

"THE VOICE OF BILLINGSVILLE" JANUARY 2019

St. Johns United Church of Christ
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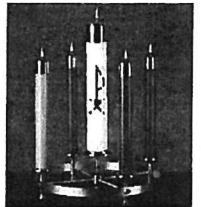
"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

Christmas in Billingsville

The sanctuary was transformed by the youth and adult helpers. They decorated the sanctuary with candles, greenery and lights. The large cedar tree provided by Scott Grissum. It was decorated with tall ladders. ☺ When you walked into St. Johns it not only looked like Christmas, but smelled like it too!

The Hanging of the Greens Service by the Women's Guild was held on December 2nd. Kitty Kenney had organized this service for at least twenty-five years. She was recognized for her dedication with her very own picture ornament that was hung on the tree by her grandson, Grant Neckermann and great grandson, Ford. The children enjoyed putting together the creche and hanging their picture ornaments, made by Melinda Richardson, on the tree. Special music was performed by Dalton Pannell, Abby Pannell, and Kamrynn Hundley. After worship, there was a carry-in dinner and Santa dropped by for a visit.

Each week during Advent, we had special music and one of our families light the Advent Candles.



Candle of Hope – Hundley Family - May it remind each and everyone one of us of God's great promise to us. He is our hope, He is our Redeemer, and He is Savior." Special Music: Dalton Pannell

Candle of Peace – Hackman Family - As we light the candle of preparation and peace let it remind us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Special Music: Abigail Pannell

Candle of Joy – Jennings Family May our hearts be forever filled with the joy of His coming. Special Music: Kamrynn Hundley

Candle of Love – Bail Family - We celebrate the announcement of the coming King and the greatness of God's love revealed through the Christ child." Special Music: Jessica Grathwohl

Christ Candle – Grathwohl Family - We light the Christ Candle and rejoice that the promise of God has been fulfilled in the coming of the Baby born in a manger. Gracious and Mighty King, we celebrate your goodness to us as we join the triumph and joy of Christmas. As your love has been revealed in all of its fullness, we pray that love may abound in our hearts during this special day. Grant us the spirit of Christ that we may live in the fullness of his character every day.

On Christmas Eve, the Children's Christmas Pageant, "The Birthday of a King", was performed to a full house. The kids did a great job bringing the Christmas story to life. The Sunday School Board provided a treat bag for the kids to take home.

Cast:

Readers: Carson Bail, Jessica Grathwohl, Abigail Pannell, and Dalton Pannell

Mary: Cayley Schler

Joseph: Andrew Inskeep

Jesus: Braxten Inskeep

Animals: Cow: Caleb Smith **Donkey:** Beau Rapp **Sheep:** Charlie Smith

Shepherds: Will Hackman, Derrick Hundley, Garrett Hundley, Alex Rapp & Macsen Simmons

Angels: Mikayla Bolken, Kamrynn Hundley, CannaRassa Jennings, Molly Rapp, Cate Smith, Cora Smith, and Brooklyn Swalwell

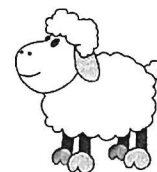
Kings: Khale Bohlken, Casten Jennings, and Max Rapp

Soloist: Stacy Friedrich

Candlelighters: Landon Bail, Thomas Grathwohl, Megan Kammerich, and Justin Kueckelhan

Special Music: Linda Burnett, Abigail Pannell, and Dalton Pannell

Thank you to the directors and helpers: Melissa Hundley, Cathy Bail and Tracy Pannell, Holly Hughes, Emily Rapp,



In a long-standing tradition, the evening concluded with the congregation holding a candle while singing "Silent Night". If you have never experienced this, you should join us next year. It is a time of calmness and peace like none other. The many voices joined together creating a warm blanket of comfort of God's goodness while the entire sanctuary glows from the candles. This light reminds us that we are to carry Christ's light every day in everything we do. Let us further His dream for the world.

We thank the following families for the beautiful poinsettias in the sanctuary:

In memory of loved ones from Jason, Melissa, Garrett, Kamrynn and Derrick.

In memory of LaVaughn Miller and other loved ones by Tim & Julie Kueckelhan and family.

In loving memory of Forrest and Kitty Kenney from Sharon & Steve Smith and family and Barb & Doug Ayers and family.

In memory of my parents, Wilma and Rimey Cary and other loved ones in our family. By Susan and Mike Hayes.

In memory of Marvin Schupp from Wilbert and Nancy Meyer and Shirley Schupp.

In memory of Lawrence and Ruth Muntzel and Peter and Tessie Muntzel by Louis Muntzel, Joyce Saltzman, and David Muntzel.

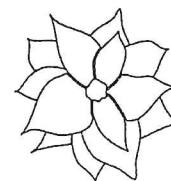
In memory of Hubert Koenig by David Muntzel.

In memory of Edgar and Dottie Gerhardt by Janice Cooper.

In memory of Grandma and Grandpa Gerhardt by Stacy, Adam, Sam, Alex and families.

In memory of Brett Geiger and Charles and Dorothea Geiger by Bill and Marilyn Geiger

In memory of Ernest Herigon by Bill and Marilyn Geiger



We thank the following families for their Cemetery Fund donations:

In loving memory of Bob Simmons from Linda, Jamie, Shawn, Brooklyn, Kevin, Heather, Macsen, Lisa, Cedric & Lachlen.

In loving memory of Charles Schler from Leola Schler & family.

In loving memory of of Carla, Andrew, Herb & Wilma Lou Helmreich from Donnie & Lauren.



Hymn History



Joy to the World is perhaps an unlikely popular Christmas hymn. It was based on a psalm and it celebrates Christ's second coming much more than the first. This hymn is the result of a collaboration of at least three people and draws its initial inspiration from Psalm 98. The first collaborator wrote the poem in 1719 by Isaac Watts, an English poet and dissenting clergyman.

The second collaborator was an unwitting one, George Frederic Handel, the popular German-born composer residing in London. He wrote his now famous "Messiah" in 1741.

The third collaborator came along a century later, Lowell Mason. Mason was a musician and when he found "Watts' poem of joy", he wanted to publish it but he didn't have the proper musical setting. In his search, he came upon a beautiful melody in Handel's "Messiah" and set that music to Watt's poem and created one of the world's most beloved and popular Christmas songs. ~Written by C. Michael Hawn



Thank you to Karen Johnston for a donation to the Cemetery in memory of Raymond Johnston.



Thank you to Hannah Schwitzky Lord for the donation to the Window Repair Fund in Memory of Kitty Kenney.

Thank you to Sharon & Steve Smith for their donations to the Cemetery and Memorial Funds in Memory of Kitty Kenney.

Donations to the Window Repair Fund in Memory of Linda Leach

Linda Simmons & Donnie Helmerich, Sandy & David Cook, Birdie & Buster Kueckelhan, Jeff & Pam Koonse, Margaret Herschewe, Bill & Sue Gerding, Bertha Hampton, Jim & Jennifer Friedrich, Jerry Kempf, Bonnie Agrew, Wayne Gerke, Jack & Fannie Chipley, Esther & Harry Enderle, Sarah & Steve Friedrich, Bertha & James Harvey, Mary Lynn & Adam Agnes, Gene Eichelberger, Homer Harvey, Jeffery & Angela Jones, Nick & Laura Grathwohl, Alpha Delta Kappa, Wesley United Methodist Church

Donations to St. Johns Cemetery Fund in Memory of Linda Leach

Don & Mary Bail, Keith & Cathy Bail, Karen Bail & Tim Harvey, Linda Burnett, Jude & Cynthia Florek, Oscar & Arlene Friedrich, Pat Friedrich, Bill & Marilyn Geiger, Kim & Marty Graves, Ronald & Sherry Hackman, Brian & Jo Lynn Jobe, Howard & Cheri Jones, Chris & Roylene Kempf, Randall & Cynthia Kivett, Tim & Julie Kueckelhan, Doris Markland, Wilbert & Nancy Meyer, David & Marianne Muntzel, Kelly, Bill & Anthea Rackley, Anthony Ray, Dick & Beth Royston, Larry Schler, Kenneth & Janet Stegner, Kim Thompson, David & Jill Wiseman, Eddie & Linda Wassmann, Donald & Kathy Wilmsmeyer, Larry & Rosemary Wilmsmeyer

Kids Say the Funniest Things...

We went outside to build a snowman. After giving him his nose, eyes, and mouth we went inside to get him a scar, mittens and hat. No sooner had I placed the hat on the snowman's head, my youngest son, James (3 ½), looked at me and said, "When's he going to come alive?"

Little David: "My grandmother's here to visit us for a week."

Pastor: "That's nice where does she live?"

Little David: "At the airport. Whenever we want her, we just go out there and pick her up."

A 6-year-old was overheard reciting the Lord's Prayer at a church service: "And forgive us our trash passes as we forgive those who passed trash against us."

Congratulations Corner

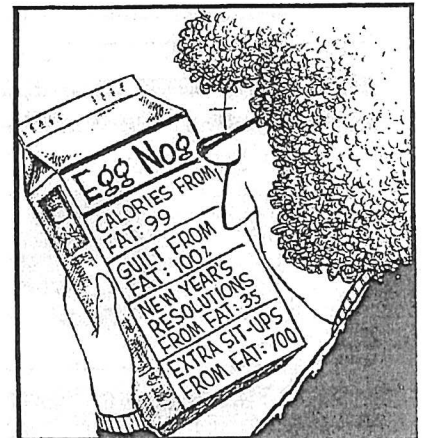
Congratulations to Josiah Searfoss! He graduated from State Fair Community College with his RN degree on December 10th.

Cora Smith was in a Columbia Public School 4th - 5th Grade Math Competition and she was the highest scoring student from her school!

Winter Weather



Church "snow days" will be announced on the TV Stations: KOMU TV and KRCG TV and by Facebook and email.



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NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - DECEMBER 5, 2018

Thank you notes sent from the families of Kitty Kenney and Linda Leach were read which extended their appreciation for the funeral services and fellowship meals.

Window repair income was \$1,235.00 making the window repair fund: \$27,944.46.

A 2019 Harvest Festival committee met to discuss changes in the Harvest Festival. The following are recommendations and will be discussed at the Annual Meeting (January 20th, 2019)

- Change the date to a Sunday instead of Saturday, i.e. September 22nd, 2019
- Have worship service start at 9:30 a.m. with the meal to begin at 11a.m. and end at 2 p.m.
- Country store hours would start at 11:00
- The auction would change to a Silent auction made up of new item donated by member, hand-made items, and/or services. This would be ongoing from 11:00 to 2:00.
- Marketing would expand to include signs throughout the community

A Christmas donation of \$200.00 will be given to the Salvation Army.

2019 vacancies on the church council were discussed and nominees will be sought. Notify Scott Grissum should your heart leads you to be one of these council members.

Offering during the Christmas Eve service this year will be by envelopes with choices for donation as follows: The Christmas Fund (retired UCC ministers), St. Johns Window Repair Fund, and/or St. Johns General Fund.

The next council meeting will be January 9th, 2019, at 6:00pm. Submitted by Nancy Meyer

HEALTH FACTS - PNEUMONIA VACCINES FOR SENIORS

Pneumococcal pneumonia, meningitis, and bloodstream infections kills tens of thousands annually in the United States. Of those deaths, 18,000 are adults ages 65 and older. Pneumococcal disease is also responsible for serious illness such as heart problems, hearing loss, seizures, blindness and paralysis.

The Advisory panel for the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend seniors get Pnevax 13 and Pnevax 23 vaccines, 12 months apart. This is because they induce an immune response in different ways. Both vaccines are paid for by insurance companies and Medicare.

The vaccines last a lifetime, unless your doctor directs otherwise. ~Nancy Meyer, Health Minister

Church Council Opportunity

This January we will have two openings on the Church Council. We ask you to look deep in your hearts and think about volunteering to serve in this way. There is a monthly meeting and a few other duties but it does not require a huge amount of time. If you would like more information please contact one of the current board members. Please consider this opportunity to serve God and our church family.

The 2018 year Growing Hope Globally project (Formally Foods Resource Bank) soybean crop raised \$3,400.00! Considering the lack of rain...the twelve acres did ok. As always, this project relies on a combination of donations from several people. Rhea Helmerich donates the use of the land, farmers (Kenny Stegner, Ed Wassmann Family, and Tim Kueckelhan Family) provides equipment, fuel, and time and our partner church, Columbia UCC, and individuals donate money to offset some of the expenses. This year our seed was donated by Miller Seed and Frieling Seed companies. Thank you to everyone that contributed to this mission project! After our 15th year, we have raised \$98,000 to help to grow lasting solutions to hunger.



The 2018 harvest proceeds will go to Honduras Comayagua growing program. The Honduras Comayagua program supports marginalized families living near the Cerro Azul Meambar National Park by providing them with training on improved animal management practices, nutrition, and marketing practices. Families are selected based on their poverty, access to a small amount of land to implement the animal project on, and interest. The entire family is then involved in training. After training, families receive livestock and are responsible for passing on the gift (offspring) at the end of the year. Animal management is focused on the breeding of chickens, pigs, tilapia, and in some cases, bees. With the exception of the bees, these are all used as important protein sources for the family and also provide some opportunities for generating income (both food availability and access). With the bees there is a well-established local market for honey that local partner PAG has experience with. The nutrition training is focused on incorporating families with children under the age of 2 into PAG's community health network, and families with children under the age of five receive nutrition training. Marketing is focused on creating a community led and managed small animal producers association that cooperatively markets products.

We ask for your prayers for the people of Honduras as they struggle to climb out of extreme poverty and have the dignity of providing for themselves and their families.

"A righteous man cares for the needs of his animals,...He who works his land will have abundant food..." Proverbs 12:10-11
~Laura GHG Treasurer

JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

Sarah Marriott	1
Marty Eastman	1
Max Rapp	4
Thomas Grathwohl	6
Linda Potter	8
Holly Hughes	10
Daniel Viertel	11
Marilyn Geiger	12
Terry Schler	12
Barry Gerhardt	14
Don Bail	14
Nash McKenzie IV	15
Greg Friedrich	18
Stacia Gerrish	21
Cora Louise Wisdom	22
Melinda Richardson	22
Derrick Hundley	22
Mark Dick	25
Lynndora Schler	25
Pat Friedrich	25
Melanie Gerhardt	30
Jenea Smith	31

ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Sonya Farris 21

LOST & FOUND

A black velour Cuddle Duds scarf was left at church after Linda Leach's funeral.

In Sympathy



We are so saddened about the death of Warren Helmerich. He passed away on December 24th from cancer. Our deepest condolences to Jill, Jason, Jenna, and family.

Jerry Davis, Linda Schler's father, passed away December 26th from cancer. We offer our deepest sympathies to Linda, Terry, Cayley and Noel Schler and family.



PRAYER CHAIN

Marcos @ ECH, SS Sponsor Child
Jackson Brinkman, Diane Gerke's grandson
Kelly Lou Campbell
Angie Carmichael, cancer
Sharon Elliott, cancer
Arlene Friedrich
Esther Friedrich, Peace Corps
Rob Friedrich
Grey, 6 yr. old friend of Holly's
Mary Ann Henke, (friend of Pat & Tracy)
Vicki Hilden's parents
Family of Bud Jones
David Keltner, Jeanne's brother
Jenny Kirchner, cancer
Dorothy Koestner, cancer
Nancy Kueckelhan
Ava LeCave
Linda Lyles, bone marrow transplant
Chris Maguire, follicular lymphoma
Angie Nave
Cathy Barton-Para, cancer
Jill Pflantz, friend of Marg's
Clifford Richey, friend of Charles Stegner
Marilyn Rothemeyer, brain cancer
Erika Sanderson, Pat's niece
Kathryn Schupp, Nancy Meyer's mother
Vicky Simmons
Trevor Thurman, Linda Claas' grandson
Bernadine Wassmann, Hartmann Village

Serving in our military:

James Walker Colin Jones Craig Randall
Cliff Burgoyne Jeff Burgoyne Natalie Meng
Chris Hawley Landon Bail Blayne Vickery



Lord we pray for those with unspoken prayer requests, those whose hurts are too deep to be spoken, and those whose hearts are too broken. Let them feel Your presence, guidance and peace. Amen

<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Worship Leaders</u>	<u>Greeters/Ushers</u>	<u>Scripture Reading</u>
6	Rhea Helmreich	Bob & Mary Painter	Eph 3:1-12, Matt 2:1-12
13	Janet Stegner	Nick & Laura Grathwohl	Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
20	Julie Kueckelhan	Bill & Marilyn Geiger	I Cor 12:1-11, John 2:1-11
27	Keith Bail	Jim & Sonya Farris	I Cor 12:12-31a, Luke 4:14-21
	Communion Servers:	Jason Hundley*, Kenneth Stegner, Ed & Lynnd Schler	
	Communion Clean Up:	Bill & Marilyn Geiger	

DECEMBER STATISTICS



- Jan. 1:** Happy New Year!
- Jan. 9:** Church Council Meeting 7:00
- Jan. 17:** Financial Reports due in the office
- Jan. 20:** Annual Meeting & Carry-in Dinner Following Worship
- Jan. 21:** Martin Luther King Day
- Jan. 23:** Newsletter Articles Due

	OFFERING	BENEVOLENCE	ATTENDANCE
2	\$ 2,371	\$	60
9	\$ 936	\$ 50	50
16	\$ 641	\$ 118	47
23	\$ 1,238	\$ 50	51
24	\$ 929 \$ 512 Christmas Fund \$ 515 Window Repair		172
30	\$	\$	30
	Penny Sunday \$ 40		

Dinner Committee #1

Carson Bail
 Don & Mary Bail
 Keith & Cathy Bail
 Landon Bail
 Jim & Sonya Farris
 Rob & Louise Friedrich
 Bill & Marilyn Geiger
 Donna & Kent Kammerich
 Megan Kammerich
 Angie Hackman Family
 Buster & Birdie Kueckelhan
 Nancy & Wilbert Meyer
 Bob & Mary Painter
 Melinda Richardson
 Kenneth & Janet Stegner
 Will Wessing
 Volunteers



Stained Glass Window Repair Fund Balance \$27,944.46

Thank you to Nancy & Wilbert Meyer for the donation to the Window Repair Fund!

Church sign:

"If you want God to close and open doors for you, just get your hands off the doorknob."

St. Johns United Church of Christ
"Billingsville"
14191 Billingsville R.
Boonville, MO 65233

Return Service Requested
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.



Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.
No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.
He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

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