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Martial Arts</li> </ul>			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am Worship Service</li> <li>11:30am Memorial Luncheon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Council Reports Due</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Martial Arts</li> <li>6:30pm Church Council</li> </ul>			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am Worship Service</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Martial Arts</li> <li>6:30pm Worship Committee</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3pm Gambrell - Fellowship Ha</li> <li>4:30pm Good Grief</li> </ul>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am Worship Service</li> <li>12:30pm WOSJ Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Martial Arts</li> <li>6pm Trinity Birthday Party</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12pm Tower Times Articles C</li> <li>5:30pm Martial Arts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Martial Arts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Trinity Banquet</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care for Caregivers</li> <li>10:30am HTWHTG</li> </ul>
29	30	31	Aug 1	2	3	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am Worship Service</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:30pm Martial Arts</li> </ul>			

