

*St. John's Evangelical Church  
211 E. Carrol Street  
Kenton, Ohio 43326 (Non  
Profit Organization)*

**Do Not Delay  
Dated Material**



## **St. John's Evangelical Church Newsletter**

September 2018

211 E. Carrol Street  
Kenton, OH 43326  
Church Phone: 419-673-7278  
Pastor Randall cell: 724-290-3651  
Church Office Hours: Monday—Friday (9 AM—1 PM)

Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester, Senior Pastor  
Website: [www.stjohnskenton.org](http://www.stjohnskenton.org)  
Email: [stjohnskenton@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnskenton@gmail.com)

### **Payne Chapel Presents: Music For Your Spirit!**

Sunday, September 30, 2018  
3:00 P.M.

St. John's Evangelical Church  
224 East Carrol St., Kenton, OH.

**PUBLIC WELCOME**

Voices of Bowling Green S. U.  
God's Children

St. John's Evangelical Church  
Payne Chapel Singers



# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH

211 East Carrol Street  
Kenton, OH 43326

REV. DR. RANDALL J. F ORESTER, PASTOR &

Phone: 419-673-7278 (o)

Phone: 724-290-3651 (c)

SEPTEMBER 2018

## THE PASTOR'S PAGE

E-mail: PastorRandall@stjohnskenton.org

We, as a nation, begin this month with Labor Day, which gives us a three-day weekend and celebrates those who work and produce to keep our economy humming, our shelves full, and our roads paved. Of course, as soon as that long weekend passes, it's back to the grind. Sometimes, people treat being a part of a church like work or ministry like a grind.

As September rolls in, we at St. John's Evangelical Church, think of the long programmatic year ahead. A focal point of that is our Wednesday night ministry where many people with varied gifts need to come together to work as one body to bless a great number of special kids and middle-school youth.

If you treat it as such, that ministry can be a grind. It can be work where you punch in, do your duty, and punch out. To treat it as such cheapens it, but it can be seen as such. If it is looked upon in such a fashion, one can only give partially what they should give fully toward.

The same can be said for the way we serve the Lord and respond to His gracious calling upon our lives. Do we respond out of a sense of debt? Do we say, "You gave Your Son, so I have to give my Sunday mornings back to you." Of course the have in that sentence is said with sarcasm and all the angst a teenager could muster—"Yes, father, I can do what you ask if I haaaavvvvveeeee to..."

Do we give out of a sense of obligation? If Jesus has gone on to prepare a place for us (**John 14:1-7**), shouldn't I do the same for others? Such thinking sounds nice, but it doesn't have any soul. I can repay my mortgage diligently, but I do it grudgingly. The bank did something wonderful for me in fronting the money, but it's a chore to repay that loan. Trust me, there's no life, no soul, in those moments when I fulfill my obligation.

God doesn't want our work, our labor. He doesn't want us to respond to His grace with actions borne with a sense of

obligation or indebtedness. He wants our love, our heart, our passion, and our faith.

Unless we respond to the unrelenting love of God with an equally unrelenting love, we will never know the depth of life and love to which faith calls us. It's more than "falling in love" or "feeling in love." To the contrary, it is a being in love where all your being is permeated by love and the love for God then becomes your being.

It doesn't just happen. It's something that has to be cultivated and nurtured. It's something that—left neglected—can shrivel and shrink from a vibrant and vital state. Our love for God should not be taken for granted. Once we begin to follow Jesus—something

that usually begins with heartfelt desire and robust faith—we need to continue to foster its growth.

How do we foster that growth? Simply, we spend time with the object of our faith—God. On the next page are the lyrics to the song *The*

*Beautiful One*. I remember hearing it as a youth and it drove it back into scripture, the **Song of Solomon** or the **Song of Songs** to be exact.

This book almost did not make it into the canon of scripture as some ancient Jewish scholars thought the contents were too racy for a holy book. In those words, you will hear the words of a lover for his beloved as well as her words of breathless passion for him. The title page to this book should bear a disclaimer "For mature readers only," particularly if you study what some of those phrases—those naughty little euphemisms—really mean in their original language and context.

However, we read the **Song of Solomon** in the Church not to be titillated but to be reminded of the depth of love that God has for us and that we should have for Him.

**MY BELOVED SPEAKS AND SAYS TO ME:  
"ARISE, MY LOVE, MY BEAUTIFUL ONE,  
AND COME AWAY,  
FOR BEHOLD, THE WINTER IS PAST;  
THE RAIN IS OVER AND GONE."  
—Song of Solomon 2:10-11**

**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL  
CHURCH:**  
MAKING AND MATURING  
DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

We are to have a love that is strong as death and a jealousy that is fierce as the grave (**Song of Solomon 8:6**).

Does such passion describe your relationship to God? Has your faith cooled? Has your ardor to serve waned? September may be a good month to examine where your relationship with God stands, and it may be a time to commit to growing that love and faith and passion.

Use this month in which we celebrate Labor Day to step back from your labor for the Lord. Before taking up the business of the church's programmatic year or pledging yourself to greater acts of service, please take a step away—or should I say steal away—to watch and pray.

When you do, look upon your Savior, the Lover of you soul, and see how much He cares for you. He's the one in **Song of Solomon 2:10** who says to each of us, "Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away." Our Savior invites us into a relationship and continues to beckon us into a deeper relationship with Him.

All we need to do is follow. As we grow deeper in love with Him, we will grow to adore and enjoy those things and people that He does as well. We will respond to His call upon our lives NOT with a sense of obligation but with a natural loving response. When this happens in the church, service becomes a joy and ceases to be a labor. Ministry flourishes as love flows from the throne of God into the lives of His people and overflows into the lives of those around and near true believers.

Use these days to pursue such love, so that the labor of faith may be lightly borne and joyfully, lovingly fulfilled.

In Christ's powerful name,

*Pastor Randall*

[Verse 1]  
Leaves of sound are shed, they fall  
On this murmuring mind where the lullabies call  
And from these words, I sink and fall  
To the beautiful one

[Chorus 1]  
Behold this dreamer  
In the arms of the beautiful one

[Verse 2]  
Deep waters sound, who loves that deep?  
I make my way up the toilsome steep  
In green meadows now I sleep  
In the beautiful one

[Chorus 1]  
Behold this dreamer  
In the arms of the beautiful one

[Bridge]  
And in the wind, a song  
And moonlight on the lawn  
Draw me on, and on  
And through the day a sigh  
For dreamers such as I  
Who steal away  
To watch and pray

[Verse 3]  
The night above me whispers low  
And I have many miles to go  
I will not wake until I know  
The Beautiful One

[Chorus 2]  
Wake the dreamer  
In the arms of the Beautiful One

[Verse 3]  
The night above me whispers low  
And I have many miles to go  
I will not wake until I know  
The Beautiful One

[Chorus 2]  
Wake the dreamer  
In the arms of the Beautiful One  
Wake the dreamer  
In the arms of the Beautiful One  
Wake the dreamer  
In the arms of the Beautiful One

## Preaching Series

02 September

Call to Worship **Psalm 90:16-17**

Scripture: **Genesis 3:17-19**

**Luke 14:1-6**

Sermon: **Off to Work We Go**

Topic: God gives us vocations—work to do.

An old Quaker saying,  
“Let your life speak.”

23 September

Scripture: **Isaiah 45:1-7**

**Colossians 2:1-10**

Sermon: **Rooted, Built,  
and Established**

30 September

Scripture: **Isaiah 29:13-16**

**Colossians 2:11-23**

Sermon: **Alive with Christ**

07 October

Scripture: **Job 31:24-28**

**Colossians 3:1-10**

Sermon: **Put Off the Old**

14 October

Scripture: **Ephesians 5:1-2**

**Colossians 3:11-25**

Sermon: **Put On the New**

21 October

Scripture: **Mark 4:10-12**

**Colossians 4:1-6**

Sermon: **Making the Best**

28 October

Scripture: **Hebrews 13:1-3**

**Colossians 4:7-18**

Sermon: **Good Friends in Christ**

Through the remainder of September and all of October, our sermons will follow the book of **Colossians**. This will be a time to walk through the whole book over the eight weeks.

09 September

Scripture: **Isaiah 32:1-5**

**Colossians 1:1-16**

Sermon: **The Inheritance  
of the Saints**

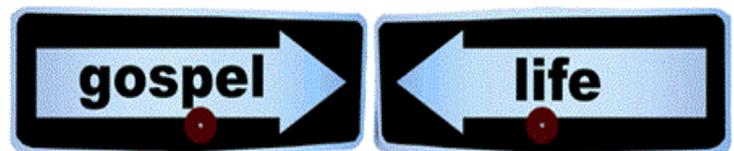
16 September

Scripture: **John 15:1-5**

**Colossians 1:17-29**

Sermon: **Reconciled to Christ**

# COLOSSIANS



the 'gospel' collides with 'life'

November 11—Veterans Day

Future note: This year, Veterans Day falls on a Sunday. Pastor Randall is looking for suggestions for the worship service and other possible events on that day. This could be a unique opportunity to honor our veterans and invite people from our community to church that Sunday.

Please contact Pastor Randall with your ideas or, better yet, your willingness to organize the day and its events.

Possible ideas: Video room where veterans could record their stories; a Canteen (snack area) in the Fellowship Hall; patriotic hymns/readings in the worship service; or a time memorial wall. Please pray about this and offer



your suggestions to the pastor.

As always, our worship is to first and foremost glorify God. While we do this, we can reach out to our community and remember our veterans.

## Meaning of the American Flag Folds

Do you know that at military funerals, the 21-gun salute stands for the sum of the numbers in the year 1776?

Have you ever noticed that the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the United States of America Flag 13 times? You probably thought it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies, but we learn something new every day! The 1st fold of the flag is a symbol of life. The 2nd fold is a symbol of the belief in eternal life.

The 3rd fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country to attain peace throughout the world.

The 4th fold represents the weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.

The 5th fold is a tribute to the country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, 'Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong.'

The 6th fold is for where people's hearts lie. It is with their heart that they pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The 7th fold is a tribute to its Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that they protect their country and their flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of their republic..

The 8th fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The 9th fold is a tribute to womanhood, and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The 10th fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of their country since they were first born.

The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christians eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The 13th fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding them of their Nations motto, 'In God We Trust.'

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the rights, privileges and freedoms they enjoy today

COME JOIN  
**UPCOMING EVENTS...**

# Hot Dog Roast

**Golden Buckeye Class Invites  
 Church Members & Friends to a  
 Wiener Roast & Covered Dish Meal**

**SATURDAY, September 29, 2018**

**4:00 PM—?**

at

**Dan & Jo Ann Erwin's Home**  
 10672 T.R. 215, Kenton, OH



**Meat, Drinks, and Table Service  
 will be furnished.**

**Please bring a covered dish to  
 share and lawn chairs  
 (if you have).**

**In case of inclement weather,  
 activities will be indoors.**

Please sign-up in class or call Jo Ann  
 at 419-675-1965.



**Hope to see you there!**



## Upcoming Dates

- September 9—8:30 AM Combined Service
- September 11—Bell Choir begins (6:45 PM)
- September 12—Kid's Choir begins (6 PM)
- September 12—Chancel Choir begins (7 PM)
- September 16—HCC Youth Scavenger Hunt  
 (3-7 PM) Fairgrounds
- September 23—Suicide Walk (1:30-3:00 PM)  
 East parking lot
- September 26—Kid's Night begins (5-7 PM)
- September 26—MS Youth begins (6-7:30 PM)
- September 29—Golden Buckeye Picnic (4 PM)  
 Erwin's home
- September 30—Music for Your Spirit (3 PM)  
 St. John's sanctuary
- November 15—Women's Celebration



## Mission Trip Opportunity

Pastor Mark Bishop is organizing a trip to Appalachia possibly in October or November and would like to see if anyone is interested.

Appalachia Service Project is a Christian ministry, open to all people, that inspires hope and service through volunteer home repair and replacement in Central Appalachia. It has been serving people in Appalachia since its founding by Rev. Tex Evens in 1969. The goal is to make homes "warmer, safer, and drier." Fall projects of 2 to 5 days in September thru December are available in Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia and Virginia. NO experience or SKILLED needed. Please check out their website at [www.asphome.org](http://www.asphome.org).

If interested, please contact the church office or Pastor Randall. Pastor Bishop can organize an informational meeting.

## Heifer Festival

September 29, 2018 - 11am-4pm

North Union Elementary

Free Admission Free Parking

Richwood, Ohio

### Food (TriRivers)

- Pulled Pork
- Chicken & Moo-dles
- Pie
- Hotdog and Chips
- Hot and Cold Drinks



### Things to Do

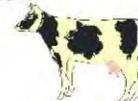
- Games with Prizes
- Vendors
- Crafters
- Cake Walk
- K9 Activities
- Teddy Bear Surgery
- Silent Auction
- Coloring Contest

### Music

- Within the Grain
- Ralphie and the Now  
 Forgotten  
 NUAge



Animals



[www.heiferfestival.org](http://www.heiferfestival.org)  
 Benefits Heifer International

## Adult Education and Life Groups

We are in need of someone to help coordinate Adult Education or lead a short-term life group in the fall. The goal would be to offer more adult education opportunities and short-term life group, for example book studies. Please see Pastor Randall for more information.



Thank you for welcoming me into the position as your Youth Leader. I am very grateful for your prayers and kind words, I am excited and looking forward to working with everyone to grow our Youth program.

The new school year has begun and I'm wondering where Summer went. It always seems to fly by. Before we know it, the leaves will be changing colors and we will be getting crisp cool nights. That also means Sunday School is right around the corner. We will start back right after the fair, September 16th and with Wednesday Nights starting September 26th.

Our Youth Kids will be helping out at the Fair again this year scooping ice cream. Thank you to the Kenton Rotary ice cream booth for giving us the opportunity again this year. Make sure to stop out and say Hello!

We had our Meet and Greet party and the kids came up with a lot of plans for our upcoming year. Please feel free to share many more thoughts you may have, we are always open to new fun ideas.

Our youth will be attending the Hardin County Collective Youth Group. We look forward to strengthening our relationships with the other surrounding churches. We will be meeting regularly once a month.

There was a wonderful turn out for the Hardin County Collective Kick-off in August. 40 youth, ages 7th-12th grade ( a few 6th grade), from various churches gathered at Camp Common Ground for a lot of fun, Pizza, worship and s'mores! This youth group will meet again on Sept 16th, from 3-7 PM at the Hardin County Fairgrounds for a Video Scavenger Hunt! Plan to attend and bring a friend!

### Summary of Finances for July 2018

#### Income:

Envelopes	\$21,092.00
Loose offering and faith time	\$ 660.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$21,752.00</b>

#### Expenses:

Staff Expense	\$11,052.00
Administration Expense	\$ 399.00
Utilities & Maintenance (electric is \$2003.00)	\$ 3,572.00
WAM	\$ 168.00
Christian Ed	\$ 1,048.00
Video	\$ 168.00
Evangelism	\$ 36.00
Youth	\$ 0.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 16,466.00</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$5,106.00</b>

#### Church Staff:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester  
 Children's Ministry: Amy Long  
 Youth Ministry: Michele Sherman  
 Financial Secretary: Kay Rush  
 Church Secretary: Kathy Forester  
 Custodian: Harry Long  
 Chancel Choir Director: David Beazley  
 Contemporary Worship Leader: Kendra Dilts  
 Organists: Randall S. Rogers, Teresa Broseke and Linda Zeigler  
 Children's Choirs Director: Hope Cauley  
 Bell Choir Director: Jane Baker  
 Technical Support: Richard Katterjohn  
 Historian: Gerald Pfister



## September Children's News...

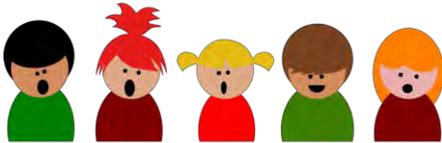
Thanks to our great volunteers who ventured out to Forest Court recently. We appreciate Janet Jones, Cheryl Brooks, JoAnn Erwin, Mary Ralston and Barney, Bob Emlinger, Becky Rish, Dan Reel and Pastor

who stopped in for a short visit. Our volunteers passed out hot dogs, chips, drinks and some school supplies and t-shirts. It was good to see our kids and their parents again. Thanks also go to our Mission committee who made it possible for the mulch to be installed in the play areas. It looks great but better yet, they aren't playing in mud anymore.



### Sunday School will be starting soon...

We are getting very excited to start our new Sunday School year. It's only about three weeks before we will be starting on Sunday, September 16. We will have a Preschool class led by Miss Hope with a 1-3 grade class led by Shannon Donnelly. Both classes will begin together with a few songs led by Miss Hope.



Our classes will be learning about famous Biblical characters, the Ten Commandments and also how really cool Jesus was. If you have a child or a grandchild, niece or nephew that is in this age group, bring them on September 16 and drop them off in the first and second classroom.

**Incredible Faith** will be the focus of our Kid's Wednesday Nights this season. We will be learning great things while meeting new friends over a great dinner each Wednesday evening. Children who are kindergarten through grade 5 are welcome to attend each week.

- Kindergarten- grade 2 will start at 5:00pm and end at 6:30.
- Kids who are grade 3-5 will start at 5:30 and end at 7:00pm.



Running this type of programming means that we need lots of adult help. We still need table chaperones, kitchen help and leaders, and bus riders. Please see Amy if you are willing and able to help out each week.

**Thank you** for sharing your extra soap, shampoo, lotion, toothpaste etc. you donated recently. During Kid's worship time, we were able to put together twelve bags that were pretty full that will go to the Angels for the Elderly. Thanks for your help with this!!



September, 2018

This month let's look at a life that changed the face of musical worship in this country. A story of tragedy that led to faith. Thomas Dorsey became known as the "Father of Gospel Music," penning hundreds of songs and saying: "*Nothing will take the place of gospel music. ... Somebody might do it differently or add something to it, but any power in the music must come from God ... and it's all about what God wants.*"

As a young boy, Thomas had learned to play the piano from his mother, for whom music had been a significant part of her life. After the family moved to Atlanta, Thomas began walking 30 miles a week to take formal music lessons. As his musical ability improved, Thomas began playing for churches, house rent parties, bordellos, and women's teas to help supplement his family's income. Eventually he moved to Chicago and Jazz clubs.



*There was a Baptist convention up the street from where I was staying. I was playing rags and blues at parties, and things on Saturday night. There was a fellow who came to the convention and sang "I Know a Great Savior, I Do Don't You?" After he finished, the minister said anyone could join the church. If you were interested, they would send you to a church of your choice. I thought, "Here's my chance." I was playing jazz music. In fact, I was working in clubs. So I quit. I walked off my job.*

Initially, Dorsey's conversion spurred him to end his secular music career, and he began playing for a storefront church. But the salary wasn't enough to pay his bills. So, once again, Dorsey began to work in jazz and blues clubs. As biographer Michael Harris recounts in *The Rise of Gospel Blues*: He said that he is playing at this club, and he tries to play some more and he can't. I would say to him what happened? Were you paralyzed? numbness? He doesn't remember any of these things, and he said, *but I know my fingers—I know I could move my fingers. I just couldn't play. Think of that. I have the muscular ability to move, but I can't play. In other words, I can't make music. I can't create.* Some of those close to Dorsey, however, believed something else was at work. Dorsey's wife, Nettie, whom he married in 1925, believed that God had called him to write and sing gospel music and that the source of his inner turmoil stemmed from ignoring God's calling. In 1932, Dorsey's battle between secular and sacred reached a tragic resolution. The musician had gone to St. Louis to sing at a revival. During his trip, he received a telegram telling him to return home—his wife had just died in childbirth. His infant son died the next day. Initially, Dorsey became angry and bitter with God after their deaths, believing that God had wronged him. In his grief, he refused to do anything for God; he only wanted to pursue his secular career. But God had something to say to him, as Dorsey later recounted in "The Precious Lord Story and Gospel Songs": *You are not alone. I tried to speak to you before. It was you that should have gotten out of the car and not gone to St. Louis. ... I said, Thank you, Lord, I understand. I'll never make that same mistake again.*

The following Saturday after Nettie's death, he said, God gave him the words and melody for "Take My Hand, Precious Lord": *Something happened to me there. I had a strange feeling inside ... a calm—a quiet stillness. As my fingers began to manipulate over the keys, words began to fall in place on the melody like drops of water falling from the crevice of a rock.*

He insisted that the purpose of his music wasn't to tear down the traditional old-line churches but to dedicate his musical gifts to God, as *The Rise of Gospel Blues* quoted him: *I wasn't trying to change it [church music], but I was just struck with something that would change it over, something that God gave me. He accepted it; I got my authority from God.*

A prolific songwriter throughout his 93 years of life—Dorsey died in 1993—he nevertheless kept a soft spot for the hymn that catapulted his gospel career, calling it "*the greatest song I have written out of near four hundred gospel songs. The price exacted for 'Precious Lord' was very high,*" alluding to the loss of his first wife and son. "*The grief, the sorrow, the loneliness, the loss, the uncertainty of the future, but I was requited or repaid with double dividends and compound interest.*"

Credit to: Kathryn B. Kemp is an associate minister at Memorial Baptist Church, member of the Pastoral Alliance of the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses and the academic faculty of the Gospel Music Workshop of America.

What a story of faith born of tragedy. Many of us have parallels in our lives, but few have the impact of a Thomas Dorsey. His legacy is heard in churches around the world.

Jerry Pfister, Historian

## Hymn Spotlight:

### Just As I Am

*Author* - Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871

*Composer* - William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

*Tune Name* - "Woodworth"



Most of us are familiar with "Just As I Am" because of the Billy Graham Crusades. Here's how the hymn came to be.

Charlotte Elliott seemed to have everything going for her as a young woman. She was gifted as a portrait artist and also as a writer of humorous verse. Then in her early thirties she suffered a serious illness that left her weak and depressed. During her illness a noted minister, Dr. Caesar Malan of Switzerland, came to visit her. Noticing her depression, he asked if she had peace with God. She resented the question and said she did not want to talk about it.

But a few days later she went to apologize to Dr. Malan. She said that she wanted to clean up some things in her life before becoming a Christian. Malan looked at her and answered, "Come just as you are." That was enough for Charlotte Elliott, and she yielded herself to the Lord that day.

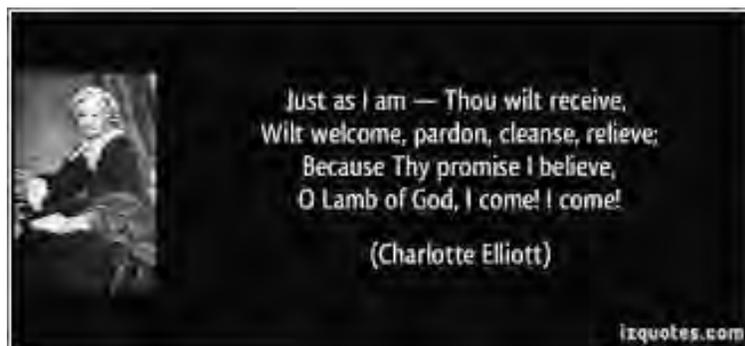
Fourteen years later, remembering those words spoken to her by Caesar Malan in Brighton, England she wrote his simple hymn. The year was 1836, and it was published that same year in the second edition of *The Invalid's Hymn Book*, a collection which contained 115 of her original works. She wrote this hymn with the desire that it might aid financially in building a school for the children of poor clergymen that her own pastor brother was trying to build in Brighton, England. Miss Elliott felt so helpless in her desire to aid the parishioners in this worthy project. Interestingly enough, this one hymn from the pen of the clergyman's invalid sister brought in more funds than all of his bazaars and projects combined. The brother himself has left these words, "In the course of a long ministry, I hope to have been permitted to see some fruit of my labors; but I feel more has been done by a single hymn of my sister's.

In all, Charlotte Elliott wrote approximately 150 hymns. She is generally regarded as one of the finest of all English women hymnwriters. It is said that after her death more than a thousand letters were found among her papers from individuals around the world, expressing testimonials for what this one hymn had meant in their lives.

The tune, "Woodworth," composed by the well-known American gospel musician, William B. Bradbury, was first used for the hymn, "The God of Love Will Soon Indulge." Years later another American gospel songwriter, Thomas Hastings, wedded Bradbury's tune with Miss Elliott's text.

Only eternity will reveal the vast number of individuals whose lives have been dramatically changed through the use of this one hymn from the pen of an invalid woman. It is a hymn that can and should be used more frequently than merely an invitational number at the close of a service. Its message is one that we as believers need to be reminded of frequently - that our eternal standing and peace with God depend solely on Christ's merits and not our own.

*Info taken from "101 Hymn Stories" by Kenneth W. Osbeck and "Great Songs of Faith" by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.*



St. John's Evangelical Church  
Church Council Agenda  
Thursday  
July 12, 2018  
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER - Carol Wilcox President

OPENING PRAYER - Pastor Randall

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT - Pastor Randall – Discussion of the book.

OFFICER'S REPORT

Secretary's Report - Kristi Weaver

May 9, 2018 Minutes – Motion made and seconded to accept minutes as distributed. Council  
Vote, Motion carried.

REPORTS

1) Finance - Kristi Weaver

- Review of Finance Reports – Insurance is paid quarterly, paid the maintenance agreement for the year. June is always a big expense month.
- Stewardship date set
- Moved \$100k of Farm Income in the Money Market to CD's in order to earn more.
- Discussion about the parking lot at our last meeting, asked Trustees to obtain quotes.
- Review of camp – Kroger money, fundraisers, mostly covered it.
- VBS - \$1,679
- Social – Proceeds of \$2,111 to be given to Recovery Courts.

2) Christian Education - Amy Long

- Report distributed for review prior to meeting
- Discussion of Usher responsibility – Heather volunteered to update the list.
- The volunteer dinner was very nice and appreciated by everyone.
- Eric and Heather are going to teach High School Sunday School. Going to see about doing some things with other groups.

3) Women's Ministry - Kay Rush

- Soroptimist booked for next May again.
- Will discuss Women's Celebration at next meeting

4) Worship, Arts & Music - Nancy Rickenbacher

- Got summer covered

5) Personnel Committee - Kristina VanBuskirk

- New Position Update – passed out job description
- Personnel recommends that we hire Michele Sherman as the Youth Minister at the budgeted amount. Council discussion, President asked Mark Sherman to not vote, council vote , motion passed.
- Employee Evaluations - will start soon

6) Pastoral Relations - Carol Wilcox

- Next Meeting - August 19, 2018

7) Trustees - Greg Martin Jim Bidwell Greg Liedel

Jim Bidwell for Greg Martin:

- Locks - completed
- Parking Lot – bids on concrete – \$48,000
- Alley has to be asphalt - \$5,400
- Have \$13,000 from a memorial, so the balance could be covered with Farm Income. Russ Cahill can potentially tear out the existing space.
- Have to have stone as well.

- Special Congregational Meeting –August 5<sup>th</sup> – 11:30 resurfacing the Church Parking Lot and alley - Motion made and seconded to have meeting August 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30, council vote, motion carried.
- Mowing – Quality Lawn Service
- Cruise in items - Big Tents from cruise in, coolers, other items in the closet. Motion made and seconded to have a review of the items and dispose of items as the committee of Heather, Mark, and Carol see fit. Council Vote, Motion carried.
- Greg resealed roof on old sanctuary porch, have to paint underside.

Greg Liedel:

- Bus - Air conditioning needs to be looked at to see what needs fixed

Jim Bidwell

- Farm – nothing to report

#### 8) Missions, Evangelism - Heather Erwin/ Mark Sherman

- Met at Forest Court on Tuesday, going to start work on the playground this week. Covering with Kurt Fund.
- Mark and Greg Martin had a discussion on the bed ministry. Looking to get another 8 beds built. Will be scheduling a time soon.

#### 9) Pastor's Report - Pastor Randall

- Distributed for review prior to meeting.
- Confirmation – Discussion of a church that has changed to an eight week confirmation class.
- Retreat – November 3 from 9-12

#### OLD BUSINESS

- By Law changes – Part of the January annual meeting
- Payne Chapel Church Event Request: September 30 - 3:00 Gospel Sing. Discussion of sending them a letter of what was agreed upon.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Membership removal request from Gloria Ramage – Motion made and seconded to accept the request, Council Vote, Motion carried
- Becky Craig transfer of membership to St. John's. Motion and seconded to accept. Council vote, Motion passed.
- Roasters for the Social (6) were borrowed from the fair – Motion made and seconded to buy 6 22 quart roasters from the Cruise-in "garage sale" money earned. Council Vote, Motion carried.
- Correspondence – Thank you read

Next Meeting: August 9, 2018 7:00 PM

- LORD'S PRAYER
- ADJOURNMENT Motion and second to adjourn.



## Mission of the Month— Gideons & Heifer Festival—Richwood, OH



The Gideons International  
Spreading the  
Good News

**Gideons International** distribute Bibles and New Testaments around the world. Having God's Word can and does lead people to faith in Christ, and those new Christians then grow by studying their Scriptures and even use them to share their faith with others.

For this reason, they focus on distributing complete Bibles, New Testaments, or portions thereof. These copies of God's Word are printed in more than 90 languages and are either given directly to certain individuals or placed in selected public locations where large numbers of people, who may be searching for answers, will have the ability to encounter the Word of God.

**Heifer International's** mission is to work with communities to end world hunger and poverty and to care for the Earth.



Heifer International is a nonprofit working to eradicate poverty and hunger through sustainable, values-based holistic community development. Heifer distributes animals, along with agricultural and values-based training, to families in need around the world as a means of providing self-sufficiency. Recipients must agree to "pass on the gift" by sharing animal offspring, as well as the skills and knowledge of animal husbandry and agricultural training with other impoverished families.

### Friday With Friends

Friday With Friends is a wonderful group of widows, widowers, and single seniors who meet twice a month for a special time of food, fellowship, and fun. We meet the first and third Fridays of every month. Please join us if you are a widow, widower, or single senior adult. This is not exclusive to St. John's, so pass the word along to someone that you know who could be blessed by this special group. For more information, contact Ethel Koch at 419-674-6344.

### Forthcoming outings will be as follows:

If out of town, meet at St. John's at 11 am to carpool.

September 7: Cancelled due to the fair

September 21: Shotzy's—Upper Sandusky

October 5: Viva Maria—Ada

October 19: Royal Buffet—Kenton

November 2: Salsa's—Kenton

November 16: Skinny's—Kenton

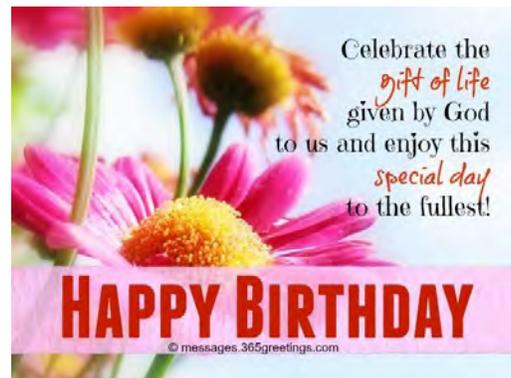
December 7: Henry's—Kenton

December 21: Coonie's—LaRue



### Worship Attendance

July 29:	8:30 a.m.	59
	10:30 a.m.	78
August 5:	8:30 a.m.	62
	10:30 a.m.	96
August 12	8:30 a.m.	57
	10:30 a.m.	74
August 19:	8:30 a.m.	65
	10:30 a.m.	75



### Birthday Blessings (over 80 yrs. Young)

Happy Birthday!! Please contact the church office if a name was omitted from the list. Thank you so much.

September 10: Dan Bushong  
7280 Township Rd.  
Alger, OH 45812

September 23: Marion Anderson  
C/O Blanchard Place  
825 Richard Lane  
Kenton, OH 43326