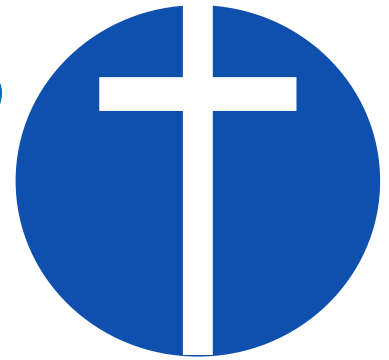


# Tower Times

St. John's United Church of Christ  
515 East Third Street  
Dayton, OH 45402

October, 2019



“Everything looks broken in the middle of its inception.” I was introduced to this phrase back in January of this year and it definitely made an impact on me. Little did I know, at the time, that this phrase would actually be something of the theme to my year at St. John's! From the building trying to fall down, to sorting out legal contracts with our parking, to installing new technologies, or renovating our chapel, this year has seen us do A LOT in the way of “scaling” the church.

If you're not familiar with the concept of “scale,” it essentially refers to the ability of an organization to produce its desired results under growing or changing situations. I doubt I would have to ask too many of you, particularly those of you who've been around for the long-haul, of instances where the church didn't exactly deliver in the way it should or could have? In fact, I can think of a few items off the top of my head while I write this! Whether we haven't had the ability, the know-how, the connection, or whatever, there have been a lot of things that have fallen through the cracks or simply set-aside for quite some time. As a couple of pieces in this issue discuss further, we have spent most of 2019 tackling those items and growing into some new-ness. To say that all of this has been stressful and sometimes even downright discouraging, would not be a lie. In fact, there have been days where I have very much wondered how we would manage this, that, or the other thing as it seemed we had finally bitten off a bit more than we could chew!

Thankfully, again, everything tends to look broken when you're in the middle of its inception...and the church is no stranger to this. If anything, I have been reminded, as we've slogged through the muck of 2019, that this isn't actually my church or your church; this is God's church. If we are following God and the leading of God's Holy Spirit, no matter how crazy, humongous, or unattainable an item may seem, it is more than within our grasp thanks to the one who enables, empowers, and engages each and every one of us!



Let's keep moving forward, St. John's, in the midst of perceived brokenness or the joy of fulfillment, let us listen and move with the one who calls and leads!

Lofty Words  
Rev. Jeffrey Campbell

**Welcome Back, Choir!** The choir is putting together some great music for between now and the end of November. I am so thankful for each and every one of them (Pardon my “Adamism”). We have made the move into four parts and I couldn’t be happier. So plan to hear some new music and some old favorites in the weeks to come.

**October has some great things happening!**

**On German Heritage Sunday, October 13,** we will welcome the Liederkrantz choir to our service. We look forward to hearing them. We also look forward to some delicious food after the service.

**Blessing of the Animals will be October 20 at 3:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your animal friends for a blessing and prayers. Invite your friends and neighbors! The animals enjoy socializing (except for the cats)! The humans enjoy socializing, too.

**Reformation Sunday, October 27** is one of my favorites. (I wonder why...) This will mark the 501st anniversary of the Reformation. You can be sure we will sing “A Mighty Fortress” and hear a lot about grace.

**HELP WANTED!**

I want to invite all of you to consider how you can help with things having to do with worship. There are many opportunities to serve. You do not have to be on the worship committee/team. Below is a list of things you can do. Let me know how you are willing to help!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Worship planning                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping the pews stocked and orderly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as Liturgist                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Doing artwork/banners, etc.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as Greeter                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Singing in the choir                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as an Usher                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Singing solo or in small groups      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Working the sound system                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Playing an instrument                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with Communion set up/clean up       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ringing handbells                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Updating and maintaining the Children’s Room | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting once a month for planning    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caring for the Prayground                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Arranging the Chapel as needed       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ordering flowers                             |   |

Hello St. John's,

Grace and peace to all from our Lord Jesus Christ.

One of the things that I am enjoying doing at St. John's is the ministry of visitation. It is incumbent in me being the director of the Family Life Ministry to get to know every family member of St. John's. Therefore, I need to go home visitation to learn more about their family and to know some concerns that need to be prayed for. After several months of doing home visitation, I had developed a special concern for those widows especially those who have health issues who have been living home alone. I believe as a community of faith we need to have a special ministry for them to see how we could minister to them. Maybe someone or a group of persons could do regular visitation, phone call and other related things that might encourage and inspire them. Definitely this will be considered part of the internal ministry of the church.

Furthermore, as I mentioned last month, I have been desiring to see Christian churches from the Dayton area coming together for a united action to fight against the on going violence, addiction, immorality and all other evil deeds in the city. True enough, I found a movement called, "DECLARE DAYTON," (This is a unified rally of the church to declare healing in Jesus) and they are launching an event 'HEALING WORSHIP CELEBRATION' on Sunday, September 29, 2019, 4:00 pm at Levitt Pavilion, Downtown Dayton. This celebration aims to unite churches of greater Dayton and invite all people to come and experience the healing in Jesus. I volunteered myself to be part of the prayer team and we had met twice to pray to prepare ourselves and the city of Dayton for this big spiritual event come Sunday. This event offers us an opportunity to respond in Love by worshiping together as a body of Christ. And so I cordially invite everyone to come down on Sunday afternoon at Levitt Pavilion to join other Christians to worship and pray in love and thanksgiving that many people will be touched and healed with the mighty presence of God in the celebration.

Thank you and God bless us all!

Rev. Hector



Tower Times – Oct., 2019 – VP Report

PACKAGES FOR SOLDIERS SERVING OVERSEAS – Operation Reach Out

GBU plans to ship 5000 Care Packages to our overseas Service Personnel.

Please provide me addresses. The deadline for submitting addresses is fairly soon.

Service Personnel do not need to be GBU members.

ELISABETH VON TRAPP – Dec., 14 – 8:00 PM at the Human Race Theatre

Tickets are now on sale, 228.3630 – Ticket Box Office

SCHOLARSHIP CONNECT – through the Dayton Foundation

Application period is not open yet, but this is a valuable source for scholarships.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris van Breukelen



Save  
the  
Date

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Members: Brian Dunkle, Jill Johnson, Marlene Miller, Bill Smith (chair), Brian Thompson, Wilfred van Breukelen, Tim White (*In Memorial*). Support: Steve Boggs, Rev Dr. Adam Wirrig

### ***A Year of Refection, Review, Renovation and Repair***

Delayed Maintenance is a continuing problem. For a variety of reasons and a historical building it has not been possible to keep up with all the needs. This past two years have been one crisis after another. It became a "perfect storm" of one immediate issue after another. Water leaks cannot be ignored. Major heating system leaks and failures are impossible to ignore. We have a beautiful church that is architecturally difficult to repair and maintain. Each of our towers is a different height and are topped by decorative spires. A leaning spire is not a safe situation.

It appears we may be approaching a point that someone turned on the light at the end of the tunnel. The courage and faith of the congregation made the major decision to resolve the building issues. Those repairs are nearing resolve and completion. This is an exciting time for all of us.

**Clean-up Sunday was well attended.** Thank you for all who attended. We learned from the experience, discovered some items needing repair and had fun together. If anyone has ideas, thoughts or comments on how we can improve that event, please let me know.

### **Projects completed since last Tower Times**

Women's restroom sink leak fixed in Education Building

Evan's Electric replace flood lights in sanctuary

### **Dishwasher Project**

The Council discussed the various issues involved in the Dishwasher Proposal. Wanting to make sure that the project would not hamper Fellowship Hour participation and hosting, the Council is continuing the conversations.

### **Renovation and Repairs**

New Boiler installation by Korrek Plumbing will be completed this month. This is an exciting project in that it solves a major furnace problem, will improve the efficiency of our heating system and result in reduce heating costs.

Midwest Maintenance completed the repair of the exterior Brick work on the east side of the building. We have been experience water leak into the building for about a year. Part of that problem is the brick work just finished.

Midwest Maintenance completed repair work on the Spire of the Northeast Tower

Midwest Maintenance will repair the leaning Spire on the Southwest Tower this month.

We received three bids on painting the exterior of the building. The Council is currently reviewing and examined the bids.

**Holiday Decorations Schedule –**

Saturday November 30 starting at 9:30 am -- **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Congregation is invited to decorate the tree and sanctuary. Let's start the Holiday season by gathering together to bring the building into the spirit of

**Scheduled future B&P meetings:**

September 28, workday – 9:30 am start time.

October 6    Nov. 3            Holiday Work Nov.24 and Nov 30                            Dec. 1





**Calendar - Oct. 6 World Communion Sunday, reception of new members 10:30 a.m.**  
**'Realm'** instruction in Chapel following the fellowship hour. After the summer off, **Spirits Bar Church** resumes 4 p.m. at Mj's on Jefferson.

Oct. 13 **German Heritage Sunday 10:30** with participation by the **Liederkrantz Choir**. A carry-in follows. Meat will be prepared by Liederkrantz folks – Schnitzle! Bring a dish to share.

Oct. 20 **Blessing of the Animals 3 p.m.** Fellowship Hall. Bring your Furbabies for a fun time.

Oct. 27 **Reformation Sunday 10:30 a.m.** **'Realm'** instruction following fellowship hour in the Chapel. This is a repeat in case you were unable to come to the first session.

Nov. 3 **Totenfest All Saints Day, Communion 10:30 a.m.** Remembering those of our church community who entered eternal life the past year. Families will be invited. White roses will be placed on the altar for them to take home following the service.

Nov. 10 **Annual Meeting** immediately following worship service. NO carry-in.

Nov. 17 **Thanksgiving Service** – yes, a week earlier than usual. Thanksgiving is Nov.28.

Nov. 24 **Christ the King worship service 10:30 a.m.**

Dec. 1 **Advent begins**

**Additional items - Choir** – Pastor Jeff would like to hear from any persons interested in joining the choir. Speak to him or just show up Sundays at 9:15 for rehearsal. We do have a couple of experienced handbell players in the congregation. We'd like to get our handbell collection out of storage. If you can read music and keep time, you're in! **Stivers news** We are in the process of preparing a grant to submit to SONKA to help fund our program. In the last few years, we have twice received grants. We hope we qualify again this year. Our program is also funded by interested supporters in our congregation. Stivers Fund envelopes are available on the table in the narthex. When our Stivers program began 4 years ago one of our goals was to develop a relationship with our downtown neighbors. We were able to offer our facility to their Choral department, under the direction of Mrs. Paula Powell, for an all day retreat in our fellowship hall in late August. Watch for notices of our two students, Brandan and Jaelynn's, participation in performances by Stivers groups in the Dayton community as we near the holidays.

## German Heritage Sunday October 13<sup>th</sup> Carry-In Dinner with German Schnitzel

The Women of St. John's will be hosting the Carry-in dinner on October 13<sup>th</sup> celebrating our German Heritage. Since the hosts for the carry-in dinners supply the meat dish, Trudy Campbell (Liederkrantz's famous cook) has volunteered to cook Schnitzel for us,

Since the Liederkrantz choir will be singing during the worship service and will be our guests for the carry-in dinner we are asking everyone to prepare extra food so all can be served. We suggest bringing in 2 side dishes or one favorite side dish in a larger than normal quantity. We welcome especially those German side dishes many of your families enjoy.

Janet Neubauer  
President, Women of St. John's





Dear Members, and Friends,

On Saturday, October 26, 2019, we will be serving lunch at St Vincent's Shelter located at 120 W. Apple St. Dayton, OH.

Please arrive at 10:30am. We serve lunch from 11:00 to 11:30am. We must be finished and cleaned up by noon, because another church comes in to serve lunch to the next group of residents at the shelter.

The menu that we will be serving is as follows;

Sloppy Joe's.....we will need at least 13lbs

Potato Salad.....2 Restaurant Sized containers

Canned Peaches.....2 Restaurant Sized Cans

2 Boxes of individual size Lays Potato Chips. ( a member has volunteered to purchase this item until further notice.)

We don't have to supply dessert items, because local businesses donate pastry items to St Vincent's, and we add these items to our menu.

If you want to be reimbursed for the food item that you bring, please put your name on your receipt, and turn it in to me, and I will forward your receipt to the finance committee.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank You,

Ethel Burns  
Chairperson, H2WH2G



## October Birthdays

02 - Dottie Boedeker  
05 - Leeann Harker  
18 - Ethel Burns  
21 - Lori Gorischek  
22 - Katie Kraft  
27 - Janet Neubauer  
27 - Phyllis Berlo  
28 - Jethan Guzman  
30 - Jill Johnson



## 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**

10/6—Yates Family  
10/13—Patsy Goin  
10/20— Marlene Miller  
10/27— Open

### **Fellowship Hour**

10/6—Harker Family  
10/13—WOSJ German Heritage  
10/20—Steve Boggs  
10/27—Fellowship Committee

# Thanks and Gratitude



Rose Poppaw offers thanks to those who made sure a plate from September's carry-in dinner was prepared for and delivered to her! Thanks for remembering! :)



Remember: Rev. Adam will be offering training sessions on the new REALM system that the church is moving to on two different dates in October. This new system will allow us to better stay in touch with one another and share life together. Join in either meeting as you wish on the 6th or 27th after the fellowship hour. If you can't make either of those dates, but have questions, please see Rev. Adam.

Good Grief will be meeting on the 19th of October at Franco's Italian on 5th Street. Any ?'s?  
See Pat Kern!

In  
Loving  
Memory

Memorial Contributions were made in memory of

Inge Hedeker by Philomene King


Christa Scherbauer by Philomene King

Arthur Paul Wasmuth by Philomene King

Edith Zake by Steve Boggs, Betty-Lou and Butch Martin, and Chris and Wilfred van Breukelen

Jim Hall (Shirley Keller's Brother) by Chris and Wilfred van Breukelen

# October 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 29 ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 11:30am Ministry Fair	30	Oct 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
● 10:30am Worship Service ● 12pm Realm Class ● 4pm Spirit(s) Bar Church	● 6:30pm Budget and Finance			● 6pm Church Council	● 11am Staff Meeting	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<b>German/American Sunday</b> ● 10:30am Worship Service			<b>Rev. A. Gonet</b> ● 6:30pm Worship Meeting	● 3:30pm Prayer Group	● 11am Staff Meeting	<b>Miller Wedding</b> ● 4:30pm Good Grief
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>Rev. A. Gonet</b> <b>Blessing of the Animals</b> ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 12pm WOSJ Meeting					● 11am Staff Meeting	
27	28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2
<b>Reformation Sunday</b> ● 10:30am Worship Service ● 12pm Realm Class					● 11am Staff Meeting	



**Annual Congregational Business Meeting**

**November 10th, 2019**

**Directly following morning worship.**

**Please plan to be present!**