

"THE VOICE OF BILLINGSVILLE"

JANUARY 2018

St. Johns United Church of Christ
14191 Billingsville Road, Boonville, MO 65233-3408

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsbillingsville>

Rev. James H. Elliott, Pastor

Home: 573-446-1497 Cell: 573-619-9701

Email: jelliott1@centurytel.net

Laura Grathwohl, Editor Cell: 660-888-8129

E-mail: grathwohlfarms@gmail.com



Christmas in Billingsville

From the children playing the bells, the Women's Guild Hanging of the Greens Service, to the Christmas Eve Service...Christmas in Billingsville is an extraordinary time. It is one of the most peaceful, comfortable, warmest places to be...a safe place to come just as you are. There is a sense of stability from past generations and hope for the future when you see smiles on the little one's faces. As we watched the children act out "The Birthday of a King" we are reminded of Jesus' humble beginnings and His extravagant love for us all! The Children's Christmas Pageant has been a long-time tradition for our Christmas Eve Service and every year the kids add their own special touches to make it unique. This year Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus were played by Amy, Dustin & Austin LeCave. The cow was Caleb Smith, Beau Rapp was the donkey, Ava LeCave was the dove, and the sheep was Charlie Smith. Watching over the animals were the shepherds; Garrett Hundley, Derrick Hundley, Will Hackman, Alex Rapp & Skyler Muse. Cora Smith, Cate Smith, Kamrynn Hundley, Lena Muse, Brooklyn Swalwell, Mikayla Bohlken, & Molly Rapp lit up the sanctuary as the angels. Gold, frankincense and myrrh were brought by the Kings, Abigail Pannell, Max Rapp and Khale Bohlken. Stacy Friedrich shared her musical talent by playing and singing "O' Holy Night". Melissa Hundley and Tracy Pannell were the directors and took care of all the details. Linda Burnett filled the church with beautiful music on the organ not only Christmas Eve but throughout the year. We give a special thank you to each and every one of you! - Laura



The poinsettias decorated our sanctuary were donated in memory of:

Forrest Kenney by Kitty, Sharon and Steve Smith & family, Barbara and Doug Ayers & family

Marvin Schupp by Wilbert & Nancy Meyer and Shirley Schupp

Lovzd Onz by Jason, Melissa, Garrett, Kamrynn & Derrick Hundley

Bob Simmons by Linda, Jamie, Shawn, Brooklyn, Kevin, Heather, Mason & Lisa

Carla Helmreich by Donnie, Lauren & Andrew

Charles Schler by Leola Schler & Family

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Muntzel by Dave & Ann Muntzel

Thank you to: Scott and Andrew Grissum for chopping down maybe the biggest Christmas tree I have ever seen in the church. They had to get a "little" assistance from Tim & Jared Kueckelhan to get the tree in the church. The tree was adorned this year with all new multi-colored LED lights donated by the Sunday School.

This year the Sunday School completed a 2-year replacement project with new altar archway lights being purchased. A special thank you to Jason Hundley & George Pannell for their work on this project. We appreciate all those who came out to decorate the tree and enjoyed pizza with us.

We thank the children who shared their special music talents through the holiday season. Anytime your child would like to perform in church, let us know. Seeing our young children perform their talent is welcome any time of the year!

We cannot forget our friend, Santa, who visited us at the Hanging of the Greens dinner. Again, thank you to the parents, our Sunday school teachers and volunteers who helped make this a joyous & memorable Christmas season.

Tracy Pannell, Secretary Board of Christian Education

In Sympathy:

John Baab, husband of Marilyn Demmler Baab passed away Dec. 21 in Lake Forest, CA at the age of 90. John and Marilyn were frequent visitors to St. Johns and were relatives of the Gerhardts.

Jason Hundley's grandmother, Donna Patterson

Vicki Hilden's brother-in-law, Terry O'Neill

Ryan Rapp's Grandmother, Jacqueline Rundiks passed away Dec. 15th. Her ashes were buried at St. Johns. Her daughters are Rita Rapp and Emy Friedman.

May the love of those around you and the love of God,

help you through the days ahead.



Cemetery Memorials were received from Linda Burnett and Kenneth & Janet Stegner in memory of Jacqueline Rundiks.

St. Johns Memorial Fund: Kitty Kenney in memory of John Baab.

PRAYER CHAIN

Southern California wildfire victims
Marcos @ ECH, SS Sponsor Child
Jaxs Brinkman, Diane Gerke's grandson
Don Burnett, Katy Manor
Velda Burton, Sonya's mother
Sean Campbell, Marg's friend
Angie Carmichael, cancer
George Chamberlin
Sharon Elliott, cancer
Arlene Friedrich
Mary Ann Henke, (friend of Pat & Tracy) bone marrow transplant
Gertrude & Ernie Herrigon
Vicki Hilden's parents
David Keltner, Jeanne's brother
Harold Kempf, Linda Wassmann's father
Linda Leach, cancer
Ava LeCave
Chris Maguire, follicular lymphoma
DJ Muse
Angie Nave
Mindy Nave, cancer
Martha Overshiner
Donna Patterson, Jason Hundley's grandmother
Erika Sanderson, Pat's niece
Karen Schnetzler, cancer
Kathryn Schupp, Nancy Meyer's mother
Vicky Simmons
Bernadine Wassmann, Hartmann Village
Bob Widel

Serving in our military:

James Walker (Rhea's son) Afghanistan
Colin Jones Craig Randall Cliff Burgoyne
Natalie Meng Chris Hawley





Hymn History



“Just As I Am” is one of the few hymns for which we know not only the author’s story but also the exact circumstances in which it was written. Charlotte Elliott of Brighton, England (1789–1871) was either born, or in early life had become, an invalid. Her life was a testimony to patient endurance in suffering, not only physical, but also emotional and spiritual. This was the context in which she wrote the hymn, as her nephew the Rev. Handley C. G. Moule recounted it in 1897:

But ill health still beset her and it often caused her the peculiar pain of a seeming uselessness in her life while the circle around her was full of unresting service-ability for God. Such a time of trial marked the year 1834, when she was forty-five years old, and living in Westfield Lodge, Brighton. Her brother, the Rev. H. V. Elliott, had not long before conceived the plan of St. Mary’s Hall, at Brighton — a school designed to give, at nominal cost, a high education to the daughters of clergymen. In aid of St. Mary’s Hall there was to be held a bazaar . . . Westfield Lodge was all astir; every member of the large circle was occupied morning and night in the preparations, with the one exception of the ailing sister Charlotte — as full of eager interest as any of them, but physically unable to help.

The night before the bazaar she was kept wakeful by distressing thoughts of her apparent uselessness; and these thoughts passed — by a transition easy to imagine — into a spiritual conflict, till she questioned the reality of her whole spiritual life, and wondered whether it were anything better than an illusion of the emotions, an illusion ready to be sorrowfully dissolved.

The next day, the busy day of the bazaar, she lay upon her sofa, the troubles of the night came back upon her with such force that she felt they must be met and conquered in the grace of God. She gathered up in her soul the great certainties, not of her emotions, but of her salvation: her Lord, his power, his promise. And taking pen and paper from the table she deliberately set down in writing, for her own comfort, ‘the formula of her faith.’

Hers was a heart which always tended to express its depths in verse. So, in verse she restated to herself the gospel of pardon, peace, and heaven. (Quoted from Louis Benson, *Studies of Familiar Hymns, Second Series*, 201-202) Written by Tim Challies

NOTES FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 6, 2017

All were present at our monthly meeting.

Church “snow days” will be announced to the TV stations: KOMU-TV and KRCG-TV and by Facebook and email.

November’s offering was \$5,476.36; November income was \$6,931.36; November expense was \$4,091.76. The collective total for the window repair is \$15,295.00.

Pastor Jim thanked the council for the recognition of his birthday and the Christmas gift.

The council will consider purchase of an AED (automated external defibrillator) that would be used in event of sudden cardiac arrest. It would be hung on a wall and readily visible for use in emergencies. Also, classes in first aid and CPR may be considered.

The next meeting will be January 10, 2018, at 7:00pm.

Nancy Meyer

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
Kitty Kenney	16
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
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Health Facts - Cold Remedies

Cold remedies are almost as common as the common cold, but are they effective? Nothing can cure a cold, but there are some remedies that might help ease your symptoms which could last one to two weeks.

- Stay Hydrated by drinking water or juice or electrolyte drinks (sport drinks). Avoid alcohol, coffee and soda
- Rest to allow your body to recover
- For a sore throat, use a saltwater gargle (1/4 teaspoon salt in 8 oz. warm water) with a splash of vinegar.
- Combat nasal stuffiness with over-the-counter saline nasal sprays and cool mist vaporizers

What will not work for colds are: antibiotics, zinc tablets, vitamin c and echinacea

Nancy Meyer, Health Minister

Congratulations Corner

Alex Rapp & Makela Bohlen

were chosen as Students of the Month at Hannah Cole Primary!

Will Hackman won a bike from the Masonic Lodge for reading!



DECEMBER STATISTICS

	OFFERING	BENEVOLENCE	ATTENDANCE
3	\$2,111	\$ 0	63
10	\$ 647	\$158	41
17	\$ 587	\$ 50	40
24	\$ 456	\$ 30	36
31	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Penny Sunday \$35		

Stain Glass Window Fund as of 12-27-17 is \$17,295

January

Communion Servers: Julie K, Charles & Holly, Eddie W.

Communion Clean-up: Bill & Marilyn, Keith & Cathy, Landon & Carson

Worship Leaders

Greeters/Ushers

Jan. 7: Rhea Helmreich

Nick & Laura Grathwohl

Jan. 14: Janet Stegner

Bob & Mary Painter

Jan. 21: Jason Hundley

Bill & Marilyn Geiger

Jan. 28: Keith Bail

Jim & Sonya Farris

The Christmas Eve had 151 people attend. The offering is a special offering that will be sent to the UCC Conference to be distributed to retired church workers, retired ministers and their families. The amount collected on December 24, 2017 was \$610.00.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jan. 7: Gen 1:1-5 & Acts 19:1-7

Jan. 14: I Sam 3:1-10, 11-20 & I Cor 6:12-20

Jan. 21: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 & I Cor 7:29-31

Jan. 28: Deut 18 15-20, I Cor 8:1-13

Dinner Committee #1

Donna Kammerich family
Keith & Cathy Bail family
Kenny & Janet Stegner
Rob & Louise Friedrich
Don & Mary Bail
Linda Leach
Cliff & Jenea Smith
Carol Fowler
Cora Louise Wisdom
Bob & Mary Painter
Jeanne Muse
Volunteers



Jan. 10: Church Board meeting 7:00

Jan. 16: Financial Reports due to Pat

Jan. 21: Annual Congregational Meeting with dinner to follow-Dinner Committee #1

Jan. 26: Newsletter articles due



Donations for the Stain Glass Window Repair Fund were received from Bud Mersey and Dave & Ginger Wenger



A smile is happiness you will find right under your nose.