

Serving Us Today

Disciples: All Members

Organist: Ginny Beamish

Minister: Don Crist

Altar Decoration: Becky Pierce

Liturgist: Sharon Wilson

Head Usher: Mike Beamish

Choir Director: Becky Pierce

Counters: Mike Beamish &
John Gibbons



September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:30a Worship	28	29	30 10a History Team 10a Membership & Outreach	31	1	2
3 9:30a Worship	4 Office Closed	5	6 10a History Team 6p Choir Rehearsal	7	8	9
10 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	11 2p Trustees	12	13 10a History Team 1p Women's Fellowship 6p Choir Rehearsal	14	15	16
17 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	18	19	20 10a History Team 12p Council 6p Choir Rehearsal	21	22	23 3p Annual Church Picnic – Troy Community Park
24 9:30a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Worship	25	26	27 10a History Team 6p Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30



September 17, 2023

“A Fine Mess”

Happy Birthday!



Madelyn Reed – 9/8 Spero Mengos – 9/7 Joyce Heffelfinger – 9/12
Matt Pierce – 9/14 Joan Meredith – 9/15 Traci Kropp – 9/19
Barb Gibbons – 9/21 Ruth Simpson – 9/27

St. John's United Church of Christ

130 S Walnut St

Troy, OH 45373

(937) 335-2028

INTROIT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Liturgist)

A friendly welcome to all! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here.

BELLS TO WELCOME THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

PRELUDE "Where He Leads Me" Stewart Landon

*OPENING WORDS Follow justice and justice alone, so that you may live and possess the land the LORD your God is giving you. Deuteronomy 16:20

*SONG OF THE MORNING # 276 (Red Hymnal)

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: God is welcoming us to this time of worship. Young and old, rich and poor, all are welcomed.

People: This is a place where all belong. This is a time when all are welcomed by God.

Liturgist: Come to sing praises and put your trust in God. Come to prepare yourself to serve in Christ's name.

People: We bring all our needs to God, our hope. We want to share faith and hope with others.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (In Unison)

Author of all humankind, come to lift us up to our full humanity as we worship you in this hour. You surround us on every side and are acquainted with all our ways. You know our shallow motives and our deepest thoughts. We want to follow you out of our places of bondage into the new land you have prepared for us. Amen.

August Council Tidbits

- We welcomed Young Life Staff to The Gathering Place for a meeting August 24th.
- Facebook is beginning on Sundays featuring the sermon and special music.
- The Christian Ed Committee has developed a new Family Ministries statement which they will be explaining in the near future.

As always, complete minutes may be found in the church office.

Attendance and Giving

Total Attendance last week 9/10/23 = 33

Week of 9/10/23	Month of September	Monthly Budget
\$2,083.65	\$4,165.64	\$10,129.17



SAVE THE DATE

Making all things New
Isaiah 43:18-19

THE HEARTLAND CONFERENCE ANNUAL GATHERING

SEPTEMBER 29-30, 2023
AT GENDER ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CANAL WINCHESTER, OH

SCAN HERE TO VIEW THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION REVISIONS.

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE
PO BOX 1230
WORTHINGTON, OH 43085



A Short History Lesson about St. John's Annual Church Picnic

by Caroline Maslowski

A booklet published in 1923 – **St. Johns Diamond Jubilee and Sunday School Dedication** – features historical sketches of each of the many church groups. Gleaned from the entry “The History of St. Johns Sunday School” is the following:

“The yearly picnic is one of the enjoyable features of the Sunday School. In the early days, the trip was taken by the canal boat, the horse and carriage; today, by traction and auto. This leaves us to wonder if we will ever use the aeroplane for transportation.”

This Year's Annual Church Picnic

St. John's Annual Church Picnic will be held at Troy Community Park on September 23 at 3:00pm. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex. The cornhole tournament begins earlier at 2:30pm. If you want to play, find a partner and sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. St. John's will provide tableware, chicken, chips and water. Please bring a covered dish to share. You may also want to bring lawn chairs. We will eat at 4:00pm followed by Bingo. Please bring new or gently used items to be used as Bingo prizes. Come and enjoy a fun filled afternoon with our church family and friends.

Church World Service

For the month of September, St. John's will be collecting donations to provide blankets to people for comfort in times of crisis. Help our neighbors around the world recover from disasters and get a fresh start. \$50 can provide five warm blankets for a family left homeless by a tornado or other disaster. Special envelopes are available in the Narthex or you can make a notation on your regular envelopes for CWS blankets.

CHOIR ANTHEM: “For All That Dwell Below the Skies”

Cindy Berry

SONGS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

MORNING PRAYER

Pastor Don Crist

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (In Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WELCOME TO FACEBOOK LIVE VIEWERS

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 14:1-15

SILENT PREPARATION FOR LISTENING

We invite you to use these few moments of silence to welcome the Inner Teacher to speak to you as Don shares the morning message.

SERMON “A Fine Mess”

OFFERTORY INVITATION (Liturgist)

Hear again the proverb: “Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. What a joy we can know when our thankfulness exceeds our questions, and our concern for others outweighs our greed. We are invited to share what we have received.

OFFERTORY “Reflection”

Cecil Schott-Devin

***DOXOLOGY: (In Unison)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, Ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***DEDICATION PRAYER: (In Unison)**

**We give because you have been generous to us,
gracious God. We give because we want to see your
image formed in us. We give to feed the hungers of
body and soul that are all around us and deep within.
May the ministries of this beloved community meet the
needs of our members, our community, and our world.
Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: #574 (Black Hymnal)

“In Egypt Under Pharaoh”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Allegro Giocoso" Ludwig Van Bethoven

(All hymns used by permission, CCLI License# 11076943)

Our Children's Space is located through the door at the front of the church. We know there may be times that children's needs may differ. Families are welcome to come to the area at any time during the service. Simply follow the signs and you will find our children's rooms thoughtfully prepared for your family, including a live feed for you to follow along.

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

Wayne and Gretchen Cunningham: Please pray for Stephanie Strope's parents as they continue to battle multiple health issues.

Katie Gascho: Katie continues to recover from surgery.

Em Finney: Ginny's sister, Em, has been on our prayer list for a very long time as she continues to battle her illness. Ginny reports that she is holding her own but seems to be getting weaker. Please continue to pray for Em.

Michael Ham: As Michael's health struggles continue, he can certainly use all the prayers that our congregation can offer. Ginny reports that Michael continues to weaken.

Erika, Logan and Brianna Wilson: Please pray for Sharon's grandchildren that they may know the love, peace and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Remember our homebound in your thoughts and prayers. Cards are welcome:

Beulah Bowers: 1220 N. Dorset, Troy, OH 45373

Carletta Gritzmaker: 2896 West Main Street, Troy, OH 45373

Joan Meredith: Lakeview Wing #213, 1567 Garbry Road, Piqua, OH 45356

Please note: Updates and/or amendments to the prayer list are appreciated. Typically, prayer requests will be removed after 4 weeks. If you or a loved one needs to remain on the list, please contact Betty Schaffner at 937-335-6713 or Joyce Reives at 937-477-8268. Thank you.

God is Still Speaking,