



St. John's  
Welcome  
Home

Volume 57  
Issue 11

WELCOME NOVEMBER



## Pastor's Desk

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AND Give  
All The  
GLORY  
To God

## Pastor Out in the Community

O Lord, we are gathered here to recognize  
the athletes of our Dover community.

Athletic excellence shows us  
what the human body can endure  
and what it can accomplish, as individuals and as a team.

O God, we recognize that  
**You** are the source of our strength,  
the power behind our pitch,  
the reason for our run,  
the might behind our muscle,  
the tenacity behind our talent,  
and the cause for our commitment.

We are fearfully and wonderfully made by You.  
We are fearfully and wonderfully made to run, throw, catch, score, and win.  
We invite you to be in our midst, in this moment.

Be as near to us, as our next breath!  
And may we remember and give thanks that,  
We are strong, talented, and mighty because of You, O God.  
we recognize that You are the reason  
for every ribbon, trophy, and medal that we have earned.  
And may all of God's people, all that have breath, say "Amen!"





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

**Rev. Dr. Cassandra Granados**  
Senior Minister

**Natalie Peterman**  
Director of Christian Education

**Emaly Smallcombe**  
Administrative Assistant

**Sunday Morning Schedule**  
10:30 AM Worship

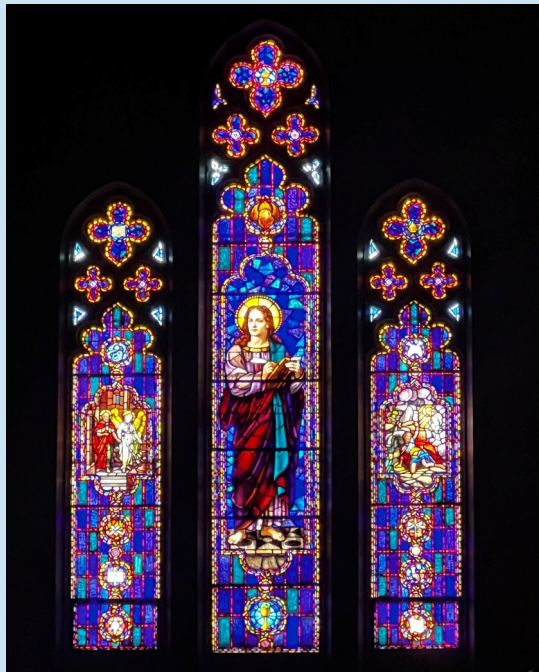
**Church Office Hours**  
Monday through Friday  
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
Telephone answers

24 hours a day  
330-364-4458

Fax: 330-364-4459

Website: <http://doverstjohns.org>

**E-mail Addresses:**  
[natalie@doverstjohns.org](mailto:natalie@doverstjohns.org)  
[office@doverstjohns.org](mailto:office@doverstjohns.org)



**Joshua 24:15**  
"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."



"When a pastor is woven into the life of the community, it brings a special kind of joy and connection. It shows that church isn't just a place — it's people walking alongside one another, growing and caring together."



**Kingdom Coalition:**  
Monthly gathering of local Christian leaders who desire to develop relationships and inspire Christ-like unity in Tuscarawas County.

**Women's Impact Day** – A Goodwill-sponsored event celebrating women thriving with purpose. Exploring health, wealth, and leadership through inspiring talks, practical workshops, and meaningful connections. Empower, grow, and lead!  
10-16-25



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1  
Kaleigh McCutcheon

2  
Leah Locke  
Mari Zurcher

3  
Maggie Murphy (Beans)

4  
Aria Dotts

5  
Christopher Amistadi

6  
Keaton Hall  
Dan Kirtz

7  
Freda Hucek

8  
Christian France

9  
Tanner Sears

10  
Margery Burkhart

11  
Michael Dotts  
Carol Huprich

12  
David Gingrich  
Ronald Tschudy

13  
Alexis Altier  
Gretchen Hobart

14  
Kearstyn Greer

15  
Maxton Brunner

17  
Dan Capozella  
Katherine Graham  
Natasha Spinell

19  
Cody Herzig  
Miranda Immel  
Rueben Keener  
William Schriever  
Barbara White

20  
Mary Beth Edwards  
William McIlvaine  
Kaitlynn Rufener  
John Schaar III  
Elliott Wallick

21  
David Daley  
Lauren Mason

22  
Mary Von Allman

25  
Tony Bailey  
Kay Engelhard  
Megan Murphy

26  
James Kilgore  
Susan Penrod  
Barbara Wade

28  
Paula Sickinger



## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1  
Paul & Ann  
Bambeck

2  
Earl & Cindy  
Feller

2  
Shane & Stacie  
Jones

7  
Jim & Betty  
Wherley

8  
Joel & Krista  
Steiner

11  
Gary & Linda  
Miller

16  
Dave & Gloria  
McGrath

24  
Doug & Natalie  
Peterman

26  
Ken & Kathryn  
West

27  
Michael & Mary Beth  
Edwards

May your marriage be filled with love, joy, and faithfulness. May God guide your hearts and bless your life together abundantly!



## Dover St. John's Youth & Family Ministry

### Grateful Together

"Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay." Ruth 1:16

As the season of gratitude arrives, we are reminded through Ruth's faithful words that true thankfulness often grows from connection, our connection with God and with one another. Ruth's story isn't just about loyalty, it's about love that shows up, even when the path ahead is uncertain. Her willingness to walk alongside Naomi teaches us that gratitude is found not only in blessings received, but in the relationships that shape us and the journeys we share together.

This November, we celebrate being Grateful Together, as families, as a congregation and as a community. Whether through the warmth of shared worship, filling our Blessing Box, or lending a helping hand, we see God's goodness reflected in each act of love and generosity.

As we celebrate this month of gratitude, we look ahead with joy to our **All Church Advent Festival on Sunday, November 30**. Together, we'll prepare our hearts for the coming season of hope and light, celebrating as one family of faith. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for this special day with a luncheon following worship, window painting, and anticipation as we journey into Advent, grateful together.

Walking together in faith,  
Natalie Peterman  
Director of Christian Education

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#### CONFIRMATION

Classes starting soon for MS and HS youth. Please contact the church office or Natalie to be a part of the class!

#### KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH OUR YOUNG ADULTS

Our Youth Group would like to stay connected with our graduates and young adults under age 25 by sending notes and small seasonal surprises. If you have a current address for your young adult, please email it to [natalie@doverstjohns.org](mailto:natalie@doverstjohns.org).





# November News

## Dover St. John's Youth & Family Ministry

natalie@doverstjohns.org

Office of Christian Education

www.doverstjohns.org/youth

### Upcoming Dates

11/2: Family Sunday/Fellowship 10am & Confirmation Meeting following worship

11/16: YOUTH GROUP 5-6:30PM, Fourth & Faith, Friendsgiving with other Youth Groups

11/30: FAMILY Advent Festival following worship, luncheon & window painting

12/7 FAMILY SUNDAY & Youth Christmas Pageant

12/20 & 21 YOUTH LIVE NATIVITY,  
7PM/7:30PM/8PM/8:30PM

### November Theme: Grateful Together

"Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay."  
Ruth 1:16

*\*Each month, our theme & monthly bible verse will be our shared focus in both Youth Group and Follow Me sessions.*

In October, our Youth Group helped decorate the church lawn for Paint Tusc Pink to show support for breast cancer awareness. We talked about why raising awareness matters, how we can support those facing illness and the importance of spreading hope and encouragement. Each youth tied a pink ribbon as a symbol of love, strength and prayer for our community and all who are fighting or have been affected by cancer. We also took time to restock our church's Blessing Box, continuing our mission to share with those in need. Our Follow Me youth mirrored this effort by decorating the inside of our sanctuary with pink ribbons, a symbol of hope and a reminder that our church family surrounds one another with care and faith.

At our most recent meeting, our youth brought in donations to create treat bags for our local first responders. After playing Do Good Charades, a fun game that challenged us to act out ways to help and encourage others, we grabbed our umbrellas and walked over to 3rd Street to deliver the treats to the Dover police and fire departments. We ended the evening in prayer, lifting up our students, athletes, coaches, families and community as we head into Rivalry Week, grateful for the opportunity to "do good and share with others" (Hebrews 13:16).



### YOUTH GROUP OCTOBER



## St. John's UCC Church Council Meeting October 14, 2025 at 7:30 pm

**Opening Prayer:** Dave Gingrich opened the meeting and Reverend Cassandra Granados gave the opening prayer. There were 15 members present.

**Minutes of Last Meeting:** Approved as submitted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Reported by Holly Gonter

### **Month of September 2025**

General fund income for the month of \$17,228 is \$6,380 worse than budget.

Expenses for the month of \$28,811 were under the budget by \$8,211.

Resulting shortfall for the month of \$11,583 is \$1,831 better than the budget.

### **September 2025 YTD**

General fund income year-to-date of \$181,448 is **\$37,324 less than the budget.**

Compared to last year thru the same month (center column) **income is lower by \$33,438.**

Expenses year-to-date of \$282,977 were less than budget by \$26,303.

Note: Budget includes \$9,000 per month for an Associate Minister beginning with July

Resulting shortfall year-to-date of \$101,528 is \$11,020 worse than the budget.

### **Cash**

Beginning cash balance for the year was \$25,146 and ending cash is \$10,496.

We have transferred \$82,355 from investments to cover general fund expenses.

M/S/C by Dan Dummermuth and Sue Ferbrache

### **Senior Minister's Report**

Reverend Cassandra's report stated:

#### **PAST EVENTS:**

Cassandra officiated a graveside service for Margaret "Marky" Berger at Geib Funeral Home.

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, Cassandra attended Kingdom Coalition's meeting, which is an ecumenical group of ministers in Tuscarawas County. The speakers were Terri Miller from Empower Tusc, who discussed suicide prevention in Tuscarawas County and leaders from Off the Wall Discipleship, who discussed opportunities for their ministry students to lead worship at local churches.

Gave special thanks to the Elders for leading the Sunday service on October 5<sup>th</sup> because she and Sonia had come down with Hand, Foot, and Mouth disease. She was sad she couldn't be at church on team Sunday.

On October 9<sup>th</sup>, she gave the Invocation prayer for Dover High School's Athletic Hall of Fame. The prayer will be published in November's Carillon.

#### **PASTORAL CARE:**

Church members: 1 office visit, 3 phone check-ins

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Cassandra will be on vacation from October 20-26, to celebrate Diwali. Rev. Carol Vaccariello from Medina will be leading the service on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

Cassandra will be on continuing education leave from October 27-November 2. Rev. Sandra Hutchinson from North Canton will be leading the service on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Confirmation classes will be starting soon for MS and HS youth. Please contact the church office or Natalie to be part of the class.

### **Director of CE Report**

Natalie Peterman provided a copy of the October Update of Dover St. John's Youth & Family Ministry. It included the following:

1. Youth group would like to stay connected with our graduates and young adults under age 25 by sending notes and small seasonal surprises. If you have a current address for your young adult, please email it to [natalie@doverstjohns.org](mailto:natalie@doverstjohns.org).
2. Confirmation classes will be starting soon for MS and HS youth. Please contact the church office or Natalie to be part of the class.
3. October theme: "Working as God's Team"
4. Included upcoming dates:  
10/19: Youth Group 5-6:30, dinner and visit First Responders on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
10/27: Youth Group 6-7:30, Trunk or Treat Youth Group Table/hand out candy  
11/16: Youth Group 5-6:30, Fourth and Faith, Friendsgiving with other Youth Groups  
11/30: Family Advent Festival following worship, luncheon and window painting  
12/7: Family Sunday and Youth Christmas Pageant  
12/20 & 21: Youth Live Nativity, 7PM, 7:30 PM, 8 PM, 8:30 PM
5. Pictures of Team Spirit Sunday 10/5/25.
6. At last youth group meeting, our students helped decorate the church lawn for Paint Tusc Pink to show support for breast cancer awareness. We talked about why raising awareness matters, how we can support those facing illness and the importance of spreading hope and encouragement. Each youth tied a pink ribbon as a symbol of love, strength and prayer for our community and all who are fighting or have been affected by cancer. Our Follow Me youth will mirror this effort by decorating the inside of our sanctuary with pink ribbons, a symbol of hope and a reminder that our church family surrounds one another with care and faith.
7. Listed themes for each month through December along with Bible passage for the month.
8. Natalie will attend: Women's Empowerment Conference 10/16; Community Worship 11/11, Kingdom Coalition 11/12 at Burning River Church, Breathe Women's Conference 11/16.

### **Reports of the Boards**

#### **Elders/Jean Paddock reported:**

- \* The Elders discussed upcoming services
- \* Communion will be held 10/19/25
- \* Sub pastors were discussed (see senior minister's report)
- \* Bible Study interest survey is being sent out through Survey Monkey and paper copies in the church through first Sunday in November. It's a short 6 questions, so all are encouraged to reply.
- \* Confirmation: Natalie and Cassandra are working on offering a class; so far 10 students; mentors from the congregation are needed for each of these students – volunteers would be appreciated

#### **Trustees**

Dan Dummermuth reported:

- Air conditioning issue was a power issue. Power went out at church and compressor didn't start up on it's own – servicer is working on determining why.
- Downspout in corner of library/sanctuary was replaced.
- Leak in sanctuary couldn't be replicated.

Continued next page.

## St. John's UCC Church Council Meeting October 14, 2025 at 7:30 pm

### Deacons

Jen Conkle reported ushers and communion servers are filled for October/November.

### Youth Representative on Council/Nolan Peterman reported:

Youth are focusing on working as a team (see Youth Newsletter discussed by Natalie Peterman), they decorated lawn pink, and will visit first responders and invite them to worship with us.

### Reports of Committees

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Dave Gingrich reviewed Proposed Budget 2026. M/S/C Doug Peterman and Holly Gonter to submit this to the congregation for final approval.

### Congregational Activities

Craft Show at Fourth & Faith – Nov 1 – benefit Blessing Box

Card Party at Fourth & Faith – Nov 12 (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed monthly) – benefit Cancer Bags

Family Sunday – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday each month with season theme

Sunday School lesson; Fellowship; Attend worship together

All Church Advent Festival & Meal – Nov 30 following worship

Youth Christmas Pageant – Dec 7

Live Nativity on Front Lawn – Dec 20 & 21

Adult Contemporary Sunday School – Sundays at 9am

Bad Girls Book Club – 2nd Monday monthly

Chair Yoga – Mondays & Thursdays at Fourth & Faith

Needles and Hookers scarf project

### Unfinished Business – n/a

### New Business

Doug Peterman reported digital sign quotes are being obtained

Blessing Box is back on track

First UCC minister Jill Lovett passed away 10/6/25

Dover Exchange Club spaghetti dinner 10/18/25 from 4-7 PM

Dottie Hartzell is moving to Canton Christian Home in Canton

### Comments for the Good of St Johns - none

### Closing with the Lord's Prayer

### September Financial Report

Actual Income      \$17,228

Actual Expenses    \$28,811

Average Worship  
Attendance 69





## Tuscarawas County Scarf Project is Back!

**Friday, November 14th**, we'll be hanging scarves, hats, mittens, and gloves outside the church—**free for anyone** who needs a little warmth this winter!

Bring your **new, hand-made, or store-bought items** to the church office by **Tuesday, November 12th**.

Let's spread warmth together!

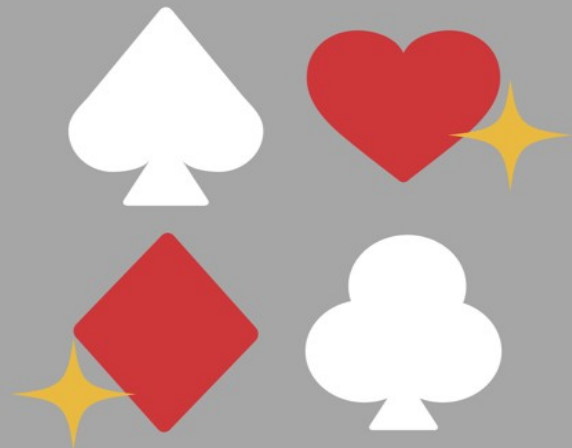
Rain date November 21st

### ON THE ROAD AGAIN

The Bad Girls are once again joining the *One Book, One Community* project, sponsored by our local libraries! This month's selection is *My Side of the River* by Elizabeth Camarillo Gutierrez — a powerful and timely story about a family divided by immigration policies, with Elizabeth on one side of the Rio Grande and her parents and brother on the other.

Join the Bad Girls for the culminating event on **November 3 at 7:00 PM** in **Founders Hall at the Tuscarawas Campus of Kent State University**. The author herself will be speaking and taking questions following her presentation.

Copies of the book are available at the **Dover Public Library** — pick one up and join the discussion!



JOIN US FOR A JOYFUL

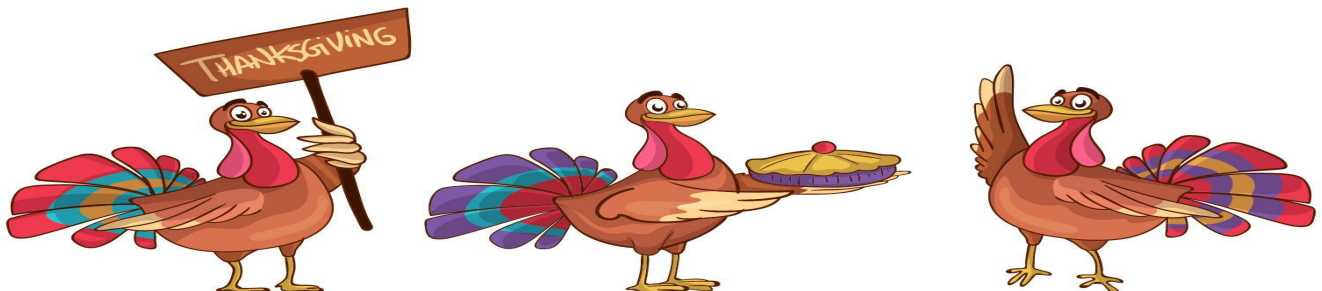
## CARD PARTY

NOVEMBER 12 | 1-4 PM

AT FOURTH AND FAITH

BENEFITS THE CANCER BAGS

The office will be closed November 27th and 28th to celebrate Thanksgiving.





Family Members in Nursing Homes

Park Village — Carol Sue Keener  
Park Village — Linda Schilling  
Inn at Northwood — Norma Haglock  
New Dawn Assisted Living — Clara Struhar  
Park Village Independent Living — Jim Cotton  
Park Village New Phila — Don Page  
Canton Christian Home — Dotty Hartzell

**We'd love to pray for you!**  
Share your prayer request by phone or email.

Call Marge — 330-343-1731  
Church Office — 330-364-4458  
Email—[office@doverstjohns.org](mailto:office@doverstjohns.org)

**No request is too big or small—we're here for you!**

**We're here to support you!**

To better serve our congregation, we now provide the contact information for the **Elder of the Month**.

This gives you an extra person to reach out to, alongside Rev. Cassandra, if you ever have a personal or family emergency.

Vicki Rufener  
330-447-2295  
1100 North Walnut Street  
Dover, OH 44622



Join us for **Family Sunday School** from **10:00-10:15AM** in the Fellowship Center November **2nd**. We will have a short, interactive time for all ages to grow in faith together. **Everyone is welcome** - parents, grandparents, children. You don't need to have children to attend, everyone in our church family is welcome! Be sure to stop in a few minutes early to get your donut and refreshment ready.



# A Month of Gratitude

## Week 1

**Write a letter of appreciation to someone who made a difference in your life this year.**

## Week 2

**Write a letter of appreciation to a company you truly admire or enjoy, expressing your gratitude for their products, services, or the positive impact they've had on you.**

## Week 3

**Write a heartfelt letter of appreciation to a family member, letting them know how much you value and cherish them.**

## Week 4

**Write a letter of appreciation to yourself, celebrating all that you have accomplished this year and reminding yourself of the growth, effort, and progress you've made.**

## Benefits from being thankful

Increases  
happiness

Reduces  
stress

Boost emotional resilience

Encourages healthy habits

Strengthens  
relationships

Promotes  
better  
sleep

# NOVEMBER

<u>Sun</u>	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tue</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thu</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat</u>
					<i>31</i> Baked goods donation drop off for Craft Show / Bake Sale 10-4 @ F&F	<i>1</i> 10-3 Holiday Craft Show & Bake Sale @ F&F
<i>2</i> 9:00 Adult Con- temporary Class 10-10:15 Family Sunday School 10:30 Worship	<i>3</i> 10 AM Chair Yoga 2 PM Needles & Hookers 7 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Barbershop 7 PM Al-Anon 7 PM Bad Girls Book Club @ Kent State Uni.	<i>4</i> <i>Office closes @ 2</i> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts/Webelos	<i>5</i> Choir 7 PM	<i>6</i> 10 AM Chair Yoga @ F&F	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> 9:00 Adult Con- temporary Class  10:30 Worship	<i>10</i> 10 AM Chair Yoga @ F&F 2 PM Needles & Hookers 7 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Barbershop 7 PM Al-Anon & Alateen	<i>11</i> <i>Office closes @ 2</i> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts/Webelos  6:30 PM Elders / Trustees / Deacons 7:30 Council Mtg	<i>12</i> Scarf Project donation drop off  Card Party 1-4 @ F&F  Choir 7 PM	<i>13</i> 10 AM Chair Yoga @ F&F	<i>14</i> Scarf Project	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> 9:00 Adult Con- temporary Class  10:30 Worship Budget Meeting following worship  Youth Group 5-6:30 @ F&F	<i>17</i> <i>Office closes @ 1</i> 10 AM Chair Yoga @ F&F 2 PM Needles & Hookers 7 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Barbershop 7 PM Al-Anon & Alateen	<i>18</i> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts/Webelos  Carillon deadline	<i>19</i> Choir 7 PM	<i>20</i> 10 AM Chair Yoga @ F&F	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> 9:00 Adult Con- temporary Class 10:30 Worship  <i>30</i> 9:00 Adult Con- temporary Class 10:30 Worship All Church Advent Festival & Meal following worship	<i>24</i> 10 AM Chair Yoga @ F&F 2 PM Needles & Hookers 7 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Barbershop 7 PM Al-Anon & Alateen	<i>25</i> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts/Webelos	<i>26</i> Choir 7 PM	<i>27</i> <i>Office closed</i>	<i>28</i> <i>Office closed</i>	<i>29</i>
						