



St. John's Welcome Home



August 2022

Volume 53, Issue 8

THE CARILLON

Finding Joy in the Midst of...

*let endurance complete its work,
so that you may be complete and whole, lacking in nothing.*
~ James 1:4

Pastor's Desk

The rhythm of the summer season can wreak havoc on the rhythm of congregational ministry. Opportunities to explore, get away, visit, change one's pace seem to be more available to us all in the summer than at other times of year even for those of us whose schedule and responsibilities have little variations from one season to another.

I write this immediately following one of our Sunday follow up Zoom sessions. And I would encourage you to pick things up in the midst of these virtual gatherings even if your schedule has freed you to other adventures. There is something very special about picking up Sunday's worship experience and carrying it forward into the week. It would probably be interesting to catch you up if you are absent from some or even all the forms of our Sunday gathering. Some of the discussion has followed what has been said or sung in worship, and often we discuss what the author has written in the book, *A Bigger Table: Building Messy, Authentic, and Hopeful Spiritual Community*, and we often take some turns into more important or pressing questions.

There is, no bad time to jump in. No point where it is too late to offer something or receive a gift. And that, I believe, is true of just about every venture in our life together. The congregation has a longer history than I have been blessed to share and will have a longer future than I will experience. But, for right now. I want to be a part of whatever I can be a part of. I hope you too will know that you are not only welcome, but you are received lovingly however and whenever you participate.

I hope you are enjoying your summer. And I will be excited to see you whenever you are interested and available.

Blessings Always,

Jeff

In This Issue...

Altar Flowers	9
Anniversaries	10
Bad Girls Book Club	8
Birthdays	10
Blessing of Friendships	8
Calendar	12
Card Party	3
Carillon Deadline	11
Choir Director	7
Confirmation Class	7
Council Notes	7
Cruise In	9
Director of Christian Ed.	4
Elder of the Month	6
Financial Report	6
FLOCK	7
Holiday Closing	7
Holiday Craft Show	11
Hospital News	11
Mission Work	5
Nursing Home	11
Office Hours	3
Pastor Dotty	2
Summer Worship Schedule	7
Sympathies	11
Taco Thursday	3
Tent Service	9
Thank You's	6

**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 9:30-3:00
*Wednesday 9:30-3:00
*Thursday 9:30-1:00

* indicates scheduled office hours,
other times by appointment.

Sunday Morning Schedule:
9:30 AM Worship

Church Office
Office Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Monday through Thursday
Office Closed on Fridays

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

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

E-mail Addresses
revjeff@doverstjohns.org
dotty@doverstjohns.org
belinda@doverstjohns.org
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newsletter@doverstjohns.org

WHY BOTHER?

The Importance of going to Church

We are at a crossroads in our country on the importance of going to church, especially since the pandemic. We're out of the habit of going to church and into the habit of sleeping in on Sunday morning. It's our day of rest. Of course, this isn't a new problem. Since the beginning of Christianity, the early leaders had to challenge this mindset saying, "Do not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Heb. 10:25)

I truly believe that We Are The Church; we as in People. However, if we are truly the church, then we will surely want to get together with other believers regularly. For you see, we cannot **BE** the church if we do not **GO** to church. There is no such thing as a lone-ranger Christian! The church, by its very nature, means multiple believers, who live out Jesus' words in Matt. 18:20: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Here are four powerful reasons you should attend church weekly, and why church attendance can change your life:

1. GOD SAYS SO

God loves the church like a husband loves his bride. If the church is that important to God, shouldn't it be important to us, too? God didn't call us to gather and worship to burden us, but to bless us. Church attendance can become one of the greatest blessings in your and your family's life.

2. WORSHIPPING JESUS TOGETHER IS POWERFUL

Jesus lives inside us by the Holy Spirit when we believe in Him. This is a profoundly incredible truth! But what is even more powerful is the fact that when we gather to worship, He is the "midst" of us.

3. WE NEED CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

All of us long for community and connection with others. God has given us this gift in gathering together for church, and in smaller groups like Bible Study, Choir, Book Club, Laugh on the Lawn, and the many activities planned. Christian TV, podcasts, books and conferences are wonderful additions to our spiritual lives, but nothing can take the place of consistent Christian community through your church.

4. WE GROW MORE TOGETHER THAN ALONE

It can get messy when we try to grow together because we are all human and make mistakes. So, even as believers, it takes intentional effort and grace from God to travel this life together. When we go to church, we are actually there to help each other, pray for each other, and encourage each other. Gathering every week as the family of God is a truly beautiful thing; the reason we were created.

Don't let any excuses stand in the way of what you know God is calling you to do. If you have encountered past wounds from leaders or from church members, I'm praying that God will bring healing and grace to you as you seek to follow God. Please join us in church this Sunday and every Sunday. We miss you!

Pastor Dotty

Free Taco Thursdays

Join us on **Thursday, August 18**, and every third Thursday of the month for Free Taco Thursday!!

As a mission of St. John's Church, we will be offering a free meal to the community from **5:00 pm until 6:30 pm at Fourth and Faith**. Most people like tacos and it's a simple meal to make, but we do need your help. Every month we will asking for a donation of food items. Please consider signing up to help with this project.

We will need:

- Shredded lettuce
- Diced tomatoes
- Taco shells hard and soft
- Shredded cheddar cheese
- Taco sauce
- Sour cream
- Applesauce in individual containers
- Browned/Cooked Hamburger with taco seasoning
- Cookies or brownies



And, of course, we will need volunteers to help serve the food.

Call Bev Smith 330-343-2231 with any donations or to help serve.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."
Matthew 25:35*

Card Party

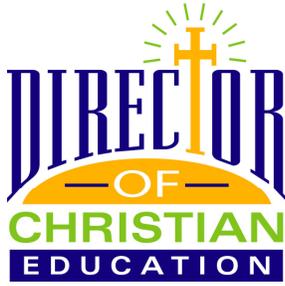
At Fourth & Faith
Wednesday, August 10:
Card Party
1 pm - 4 pm
\$8.00 includes food.
Please contact Bev Smith
at 330-343-2231
Benefits the
Cancer Care Bags



Church Office Hours

Please note that the church office will be open from **8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.** Monday—Thursday. The **Office is closed on Fridays**. The summer hours will last through **September 6**.





“...and you shall take possession of the land and live in it, for I have given the land to you to possess it. You shall inherit the land by lot according to your families; to the larger you shall give more inheritance, and to the smaller you shall give less inheritance.”

Numbers 33:53-54

There is a parcel of land in Kentucky. A small parcel, but enough for three very different homes. One of them is a very rundown modular home that has not been occupied for a number of years. The other two, though completely different, are occupied.

We need to consider the home that appears abandoned. The weeds are quite high. There is a leaky, folded up swimming pool that a black snake decided was a great home. There is trash in the yard. Discarded items from the other occupants of the land or just from someone who is aware that no one occupies the home. We don't know.

What I do know is that there is a man who owns the land passed down to him from his daddy. It has “been in his family”. The man and his wife have five children, all girls including a set of twins. The father works for Fed Ex part time.

The family now lives in Hazard, KY in an apartment that costs them \$600 a month. I believe that the mommy doesn't work. Her youngest girls are much younger than the twins who are going to be in the eighth grade.

You must also know that the father grew up on the land and in that home. He would like very much to move his family into that home. So, he like many others, sought out Alice Whitaker at Lotts Creek because she is well known. Folks along the creek and in the “hollers” know that every summer people from other places come to the mountains to stay at the school and work in homes there. Alice must approve the requests for help.

Alice is getting older now. So she has people who help her check into these requests. She isn't able to go into all the homes herself. But she trusts the people she sends out to check out the need and repairs. This year as she looked over the man's request, she asked to go check out the need in the home. She was speechless.

On June 17, multiple vehicles from Ohio and one from Kentucky eventually drove the six miles to the school on Lotts Creek Road. Each vehicle took its turn unloading bedding and luggage and supplies and fans that all of us would need. We divided ourselves into the Boys' Dorm, the Girls' Dorm and the “log cabin”. Alice came

to greet us as we sat down to supper and told the adults of the jobs she would like us to tackle during that week. But she spent the most time talking about the man and his home.

I have learned over the 22 years that I have worked at Lotts Creek that the land is very important to the people. People cherish their land, especially if it has been handed down from one generation to another. People leave their homes for many reasons. They go to find better jobs. Many folks from Kentucky crossed the border into Ohio for a job for a very long time in our shared histories. If they are lucky, some of the young people leave to go to college or to technical schools. And many of them come back. Family and home is in Kentucky. All along Lotts Creek Road are homes of people who left for a time for education and jobs. But they are back to stay. And many of them live on family land with family surrounding them. The land is important to them.

On Monday, work crews were assigned and the food group went to buy food. A small crew was assigned to the man's home. They were sent to assess the home and see what could be done. At dinner that night, Bryan, of that crew, told us of what he had seen. Bryan was devastated because he was not sure if anything could be done at all. The damage from weather and nonuse was too much. Bryan had also met the man who owned the home.

THE CARILLON

I can imagine the low soft slow voice asking Bryan if we could make it habitable. I think that is what upset Bryan most. With tears in his eyes, Bryan told us that night that he wasn't sure if we could save the home.

Each and every one of us went to that home either to work at cleaning up the yard or simply to see and understand Bryan's tears. As soon as we pulled up in front of the house, I could tell. I just shook my head and said no. When I walked into the home and looked around my tears began to fall also. I have seen a lot of very sad living conditions and worked in them. This home is the worst. Two by fours were holding up the ceiling in the room that was to be for the girls. Black mold was growing on the ceiling. You can see the ground under the water heater that happened to be in the living room. Around the other door in the home, light was coming through all the way around. There were no walls, no shelving in the kitchen, and I am not sure that the toilets were connected to anything. The ceiling had been water damaged and in more than one place insulation was sticking out. Floors were "spongy" in places...rotten wood.

No one should ever have to live in conditions like that. And Bryan knew that there was no way, in a week, we could do anything to make the home livable.

The family joined us for dinner one evening. The children were very shy and hung with their mommy and grandma. Dad came late because of work. I walked outside and down the driveway to get something from the car after dinner. As I returned, I noticed one of the girls with our group sitting on the stonewall with one of the twins...the very shyest one. They were talking and between them was the resident cat. Their connection. The girls, I understand, text and talk to each other many times each week.

We may not have been able to save their home. But a connection was made and is ongoing with those young women.

P.S. There is a plan in process to help this family. We, of the six churches, are determined to help the family. One day I would like to share with you the pictures and the ideas we have. One day, we may be able to put this family in a safe home on their land.



Breathe. Blessings,
Belinda



St. John's Family,
Thank you so much for the recent scholarship money I was awarded. Your constant support has helped me through college. Again much thanks!

Keaton Hall

Dear St. John's,
Thank you for the generous scholarship money for my 2nd year at Ashland University. I appreciate your support on my college journey.

Sincerely,
Kampbell Hall

Thank you for the grad gift.

Grady Kapper

I want to thank my St. John's family for providing me with scholarships from the Henney and Bear funds. I am incredibly grateful to have been supported during my undergraduate and graduate education. I am happy to announce that I will be graduating from Physician Assistant school in October. I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Conner Thomson

One day in June as I was recording the amount of money spent for groceries for the Blessing Box, I realized that we had exactly \$42.43 left to pay for the next week's needs. I had just spent \$180.89. Luckily Dave sent me a message that he had deposited donations from the congregation to the account, so there would be money available. But I realized that we needed to do something to raise money.

I approached Bev Smith and asked for suggestions. Within a couple days she came up with a date and a plan, and we were off and running. On Saturday, July 16, we shared breakfast with many of you. And I hope you really enjoyed your breakfast. Those of us who worked on this project had a great time and our bonds with each other grew even stronger.

I would like to thank the women who helped with the shopping, setting up, cooking, serving and cleaning up. Those wonderful women included Bev, Barb Lengler, Jen Conkle, Heather Smith, Vicki Rufener, Berit McMillan, and Michele Specht. I would also like to thank Dan Hurst for setting the AC, helping to light the gas stoves (I don't do gas) and check in with us from time to time to see if he could help in any way.

Last but not least, thank you to each and every one of you who joined us for breakfast and for your generosity. I am pleased to let you know that we raised enough money to give us a bit of a cushion for groceries. The need will always be there, but I feel a bit better about where the money is coming from. Thank you again!

Belinda

June Financial Report

Actual Income \$ 25,346
Actual Expenses \$ 25,870

Average Worship
Attendance
78

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.

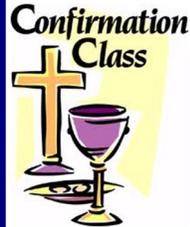
Jean Paddock
9728 Konrad Kohl Rd. NW
Bolivar, OH 44612
330-987-8608

**St. John's UCC Church Council Meeting
July 12, 2022 at 7:00 pm was Canceled so
Council could participate in the Paint & Sip @ Fourth & Faith**

We are in search of a Choir Director

St. John's has begun reaching out in search of the next Choir Director. If you know of someone who might be interested or know someone who might know someone who might be interested, please encourage them to contact Rev. Jeff via the church office. If the candidate desires, this role could be expanded to include music ministry at Fourth & Faith.

Attention Parents of Ninth Graders



If you have a child who will be attending the 9th grade this fall and is interested in confirmation, please contact Pastor Dotty @ **330-364-4458** or send an email to: dotty@doverstjohns.org

We will be starting a new class in **September**.

Holiday Closing



The Church Office & Building will be closed on **Monday September 5**

Summer Worship Schedule



Summer Worship continues in the sanctuary every **Sunday** morning at 9:30 am, through **September 11**.

FLOCK (Free Lunch fOr Christ's Kids) & Blessing Box

St. John's is providing free brown bag lunches for children and adults in the church neighborhood and beyond that began **Monday, June 6**. ***We will continue each Monday through August 22 from 11:00am to 1:00pm.*** The need is still there, and we will be out there helping feed those in need this summer.

You can help by making donations of sandwich bags, snack sized bags, bags of carrots or fruit, small bags of chips, applesauce or pudding cups, granola bars or bottled water. Cash donations are also accepted.

Also, the **Blessing Box** will continue to be filled with food. As I am sure you all know, groceries are much more expensive these days. Costs for the box have risen dramatically. The box is being used daily. Donations of laundry soap, peanut butter and jelly, cereals, granola bars, canned spaghetti-o's, spaghetti sauce and noodles, canned fruit and vegetables, bread and applesauce cups would be appreciated. Please, no bags of beans.

These are two important missions of St. John's.
Let's continue our good works.

Depression Era Cross Country Travel...With Giraffes



Based on a true story, but highly fictionalized, West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge is the tale of two young giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic heading for the San Diego Zoo. Finishing the last very long leg of their journey, the giraffes are accompanied by Woodrow “Woody” Nickel, the inexperienced driver of their custom truck, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted Dust Bowl reprobates as they make their way across the country. Join the Bad Girls on **Monday, September 12 at 6:30 in the Conference Room** to fall in love with the characters in West with Giraffes, especially the giraffes.



BLESSING OF FRIENDSHIPS

9:30am worship Sunday, August 14, 2022

*Faithful friends are a sturdy shelter;
whoever finds one has found a treasure.*

~ Ecclesiasticus 6:14

It's easy for people to focus on what seems to separate us: differences in values, core beliefs, the most appropriate paths to remedy problems, or maybe even the proper dress code for worship! The reality, though, is that we have far more in common than we realize, and since Scripture shows us the blessing of friendships from our earliest traditions, it's a perfect time to step out of our differences and celebrate our connections, especially those for whom we are especially grateful.

*Come together for worship on **Sunday, August 14** to name and celebrate some of the special people God has put in our lives—whether they're behind us, beside us, or in front of us. It is such a gift to love one another, walk with one another, and soak up the blessings. Friendships make our lives so much richer!*

Please return the information below to Dover St. John's UCC (Phone: 330-364-4458, E-Mail: church.secretary@doverstjohns.org) or Rev Jeff (revjeff@doverstjohns.org) no later than Sunday, August 7, 2022:

Blessing the Friendship Between:

Name: _____

And

Name: _____

In a word or two, how would you describe the character of this friendship?



Cruise-In

August 13 5:00p – 8:00p

St. John's UCC 409 N. Wooster Ave, Dover

Food Spike Man DJ 50/50

Door Prizes

Benefits Cancer Care Bags for the community



Altar Flowers & Bulletin Sponsors

There are still lots of dates available for you to choose from. Order forms for altar flowers and bulletin sponsors for **2022** are available in the church office. Please stop in and complete the form and reserve your date!



Faith
is seeing light
with your heart
when all your eyes
see is darkness

Tent Service

Sunday, August 14
9:30 am Worship & Friendship Service
St. John's UCC Lawn
Don't forget to bring your friend(s) to this service. Hope you can join us at this special event!!!





Birthdays

August Birthdays

1
John Graham
Rebecca Liptok
Chandler McGrath

2
Ty Greer
Harper Mushrush

3
Catherine Lengler
Makenna Rufener

5
James Domer
Herbert Hagloch
Melissa Kelly
Fred Pongratz

6
Renee Kaufman-Branch

7
Madalyn Keener
Charlee Metcalf
Kathleen Sanders
Andrew Steiner

8
Charles Croy
Diane Miller

9
Alayna Burrier
Heather Dotts
Carol France
Christa Ickes
C. Sue Keener
Lee Ann Miller
Braeden Uebel

10
Owen Hughes
Dan Hurst
Dennis Rubright
Stevanna Struhar

12
Ruth Graef
Marion Haines, Jr.

13
Glenna Bair

Jennifer Hobson
Kelly Low
Annie Specht
14
Michael Altier
Jilaine Kellner
Barbara Lengler
15
Linda Domer
Jim Keener
Patricia Meryo
Jerry Wherley
Christin Woods
16
Emma Huprich
Nathan Smith
17
Jason Wallick
18
Barbara Hren
Eric Kinsey
Kimberly Parrish
Terri Smith
Craig Veitinger
19
Amanda Parrish
Duane Swinderman
20
Jerry Graef
Laura Lindon
Robert McCaslin
William Swonger
21
Reese Brunner
Dorothea Cotton
22
Cheryl Abel
Marsha Bragg
Judith Frutig
23
Breanna Burrier
Steven Ervin
Ken Morrison
Dale Mumma
Robin Swonger
Brian Whitlach
24
Diane Altier
Carrie Haglock
Sherry Jones
Mattie Judkins

Jace McCaslin
25
William Arnold
Mary Aston
26
Colton Abbuhl
Molly Hoffman
Larry Whitlach
27
Riley Cook
Millie Frum
Faye Wallick
28
Nikita Branch
Gloria McGrath
Dawson Wade
29
Tyler Cook
Erin Coutts
Margaret Daley
Cheryl Herman
Justin Norris
William Schumacher
Melinda Shanklin
30
Matthew Kinsey
Linda Miller
Kay Whitlach
31
Katrina (Smith) Norris



August Anniversaries

1
Beth & Greg Hoffman
Sally & Doyle McCombs
Kristin & Brian Spurlock

2
Deborah & William McIlvaine

5
Amy & Christian Triola

6
Diana & Randy Collins
Patricia & Dan Palmer
Jessie & Eric Swain

7
 Beth Ann & Louis Calabrese
 Eileen & David Johnson
 Stephanie & Allen Sayre
 9
 Ruth & Jerry Graef
 10
 Berit & Larry McMillan
 Sue & John Solvey
 11
 Judy & Jerry Wherley
 17
 Karen & Jeff Wallick
 18
 Carol & Ken Huprich
 Kristen & Michael Smith
 19
 Lynne & George Telle
 20
 Paula & David Worth
 21
 Jami & Ken Morrison
 23
 Holly & Doug Klar
 24
 Nadine & Matt Russell
 25
 Nancy & David Johnson
 27
 Mary Ann & Dan Becker
 Sally & Lynn Pariso
 Michele & Steve Specht
 28
 Heidi & John Dummermuth
 Susan & William Rice
 29
 Holli & Jim Keener
 Tara & Jason Myers

Family Members in Nursing Homes

Park Village

Marilyn Stalder
 Grace Bochsler
 Carol Graef

Park Village Asst. Living N.

Dean & Marjorie Auman
 Jim & Dorothea Cotton

The Inn at Northwood

Mabel Maurer

Hospital News

Members and friends of the St. John's family hospitalized between July 15 - present include: there have been no reports of any members in the hospital.

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 Rev. Richard Plant. Rev. Plant passed away on July 8.
- ◆ To the family of Rev. Jeff & Audrey Jackson & family on the loss of Jeff's mother Darlene Jackson. Darlene passed away on July 9.
- ◆ To the family of Barbara Goldsmith. Barb passed away on July 12.



Carillon Deadline



The deadline to get information and articles into the next regular issue of the Carillon is **Monday,**

August 8, 2022. Please mark your calendar! This will be for the September 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 E-mail to:**
church.secretary@doverstjohns.org

Holiday Craft Show and Bake Sale at Fourth & Faith

Saturday, November 5, 2022; 10am-3pm.

No Charge for tables, Just bring all your crafts to sell. Set up is on **Friday, November 4, 2022 @ 10am.** If you know of anyone who makes crafts and would like to do this, please call Bev Smith @ 330-343-2231 to let her know how many tables you would like by **Thursday, September 1.** There will be a food stand.



August



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 11:00 FLOCK 7:00 Boy Scouts	2 6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos	3 	4	5 <i>Office Closed</i>	6 
7 9:30 Worship	8 <i>Carillon Deadline</i> 11:00 FLOCK 7:00 Boy Scouts	9 6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos 6:30 Elders/Trustees 7:30 Council	10 <i>Card Party</i> At Fourth & Faith 1 pm - 4 pm \$8.00 includes food. Please contact Bev Smith at 330-343-2231 Benefits the Cancer Care Bags	11 Soap Box Derby Senior Day	12 <i>Office Closed</i>	13 <i>Cruise In</i> 5p-8p Spike Man Car Show Food Trucks Door Prizes 50/50 Please plan to attend <i>Benefits Cancer Care Bags</i>
14 <i>Tent Service</i> 9:30 am Worship & Friendship Service Please join us on the front lawn.	15 11:00 FLOCK 7:00 Boy Scouts	16 6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos	17	18 5p-6:30P Free Taco Community Meal @ Fourth & Faith	19 <i>Office Closed</i>	20 Car Wash 12-3 Dover Dance Team
21 9:30 Worship	22 11:00 FLOCK 7:00 Boy Scouts	23 6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos	24	25	26 <i>Office Closed</i>	27
28 9:30 Worship	29 7:00 Boy Scouts	30 6:30 Cub Scouts/ Webelos	31			