

“THE VOICE OF BILLINGSVILLE”

MARCH 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



The 2018 Olympics have been amazing! Whether it's a triple toe loop in ice skating, a 920 spin in snowboarding or willingly riding a piece of plastic flying down a tube of ice at 80 miles per hour, head first, in the skeleton...their performances are daring, fearless and full of heart. The athletes make the most difficult skills look effortless. Their hours and hours of practice every day for years have prepared them for what may be their only chance to perform at the Olympics. They have endured and overcome injuries, insecurities and pressures of competitions. Whether they stand on the podium or not...they are all winners in my book!

Perhaps we can look at these qualities and find some inspiration when it comes to our relationship with God. How much time are we taking to “practice”? How much time do we put toward sharing our God-given talents? When we have been “injured”, do we allow ourselves to be humbled and in our weakness allow God to work through us? Being a Christian doesn't mean we are perfect. It doesn't mean we are not going to have difficulties, but the more we “practice”, the more we can handle whatever comes our way because of our relationship with God. We have to choose that every day will be a “Gold Medal” kind of day to spread Christ's joy and love. ~Laura



SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH

Mark your calendars!! The Sunday School will provide soup following worship on March 18. Congregation is asked to bring sandwiches and dessert. There will be a card/game party to follow lunch.

PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

The Bell Choir will play on Palm Sunday, March 25th. Practices will be the first 15 minutes of Sunday School on March 11, 18, & 25.

Saturday, March 31st is the Easter Egg Hunt at 2:00

We will have Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 A.M. on April 1st with breakfast to follow worship provided by the Youth Fellowship. Youth and parents need to arrive at church at 5:30.



BIRTHDAYS

Jerry Gerhardt	3
Angie Hackman	7
Barbara Friedrich	9
Linda Simmons	11
Stacy Reuter	11
Brooke Fieth	11
Linda Wassmann	13
Iris Gerhardt	13
Mason Cary	14
Charles Stegner	20
Steven Cary	24
Nick Grathwohl	26
Margaret Scott	30

ANNIVERSARIES

Sonny & Arlene Friedrich	2
Ed & Lynnd Schler	3
Keith & Cathy Bail	23



Carol Fowler has a new grandson, Mack Fowler, born to Jason and Becca Fowler. Mack is welcomed home by 4 brothers!

Gentle Movement Classes

Holly Hughes is teaching a Gentle Movement Class every Friday at the YMCA. For more information, please contact the YMCA.

PRAYER CHAIN

Florida school shooting victims
Family of Billy Graham
Marcos @ ECH, SS Sponsor Child
Jackson Brinkman, Diane Gerke's grandson
Don Burnett, Katy Manor
Sean Campbell, Marg's friend
Angie Carmichael, cancer
George Chamberlin
Sharon Elliott, cancer
Arlene Friedrich
Bill Geiger
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
Nancy Kueckelhan
Linda Leach, cancer
Ava LeCave
Chris Maguire, follicular lymphoma
DJ Muse
Angie Nave
Mindy Nave, cancer
Erika Sanderson, Pat's niece
Kathryn Schupp, Nancy Meyer's mother
Vicky Simmons
Rick Templemire
Bernadine Wassmann, Hartmann Village

Serving in our military:

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



Holly Hughes Art project will be revealed
at the River, Rails and Trails Museum
during the Clean Up Boonville on
March 24th

Congratulations Holly!!

Hymn History

'The Old Rugged Cross' is a beloved song by many and was written by George Bennard in 1913. Bennard was born in 1873 in Youngstown, Ohio and in the 1870's his family moved to Iowa. At the age of 16 Bennard's father died in a coal mining accident, leaving the sixteen year old boy to provide for his mother and four sisters. He went to work in the coal mines instead of pursuing his theological education. Later in his life he married and joined the Salvation Army where he served as a brigade leader. He eventually became a Methodist preacher and in 1913 while he was staying in Albion, Michigan, he began to write 'The Old Rugged Cross'. The melody was complete but the words were not right for what he wanted. Whenever George read John 3:16, he had the vision of a cross – a crude Roman instrument of death, stained with the blood of Christ, who gave his life in order that we might become Christians. Later, he was able to rewrite the stanzas in which the words seem to be put there to answer his own heart's need.

George sent the manuscript to Charles Gabriel in Chicago, asking him to write the proper chords with the melody line. Gabriel did so and returned the song with the message, "You will hear from this song." Safe to say, Mr. Gabriel was right as this song is one of the most popular hymns over one hundred years later.



Kids say the funniest things...

"A friend who leads the children's program in her local Lutheran church was telling the children about the rescue of Moses by Pharaoh's daughter. She used it as an object lesson to remind them of how so much in life needs to be rescued, including the animals in the local rescue shelter.

"Following a brief prayer, the children began to file out of the sanctuary for Sunday school when a small girl broke ranks and ran down the aisle fervently announcing, "Mommy, Mommy, the Bibles says we have to get a dog!" ~Bob White Owego, NY

NOTES FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

February 7th, 2018

January offering was \$4,029.00. January income was \$5,899.23 and expense was \$4,250.70. The balance in the checking account \$19,583.38. The council will take \$15,000.00 from the checking account and open a new CD for 1.4% interest at Citizens Bank and Trust. The collective total for the window repair is \$20,775.00.

Morgan Hawley will be here on Sunday, February 25th, 2018, to provide in-service on CPR and the use of the AED. The board will provide a light lunch.

The search committee formed at the annual meeting includes: Ed Wassmann, Laura Grathwohl, Cathy Bail, and Vicki Hilden. A fifth member will also be needed.

The next church council meeting will be March 7th, 2018, at 6:00pm, since Lent service will be at 7:00pm.

STAINED GLASS WINDOW REPAIR FUND

We thank all that have donated to our Window Repair Fund. The February through June donors I neglected to get listed in the Newsletter. I'm sorry about that! Here they are:

Linda Burnett
Pat & Vicki Hilden
Carol Fowler
Steve & Sharon Smith
Kenneth & Janet Stegner
James & Peggy Fitzpatrick
Marg & Don Scott
Ellen Brandon
Kitty Kenney – In Memory of Forrest Kenney
Rosamond Schler – In Memory of Henry & Laura Gail Schler (parents)
Carolyn Schler Snell – In Memory of Henry & Laura Gail Schler (parents)
Iris H. Gerhardt
Wilbert & Nancy Meyer
Cora Stegner Wisdom
Keith & Cathy Bail
Jim & Sonya Farris
Carl & Judith Gerhardt
Andrea Smith
Howard & Irene Finkbeiner – In Memory of Rev. Carl & Irene Grathwohl (parents)
Karen Bail
Kent & Donna Kammerich
Mike & Susan Hayes – In Memory of Rimey & Wilma Cary
John & Carole Cox
Leola Schler – In Memory of George Schler

~ Pat Friedrich
Church Secretary/Bookkeeper

There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.

Dr. Sarah Marriott is currently the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services for the Boonville R-1 School District, but beginning July 1st she will be the Superintendent. We wish her well in her new position!
Sarah is the daughter of Bill & Marilyn Geiger.

Congratulations Sarah!!

Blake Richardson made the B Honor Roll at LSE!

Sophie Waibel received a Pirate Pride Award in Art.

Jessica Grathwohl received a Pirate Pride Award in Chemistry.

Great Job!!

BIBLE STUDY - EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 2:00PM

January 10th, 2018: 2 Corinthians, Chapter 5, vs. 13-18

Paul teaches us that the Love of God is energy and this energy will influence our life forever as we recognize that that one Man died for everyone. We all share in His death. We attend church to renew our energy to live in Christ; as a new beginning each week. Extra learning: There are two candles on the altar. The one on the right of the speaker is the Jesus candle. The one on the left of the speaker is the Christ candle.

January 17th, 2018: 2 Corinthians, Chapter 5, vs. 18-21

We as Christians are called to be ambassadors of Christ. Our actions need to match Christ teachings. We can renew these actions in communion and participation in baptisms. This will give us a sense of belonging with Christ. If we feel empty or missing something, we can become change agents and reconcile ourselves with Christ. This will make us feel good about ourselves.

January 24th, 2018 2 Corinthians, chapter 6, vs. 1-6

This passage that Paul has written, was lifted from Isaiah chp.49, vs.8. God will show favor to his servants who have endured difficulties. The grace of God is a valuable feeling, like getting a hug. Now is the day of salvation. Accept the Lord as part of your life; be ready. There is reassurance of forgiveness through salvation and mercy. You are accepted by God in spite of being "bad".

January 31st, 2018 2 Corinthians, chapter 6, vs.7

We discussed church "splinters" and how each group differs in theology. This was an opportunity to share past personal experiences with worship services and how our family influenced us and possibly had a part in what we are today.

February 7, 2018, 2 Corinthians, chapter 6, vs.7-13

Paul expresses that truthful speech is linked to the power (energy) of God. He uses opposite words in each sentence to illustrate the power of God's love is in our hearts, but we need to "open our hearts wide" to listen and act.

February 14, 2108, 2 Corinthians, chapter 6, vs. 14-18

During this writing of Paul, Protestants were not considered Christians. These people had a feeling of worthlessness or evil. Paul is giving the Israelites a message of hope that they will be God's people. They are given the message of acceptance, value, and wholeness. We don't live for ourselves, we live for others. If you have been broken, you can be made whole again. Through Christ we become one body.

February 21, 2018, 2 Corinthians, chapter 7, vs. 1-4

Paul said, "We have not cheated anyone or taken advantage of anyone". We as Christians in our Bible Study group were asked how we felt if we were cheated and how our response affected others. We also talked of how we reacted to a homeless man.



We shall never know all
the good a simple smile can
do. ~Mother Teresa

HEALTH FACTS
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY GUIDELINES FOR THE EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER

Breast Cancer: All women talk with a health care provider about risk for breast cancer and best screening plan for each individual.

- Ages 40-45 start annual breast screening with mammograms
- Ages 45-54 yearly mammogram
- Ages 55 and older mammogram every 2 years or yearly

Colon & Rectal Cancer: Polyps: Men and women can be affected by this kind of cancer. If you are at high risk based on family history or other factors, you may need to be screened using a different schedule. Talk with your health care provider.

- Starting at age 50, have a colonoscopy every 10 years

Cervical Cancer:

- Pap smears should begin at the age of 21

Ages 21-29 should have Pap Smears every 3 years

- Ages 30 -65 Pap Smears and HPV test every 5 years
- Ages over 65 who have had regular cervical cancer testing in past 10 years with normal results should not be tested
- Women who have had a hysterectomy for reasons not related to cervical cancer, should not be tested

Lung Cancer: Men and women who are high risk are:

- 55-74 years of age in good health
- 30 pack per year smoking and are still smoking
- Screening is done with an annual low-dose CT scan of the chest

Prostrate Cancer: At age 50, men should talk to their health care provider about pros and cons of testing. Prostrate cancer is tested with PSA blood test with or without rectal exam.

Reduce your risk of cancer by:

- Not smoking
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Regular exercise
- Limit alcohol
- Protect your skin from the sun
- Know your family history
- Get regular check-ups and cancer screening tests

This information has been recommended by the American Cancer Society



It is time for the Annual Pick-up Boonville on March 24th, 2018. I use this time as an opportunity to pick up trash, sticks, and other debris around our church. If you would like to participate this year, arrive at the church at 9:30am on Saturday, March 24th, 2018, and be ready in your work clothes and gloves to pick-up Billingsville. I will have trash bags and safety vests for everyone. We will work about 1 hour and then I will take the trash bags to the dumpsters at the Katy Depot in Boonville. They will provide a light lunch for the volunteers at the Depot. Contact me at church or by phone, 882-8083, if you want to help or simply show up. Nancy Meyer

March	Worship Leaders	Greeters/Ushers	Scripture Reading
4	Cathy Bail	Keith Bail	Ex/s 20:1-17, I Cor 1:18-25
11	Ed Schler	Landon Bail & Carson Bail	Num 21:4-9, Eph 2:1-10
18	Laura Grathwohl	Charles Stegner & Holly Hughes	Jer 31:31-34, Heb 5:5-10
25	Donna Kammerich	Jason Hundley & Ed Wassmann	Mk 11:1-11, Isa 50:4-9
Communion Servers:		Scott Grissum* Vicki Hilden Ed & Lynnd Schler	
Communion Clean-up:		Donna Kammerich, Ed & Lynnd Schler, Linda Simmons	



- Mar. 6:** Church Board Meeting 7:00
- Mar. 7:** Bible Study 2:00, Lenten Service at 7:00
- Mar. 11:** Daylight Savings Time
- Mar. 14:** Bible Study at 2:00 & Lenten Service at 7:00
- Mar 18:** Sunday School Soup & Sandwich Lunch
With Youth Fellowship Card/Game Party to follow
- Mar 20:** First Day of Spring
- Mar. 21:** Bible Study at 2:00 & Lenten Service at 7:00
- Mar 22:** Earth Day
- Mar. 23:** Newsletter articles due
- Mar 24:** Clean Up Boonville
- Mar 25:** Palm Sunday – Bell Choir performs
- Mar. 28:** Bible Study at 2:00
- Mar. 30:** Good Friday Service at 7:00
- Mar 31:** Easter Egg Hunt 2:00
- April 1:** Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m. with
Youth Fellowship breakfast to follow

FEBRUARY STATISTICS

	OFFERING	BENEVOLENCE	ATTENDANCE
4	\$2,052	-	35
11	-	-	No Church
18	\$ 887	\$158	37
25	\$1,305		44
	Penny Sunday \$30		



Stained Glass Window Repair Fund Balance \$21,035

Thanks to David & Ann Muntzel for donating
to the Window Repair Fund!

