



St. John's  
Welcome Home



January 2023

Volume 54, Issue 1

# THE CARILLON

## Keep Your Distance!

*'Lord, when was it that we saw you...'*

~ Matthew 25:37 & 38 & 39

## Pastor's Desk

As I write, I am feeling something nostalgic and outdated about *The Carillon*. It will carry important information about the work and reach of the ministry we share at St. John's... all the news that will be made available through other means and media. Its pages carry forward a tradition that has witnessed the passing of mimeographs and, for the largest segment of the country, land lines and answering machines.

As I write, I am preparing the message and prayers for a wedding this weekend. As you are reading, the happy couple should have returned not only from the enchantment of their special day but also from their honeymoon and have plunged back into the depths of ruts and routines – back to work... after the dishes are washed and the driveway gets shoveled.

As I write, Mary and Joseph are packing up to be counted in Bethlehem. As you are reading, we are either awaiting the arrival of the Magi or over-hearing this new family's fearful emigration to find a safe harbor.

As I write, we are working out the details of the final days of Advent and the beginning days of Christmas. As you are reading, the church-specific tunes of expectant waiting are whispers of the past and you may already be wondering, "Why are we **still** singing Christmas hymns?"

As I write, there is a sense of wonder in relating to the authors of the Bible who also wrote well after the event not only of Jesus' arrival, but of his resurrected staying. I am wondering if they were motivated by their passion for the message or a

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**St. John's  
United Church of Christ**  
409 North Wooster Avenue  
Dover, OH 44622

**Rev. Jeff Jackson**  
*Senior Interim Minister*  
Call for an appointment.

**Pastor Dotty Hartzell**  
*Pastor of Visitation*  
Call for an appointment.

**Belinda Lentz**  
*Director of Christian Education*  
\*Monday 9:30-4:00  
\*Wednesday 9:30-4:00  
\*Thursday 9:30-1:00

\* indicates scheduled office hours,  
other times by appointment.

**Sunday Morning Schedule:**  
9:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Fellowship  
10:30 AM Worship

**Church Office**  
Office Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
Monday through Friday

Telephone answers  
24 hours a day.  
(330) 364-4458

Fax: (330) 364-4459  
Website: <http://doverstjohns.org>

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concern that it was being faded or warped... or both. As you are reading, you may be taking down decorations while I am expectant, hopeful, and praying that you are keeping the connection of Christ born anew. As you are reading, I cannot be sure how Advent and Christmas may have impacted your life but be assured that I want for you the delight of discovering something birthed fresh in your faith.

May you be discovering the blessings of this New Year and keeping the distance between the birth of Christ and this very moment something that the passing of time works to enliven your life.

In Christ's Love,  
Jeff



## A New Plan

The start of a new year is an ideal time to reflect on the past, take account of your Christian walk, and consider the direction God may want to lead you in the coming days. Set aside some time to pause and evaluate your spiritual condition.

Instead of making a New Year's resolution, consider committing yourself to a biblical solution:

I tried to think of a clever new phrase,  
A slogan to inspire the next 365 days,  
A motto to live by this coming New Year,  
But catchy words fell flat to my ear.

And then I heard this simple voice  
Saying, "Consider this simple daily choice:

With each new dawn and close of day  
Make new your resolve to trust and obey.”

“Don’t look back, caught in regret  
Or dwell on the sorrow of dreams unmet;  
Don’t stare forward anchored by fear,  
No, live in this moment, for I Am here.”

“I am all you need. Everything. I Am.  
You are held secure by my strong hand.  
Give me this one thing – your all in all;  
Into My grace, let yourself fall.”

So, at last, I’m ready; I see the way.  
It’s to daily follow, trust and obey.  
I enter the New Year armed with a plan,  
To give Him my everything – all that I am.

May God be with you through the New Year  
and fill Your life with peace, love, and joy.  
Blessings,  
Pastor Dotty

## Would You Open the Box?



One day in March everyone over 22, everyone received a small, wooden chest. The excitement turned to dread when they discovered inside the box ... a string. But not just any string. This string determined the days left in the receiver’s life. How could this knowledge change the way you live your life? If everyone’s life span was known, how would it change the world? Discuss this intriguing situation with the Bad Girls on **Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:30** in the Conference Room when we delve into Nikki Erlick’s novel, The Measure.



Happy New Year!

## Christmas is Over too Soon

If you think that the Christmas season just doesn’t last long enough, come join us at Woman’s Bible Study. We have been watching a series called “*the Christmas experience*” by Kyle Idleman. It is a fictional story of how Mary and Joseph may have met and the circumstances leading up to the birth of our Savior. It is not only informative but also entertaining.

We will skip **Tuesday December 27** but will follow up the series on **Tuesday, January 3** and **January 10 at 2:00 pm** in the Conference Room. Please come and extend your Christmas celebration with us!



*The Lord said to Abram, "Leave your native land, your relatives, and your father's home, and go to a country that I am going to show you."*

Genesis 12:1

I was talking with a friend the other day, and she said with a sort of despair, "Can you believe it is almost 2023?" She then added that she was not dreading the New Year. It was just that 2022 went by so quickly. I have to agree. Sometimes the year needs to go by quickly. Sometimes I need some of the time in that year to slow down so I can extend the enjoyment of an event or place. But no matter what we want, the year goes as the year goes.

A couple years ago, a friend suggested that we all choose a word to guide us through the upcoming year. Mary Schmich, a Pulitzer Prize columnist invited her readers to pick a guiding word for the year.

The idea came from a reader of Schmich's columns. She was named Mae, and she always chose a guiding word for the upcoming year. Not as a resolution, but as a way to shape the upcoming 365 days.

Schmich has chosen words like pause and as 2021 began, endurance during the pandemic. She even received words from her readers. From a fourth grade class came the word "kindness". From high school students came their choices of "balance" and "self-acceptance" and "ataraxia" (which means a state of extreme calm).

Talitha Arnold, a contributor to the 2022 Advent Devotional from the Still speaking Writers group of the UCC, suggests she might use the word "Go" this year in her January 2 devotion. (Yes, I looked ahead.)

She says, "Ancient Abram's word had to have been "go," as in 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house.' Go from all that was familiar and comfortable. But al-

so "go" from that which no longer brought life. Abram's father, Terah, had died in that land and that house. His journey was over. Abram's wasn't. 'Go,' God said."

Rev. Arnold is not suggesting we all pick up and go. Simpler...she suggests that "go" might be the word to guide her and her congregation as they "figure out what it means to be a church - to be faithful - in this time" even if they aren't sure where the journey will end. But "Go," because we can trust the One who goes with us."

2023...a brand new year. So many possibilities. Choose a word that fits you. I would be interested in what some of you might choose. I still haven't chosen mine. But surely it is wonderful to know that no matter what word we all choose, we will not be alone on the journey. The One will be with us. And we need to remember that for all the days of 2023.

Breathe. Blessings,

*Belinda*



## Homeless Awareness



It's that time again! If you happen to drive by the church (and we hope you will) on the evening of **January 28th through the morning of January 29th** and you see our boxes and a fire...well, the youth group is back with their Homeless Awareness Lock-out. If you stop by (and please, do so), bring us your donations and chat with the youth who have committed to this annual event. The homeless in our community are not going away. There are more of them than ever before. So again, our youth are doing something to raise awareness and help.

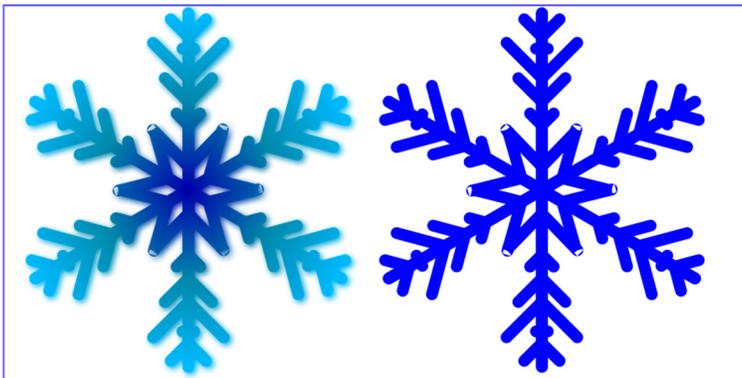
What does this have to do with you? We ask that you drive into the parking lot and make a donation to the Friends of the Homeless of food, blankets, cleaning supplies, personal toiletry items, or cash to help support this very worthwhile project. For our youth, we ask for contributions of hot food (like soup), hot chocolate, snacks, and your prayers.

Who knows what weather January will bring? Last year we slept in boxes in the building due to cold. What we do know is that no matter the weather, the youth of St. John's will be on the front lawn because they are committed to this mission. Will you help support the youth of our church one more time as they try to make life a little better for those who aren't so blessed?

## Committee Reports



A reminder to all Committee Chairs, Class Leaders and Department Chairs that all year end reports need to be turned in to the church office no later than **Friday, January 6, 2023.**



Troop 86

## BOY SCOUT SPAGHETTI DINNER

*(open to the public)*

**CARRY-OUT AVAILABLE**

**Sunday, February 12, 2023**

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Tickets \$9.00      *Tickets available from any member of Troop 86, or in the church office.*

*Children age 5 and under FREE*



St. John's United Church of Christ  
409 North Wooster Avenue  
Dover, Ohio 330-364-4458

### Elder of the Month

In an effort to better meet the needs of the congregation, we will be printing the contact information for the Elder of the month. The purpose of doing this is to provide another contact person, in addition to Rev. Jackson and Pastor Dotty, should you have a personal or family emergency.

Sue Ferbrache  
511 Shawnee Dr  
Dover, OH 44622  
330-364-6132

### November Financial Report

Actual Income \$ 15,408  
Actual Expenses \$ 25,718

Average Worship Attendance  
80



### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the St. John's congregation will be held on **Sunday, January 29, 2023** following the worship service. A review of the year and the election of Church Council members will be the major portion of the agenda.



## Our Parade Float





**Photos  
with  
Santa  
&  
the  
Grinch**



After the parade, the community was welcomed back to Fourth & Faith for pictures with Santa & the Grinch. They enjoyed hot chocolate & cookies which were made by Millie Page, Beth Showers, Sally McCombs & Michele Specht.



A big Thank You to the following:

Barb Lengler, Jen Conkle, Bev Smith, Doug Peterman & Nolan Peterman, Jane Gingrich, Sue Ferbrache, Sally McCombs, Laura Brown, Belinda Lentz, Heather Smith, Beth Showers, Marlene Tschudy, Michele & Steve Specht, Pastor Dotty, Berit & Larry McMillan, Shelly & nephews from Faith United Methodist Church, Mark Perry as Santa for putting the float together & riding on the float the night of the parade. Special thanks to Doug for the use of the garage & Michele & Steve Specht for the use of the hay wagon & truck and pulling the float in the parade.



## THANK YOU

2022 will soon be in the books and there are so many of you that bring me much joy each year.

### *Thank you to...*

...those of you who support the activities of the children and youth in our church,

...Rob Gump who has been part of the Homeless Awareness almost as long as me,

...the women of the Board of Christian Education who took on the LOL Wednesdays during the summer and provided snacks for Live Nativity,

...the Boy Scout leaders for putting up and taking down the stable,

...Dan Hurst for all he does during the year but most especially when he helps with lights and sound and moving and placement of statues for the Live Nativity,

...Barb Lengler for her vacations and tips to visit family so I can ride and visit with Bob Feutz as we deliver food boxes,

...Heather Smith for her music she shares, for her knowledge of IT and computers and for her constant help with XOO Kids and Youth Group,

...Regina for ALL the work she does in the office to keep us all on track,

...Rev. Jeff and Pastor Dotty for the inspiration and lessons they share,

...those of you who quietly and continually support the Blessing Box all year and FLOCK during the summer,

...Bev and Barb and Jen and their crew for all the activities they make happen at Fourth and Faith,

...Heather Immel for ALWAYS greeting me with a smile and a kind word,

...and those of you who stop me and tell me they appreciate all that I do and that they enjoy the Children's Sermons.

I probably missed someone and it was not intentional. You are my family and mean so much to me. Many blessings on all of you and a very Happy New Year.

*Belinda*

THE CARILLON

**Advent Festival  
Fun...for All!**

Window painting and  
arts & crafts

A big thank you  
to all who participated!



THE CARILLON



**January Birthdays**

1  
 Kenneth Huprich  
 Samantha Sayre  
 Valerie Wallick  
 Zack Wallick

2  
 Joshua Baumberger

3  
 Patricia Ellwood  
 Carolina Kapper  
 Mitchell Ladrach  
 Terri Schroeder

4  
 Heather Lebold  
 Carrie Preston

5  
 Jason Jones  
 Robert L. Jones  
 Nadine Russell  
 Robert Schwenk  
 Kennedy Wallick

6  
 Beth Ann Norris  
 Sally Pariso

7  
 Adam Gunnish  
 Larry McMillan  
 Dianna Schroeder

8  
 Holly Klar  
 David Worth

9  
 Heather Rufener  
 Mary Ellen Walls

10  
 Ellen Keener  
 Doug Peterman Jr.  
 Nathan Stokey

11  
 Jennifer Elton  
 Gavin Herman  
 Jonathan Kelsey

12  
 Renee Ladrach

Will McCrate  
 Brett Swinderman  
 13  
 Abby Dryden  
 James Cox  
 15  
 Stephanie Sayre  
 Gale Varnes  
 16  
 John Deitrick  
 Joshua Devore  
 Jennifer Lauber  
 Nancy Smith  
 17  
 Jayne Armstrong  
 18  
 John Dummermuth  
 19  
 Abby Dummermuth  
 Lynn Pariso  
 Sarah Schumacher  
 20  
 Judy Wherley  
 21  
 Kathleen Baker  
 Jim Murphy  
 Steven Wherley  
 Joan Whitemyer  
 22  
 Jim Mercer  
 Koen Schwenk  
 Melisa Siegenthaler  
 23  
 Sue Dummermuth  
 Michael Edwards  
 24  
 Gemma Dotts  
 25  
 Dan Dearth  
 Suzanne Mason  
 Taylor Mathews  
 27  
 Jennifer Fox  
 Wayne Parrish  
 28  
 Wendy Contini  
 Rita Wallick  
 29  
 Roland Davidson  
 Adam Herman  
 Jaelle Lindon

Cooper Russell  
 30  
 Frank Ellwood  
 Zach Meechan  
 Mike Smith  
 31  
 Bill Harrington  
 Scott Hart  
 David Schaar  
 Carol Warner

\*\*\*\*\*



**January Anniversaries**

2  
 Kristen & Jeremy Harmon

6  
 Judy & Robert Clinton

8  
 Mary & John Schaar

9  
 Brenda & William Von Kaenel

20  
 Coleen & Paul Fox

21  
 Rita & Dennis Wallick

31  
 Debbie & Jeffery Wallick



## Family Members in Nursing Homes

**Hennis Care Centre**  
Lois Shell

**Park Village**  
Grace Bochsler

**Park Village Asst. Living N.**  
Dean & Marjorie Auman  
Jim Cotton

**The Inn at Northwood**  
Mabel Maurer

**Schoenbrunn Healthcare**  
Marion Haines

## Hospital News

There were no members and friends of the St. John's family hospitalized between November 15-present.

**HOSPITAL NOTE:** We are no longer being notified by any of the area hospitals when our members are admitted due to policies involving patients' rights to privacy. Therefore, if you or a member of your family is admitted to a hospital and you would like the church to know and the minister to visit, you need to call or E-mail the church office with the information. Thanks for your help with this matter.



We wish to express our sympathy to the following:

- To the family of Marlys Walch. Marlys passed away on December 8.
- To the family of Delores Freetage. Delores passed away December 18.



## Carillon Deadline

The deadline to get information and articles into the next regular issue of the Carillon is **Monday, January 9, 2023**. Please mark your calendar! This will be for the February Carillon. We want to continue to keep each mailing loaded with information, dates, articles, etc. pertaining to the life of St. John's. **Remember ... you can now send your articles, thank you's, etc. by Email to: [church.secretary@doverstjohns.org](mailto:church.secretary@doverstjohns.org)**

## Church Office Closed



The church office will be closed **Monday, December 26**, in celebration of our Savior's birth. And on **Monday, January 2, 2023**, for New Year's Day.

## Altar Flowers & Bulletin Sponsors



Order forms for altar flowers and bulletin sponsors for **2023** are enclosed in this month's Carillon and are now available in the church office. Please stop in and reserve your date soon!

## Recycle! Recycle!

When you and your neighbor recycle aluminum cans you are helping the problem of global warming. Cans may be placed in the big brown box in the handicap parking lot. The box was built by Sawyer Thomson as part of his Eagle Scout project. Rudy Tschantz will take the cans to Speedy Salvage. The money received from the cans will go to the organ maintenance fund.



# JANUARY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Worship/ Communion	<b>2</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>Happy New Year</b>  7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Barbershop	<b>3</b> 2:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>4</b>   5:30 XOO 7:00 Chancel Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Year End Reports</b> due into the office today 10:00 Fourth & Faith Reserved	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>Epiphany</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Worship  6:00 Youth Group	<b>9</b> <b>Carillon Deadline</b> 2:00 Needles & Hookers  6:30 Bad Girls/ Conf. Rm 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Barbershop	<b>10</b> 2:00 Women's Bible Study  6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos 6:30 Elders/Trustees 7:30 Council	<b>11</b>   5:30 XOO 7:00 Chancel Choir	<b>12</b>   	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Worship  6:00 Youth Group	<b>16</b>  Preschool Reg. 2:00 Needles & Hookers  7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Barbershop	<b>17</b> 2:00 Women's Bible Study  6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos	<b>18</b> 10:00 Conf. Rm Res.  5:30 XOO 7:00 Chancel Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>   	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Worship  6:00 Youth Group	<b>23</b> 2:00 Needles & Hookers  7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Barbershop	<b>24</b> 2:00 Women's Bible Study  6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos	<b>25</b>   5:30 XOO 7:00 Chancel Choir	<b>26</b>   	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Homeless Awareness  
<b>29</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Fellowship 10:30 Worship/ <b>Annual Mtg.</b>	<b>30</b> 2:00 Needles & Hookers  7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Barbershop	<b>31</b> 2:00 Women's Bible Study  5:00 Soc. Hall Res/ Scouts  6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos				