



ST. JOHN

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

We are a family of Christians raising children in Christian faith.



From Our Interim Pastor

Wang's Words

It's not the 70's.

I have fond memories of my church youth group in the 70's. We had a large group; we met for a couple of hours every Sunday night; we took trips; we were close. I had a great experience.

What I didn't have was - a cell phone, a computer, (though I did have a pretty cool purple transistor radio), multiple opportunities for extra-curricular sports (especially as a girl), college-level high school classes....

You get my drift. It's a very different world. You know that.

One thing I've heard over and over again in recent years in the church: "We need a youth group; we have to attract more youth."

We had a good thing in the 70's but it's not the 70's and getting youth to come hang out at the church on a Sunday night is no longer a realistic model. While I'm bursting your bubble - offering the "right" kind of music in worship isn't going to have them coming in droves either.

It's not the 70's; we're not a mega-church. I apologize for being blunt.

The best thing we can do with our youth is integrate them into the total life of the congregation and give them meaningful experiences within the context of a church family.

"We need more members; we need more young families." is another refrain I have heard over and over again in churches. Of course we want that - we love our church; we want to make sure it is here for generations to come. Focusing on the question "How can we get more members?" however, might just be a waste of our energy.

It's not the 70's; or the 50's; or even the 80's. People are not seeking out churches like they once did. People are moving away from regular worship attendance. It's been going on for a while, and we are all feeling the effects of it in our churches. The New York Times has done a series of articles this spring on the religious shift in America. In one article, they quote the authors of a book that will be released this August - "The Great Dechurching." "About 15% of American adults living today have effectively stopped going to church." You could have guessed that.*

"But how do we get more members!?" you still ask. There is no easy answer, and again, it is probably the wrong question.

A more faithful question might be: "How do we live out our faith in this community and beyond? How do we love and serve those around us? How do we let people know they are loved?"

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Planned Giving to St. John

Have you ever thought about leaving something for St. John in your will or trust as part of your estate planning? Many of us give regularly to St. John, but we forget that we have the opportunity to continue to support St. John into the future. Faith communities rely on gifts that are given through estate planning, so if you've never considered this for you and your family, please consider remembering St. John. Contact the office if you have any questions.

ONLINE giving

Bible Study

Bible Study will resume

in September

On Tuesday's at 10:00 A.M.



From Our Interim Pastor (Continued)

Can we focus our energy on reaching out, rather than stressing about bringing people in? Can we put our energy into being the body of Christ in real and tangible ways, here and now, and trust that God is still at work in this church and the world? Let's continue bringing people in - for a hot meal and a place to sleep! Let's continue inviting people in to use our space. Let's continue to discover the needs of this community, and mobilize to meet those needs!

And if you really want to bring in more members, then bring them - literally, invite someone to join you here. It's honestly the best way!

Peace,

Pastor Judy

**The Great Dechurching: Who's Leaving, Why Are They Going, and What Will It Take to Bring Them Back? Jim Davis and Michael Graham with Ryan P. Burge*

Welcome to Our New Associate Conference Minister!

In May, the Conference extended a call to **Rev. Shernell Edney Stilley**. She is the ACM for Pastoral Transitions, which means that she will be working with the Search Committee here at St. John UCC. She is currently working remotely, and will be moving to IL this fall.

Rev. Shernell became an Ordained Minister in the United Church of Christ on December 05, 2010. She was authorized into ministry by the Southern Conference, Eastern Virginia Association. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Corporate Communications from Drexel University, a Master of Divinity from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, as well as a Master of Science in Health Psychology from Touro University.

Throughout her ministry tenure, **Rev. Edney Stilley** has served in a variety of positions at the local, national, and conference levels.

From Our Moderator

St. John Members,

As I talk to you today, I am happy to report that we have completed many projects at St. John. Our basement rooms for the new preschool rooms and the PADS kitchen have been finished, and the preschool has moved in. If you haven't already seen these rooms, take a walk downstairs and look at them! Additionally, the PADS kitchen and downstairs lift entrance will be painted soon this summer. A big thank you to **Ed Heiberger** and all the additional help we had, **Bob Burdick, Mike Wilson, Chad Kurka, Dave & Gus Tashima, Jay Virchow, Frank Styzek, Dave Landeweer, Wally Schultz, Roland Cooper & Paul Cochran**. We have amazing people at St. John and all have different talents. We could not have done this without you!

New and updated usage agreements for the following groups have been signed:

- Christian Preschool
- Love of Jesus Mission Church
- Golden Ticket Theater Group
- Bassoon Workshop
- Tai Chi

We are also working on cleaning and arranging a new room for PADS next fall. Additionally, we have opened our church to the Brownies and Girl scouts to use our building for their meetings.

It is good to see all of these groups use our facilities. It shows we are a loving and growing church not only for our members but for our community, as well. We should all be proud of what we have accomplished.

Paul Giambarberee, Moderator

Church Calendar

Did you know that all of St. John's events are on a calendar that you can find on our website, www.stjah.org? Once you're on the website, click "About St. John" and you will see Upcoming Events/Calendar. Click on that and you'll see the calendar.



Worship Service Update

The State of Illinois and CDC have dropped mask mandates. At St. John, masks are encouraged, but not required; masks are now optional.



Lutheran Church of the Cross Food Pantry Report

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS FOOD PANTRY REPORT SPRING 2022

NEWS & ACTIVITIES

This year, throughout the first quarter [January, February, March], the Lutheran Church of the Cross Food Pantry has serviced 1,327 recipients which translates to helping feed nearly 4,000 (3,821) food insecure folks taking into account individuals served—the total of those residing in each recipient's home. What a blessing!

And, as the Easter season was recently celebrated, we wanted to mention that some long-time supporters of the LCC Pantry – Gregg & Betsy Duncan – again donated their specialty gift of numerous bags of jelly beans that we were able to distribute during the two weeks preceding Easter Sunday. Another blessing – and we thank them so much for always remembering the Pantry and its many recipients at this time of year!



In mid-May on Saturday the 13th, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will again hold its Post Office Food Drive – *Stamp Out Hunger* – that they had restarted last year after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. In 2022 our pantry was the beneficiary of nearly 10,000 pounds of non-perishable food items due to the hard work and coordination of the NALC and their local branch at the Arlington Heights Post Office. We so appreciate volunteers from the pantry and surrounding area who help sort and box up the food at our end so that we can put it to good use over the remaining spring and also the summer months as we will do so again this year!

Also, we'd like to mention that while we have enjoyed the past six years as co-directors of the Pantry here at Lutheran Church of the Cross, it's time to turn over the reins to new blood. So...during the next few months, the Pantry will be transitioning to new leadership – Katherine Ehlert, the Pastor here at LCC, and her very good friend and colleague that she has worked on many projects with, Micki Fayhee, will become Co-Directors. Please welcome them as they begin a new venture!

To our volunteers – stay safe and healthy and we thank you for your continued help throughout the year! To our supporters – whether you provide monetary donations or drop off donations of food – we appreciate every effort. Please know that the food insecure folks in the area benefit tremendously by your generosity! Thank you, thank you! May God bless you all!



Sincerely,
Debbie Paddack, Julie Malin, Lori Becker, Co-Directors, LCC Food Pantry

Lutheran Church of the Cross / 2025 South Goebbert Road / Arlington Heights IL 60005 / 847-437-5141
Website: www.sharegodslove.org

Thank You St. John from Our PADS Guests

A THANK YOU NOTE FROM OUR PADS GUESTS

IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN, 15:13, JESUS SAYS THAT THERE IS NO GREATER LOVE THAN TO LAY DOWN ONE'S LIFE FOR A FRIEND.

IN ESSENCE, THAT IS WHAT ALL OF YOU HAVE BEEN PRACTICING DURING THIS PAST PADS SEASON. EACH AND EVERY PERSON HAS OPENED THEIR HEARTS, SOUL, MIND AND HOME TO THOSE OF US EXPERIENCING THIS UNFORTUNATE SITUATION.

WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE THAT WE FEEL, KNOWING THAT THERE WAS A WARM AND WELCOMING PLACE DURING THE COLD WINTER MONTHS WAS TANTAMOUNT TO KEEPING HOPE ALIVE. YOUR FAITH IN ACTION IS A TESTAMENT TO THE TYPE OF PEOPLE YOU ARE.

MAY THE ROAD RISE TO MEET YOU. MAY THE SUN ALWAYS SHINE ON YOUR FACE. MAY THE WIND BE AT YOUR BACK. AND MAY THE LORD HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND FOREVER

WITH ALL THE GRATITUDE IN OUR HEARTS WE

THANK YOU
—H—

Giving to St. John

Thank you for your continued financial support of St. John.

In addition to giving at Sunday worship, there are 2 ways to give to St. John:

1. Go to www.stjah.org and click the "DONATE" button at the top of the page. Once on the Give page, click "DONATE." Consider signing up for recurring giving. It's easy and helps the church plan.
2. Mail your gift to St. John UCC, 308 N. Evergreen Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004.

"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed." Maya Angelou

Not Your Average Directory

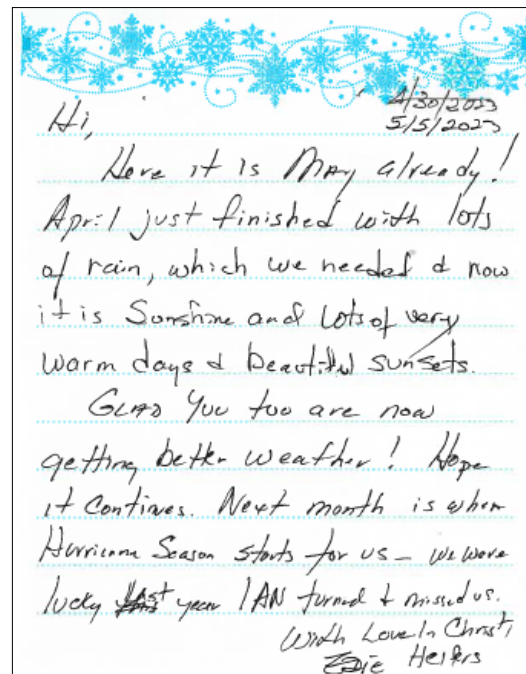
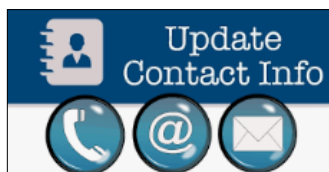
The Spiritual Life Committee asks you to provide a recent 4 x 6-inch photo (on photo paper) of your family for the pictorial directory we will be assembling on the north wall of the former library--it will back up to the closet by the west door. We look forward to seeing YOU on our Pictorial Directory wall!

The Spiritual Life Committee

Dave Landeweer, Barbara Blye, Cindy Giambarberee, Judy Grimes, Holly Petersen & Dennis Roesslein

Contact Changes

If you have a change of address or contact information, please call the office and let us know!



Music Committee

The Music Ministry has continued to enhance our worship services. We continue to be grateful to all the volunteers and Directors.

The Worship Band will continue to be a part of worship throughout the summer.

The Chancel Choir, Belltones and Orchestra will be on a Summer break and will start rehearsals and performances from mid August.

Please take a moment to thank our wonderful music volunteers and staff.

Music Committee Members:

Bob Burdick, Chair

Colleen Kave

Carin Zachar

Jay Virchow

Julie Kurka

Staff:

Linda Styzek

Paul Cochran

Alberto Montovano



From Our Treasurer

Through the first half of 2023, we are 108% of the budget for total income. Total expenses are modestly over at 102% of the budget year to date. Our finances remain strong. Once again, a big thanks to our congregation for their ongoing generous financial support.

We are awaiting news from the State of Illinois regarding the availability of funds for the \$55,775 security grant that we were awarded. Once we get confirmation from the State we'll begin getting bids for camera and intercom systems to help make the church more secure.

Mike Wilson, Treasurer



Food Pantry Donations

We're collecting food pantry donations every Sunday during worship. The kids will pick up food from you as you pass it towards the center aisle. Thank you for supporting the food pantry.

Sunday Worship Livestream

Worship Livestream every Sunday at 10:00 A.M. / WORSHIP IS RECORDED!

Cards

We play cards at St. John at 1:00 P.M. on the first and third Thursdays of each month. All are welcome!

Book Club

Do you enjoy reading a variety of books and then find yourself looking for someone to discuss what you have read? Our book club may be just the group you are looking for! We meet on the second Monday of the month at 2:00 P.M. in Fellowship Hall.

Meals on Wheels

Thank you to **April & Mark Swenson, Connie & Tim Wayman, Judy Grimes & Jay Virchow** for volunteering to deliver meals for the Wheeling Township Meals on Wheels program in August.



Little Free Pantry Update

Thank you for your continued support of the Little Free Pantry! There is still a need for items, such as **athletic socks, sunscreen, deodorant and soap/body wipes**.

Please consider signing up to help for a 2-week commitment at <https://tinyurl.com/2uzc4tdf>.

Contact **Jay Virchow or Jenn Borrell** with questions.



Prayers of Concern & Prayers of Joy

The Spiritual Life Committee has implemented a new process for receiving prayer concerns and joys. With respect to privacy, since our service is recorded and available online, we will no longer be lifting up specific names during worship. Instead, prayer request forms will be available at the back of the sanctuary. Please use these to request prayers and celebrate joys. You may place these forms in the offering plates, or in the box provided in the narthex. They will be collected by the pastor, and a prayer list will be emailed to members/friends on Monday each week. Thank you.



Prayer Request Form Prayers of Concern & Prayers of Joy

This information will be sent out in a "Weekly Prayers" email on Monday. Names will not be read during worship. Please only share names if you have permission from the person/family.

PLEASE PRINT.

Please pray for: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Your name: _____

Please celebrate this joy with me: _____



UCC Global Ministries Sponsorship



Dumaguete Kalauman Center for Development

Piñero Subdivision, Sto. Niño Road, Mangnao, 6200 Dumaguete City, Philippines
PO Box 270, Tel. No. (035) 420-6560, email address: dkalaumancdi21@gmail.com

May 06, 2023

Dear Friends at St. John's UCC,

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me!" Philippians 4:13

Good day! How are you? My Family and I are doing fine.

Last January 2023 our first semester ended and we started our second semester. We recently had our 3rd grading exam as well and the exam was not really difficult for me because I studied hard. Although, except for statistics, the problem solving was quite challenging.

I joined city meet last month in February 2023 as sepat player, our team did our best but we didn't win the game. However, we learned new strategies and enjoyed the game a lot. I'd love to play with the team next year but I transferred school, from Tacloban National High School to Camarines National High School. Upon transferring, I also enroll to another strand which is ABM (Accountancy, Business, and Management) instead of GAS (General Academic Strand) because I will extend another year if I enroll to GAS again. So instead of 2 years in Senior High School, I will be staying for 3 years to catch up to the school's other required subjects. No worries though, I am enjoying ABM so much. I am still adjusting to the new environment and new faces but so far, I am starting to love Camarines National High School.

In 9th of April 2023 is Easter Sunday. We, at Kalauman went to Siliman church to attend the Easter Sunday worship service. After the mass, we went egg hunting! I found 5 eggs and gave each of my Kalauman friends one egg so that all of us has one when taking pictures. I enjoyed it a lot especially that I am with my Kalauman friends. After that my family and I went to the beach and enjoyed swimming and talking to each other.

UCC Global Ministries Sponsorship (Continued)

April 22, 2023, Kalouman had a field trip in Iptong Woodland in Valencia. I learned about the different kinds of trees which Tatay Ete, the owner of the nature preserve - Iptong Woodland, talked about. I was amused of the jackfruit tree I saw because it was not the usual height for jackfruit trees - the tree was very tall. It was nice to learn while enjoying the fieldtrip, especially that I was with my Kalouman friends. Although, we felt the scorching heat of the sun, the field trip is still enjoyable, thanks to the company I had.

As always, I am grateful for your support. I promise to finish my studies and do well on it. God bless you all





We are thrilled to announce that the construction portion of the Capital Campaign is completed! All work by contractors is now finished. A huge thank you to several people including **Bob Burdick, Steve Blye, Paul Frost, and many others** for the work they contributed to the project. A special thank you to **Ed Heiberger** for the many hours of work and contractor coordination he contributed to this project.

To celebrate the success in achieving the Campaign's original project goals, the Capital Campaign Committee will be hosting an open house on Wednesday, September 27, at St. John. Your generosity and financial commitment made it all possible! Save the date and look for more information about this very special event in the coming weeks.

We can be proud of the many projects and building improvements completed as part of this very successful and ambitious campaign including:

- Air conditioning in the sanctuary and throughout the entire first floor
- New seating and carpeting in the sanctuary
- An automated lift between the first floor and the basement
- A beautiful new gathering room along with new lighting, carpeting and furniture in the church lobby
- New windows in the pastor's office and in the gathering room
- New doors into the sanctuary, the east stairwell, and the northwest exterior door
- Additional improvements and enhancements throughout the first floor and balcony

The total cost of the Campaign was \$623,987, approximately \$74,000 more than we initially anticipated. A letter was mailed to the congregation in June providing additional detail about the Campaign and the various reasons for the increased costs. We would ask that you prayerfully consider an additional donation to the campaign to help reduce the shortfall. We have begun to pay back the loan from the Endowment Fund and will continue to pay it back as remaining pledges and additional contributions come in.

We look forward to celebrating with you in September! Again, thank you for your patience and generous financial support in helping us to reach our project goals.

Save the Date

Capital Campaign Celebration Open House

Wednesday, September 27

Details to be announced late summer in the Sunday bulletin & Friday Blast

SAVE
the
DATE

Spiritual Life Committee

The Spiritual Life Committee has been quite busy helping with worship on Sunday mornings. Committee members have been serving as greeters, ushers, communion servers, providing the announcements and performing other duties as needed to try and help Pastor Judy provide for a smooth and meaningful service. We have settled into a good routine with Pastor Judy.

We've also been asking members to serve as scripture readers and to sign up for coffee servers for coffee hour after the Sunday service. The congregation has responded by signing up for the many slots for both.

Called to Care has kept busy reaching out to our shut-ins and those feeling under the weather. A number of people in our congregation serve on that committee and we are extremely grateful for the service they provide to those in need.

St. John had a very successful first year hosting PADS and are continuing to provide one meal a month during the summer months. We have served up to 35 guests for dinner and provide additional food items and toiletries to take with them. In addition, the Little Free Pantry continues to provide needed items for those less fortunate.

Planning has begun for a Women's Spiritual Retreat to be held this fall. Further details will be announced when available.

The Committee has been meeting monthly on the first Tuesday at 7:00 pm at St. John. If you are interested in learning more about our committee and our work, feel free to reach out to anyone on the committee. The members on the committee include **Barbara Blye, Judy Grimes, Dennis Roesslein, Holly Petersen, Cindy Giambarberee & Dave Landeweer.**

Giving Hope is Coming!

Please save the date and plan to attend FamilyForward's biggest event of the year! Featuring an Oktoberfest theme and in celebration of our 20th anniversary, we look forward to an afternoon of fun and fundraising, all to help further FamilyForward's mission to strengthen local low-income, working families.

This year's *Giving Hope* event will be held at Chevy Chase Country Club, 1000 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling on Sunday, October 15, from 11:30am - 2:00pm.

Stay tuned for more details in church bulletins; tickets will be available around September 1. For additional information as the date approaches, visit the FamilyForward website (family-forward.org) or see board members Paul Cochran or Tim Wayman.

Incidentally, lederhosen not required...



From Our Financial Secretary

It seems like just last week I was writing to say thank you for all of your giving for 2022 and welcome to the year 2023. We are now half-way through the year and your continued giving has sustained St. John through the first six months, supporting staff and programs. We also have given generously to our new PADS program, the Little Free Pantry and various benevolences and disasters. Thank you to all who contribute.

For those that give a yearly pledge, the rate of receipt at the end of June is 86%. Donations come in various ways— weekly, monthly, semi-monthly, quarterly, yearly, and sporadically. The percentage received is seldom 100% only because of the various ways one can donate. By now, you should have received your giving statement through June. If you did not receive a statement, please notify the office or myself.

Thank you for your generous and faithful giving. If I may be of help to you in any way regarding your giving or if you need assistance changing how you give, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lana Cochran, Financial Secretary

\$\$\$

Just a friendly reminder to committee chairs and members...

If you are purchasing items for your committees, please remember to complete an Expense Voucher Request form and include the committee account number for us to charge. Submit the completed form along with receipts to the office. We will process your request.

EXPENSE VOUCHER REQUEST	
From: _____	
Date: _____	Check No. _____
Pay to: _____	
Amount: _____	_____
Acct-Sub: _____	Acct-Sub: _____
Acct-Sub: _____	Acct-Sub: _____
For: _____	

Approval: _____	Date: _____

Congratulations Graduates

Graduates were celebrated at worship on Graduation Sunday, June 11.

Carol Heiberger, daughter of Ed & Cynthia Heiberger, graduated from the University of Illinois, with a degree in Biology. Carol will attend graduate school next year.

Olivia Hanssen, granddaughter of Charlie Lewis, graduated *summa cum laude* from Bradley University in Peoria, with a degree in education. She wants to be a 4th grade teacher in the local area.

Maura Hogaboom, granddaughter of Grace Hogaboom, graduated from Notre Dame.

Benjamin R. Kiewel, grandson of Paul & Lana Cochran, graduated from Luther College in Iowa with a BA in Biology. He is student teaching this fall in Rochester, MN.

Jaclyn Grace Hand, granddaughter of Paul & Lana Cochran, graduated from Christian Heritage Academy in Northbrook. In the fall, she will attend Cedarville University in Ohio.

Patrick Boyle, grandson of Jane Olszowka, is graduating from the Swedish Hospital Emergency Medicine Residency program.



Photography Consent Form/Release

From time to time, we print photos of church events in the newsletter. Please fill out this consent form and return it to the office if we have permission to print your photo. Thank you



Photography Consent Form/Release

I, _____
hereby grant permission to St. John United Church of Christ to take and use photographs, videotape, and/or digital images of me for use in church newsletters (including publishing in electronic form), or other lawful uses as may be determined by St. John United Church of Christ. I agree that my name and identity:

may be revealed
 may not be revealed

in descriptive text or commentary in connection with the use of such image(s). I authorize the use of these images indefinitely without compensation to me. All prints, digital reproductions and videotape shall be the property of St. John United Church of Christ.

Signed _____
Date _____
Address _____

Release for Minor Children (*under 18*)

I, _____
parent or official guardian of _____
hereby grant permission to St. John United Church of Christ to take and use photographs, videotape and/or digital images of **my child** for use in church newsletters (including publishing in electronic form), or other lawful uses as may be determined by St. John United Church of Christ. I agree that my child's name and identity:

may be revealed
 may not be revealed

in descriptive text or commentary in connection with the use of such image(s). I authorize the use of these images indefinitely without compensation to me. All prints, digital reproductions and videotape shall be the property of St. John United Church of Christ.

Signed _____
Date _____
Address _____

March 2023

Thank You from the Girl Scouts



Hi, 6/15/2023
All is well here &
I finally took a
'SELFIE' FOR THE PHOTO
REQUEST.
WISHING A GOOD SUMMER
FOR EVERYONE AND NO BAD
STORMS!
WITH LOVE IN CHRIST,
EMIE HELFERS

**Message
from
Church
Member**

Mission: Food Pantry

As we head into the fall and winter months, the risk of food insecurity for countless families in our area only increases. Many in need fall into the vulnerable categories of seniors, people with disabilities, the homeless and our youngest group – children. Our area also includes many low and middle-income families who need some assistance stretching their food budgets to make ends meet. Pantry recipients reside in Arlington Heights, Mt. Prospect, Des Plaines, Elk Grove Village and Rolling Meadows. While any donation is greatly appreciated and accepted, suggested weekly items are listed below for your convenience.

August 6—Pasta 1 lb. packages (not lasagna)

August 13—Canned soup

August 20—Canned chicken and tuna

August 27—Canned fruit

September 3—Canned SpaghettiO's or ravioli, etc.

September 10—Peanut butter, 16 oz.-28 oz. max.

September 17—White rice, 1-2 lb. bags or boxes

September 24—Pasta 1 lb. packages (not lasagna)

October 1—Canned soup

October 8—Canned chicken and tuna

October 15—Canned fruit

October 22—Canned SpaghettiOs or ravioli, etc.

October 29—Peanut butter, 16 oz.-28 oz. max.



THANK YOU!

The Lutheran Church of the Cross is grateful for St. John's continued support of the food pantry. With Gratitude, **Connie Wayman & the Mission Team**

Christian Education Committee

Christian Education is enjoying a break for the summer and will kick off Sunday School on **Rally Day, September 10th**. We look forward to welcoming the kids back to Sunday School!

MORE EXCITING NEWS! We have received Council approval to hire a Sunday School Coordinator and have begun the search. We are looking for someone 20-25 hours per month, including Sunday mornings. Do you know someone who might be interested? If so, please let Ellen or Pastor Judy know!

Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for **September 17th**, with 4 youth completing their confirmation.

Stay Tuned: In October, we will be carving pumpkins and will coordinate a youth group Halloween activity.



DON'T MISS RALLY DAY!
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th
FOOD, FUN, FELLOWSHIP
with our CHURCH FAMILY!

HOT DOGS!



ICE CREAM!

BOUNCY HOUSE!

FUN & GAMES!



BRING A FRIEND!

Summer Suppers

Thank you to everyone supporting our Summer Suppers program. It is so rewarding to see community members gather and enjoy a warm meal and the company of others. We have two remaining Suppers - Sunday, August 27th and Sunday, September 24th. We publish the Sign-up Genius the first week of the month. Please contact **Kathy Winters, Michelle Johns, or Barbara Jo Scott** with any questions or concerns.

2023-2024 PADS Program

The PADS program will start up again in October. St. John will be providing a warm meal, safe warm place to sleep, a continental breakfast and brown bag lunch "to go" to the members of our community working their way from homelessness to a place they can call home. We thank you for your amazing support of our first year as an overnight site and look forward to your continued support. While October seems way down the road, our planning and preparing has begun. Please contact **Kathy Winters, Michelle Johns, or Barbara Jo Scott** with any questions or concerns.

Mission

St. John has two ongoing Mission projects which run all year, the Little Free Pantry and supporting the Lutheran Church of the Cross Food Pantry. The PADS season will start again in October and operate through April. The Heifer project will run during Advent. If anyone has an interest or cause that you'd like us to consider, please let us know. The team is looking at options and would like to include your thoughts.

Please reach out –

Pam Ahrendt, Martha Ross-Mockaitis, Tom Mockaitis, Jay Virchow & Connie Wayman

Stewardship Committee

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12.4-7

We are so grateful for the many gifts within this congregation; gifts of time, and effort, and skill, and financial resources. It has been amazing to see all that has been accomplished so far this year including PADS and preparation for the space sharing with the pre-school. THANK YOU!

Time flies, and the Stewardship Committee is already preparing for our fall activities which should help set the way for St John in 2024. We will be using an updated time frame this year, and will be asking the congregation to fill out a time and talent pledge along with a financial pledge card. This will give everyone a chance to consider the ways they feel they can best serve God and others through the work of the church. Stay tuned for more info this fall!

2023 Buffalo Grove Pride Parade

Special thanks to **Jane Allen** for leading the St. John UCC team and to **Patty Larson, Mary Santi & the volunteers of Congregational UCC.**



2023 Buffalo Grove Pride Parade (Continued)



August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>AH National Night Out is on August 1</i>	<i>1</i> 7pm GTP Rehearsal 7pm Spiritual Life Committee Meeting	<i>2</i> 7pm GTP Rehearsal	<i>3</i> 1pm Cards 	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 12pm GTP Rehearsal
<i>6 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10am Communion Worship 11am Coffee Hour	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 7pm Council Meeting	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 6:30pm Table Talks	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 6pm St. John Social— "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" 
<i>13 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10am Worship / Baptisms 11am Coffee Hour	<i>14</i> 2pm Book Club 	<i>15</i> 7pm Stewardship Meeting	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 1pm Cards 	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 11:15am Table Talks	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour 6:30pm PADS Summer Suppers	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>		

St. John Social

Join your St. John community at our monthly potluck gathering. On the second Saturday of the month, we gather at **6 PM** (note time change) in Fellowship Hall for an evening of conversation, friendship and good food. Mark your calendars and join us **August 12th "Take Me Out To the Ballgame", September 9th "Autumn Harvest" and October 14 TBA**. Everyone is welcome! Hope to see you there.

happy birthday!

August			
1st	Pam Ahrendt, DJ Shurson	19th	Jonathan Landeweer
3rd	John Franz, Dennis Roeslein	20th	Dorothy Albright, Diane Salazar
4th	Mike Wilson	22nd	Bill Heiberger
7th	Troy Brinson, Barbara Crum	24th	Shane O'Connor
11th	Sharon Hanssen	25th	Melanie Thoms
12th	Dave Landeweer	26th	Bev Morath
13th	Roland Cooper	27th	Sebastian Dorszewski, Karen Johnson, Colleen Kave, Barbara Jo Scott
15th	Kelly Kurka, Doug Petersen	28th	Tom Riley
17th	Ty Shurson		Alex Herazy

September			
4th	Georgia Runge	14th	Craig Mallar
5th	Ashley Ilg	16th	Evie Browning
10th	Bob Burdick, Owen Hong, Jordan Slonke	20th	Darlene Vogt
12th	Travis Jackson		

October			
4th	Faith McNaney	20th	Judy Kriston, Stefanie Landeweer
7th	Gus Tashima	24th	Harris Brinson, Dorothy Esmail, Jennifer Riley
12th	Anna Marie Slonke	25th	David Pump, Gail Tiedel, Deborah Wittmeyer
14th	Lindsey Herazy, Brendan Kave	26th	Russell Crum
15th	Hannah Hong, Nancy Riley & Dave Tashima	27th	Lorraine Grupe, Rachel Martin
16th	Ellen Burkhardt	29th	Jean Frost
17th	Mark Santi	30th	Joel Martin
18th	Cathy Pecora	31st	Gianna Buske
19th	Frank Styzek		



Do we have your birthday? If not, please call the office and let us know!

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<p>3 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Communion Worship 11am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>4 Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday</p>	<p>5 10am Bible Study 7pm Spiritual Life Committee Meeting</p>	6	<p>7 1pm Cards </p>	8	<p>9 6pm St. John Social— "Autumn Harvest" </p>
<p>10 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Rally Day! 10am Worship & Sunday School 11am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>11 2pm Book Club </p>	<p>12 10am Bible Study</p>	13	<p>14 6pm Women's Spiritual Gathering</p>	15	16
<p>17 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Confirmation Sunday 10am Worship & Sunday School 11am Coffee Hour</p>	18	<p>19 10am Bible Study 7pm Stewardship Committee Meeting</p>	20	<p>21 1pm Cards </p>	22	23
<p>24 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship & Sunday School 11am Coffee Hour 6:30 pm PADS Summer Supper</p>	25	<p>26 10am Bible Study</p>	<p>27 St. John Open House! </p>	28	29	30



October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Communion Worship & Sunday School 11am Coffee Hour	2	3 10am Bible Study 7pm Spiritual Life Committee Meeting	4	5 1pm Cards 	6	7 AH Autumn Fest 
8 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship & Sunday School 11am Coffee Hour	9 2pm Book Club 	10 10am Bible Study 7pm Council Meeting	11	12	13	14 6pm St. John Social
15 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Stewardship Sunday 10am Worship & Sunday School 11am Coffee Hour	16	17 10am Bible Study 7pm Stewardship Committee Meeting	18	19 1pm Cards 	20	21
22 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship & Sunday School 11am Coffee Hour	23	24 10am Bible Study	25	26	27	28
29 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship & Sunday School 11am Coffee Hour	30	31 10am Bible Study 				



Please check the Sunday bulletins and Friday blast emails for additional calendar information.

Contact Us

St. John United Church of Christ
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Office Hours:
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Monday – Friday

Staff

Rev. Judy Wang, Interim Pastor— pastor@stjah.org

Janice Gilligan, Church Administrator – office@stjah.org

Dr. J. Paul Cochran, Organist & Orchestra Director

Linda Styzek, Pianist & Worship Band Coordinator

Alberto Mantovano, Choir Director & Livestream Coordinator

Carin Zachar, Bell Choir Director



ST. JOHN UCC OPEN & AFFIRMING STATEMENT

The congregation of St. John United Church of Christ rejoices that our community of faith is strengthened by diversity. We declare ourselves to be an open and affirming congregation, extending God's extravagant welcome to all people regardless of culture, economic status, age, sex, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, marital status, or physical/mental condition. We invite everyone to join our journey of faith and participate fully in the life of our congregation.

St. John United Church of Christ
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