

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

**Do Not Delay
Dated Material**

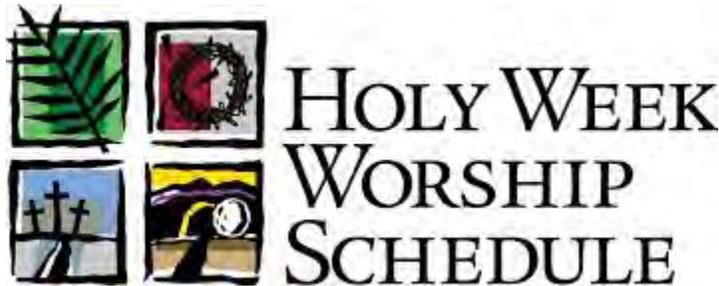


St. John's Evangelical Church Newsletter

March 2021

211 E. Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326
Church Phone: 419-673-7278
Pastor Randall cell: 724-290-3651

Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester, Senior Pastor
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Maundy Thursday Service: April 1 at 7:00 pm (Communion)

Good Friday Service: April 2 at 7:00 pm

Easter Festival Service: April 4 at 10 am

More information on the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services can be found in the newsletter. All services will continue to be available online.

website: stjohnskenton.org

Facebook: [St John's Kenton, Ohio](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsKentonOhio)

Youtube: [St. John's Evangelical Church](https://www.youtube.com/StJohnsEvangelicalChurch)



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH

211 East Carrol Street
Kenton, OH 43326

REV. DR. RANDALL J. FORESTER, PASTOR & TEACHER

Phone: 419-673-7278 (o)

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MARCH 2021

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

E-mail: PastorRandall@stjohnskenton.org

In Lent, we are called back to the basics of our faith. It is a season to give up those things that prevent us from following the Lord fully. It is also a time to pick up those practices that focus our lives on the Lord and doing His will. One of those practices is prayer. To pray—to truly pray—means ridding ourselves of distractions and focus on the Lord—speaking our heart to God and listening for His response.

Prayer has been on my heart lately. It is one thing we can do while socially distanced, and yet it binds our hearts as the Holy Spirit unites us under the headship of Christ. Prayer is an activity that Jesus taught His disciples, and He urged them all to pray.

Prayer gives power and direction to our witness and ministry. It builds us up and prepares us for the work ahead. Prayer molds us.

I was reminded of that easily when I spoke with Mark Burd of Revive Ohio. We were speaking before meeting with local pastors in the hopes of launching Revive Hardin. We have been praying for revival and renewal and were hoping to start teaching local Christians to use their gifts to advance the kingdom here.

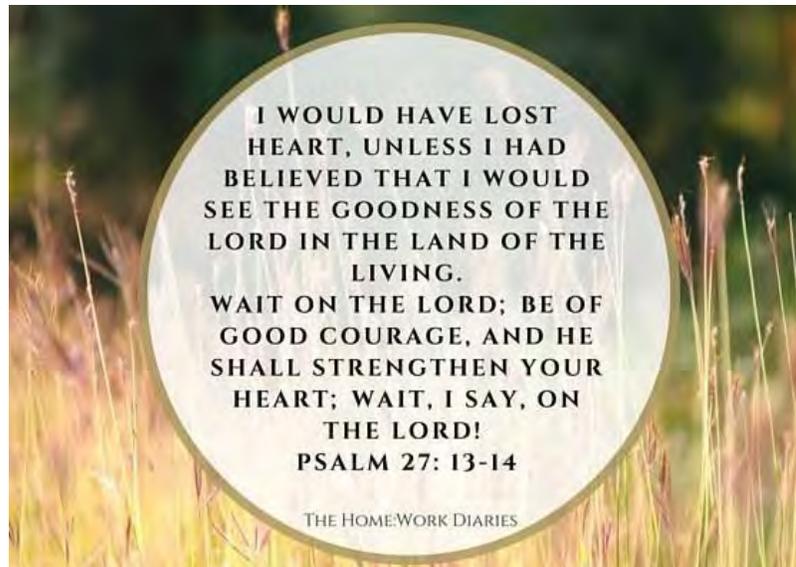
I was thinking we need more prayer before we begin our work. A couple of other pastors had shared their hearts with me and said similar things. As I spoke with Pastor Burd, he said, "Pastor [he always calls me pastor], I'm thinking we need to begin with prayer before we do anything else. I laughed as I told him what I had been thinking and where others felt equally led.

It came to mind what Martyn Lloyd-Jones once wrote: "And in movements of the Spirit the first thing that happens

and which eventually leads to a great revival is that one man or a group of men suddenly begin to feel this burden and they feel the burden so much that they are led to do something about it" (Revival [Crossway, 1987], p. 163). We are feeling burdened to pray and are calling pastors to pray.

This is not anything new as every great movement in the Church throughout over 2,000 years of history has been preceded by prayer as can be seen from the extended quote that follows:

It has been over one hundred years since the last great move of God occurred in our nation. It was in 1857 and 1858 that a movement of prayer led to one mil-



lion people becoming Christ-followers from a population of only thirty million in our nation. This movement of prayer was begun in New York City by a layperson named Jeremiah Lanphier. After failing to minister effectively to the immigrants in his church's neighborhood, he was moved to pray.

At noon on Sept. 23, 1857, in the Dutch

Reformed Church on Fulton Street in New York City, Lanphier knelt alone. Before 1 p.m. six men joined him. Within a month, 100 men joined him daily. Soon, thousands of men began to pray each day at noon around New York City.

This resulted in one million Americans coming to Christ within a two-year span, as well as another one million converted to Christ in Great Britain and Ireland. The church was revived. Christians were never the same. The fires of evangelism were burning brightly. The advance of the gospel to the nations of the world was profound. Men like David Livingstone

and J. Hudson Taylor, and eventually the Student Volunteer Movement, saw twenty thousand young people surrender their lives to missions. Additionally, these great movements of God impacted renowned men of history like Charles Spurgeon, D.L. Moody and William Booth.

Great movements of God begin with prayer

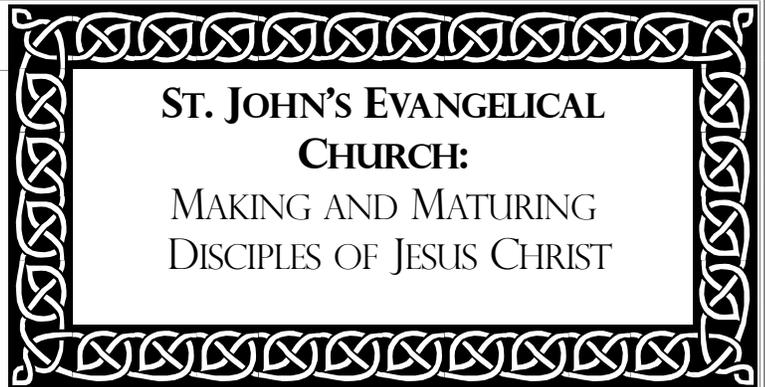
Ronnie Floyd, Guest Column
December 29, 2014, Biblical Recorder
(www.brnow.org)

Even when it feels as though there is nothing else we can do, we can pray. As **Psalm 27:14** states, we need to “Wait for the Lord.” However, this is not some passive experience. As the rest of the verse reminds us, prayer is the source of our strength and courage: “be strong, and let your heart take courage.” The verse concludes as it began: “wait for the Lord!”

Why do we wait? To hear—to truly hear—the heart of our Father as it is whispered by the Spirit in the depths of our being. What is whispered into our souls? It is the very mission of Christ. We are commissioned to share the Gospel with the world, but we are not called to do this work alone. Christ joins with us and works alongside us. We are collaborators with Christ (**I Corinthians 3:9**). Jesus puts the co in commission.

Throughout the sermon series on Micah, I have shared the slide to the right. All our work for the kingdom of God has as its foundation prayer. Building on that, we minister to others who need the gift of salvation in Christ. Every other step entails building up believers and preparing them to continue the ministry of Christ by calling others into a restored relationship with the Father through the Son and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Even in the best of times, it can seem like a daunting task. People feel awkward sharing their faith at times. To many



Christians, talking about Jesus to others (especially unchurched people) seems unnatural, and yet, that is our main mission. In days like these, the task seems even harder as we are asked to keep socially-distanced and to not gather in groups.

And yet, our calling remains. We have felt the weight of isolation and a lost year upon our shoulders. Those without a faith in Christ have felt that burden more acutely as it threatens to crush them. And we have the remedy for what ails them. We can help them exchange their burden for the yoke of Christ (**Matthew 11:28-30**).

So, yes, the task is harder in some ways, but it is also more needed than it has been in times past. How can we keep this Good News to ourselves? If we are faithful, we cannot. So, if you are not ready to start sharing the Gos-

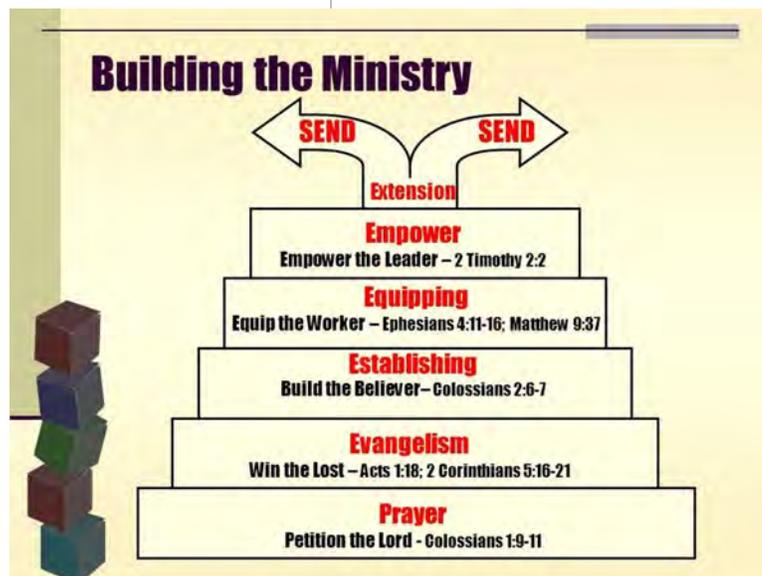
pel or offering to pray with people in stores, shops, and at gas pumps, you can pray. Pray alone, pray with your family, pray with small groups, or come early or stay late on Sundays and let us pray together.

Pray for wisdom (**James 1:5**). Pray for guidance. Pray for strength and courage. Just pray

and pray and pray...and then pray some more. That is our work and foundation, so let us pray as we journey through Lent.

With love and faith and service,

Pastor Randall



Preaching Series

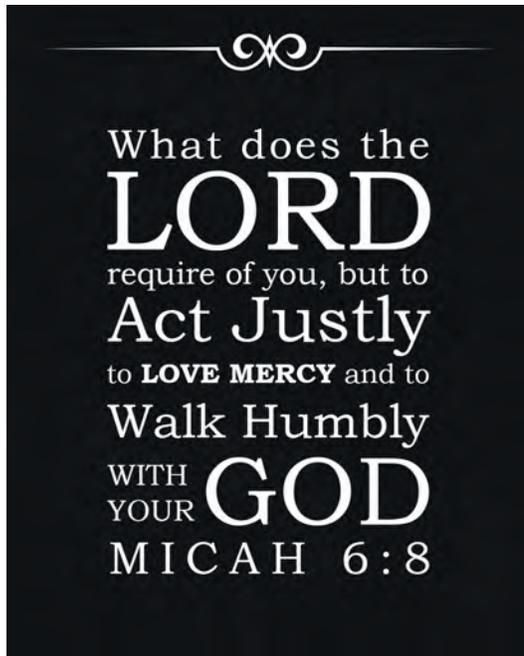
On our Lenten journey, we will continue marching through Micah through the month of March. We will take a bit of a detour for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter.

This year, we will forego the Passion Play once again, but we will offer a Maundy Thursday Service with Communion and a Good Friday Service. Both will be at 7PM. Suggested scriptures are listed, but that may change if anyone has suggestions.

Also, to get you thinking a bit, Pastor Randall will once again accept suggestions for summer sermons before coming back to a sermon series on the marks of a healthy church.

In all things, we are looking at fulfilling

God's call upon our lives in **Micah 6:8**. We are called to fulfilled God's requirement on our lives: to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. That call is not just about what we receive from God but what we put into practice in our lives to impact the lives of others.



We are called to impact our community and share the gifts we have received from God.

07 March

Scripture **Numbers 24:1-14**
Micah 6:1-5

Sermon **Why Will You Not Listen?**

14 March

Scripture **Micah 6:6-8**
James 2:1-13

Sermon **What Does the Lord Require?**

21 March

Scripture **Micah 6:9-16**
Luke 10:13-16

Sermon **Unfulfilled Potential**

28 March

Scripture Palm Sunday
Isaiah 50:4-9
Mark 11:1-11

Sermon **Battered and Bruised
and Vindicated**

01 April

Scripture Maundy Thursday
Exodus 12:1-14
I Corinthians 11:23-26

Sermon **Passed Over**

02 April

Scripture Good Friday
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25

Sermon **Nevermore**

04 April

Scripture Easter Sunday
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Mark 16:1-8

Sermon **Joy and Restoration**

Upcoming Events

Easter Flower Sale

Easter Flowers are available for purchase through Sunday, March 7. Daffodils, Hyacinths, Tulips, Lilies are \$15 each and Hydrangeas are \$20 each. See order forms for color options. Money due at time of order. Please make checks payable to St. John's Church. See Michele Sherman with any questions.



Palm Sunday—Kenton High School Chorale Virtual Event

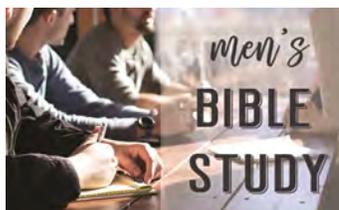
Due to COVID restrictions, this year the Kenton High School Chorale will pre-record their performance and it will premier on Palm Sunday evening. We will share more details later on how you can watch their performance.

Virtual Combined Worship Service w/ Payne Chapel for Black History Month

A combined virtual service is planned for March 21 at 3 pm. Watch for more details.

Community Men's Bible Study

A Community Men's Bible Study meets Saturday mornings at 7:30 am at Our Place Family Restaurant (formerly Basil's).



Community Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study is now meeting on Sunday morning at 9 am in fellowship hall. All are welcome! We have plenty of room to spread out and you do not have to prepare ahead of time. Anna can give you a list of scriptures covered each week. The group reads them together and then discusses. The scriptures come from The Jesus Map, which contains 52 key events in the life and path of Jesus.

Mission of the Month— Angels for the Elderly

Angels For The Elderly is a non profit organization helping the Elderly have food. They do food boxes for the needy elderly every month.

Mary Roby has been doing this ministry for about 4 years. She started doing this with Deanna Wages with Helping Hands. She does not get help through the state or any organization. all is with donations and fundraisers.

St. John's Care Team



We have a group of people that make calls to members to try to keep in touch with each other and to just check in. If you would like to participate in any way, please let the church office know or contact Carol Wilcox. If you are not receiving a call and would like one periodically or know of someone who would, please let us know.

Wednesday Night Helpers Needed

A few additional people are needed on Wednesday evenings to help with name tags, temperature checks and any additional duties, even if it is not every week.

Confirmation Class Interest

Anyone interested in participating in a confirmation class in the fall please contact the church office or Michele Sherman.

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, corner of Wayne St. and E. Carrol St. to carpool. They leave sharply at 10:45. Still eating at 11:30 am.

Watch for updates as luncheons may be set in March.

Due to COVID's ongoing impact on our lives, there will not be a Passion Play this year. Unlike last year, you are invited to worship in the sanctuary. This year, we will have a Maundy Thursday (April 1) and Good Friday service (April 2) at 7 PM. In many churches, Holy Week (the time from Palm Sunday until Easter) are marked with special times of worship. Most prominent amongst these services are Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.



MAUNDY THURSDAY "Thursday of the Lord's Supper"

The celebration of Maundy Thursday goes back at least to the fourth century, when pilgrims on their way to Jerusalem are known to have marked the Last Supper and other events of Passion Week with special services at holy sites. As the idea of such Passion Week or Holy Week celebrations spread to other areas, various local rites and customs were incorporated into the Maundy Thursday celebration. Doubtless the best-known of these customs is footwashing, an old monastic exercise inspired by Christ's example in the upper room and associated with the "new commandment" of love recorded in **John 14** (hence the familiar name *Maundy Thursday*, "maundy" being an English corruption, via French, of the Latin *mandatum*: "commandment").

Various traditions know the day by different names: Holy Thursday, Great Thursday, or even Green Thursday. In the Middle Ages, Christians officially called the day the "Thursday of the Lord's Supper," and this ancient designation is still the most descriptive. The central focus of Maundy Thursday worship has always been the upper room, where Jesus on the night of his arrest, sat at the table with his disciples and instituted a solemn memorial of His new covenant through the broken bread and shared cup of his supper. Jesus took the elements from the Passover and imbued them with new meaning.

"What is good about Good Friday?"

There have been traditions in many places like Kenton where schools and stores ceased their activities on Good Friday. Often, there were services from noon until 3 PM as that was the period of darkness after Jesus' death on the Cross (**Matthew 27:45**). During those services, people would walk through scripture as they walked with Jesus through His agonizing night after His arrest in Gethsemane, through His trials and torture to the Cross where He was crucified. People would listen to His last words as they sat before His Cross and witnessed His humiliation, shame, and death. The Cross brings horrors to life. There, we see the depth of God's love—how the Father spared not His only begotten Son, how Jesus died for every single sin of ours, and how the Spirit bore witness.

The Cross is the ultimate penalty for our sin. Good Friday is a day that makes us feel empty as it is our sin that took Jesus to the Cross. It is our sin that nailed Him there. It is our sin that caused Him to be beaten and treated without mercy. It is our sin that caused Him to be jeered and derided. It is our sin that demanded that His blood be spilt in payment for our debt. It is our sin that caused Him to be separated from His Father.

With all the pain and misery associated with the day, how dare we call it good? Well, we do so because without that day, we are left stuck in our sin. Without the sacrifice, we are perpetually separated from God and have no way back. Sin is a disease incurable apart from Christ. We fail when we try to earn favor with God. Good Friday demonstrates the merciful nature of God—the Father forgives us through the sacrifice of His Son; He cancels the debt that we can never pay. But it gets even gooder than that—I mean BETTER, and oh so much better. God is gracious. Mercy is about NOT being paid back evil for evil. Grace is about receiving what you do not deserve. Through Christ's sacrifice, our sin-covered slate is not only wiped clean, but we are graciously offered a new life in Christ for now and all eternity. That is why Good Friday is good.

So this year, we will return to old practices of marking these dates with worship services. They are not meant to be productions or moments to stir emotions. They are meant to commemorate those solemn days and the profound meaning that fills them. They are days to wait and to pray and to reflect on what God has done for us. They are days to commit ourselves to sharing those gifts with others. Please join with us in person or online as we continue to remember what the Lord our God has done for us on these days and every day. These are the days that give our lives meaning and purpose. These are the days that have changed our lives. These are the days that give us gifts of life everlasting—gifts that we are called to share with our neighbors and strangers near and far.



Family Activities for the Forty Days of Lent Ideas from CFM



Lent is a time of prayer, penance and sacrifice, a time for the entire family to be more attentive to the words of Jesus and to each other. It is a time to try harder to put Christ's teachings into practice. It is a time of concentrated effort toward the springtime of spiritual growth, or rebirth and renewal. It is a time when the whole Church goes on retreat for 6 weeks. It is a 40-day journey with Jesus. Lent means doing something as well as giving up something.

Clay Pot – Shatter an inexpensive clay pot and give each family member a piece to keep during Lent as a reminder that we are like clay in God's hands. During Lent, we can allow God to shape us into new vessels.

Fasting during Lent has always been a popular religious practice. Fast from fast food. Fast from TV one day a week. Fast electronic games one day a week. Fast from using the computer and spend that time with your family. Fast from buying anything that is unnecessary during Lent. Fast from bad habits that need to be changed/given up.

Plan a simple meal around tortillas and beans. Let everyone at your table share an idea for helping hungry people. Ask God to help you carry out one of these ideas. Read 1 Timothy 6:18-19

Schedule a Family Night. Plan time together and enrich your family life. Themes for families and small groups to use at home, including prayer, something to think about, conversation starters, activity ideas for Young Families, Middle Years Families and Adult Families, entertainment, and even snack suggestions. • Hope and Lent • Reconciliation • Signs of Love for Lent

Practice the 3 C's. Give 3 compliments a day to your spouse, your child or to someone else.

Remove something from your calendar and spend that time with your family.

Blessing- Parents, bless your children by making the sign of the cross on their forehead before they go to bed at night or when they leave for school each day.

Read a spiritual book. Try *Raising Kids Who Care*, by Kathy Chesto (Liguori, 2003); *Sacred Dwelling*, by Wendy Wright (Forest of Peace, 1994); *The Holy Longing*, by Ronald Rolheiser (Doubleday, 1999).

Mosaic-Cross- Cut out a large cardboard cross and many squares of colored paper. During Lent, whenever a family member does a good deed or makes a sacrifice, he or she glues a square to the cross. Try to cover the cross by Easter.

Pretzels had their origin in early Christian Lenten practices. Because fat, eggs, and milk were forbidden during Lent, a special bread was made with dough consisting of only flour, salt, and water. These little breads were shaped in the form of arms crossed in prayer. Choose one night in Lent to make pretzels. Find a recipe on the internet.

Spring Cleaning- Renew a corner of your home: the attic, the garage, or the yard. Paint a room or clean out closets. Give unused toys and clothes to the poor. Hold a garage sale and donate the profits to a charitable organization.

Have a Sugarless Tuesday as well as meatless Fridays in Lent.

Give up "whining," arguing," "not listening," or "bothering people who are on the phone."

Stress the importance of quiet time and prayer time. Have a quiet time each week (or each day) –no TV, Ipods, music, or cell phones.

Choose a positive action for each day of Lent.

Write a letter or call someone who is lonely or shut-in.

Fast so others may feast. Read Matthew 25:31-46. As a family, discuss giving up some food this week – and give the savings to the Rice Bowl project or your local food pantry.

Easter Eggs- Eggs remind us of the new life that is present for all of us in the Resurrection of Jesus. In ancient times eggs were a symbol of spring and fertility. During the Middle-Ages, the eating of eggs was prohibited during Lent. On Easter morning, Christians would give eggs to one another to celebrate the breaking of the Lenten fast. The egg became the symbol of the tomb from which Christ emerged, calling us all to resurrection and new life. When you dye Easter eggs, think about what the colors mean: red- Jesus blood, purple- being sorry for sin, green- new life, gold-resurrection.



It's been a fun year so far, but this month, we've got big plans for helping your teenager grow closer to God than ever before.

Here are a few things coming up in our ministry . . .

We are continuing Wednesday Night Youth with a change in the time. Youth is now 6:15-7:45pm. Hardin County Collective Board will be meeting to determine how we can meet safely and follow guidelines. Please pray for these ministries.

What we're Teaching this month...

Have you ever been lost? Maybe you wandered away from your parents, took a wrong turn, or lost track of your friends in a crowd? It can be scary to realize you're not sure where you are or how to get home again, and the same thing is true when it comes to our faith. See, you and I were created to be close to the God who made and loves us. But some of us don't know our Creator yet. And some of us know Jesus but we wander (or at least we feel) far away from Him. In this 4-week series, we'll explore a series of stories Jesus once told about things that were lost and then got found again. Through those stories, we'll discover that Jesus notices you, values you, welcomes you back when you've strayed, and invites you to the party when others come home.

Tip of the Month

There are four spiritual habits we all need to grow spiritually: spend time with God, spend time with others in healthy community, share your stories of faith, and use your gifts to serve. So for you and your kid, what is one next step you could individually take in each of these areas? Your next step might be to learn a new strategy for studying Scripture, while your kid's next step might be to just read one verse — just one!

Resource of the Month

If you're looking for more help when it comes to leading your kids spiritually, check out **THIS BOOK** by Natalie Frisk. It's called Raising Disciples, and it's a good one!

Question on the Month

We're always trying to better understand what it's like to parent a teenager. So, here's what we're wondering: **What's the HARDEST thing about parenting your teenager right now?** Email us and let us know. michel-esjyouth@gmail.com

KIDS CORNER

Sunday School with Miss Hope and Miss Natasha begins at 9am each Sunday. Bring your Child to hear more about Gods word.

Wednesday Night Kids is back... we do have a Van now instead of the Bus and so far, things have been going smoothly with the transition.



What we're Teaching this month...

The Lord's Prayer. Each week your child will go home with a little more understanding of the Lord's Prayer and what it represents. By the end of this month, they should know....

- We need to pray all the time.
- God wants us to pray to Him.
- Prayer helps us to learn Gods plans for our lives.
- Prayer shows us that God provides for us.
- Forgive others because God has forgiven you.
- Prayer helps us turn away from sin.

Each week a "Parent Talk" is sent home with your child with 5 simple ways you can help the lesson stick with your child, whether it's in the car, hanging out, at dinner, or even at bedtime. This is a great way to get talking to one another about Gods word and maybe even learn from each other. They will also be memorizing The Lords Prayer, if they don't already know it.

Tip of the Month

Remember kids are curious, and what better way than to sit down with them and answer the questions their struggling with. Parents, pray before talking with your children, God is always there to help when you can't find the right words to say. And remember you don't have to have all the answers. Be honest with your child and look up the answers to your questions together.



St. John's Evangelical Church has been known by many names over its history:

1839 St. John's Evangelical Protestant Congregation

1844 St. John's Church of Kenton

1875 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church (Cornerstone in Skylight room)

1895 St. John's Evangelical Church (Cornerstone at old Church entrance)

1934 St. John's Evangelical and Reformed Church (denominational merger)

1957 St. John's United Church of Christ (denominational merger)

Present: St. John's Evangelical Church

In the secular world the term Evangelical has been misused and abused to connote everything from radical fundamentalism to political voting groups. So why would our Church vote to retain our historically second most prominent defining moniker? Let's explore why this term bridges from our past to present.

The term evangelical derives from the Greek word euangelion meaning "gospel" or "good news." Technically speaking, evangelical refers to a person, church, or organization that is committed to the Christian gospel message that Jesus Christ is the savior of humanity. The Greek root word is used in the New Testament and was popularized in the first centuries A.D. to distinguish the love-centric movement of Jesus followers from the violent Roman Empire that often made its own "good news" announcements to celebrate military victories. Martin Luther first used the Latinized form of the word evangelium to describe the non-Catholic churches birthed by the Protestant Reformation in the 1500s.

Today's definition of this term for our church hasn't changed since our founding in 1839. The following is the one most accepted by Christian historians is from David Bebbington:

He notes four distinctive aspects of evangelical faith:

"Together they form a quadrilateral of priorities that is the basis of Evangelicalism."

The belief in the necessity of being "born again", has been a constant theme of evangelicalism since its beginnings. To evangelicals, the central message of the gospel is justification by faith in Christ and repentance, or turning away, from sin.

Reverence for the Bible and high regard for biblical authority. All evangelicals believe in biblical inspiration, though they disagree over how this inspiration should be defined. Many evangelicals believe in biblical inerrancy, while other evangelicals believe in biblical infallibility.

Belief in the Atonement, the saving death and the resurrection of Jesus, that offers forgiveness of sins and new life. This is understood most commonly in terms of a substitutionary atonement, in which Christ died as a substitute for sinful humanity by taking on himself the guilt and punishment for sin.

Activism describes the tendency toward active expression and sharing of the gospel in diverse ways that include preaching and social action.

This definition fits our church today as it did in 1839 as we continue to adhere to these tenants of faith.

Your proud Evangelical Historian: Jerry Pfister

Credits: The Atlantic, David Bebbington

St. John's Evangelical Church
Church Council Agenda
Thursday, January 14, 2021
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER - Carol Wilcox, President

OPENING PRAYER - Pastor Randall

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT - Pastor Randall

OFFICER'S REPORT

Secretary's Report - Kristi Weaver

- December 10, 2020 minutes – Motion to accept minutes and seconded, council vote, motion carried.

REPORTS

2) Finance - Russ Cahill

- \$145k in the check book
- Giving compared to last year: envelopes/loose offering down about \$8k, facility rent down about \$4k – total income used in evaluating operating budget is about \$14k down in total from last year
- 2021 interest available for Missions: Helen Kurt investments will be \$6,829.91 and ½ of Fred Welter funds will remain at \$1,964.84

3) Christian Education—Michele Sherman

- Report distributed for review prior to meeting
- Done a lot of work to see about who will still be willing to volunteer
- Youth – New wording on School policy being worked on

4) Women's Ministry - Toni Pfister

- Not doing anything right now

5) Worship, Arts & Music - Nancy Rickenbacher

- Plan to take down Christmas decorations this week if we open the church

6) Personnel Committee - Jerry Pfister, chairperson

- Leaving Christian Minister's position unfilled for now

7) Pastoral Relations - Carol Wilcox

- Next Meeting: February 7

8) Trustees—Russ Cahill, Greg Liedel, Greg Martin

- Logging of the woods- passed out the letter from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, concerned about the Ash trees that are falling down. Talked to Mark and would only be able to cut firewood in the winter because of needing to drive back to the woods. Do not recommend doing any of the logging, as it was okay per the report. If anyone is interested in cutting the ash trees for firewood, contact the trustees.
- Cameras in the church – Shawn Dyer had given Russ Cahill some things to follow up on at the last meeting, so Russ was able to confirm with the company that the cameras can do what he wants. Discussion of if we needed to focus on the park, and we decided we did not. Estimate of \$3,500 with everything. It has a 30 day storage, and can download to a storage drive if needed. Would need to have a policy on who has access to the video, which should include what to do with the videos. Question on if you need to post signs that there are video recording? Placement: 1 on west porch, 2 in the hallway, 1 by elevator, 1 out east parking lot, 1 out back. Suggestion of putting one in the sanctuary as well. A motion was made and seconded to go ahead and install the cameras, council vote, motion carried.
- Audio Visual – lights all installed, cameras upgraded, software all upgraded. It is a lot easier for them to use now.
- Bus/Van – Picked up the van today, the bus is gone, added the hitch and wiring to the van. It has a tow package that needs to be used when towing, note that the trailer needs to be loaded in the front to help it tow better. Question on if we are going to add any graphics. Need to fill out a form for the State Highway Patrol to check the van and get it certified. Think it is annually. Think that we need to have new tags as the bus tags say church bus.

- Need to add to the Church Annual Meeting Agenda to authorize the trustees to spend up to \$12,000 for an HVAC.
- Need to add to the Church Annual Meeting Agenda to authorize the trustees to spend up to \$20,000 for resealing the new building. There is water seeping in at the joints. This is moving up the re-sealing 1 year.
- Farm – lease is up this year, so will have farm committee meet to review to decide if they want to bid it out and how to proceed.

9) Missions, Evangelism - Heather Erwin/ Mark Sherman

- Did pass out \$30 Dominos gift cards and gingerbread house or trees before Christmas
- Tried to spend all the money per Kay's request
- Delivered 1 bed in December

10) Pastor's Report - Pastor Randall

- Report distributed for review prior to meeting.
- Hardin County Talks is having a virtual meeting on Martin Luther King day.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Reopening of Church – Discussion about opening. All agree to open. Discussion about the use of the church and the need for additional cleaning and how we need to allow for supplies. Discussion of charging \$20 for the use for cleaning. Discussion that we need to have the groups follow the health department guidelines and how SOUP brings in several more people than the limit. Discussion of needing to have less than 20 in a meeting. Question of having communion on the 31st, will still do the safety precautions. Question if we can have people join via on-line. We need 51 to have enough for the meeting. Discussion of allowing a Facetime call in for those that do not feel comfortable coming in person.
- Approve budget – Budget distributed for review
- Children/Youth Fund review – have \$15,969.28 set aside for 2021 – have money left still from 2020 prior balance set up, and \$10,000 from the Becky Craig CD. Therefore not putting any line item in the “Budget”.
- Church Budget – Passed out revised budget
- 2020 income is \$266,125, which is \$3,125 over the estimate
- Need to drop \$25,000 for 2021 based on the people that have passed away or left the church.
- Review of staff and the how it is dropped \$19740
- Christian Ed – dropped
- WAM – increased for guest musicians
- Discussion of the Pastor's health insurance – Discussion that we have to follow what has been done and being able to qualify for the insurance. Discussion of what we feel we should put into the budget. A motion was made and seconded to put the additional amount in the budget this year. Based on the precedent set, according to the discussion with Terry it is the correct thing to do. Discussion that we would rather put it in high and not need it. Council vote, motion passed. Russ will revise and re-send out
- Passed out the Expense Trends back to 2015.
- All committees- Reports due for Annual Meeting
- Safety of Church/Alice Program - tabled
- Rental agreements- tabled
- Church inventory - tabled

NEW BUSINESS:

Next Meeting: February 11, 2021 7:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT – Motion and seconded to adjourn, Council Vote, motion carried.

LORD'S PRAYER

Church Staff:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester
 Youth Ministry: Michele Sherman
 Financial Secretary: Kay Rush
 Church Secretary: Kathy Forester
 Chancel Choir Director: David Beazley
 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
 Janitor: Denny Sprang