

# The Voice of Billingsville

December 2019

St. Johns United Church of Christ  
14191 Billingsville Road, Boonville, MO 65233-3408  
Website: <https://www.stjohnsbillingsville.org/>  
Facebook: [facebook.com/stjohnsbillingsville](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsbillingsville)  
Twitter: @st\_johns\_bville IG: st\_johns\_bville



“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”



Our annual Hanging of the Greens and Tree Lighting Ceremony will be Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 am followed by a carry-in dinner in Fellowship Hall. The children will hang their picture ornaments on the tree during this service.

Dinner Committee #1 is in charge of the meal:  
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 Meyer, Bob & Mary Painter, Melinda Richardson, Kenneth & Janet Stegner, Will Wessing



**Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 pm**

**Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!**

If your child would like to participate in the pageant, please let Melissa Hundley know. The children will try on their costumes on December 1 at 9:30 am and practice for the Christmas Pageant will be during Sunday School on December 8, 15 & 22. Children need to arrive by 6:30 pm on December 24.

If you are planning to bring a poinsettia in memory of loved ones, please let Julie know by Sunday, December 22. Her email is [jkueckel@gmail.com](mailto:jkueckel@gmail.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, December 1:**  
Hanging of the Greens Service

**Sunday, December 8:**  
Pageant practice at 9:30 am

**Wednesday, December 11:**  
Church Council Meeting at 6 pm

**Sunday, December 15:**  
Pageant practice at 9:30 am

**Sunday, December 22:**  
Pageant practice at 9:30 am

**Tuesday, December 24:**  
Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm

## CONTACT US

**Rev. James H. Elliott, Pastor**  
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**WHAT GOES INTO A BOX IS FUN  
WHAT COMES OUT IS ETERNAL**

This is our 20th year to prepare shoeboxes. It has been a fun and worthwhile project. Many of you have told me how much you enjoy gathering the items, thinking of and praying for the child who will receive your box. In the hands of local churches and missionaries, every gift-filled box is a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship---transforming the lives of children, their families and the world through the good news of Jesus Christ. A gift—filled box is truly a miracle and YOU made the miracle happen.

It is due to all of you at St. Johns and some friends—YOU made 87 children's lives a joyous time now and hopefully for all eternity! Thanks also to all of you who donated \$391 and \$250 from our church for the postage to send the boxes.

One last thought—please know that each shoebox is a missionary going around the world! May God bless each one of you for your time, efforts, money and participation in this wonderful project! Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

Love in Christ,  
Marg Scott

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*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6*

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## *In the Mail*

Dear Friends,

June of 2019 was quite devastating in the life of Ebenezer United Church of Christ. We in Levasy have always known the Missouri River was close in proximity and that it was powerful. This was demonstrated very well on June 1st when the levees broke and water came rushing into the town of Levasy and ultimately our church building and parsonage. This had never happened before and it still seems as though it is a bad dream. Since that time, our congregation has been working hard to remove everything from the buildings that flood waters did not touch and also to remove damaged items and to tear out sheet rock and flooring that must be disposed.

During this time, we have seen God working in all sorts of ways. We have seen people pull together, push up their sleeves and do the physical work of this flood. We have worked alongside people we didn't know. We have had offers from area churches and businesses to use their facilities so we could continue to worship together, and we have learned that "the church is not a building, ... the church is the people!"

Our rebuilding is just beginning and there are many decisions and a lot of work ahead for Ebenezer. Financial donations like yours will help us to work for the future. A future where Ebenezer can once again have a building for worship, where our young people can attend Sunday School, a building to fellowship together, a building to celebrate weddings and baptisms, and to mourn at funerals.

It is with heartfelt thanks that we humbly accept your financial donation. This has been a rough road and it is going to be a long one but God has been and will continue to be with us through this journey.

Yours in Christ,

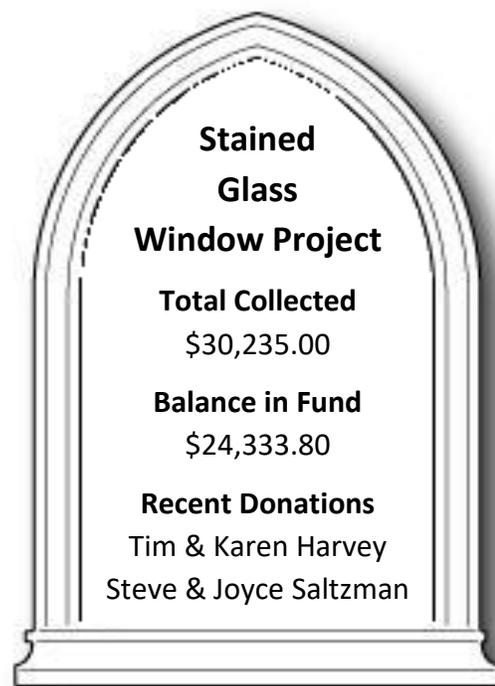
Ebenezer Church Council

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday Mornings At 9:30 A.M.

Job chapter 19, 20, 21, and 22

Pastor Jim reads these chapters and then we discuss what our interpretation is since these are conversations between Job's "friends" Zophar, Eliphaz, and Bildad. They state that suffering is always a consequence of sin. Job shows that this is not the case. An interesting note: Chapter 19, verse 25, contained words and themes in which Handel used to write "The Messiah".



## Congratulations Corral

Brooklyn Swalwell made the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Roll 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter at St. Peter Interparish School in Jeff City.

Will Hackman was selected as Student of the Month for October at Hannah Cole Primary.

Congratulations to Becky Geiger Wessing and Jeff Zeller on their marriage October 26

### HEALTH FACTS

#### Juvenile Diabetes

Type 1 diabetes in children is a condition in which the body no longer produces insulin which is needed to control blood sugar. The cause is unknown, but most people with type 1 diabetes has an immune system, which normally fights harmful bacteria and viruses, which decides to fight insulin-producing cells in the pancreas instead. Genetics and environmental factors may play a role in this process. There's currently no know way to prevent this diabetes.

Insulin performs the critical job of moving sugar (glucose) from the bloodstream to the body's cells. Sugar enters the bloodstream when food is digested. Without this control, elevated blood sugars can lead to complications such as coronary artery disease and high blood pressure, nerve damage, especially in the feet and legs, kidney damage, poor vision, and poor skin conditions.

The signs and symptoms of type 1 diabetes in children usually develop quickly, over a period of weeks. These symptoms are:

- Increased thirst and frequent urination. Excess sugar building up in the blood pulls fluid from tissues. Suddenly a child can experience bed-wetting.
- Extreme hunger is triggered because the sugar isn't in the muscles and organs. Despite eating more than usual, the muscle tissues and fat stores simply shrink, causing another symptom—weight loss which leads to fatigue.
- Irritability or behavior changes can occur with a sudden decline in school performance.
- Fruity breath odor is caused by ketones substances in the digestive track.
- Vision changes and unable to focus clearly occur because fluid is pulled from the eye lenses.
- Increase of yeast infections in the genital area. Skin wounds may not heal properly.

Juvenile diabetes took the life of Rob and Louise Friedrich's grandson, Josh Friedrich, on October 13, 2019, at the age of 22. I pray that God's love will wrap them in solace and give them peace.

*Nancy Meyer*

## NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

November 6th, 2019

Julie gave an update on the search committee's progress. The final call agreement and position posting have been sent to Nicole Havelka, Minister for Search and Call Discernment. We will now wait for responses.

A new 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary candle has been purchased. Every couple celebrating a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be recognized by this glowing candle on the altar.

Julie has prepared gift bags and church information folders to be given out by greeters to new Sunday service visitors.

Also, she has made children's activity bags, filled with puzzles, colors, and booklets, which will be available in the pews for children's use during services.

The next meeting will be December 11th, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Meyer, Secretary

*Nancy Meyer, Secretary*



## STATISTICS

Nov	Offering	Benevolence	Attendance
03	\$1853	\$25	42
10	\$608	\$30 Penny Sun: \$21	27
17	\$1022	\$30	31
24	\$499	\$40 Blanket \$412	38



Melinda Richardson will be making Christmas ornaments for our Christmas tree using children's pictures. She would like to have the pictures sent to her electronically using the address: richardsonme@missouri.edu. If you haven't sent them to Melinda, please do so as soon as possible.

## Best Choice Labels & Box Tops for Education

We would really appreciate everyone saving your Best Choice UPC labels to benefit our Sunday School.

	Worship Leader	Greeters & Ushers		Scripture Readings
Dec 1	Pat Friedrich	Donna Kammerich	Vicki Hilden	Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44
Dec 8	Jason Hundley	Bob Painter	Mary Painter	Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12
Dec 15	Don Scott	Jason Hundley	Scott Grissum	James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11
Dec 22	Birdie Kueckelhan	Angie Kueckelhan	Nancy Meyer	Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25
Communion Prep: Ed Schler, Communion Cleanup: Volunteers				
Dec 24	Greeters/Ushers: Jason Hundley, Landon Bail, Jared Kueckelhan, Tim Kueckelhan			
Dec 29	Angie Hackman	Marg Scott	Julie Kueckelhan	Hebrews 2:10-18 Matthew 2:13-23

## News from Every Child's Hope The ECH Christmas Store is expanding!!

Thanks to your generous support throughout the years, we are now opening the "Christmas Store" for our clients to "shop" ALL YEAR!

Gifts will now be available all year long for our young peoples' giving needs  
*Mother's Day, Father's Day, Birthdays, Graduations .... and Christmas too!*

- Staffed by volunteers, hopE CHest is here for all clients.  
hopE CHest opens this September.

-check out the list below for gift shop ideas. -

**ALL NEW** items, please. Please feel free to send items all year long\*

Thank you for your continued support.

We look forward to working with you to give children HOPE!

*For more info, please contact Sarah Deweese, Volunteer & Community Relations Manager, {314} 427-3755 x299 or sdeweese@echmail.org. \*Please note: When sending items, mark it "Store/Sarah" or "Hope Chest/Sarah." Pick up is also available*



### EVERY CHILD'S HOPE



#### HOPE CHEST – SUGGESTED GIFT SHOP ITEMS

**(NEW ITEMS ONLY, PLEASE!)**

<p><b>Baby/Toddler Items:</b> Baby/Toddler Toys Bibs Books Booties Clothes for Infants Clothes for Toddlers Disposable Diapers Rattles Socks Slippers</p> <p><b>Miscellaneous:</b> Blankets &amp; Throws Bulletin Board for Door Calendar (for next yr) DVD/BlueRay Flashlight Journals Money Banks Cook Books Picture Frames Travel Bags Travel Cups</p>	<p><b>Christmas Items:</b> Christmas Décor Christmas Stockings Items for Other Holidays</p> <p><b>Gift Wrap Items:</b> Bows &amp; Ribbon Gift Bags Gift Boxes Gift Tags Scotch Tape Tissue Paper Wrapping Paper</p> <p><b>Sports:</b> Baseballs Basketballs Fishing Gear/Pole Footballs Gym Bags Gloves Hockey Puck/Stick Hula Hoops Jump Ropes Kick Balls Resistance Bands Rubber Bases Skip-it Soccer Balls Softballs/Bat Tennis Balls Tennis Rackets Volleyballs Water Bottles Yoga Mats</p>	<p><b>Crafts:</b> Backpack/Craft Bag Canvas Chalk Colored Pencils Coloring Books Crayons Easel Friendship Bracelet Kits Kinetic Sand Markers Models Model Sets Origami Paper/Sets Paint Paint Brushes Paint-By-Number Sets Play-dough Rainbow Loom &amp; Supplies Rock Painting Kit Rubber Band Bracelet Kits School Supplies Scrapbook Kits Scribble Pads Slime-making Kits Stationary Stickers</p>	<p><b>Electronics:</b> Auxiliary Cords CD Players Earbuds Handheld Games Headphones MP3 Players Radios USB Chargers</p> <p><b>Toys:</b> <i>*Nothing Sharp*</i> Action Figures Blocks Board Games Bubbles Card Games Comic Books Dolls Flash Cards Frisbees Hot Wheel Cars Kites Legos Nerf Balls Paddle Balls Puzzles Sandbox Bucket Toy Dishes <i>*No Water Guns or Stuffed Animals*</i></p>	<p><b>Jewelry:</b> <i>*Men's &amp; Women's*</i> Bracelets Earrings (clip-on &amp; pierced) Necklaces Watches Wristbands <i>*In Box if Possible*</i></p> <p><b>Women's Items:</b> Barrettes Blow Dryer Body Care Gift Sets Curling Iron Gloves Fanny Packs Flip-Flops Fun Socks Hair Brushes Headbands House Slippers Leggings/Tights Make-up Nail Polish Perfume Pony-tail Holders Purses Scarves Slipper Socks Sunglasses Wallets</p>	<p><b>Men's Items:</b> Aftershave Belts Body Care Gift Sets Car Wash Supplies Cologne Flip-Flops Gloves Hats House Slippers Scarves Shaving Cream Socks Sports Hats Stocking Hats Sunglasses T-Shirts Ties Wallets Watches</p>
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In August, the St. Johns' Youth Fellowship had a shopping trip to purchase items for the ECH store.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joan Pannell	01
Jason Gerhardt	03
Lori Woods	03
Kevin Simmons	04
Khale Bohlken	10
Carol Fowler	10
Bob Painter	10
Haley Floyd	11
Cody Gerhardt	11
Bill Forst	11
Pat Hilden	11
Jim Friedrich	16
Noel Schler	16
Pastor Mary Harris	18
Austin Edwards	20
Charlie Jean Smith	21
Cliff Smith	21
Jessica Grathwohl	22
Dee Ann Riley	22
Ruth Searfoss	23
Chris Hawley	25
Kim Searfoss	25
Tracy Pannell	26
Jamie Swalwell	26
Nancy Meyer	29

## ✠ BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES ✠

Julie Ann Miller Kueckelhan	03
Melissa Sue Helmreich Hundley	04
Madilyn Maureen Carmichael	08
Mary Francis Friedrich Bail	11
Michele Renea Shelton	12
Adam Thomas Million	13
Charles Edward Schler, Jr.	14
Janice Kathleen Gerhardt Cooper	16
Myrtle Joan Pannell	16
Barbara Maurine Turner Friedrich	16
Aaron Luke Geiger	19
Carson Reynolds Bail	30

## PRAYER CHAIN

Don Bail  
 Kelly Lou Campbell  
 Angie Carmichael, cancer  
 Jeff Elliott (Pastor Jim's son)  
 Pastor Jim Elliott  
 Sharon Elliott, cancer  
 Olivia (Sharon's niece), cancer  
 Arlene Friedrich  
 Jared Friedrich  
 Rob Friedrich  
 Bob & Linda Gander  
 Art & Vera Gelder  
 Grey, 6 yr. old friend of Holly's  
 Lyndall Galloway (Laura's father)  
 Mary Ann Henke (friend of Pat & Tracy)  
 Laura Holman, recovering from aneurysm  
 Shelley Jennings, bone cancer  
 David Keltner (Jeanne's brother)  
 Jenny Kirchner, cancer  
 Vicki Kurtz (Laura's sister), cancer  
 Ava LeCave  
 Lynda Lyles, heart and lung problems  
 Marcos @ ECH (SS Sponsor Child)  
 Chris (Ann Muntzel's nephew), undergoing chemo  
 Angie Nave  
 Bobbie Perry (Pat Friedrich's sister), diabetes  
 Sawyer Quinlan, cancer  
 Clifford Richey (friend of Charles Stegner)  
 Marilyn Rethemeyer, brain cancer  
 Virginia Reynolds (Cathy's mom), breast cancer  
 Sanders Family, high-risk twins  
 Erika Sanderson (Pat's niece)  
 Charlotte Schanzmeyer  
 Karen Schnetzler  
 Kathryn Schupp (Nancy Meyer's mother)  
 Laverne & Shirley Schmidt (Vicki's parents)  
 Vicky Simmons  
 Bernadine Wassmann

### Serving in our military:

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



# Christmas Day

December 25th



CANDY  
CANE  
CAROLING  
CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER  
HOLLY  
LIGHTS  
MERRY

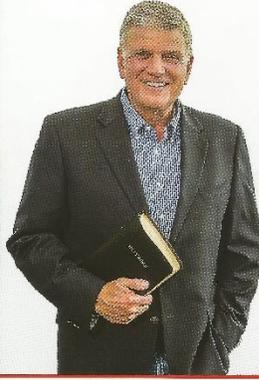
MISELTOE  
NORTH  
POLE  
PEACE  
PRESENTS  
REINDEER  
SANTA CLAU  
SLEIGH

SNOWMAN  
STAR  
STOCKING  
SUGARPLUM  
TREE  
WREATH





Dominican Republic



# Thank You!

We are deeply grateful for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes you prayerfully packed and dropped off. Samaritan's Purse will soon deliver those gifts into the hands of boys and girls in need through local churches around the world who also share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Many of these shoebox recipients will participate in our follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey. Now in its 10th year, this 12-lesson program is teaching millions of children how to faithfully follow Christ and share Him with others. To learn more, visit [samaritanspurse.org/tgj](http://samaritanspurse.org/tgj).

God bless you,  
  
Franklin Graham  
President, Samaritan's Purse



"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations..." MATTHEW 28:19

08/07/18

U.S. Postage Paid  
Non-Profit Org.  
Permit No. 404  
Boonville, MO

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

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