

The Voice of Billingsville

December 2020

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.”

Growing Hope Globally – 2020

2020 sure has been one for the record books in good and not so good ways, but one of the good moments is our GHG mission project. Rhea Helmerich volunteered the use of her twelve acres again and Kenny Stegner planted corn. The seed corn was donated by Joe Miller/Pioneer Seeds, MFA donated part of the fertilizer and Boonville Ag Co-Op donated the spray. Eddie Wassmann and sons harvested the corn which yielded 165 bu/acre!

We sent \$5,000 to the same project as last year in Nicaragua Carazo Diriamba, where they face challenges we can’t even imagine. The climate is very dry, and they suffer from inadequate quantity and quality of water and insufficient food supplies. The area has poor roads and a literacy problem also.

CIEETS, a Non-Profit Interchurch Center for Social and Theological Studies, has been working on conservation agriculture, planting fruit trees, patio gardens, and accessing clean water, community advocacy and coordinating with churches to be active in programs that build food security. They have helped by diversification such as raising poultry, selling chicken and eggs, building beehives, and processing honey for sale. Church World Service is the implementing organization with supporting members from the United Church of Christ, United Methodist, and Disciples of Christ (Week of Compassion).

Growing Hope Globally is a Christian response to hunger, where they link the grassroots energy and commitment of rural communities in the U.S. with the capability and desire of smallholder farmers in developing countries grow lasting solutions to hunger.

Thank you to all for the skills or money you share and your heart that cares! Laura Grathwohl, Treasurer

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 6: Hanging of the Greens Service at 10:30 am; No carry-in meal

Wednesday, December 9: Church Board meeting at 6:00 pm

Sunday, December 13: Penny Sunday for ECH and collection of Benevolence Offering

Sunday, December 20: Holy Communion during morning worship

Tuesday, December 22: Newsletter articles due

Thursday, December 24: No service

CONTACT US

Rev. James H. Elliott, Pastor

Home: 573-446-1497

Cell: 573-619-9701

Email: jelliott1@centurytel.net

Julie Kueckelhan, Editor

Cell: 660-888-2370

E-mail: jkueckel@gmail.com

Church: 660-838-6457

stjohnsbillingsville@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

I am absolutely overjoyed at our Operation Christmas Child shoebox and postage response this year! We collected 117 shoeboxes! That is 30 more than we've ever had before. AND...the response for postage donations was fantastic! We received enough funds to pay for all 117 boxes at \$9.00 each.

Many, many thanks for all of your faithful efforts to make 117 children's lives very joyful this season! Because of you many of these children and their families will also learn about the love of Jesus and seek eternal life through Him.

I praise God for all the love you have shown in this project. May God richly bless each of you.

Peace, Love, & Joy,
Marg Scott

**NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING
November 4, 2020**

CoMo Striping has filled the cracks and seal coated the West parking lot.

Hanging of the Greens service is being planned by the Women's Guild on December 6th. Collections for the Veterans of the Cross will be taken during this service.

The next council meeting will be Wednesday, December 9th, 2020, at 6:00pm at the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Meyer, Secretary

LOOK BEYOND YOUR SHOEBOX

I packed a Christmas shoebox gift. I do it ev'ry year.

These gifts are sent around the world to bring a child some cheer.

I focused on my shoebox, and what I put inside,

When God told me to look beyond and see the other side.

I looked beyond my shoebox, and there I saw a friend,

Who helped to get my shoebox from here to journey's end.

In truth, there were so many Who worked along the way.

They took these gifts around the world; They labored night and day.

Some checked and taped and cartonized, and moved my box with care,

While some raised hands of blessing and filled my box with prayer.

I looked beyond my shoebox and there I saw a child,

Who received this gift of love While sitting meek and mild.

She heard the gospel message. He listened quietly.

While many prayed Jesus to save Their souls eternally.

Then it was time to open from me their gifts of joy.

Such noise I can't imagine
To see each treat and toy!

I looked beyond my shoebox and there I saw the Lord.

He smiled, and said, "Well done, my child! Come, see now your reward."

And as I turned, I saw a line far as the eye could see

Of children coming to say thanks for boxes sent by me.

"Thank you for your gift of love and for the gospel too.

Because you filled a shoebox or paid the postage,
I'm now in heav'n with you."



**SHARING GOOD NEWS,
GREAT JOY!**

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Coach Lisa Alvis and the Rock Bridge Softball Team for winning the Class 5 State Championship and their perfect 29-0 record!

Congratulations to Jahr Fowler, quarterback for the Staley High School Falcons and grandson of Carol Fowler, for his 2nd Team All-Conference selection!

Congratulations to Dustin Wassmann and Jessica Luscombe who were married on November 14!

THANK YOU

To the Friends of Muntzel for their generous donation to the Memorial Fund.

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:7

If anyone is interested in becoming the editor of The Voice of Billingsville, please contact Julie.

NOVEMBER STATISTICS

	Offering	Benevolence	Attendance
01	\$4525	\$50	34
08	\$497	\$265 Penny Sun: \$13.19	33
15	\$740	\$30	19
22	\$550	\$0 Blanket Sunday: \$30	18
29	\$1415.05	\$0	22

Christmas Memorials

This year the church council will be purchasing poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary for the Christmas season.

In the past, the poinsettias were given by church members as a memorial to those that we miss. Instead we will have "memory" ornaments available, similar to the children's picture ornament, for you to pick up on the front pew at church and write the name/names of those who you want remembered.

During the December 6th "Hanging of the Greens" service, you will be able to hang your memory ornament on the tree after the children have hung their ornaments.

If you aren't able to fill out your memorial ornament in person, please email Julie with the names and we'll create ornaments for you. The church council wishes everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

	Worship Leader	Greeters & Ushers	Scripture Readings
Dec 06	Cathy Bail	Volunteers	2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8
Dec 13	Birdie Kueckelhan	Donna Kammerich & Volunteer	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28
Dec 20	Tim Kueckelhan	Marg Scott & Volunteer	Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38
Dec 27	Marg Scott	Volunteers	Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40

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
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

Please let these homebound and nursing home friends know you are thinking about them with a visit or a card.

Arlene Friedrich

Ashley Manor 1630 Radio Hill Rd. Boonville, MO 65233

Rob Friedrich

1331 Lyric Court Boonville, MO 65233

Louise Overstreet (Janet's mother)

Hartmann Village 615 Rankin Mill Ln Boonville, MO 65233

Bernadine Wassmann & Kathryn Schupp (Nancy's mom)

Katy Manor 205 Prospect Pilot Grove, MO 65276

Shirley Schmidt (Vicki's mother)

Nye Point 2700 Laverna St, Fremont, NE 68025

Marjorie Vieth

Riverdell Care Center 1121 11th St. Boonville, MO 65233

PRAYER CHAIN

Carolyn Bunton (friend of Laura), hospice
 Angie Carmichael, cancer
 Paula Darling
 Pastor Jim & Sharon Elliott
 Carol (Pastor Jim's sister-in-law), lung cancer
 John (Sharon's brother-in-law), heart issues
 Olivia (Sharon's niece), cancer
 Ethan @ ECH (SS Sponsor Child)
 Kenneth Farris
 Eula Brown Gowan
 Todi Hughes (Holly's mom)
 Lyndall Galloway (Laura's father)
 Iva Mae Johnson (Vicki's aunt)
 Nancy Kueckelhan
 Ava LeCave
 Linda Lyles (Rhea's friend), heart and lung issues
 Chris (Ann Muntzel's nephew), cancer recovery
 Angie Nave
 Marilyn Rethmeyer, cancer has returned
 Erika Sanderson (Pat's niece)
 Karen Schnetzler
 Vicky Simmons
 Carol Snyder
 Dave & Ginger Wenger

Serving in our military:

Landon Bail	Chris Hawley
Cliff Burgoyne	Natalie Meng
Jeff Burgoyne	Blayne Vickery
Lakoda Davis	James Walker



CHRISTMAS TREATS



BUCHE DE NOËL
CANDY CANE
CHOCOLATE
CLOVES
COOKIES
CRANBERRIES
EGGNOG
FLAT BREAD

FRUITCAKE
FUDGE
GINGERBREAD
GOOSE
GRAVY
HAM
MINCEMEAT
NUTS

ORANGES
PUMPKIN PIE
SCRUMPTIOUS
STUFFING
SUGARPLUMS
SWEET POTATOES
TURKEY



We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family of Dan Schler

EUGENE, Oregon, November 19,2020 – Daniel J. Schler, 92, died peacefully in his sleep at The Springs Retirement Community where he and his wife, Mary, have called home for the last 3 years of their 7 years in Eugene. Prior to Eugene, Dan and Mary lived on their “ranch” in Durango Colorado for over 20 years.

Dan was born on July 9, 1928, in Boonville Missouri. He was, as he always liked to say, lucky to be the youngest of 11 children, with 6 brothers and 4 sisters. It afforded him lots of attention and “learning opportunities” from all his siblings. Many of these life lessons helped form a solid foundation of guiding principles and beliefs for Dan that tracked with him throughout his career and life.

Dan was an explorer, creator, doer, thinker, not overly dramatic, but also not super passive. Dan had a real love for many “simple” things such as growing alfalfa, building a pond with a bulldozer, playing Liverpool rummy, or gorging on Chinese food. But he also appreciated and participated in highly intellectual challenges, such as teaching as a Professor at University of Missouri and Professor Emeritus at University of Colorado, founding the Department of Planning and Design (at the University of Colorado College of Architecture and Design), starting the Sociology and Human Services Department at Fort Lewis College in Durango and being a founding member of The Community Development Society. Some of his greatest endeavors in life were a wonderful combination of both, such as supervising the construction of a hospital in rural Ghana Africa, sponsoring and hosting (on their farm outside of Columbia Missouri) one of the early domestic training sites for the Peace Corps. Later in life, his recounting of many of these challenges would grow and grow in complexity, danger, excitement, and impact!

A man of many words, Dan was also a man of action. He and Mary struck out (from Missouri) on numerous new adventures and explored the world from Africa to Central and South America, Thailand, Hawaii and eventually Colorado and Oregon. But by far their biggest adventure and accomplishment was raising four boys and teaching them the wonders, responsibilities and challenges of being human beings. Dan was a great teacher, who provided guidance, support and love to the boys over the many years. He was a really wonderful father.

Dan leaves his incredible wife, Mary, and their four sons and their families; Jon (Tammy), Matt (Pam), Phil (Kim) and Stan (Paula) along with 12 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren to carry on the legacy (and stories) of his fun and fulfilling life.

So that means everyone needs to kick it up a bit more (he loved to dance) and never, ever drive past a Chinese restaurant without thinking of Dan! Donations may be made to the “Schler Student Support Fund (0350166)” thru the University of Colorado Foundation, PO Box 17126, Denver, CO 80217-9155.

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