

The Friendly Call

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST • MANCHESTER, MO



Annual Sausage Supper

Worship Schedule November 2024

November 3 - Communion & Stewardship Sunday

9:30 am Pastor Kevin
Musician - Bob Meinz

November 10 - Veteran's Day

9:30 am Pastor Kevin
Musician - Bob Meinz

November 17

9:30 am Pastor Kevin
Musician - Bob Meinz

November 24 - Remembering The Saints

9:30 am Pastor Kevin
Musician - Bob Meinz

Our Annual Sausage Supper will be held
Saturday, November 9, 2024
3:00 - 6:00 pm

The St. John Men's Brotherhood sponsors this event. We'll have DINE-IN and CARRY OUT again this year.



TICKET PRICES:

Adults: \$15.00
Children (6-12): \$7.00
Children (under 6): FREE

(cash or check)



Women's Fellowship

is sponsoring a bake sale on
Saturday, November 9:
SAUSAGE SUPPER!

Hours will be **1:00-6:00 pm**,
in the Gathering area. We
are asking for some of those
great homemade surprises

(especially cookies) our fantastic bakers at St. John provide. Cookies sell the best at our Bake Sale so we are asking for more cookies this year and less of the other items (breads, cakes, pies, etc.). We will need volunteers to help at the sale. If you can give an hour or two of your time, we welcome your help. Please see Marty Boucher if you have any questions or want to volunteer your time the day of the sale.





Since the conclusion of Tim Osiek's ministry, I've had members ask me: "What does this mean?" I recognize that this is Tim's home church and that long before he started to serve on staff, he was an active member. However, there are professional boundaries and ethics that need to be honored in the church. Thus, Tim and I have collaborated on this article to communicate the relationship moving forward.

The Committee on Ministry for the St. Louis Association handles ministerial standing for ordained, licensed, and commissioned ministers. Tim was an authorized Commissioned Minister in the denomination. So, the congregation is asked to please be mindful and respectful of boundaries. For a new musician(s) to establish themselves on staff, it would not be appropriate for Tim to come back and play organ/piano or direct the choirs for a worship service, even as a substitute when the primary musician and/or director is not available.

There are certain occasions that would be suitable for inviting Tim back. For instance, playing the trumpet for a special service (i.e. Easter) or playing as an instrumentalist with a larger ensemble (i.e. Oikos). Tim could be invited back to conduct or accompany the choirs, if they were performing one of his compositions. We could request him to be part of worship should the church commission him to compose a piece for the choirs. We could invite Tim to participate in worship leadership or preach, if I'm gone on a Sunday. There are opportunities in which Tim could come to lead worship.

When it comes to a wedding or a funeral service, please do not ask Tim to play on such occasions. That puts him in an awkward position and makes for an uncomfortable situation. We should ask the staff musician at St. John as they have "first rights of refusal" for special services. If the staff member is not available, then we need to approach substitutes from our list. Tim could be considered after all other options have been exhausted.

Lastly, it's understandable that members have formed a friendship with Tim. He's been an active member of this congregation his entire life. There may be times when Tim will come here for Sunday morning worship. It's also possible that people will see him or talk to him in the community. The hope is that these will be joyous occasions to get caught up. That's certainly appropriate. People are asked to refrain from soliciting Tim's opinion on the new staff member(s) or getting his thoughts on what the choirs might do for anthems or cantatas. Those conversations have the capacity to undermine the authority of the next staff member(s).

I'm aware that this will be tough, and mistakes will be made. This new relationship will be a work in progress. The purpose of these standards is to respect boundaries regarding Tim, as well as the new staff member(s). It's a way to honor people and relationships for a healthy community. My hope is that we will make every effort to uphold this new relationship. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin".



Notes from the **October 8, 2024** Council Meeting

Stewardship Sunday is November 3, 2024. Sausage Supper is Saturday, November 9, 2024. Advent Breakfast is December 8, 2024; Christmas Pageant is December 15, 2024.

WEB Status-Preliminary inspection was done and hand rails installed. Will need to bring the electric panel to code, raise the service line going to the back of the house and add new GFI for a cost of \$14,615. If the knob and tube wiring needs to be replaced there is an additional cost of \$10,000. Total cost will be approximately \$25,000. Council approved taking the money from the Building Fund.

Chris Morton will go off the Board of Christian Education at the end of the year. Organizing Confirmation Room. Looking for high school students to volunteer for Sausage Supper.

Cedar Ford Timber Harvest - Pastor Kevin sent a letter by certified mail. A note was left on the door but has not been picked up. Letter is still at Post Office. Person harvesting does not want to be liable so will wait and see.

Personnel Update - Both positions have been posted on the Website, Facebook and the Missouri Mid-South Conference. No responses. Kevin will ask Cindy to post the organist position on the American Guild of Organists website. It was suggested we ask Michelle Patterson to set up a Linked-In account to post both positions.

Council discussed the mission, vision and strategy of the church since going through staffing changes. Looking at how to channel our energy together and the role of council to help guide congregation where we are going and how to get there. Look at our ministries and what is realistic and what still remain and may need to let go. Council will look at this and provide leadership once we have new staff members on board.

Pastor Kevin thanked everyone for the gift cards for Pastor Appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Jung, Recording Secretary

Financial Report - September 30, 2024

<u>Actual Receipts</u>	<u>Budget Receipts</u>	<u>YTD Actual Receipts</u>	<u>YTD Budget Receipts</u>
\$28,432.41	\$30,637.00	\$336,836.76	\$298,348.00
<u>Actual Expenditures</u>	<u>Budget Expenditures</u>	<u>YTD Actual Expenditures</u>	<u>YTD Budget Expenditures</u>
\$40,974.55	\$42,655.00	\$327,370.54	\$325,643.05

Members of the Church Council of St. John United Church of Christ, Manchester, meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Hospitality Room of the church (or via Zoom). The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 12, 2024.**





Chalk Brigade

NAME	DATE	YEARS
Keith & Barbara Schirmer	11/2	39
Doug & Donna Travis	11/4	19
John & Joan Walker	11/6	48
Earl & Pauline Bair	11/15	66
Chuck & Marilyn Weber	11/25	57
James & Mary Goheen	11/26	58
John & Anita Reger	11/28	43
Gary & Michelle Patterson	11/29	16

Would you like to be part of the **Chalk Brigade**? There is no age requirement. All generations are welcome. The Chalk Brigade goes out once a month (usually a Saturday morning or Sunday after church) to decorate driveways and sidewalks of church members and friends with cheerful chalk art. We would love for you to join us. If you are interested, please let me know and I will add your name to the email list for this wonderful ministry. If you can't make it every time, that is totally fine. Just come when you can!! And lunch and fellowship are part of the fun!

Judy Lindquist
cjislind@charter.net
 636-357-5209



ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance			
Date	In Person	Streaming	TOTAL
September 29	112	72	184
October 6	79	71	150
October 13	87	63	150
October 20	103	62	165

NOTE: Streaming count is household so it could include more than one person; count is taken during LIVE streaming.

REMEMBER TO VOTE!
 Tuesday, November 5



Veteran's Day - November 11





Dear members and friends:

There is more to St. John UCC than what you experience on Sunday morning. Besides donuts, coffee, and juice, we have programs and activities that embody the purposes of Christ. On Tuesdays, Women's Fellowship builds relationships of support and encouragement with one another. The choirs meet on Wednesday night to rehearse and prepare for the worship of God. We have groups like NAMI, Green Team, and Outreach that gather on Thursdays to make a difference in the world. Something is always happening here for the sake of the Gospel.

All these events are planned by dedicated members who strive to become who it is God is calling us to be. At the same time, the ministry of our church can only be realized when members and friends willingly share their financial gifts. It's the resources that fuel our mission; and yes, it does take money to provide these spiritual things.

The decision to pledge is a response to an invitation by God. Based on what we have received from the Lord, we are urged to give a portion back. This expresses our thanksgiving for what God has done, as well as a sign of our commitment to be part of the good work God is continuing to do in our midst. The gift of Jesus Christ calls us to respond generously by offering our very best monetarily.

On **Sunday, November 3rd**, folks will have the opportunity to be faithful stewards of their financial resources. Our theme this year is: **Imagine Together**. Please give thoughtful consideration to what St. John UCC Church can accomplish through our commitment and contribution. Make plans now to unite for worship on that Sunday when we will offer our pledge cards and share together in praise of our Lord. Imagine what we can do when we join with our sisters and brothers in the community of faith.

Thank you, in advance, for your prayers and participation in this year's campaign.

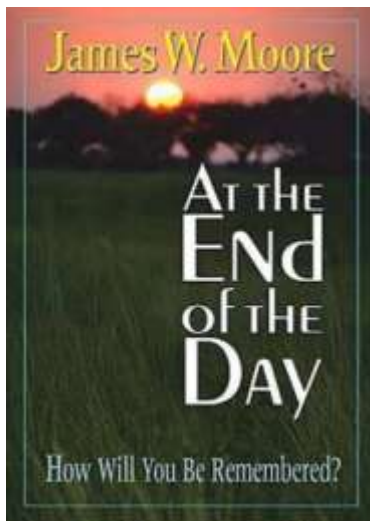
Blessings,

The Stewardship Team

<p>For CHURCH RECORDS Envelope # _____ (for office use)</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____</p> <p>I plan to give \$ _____ each <input type="checkbox"/> week <input type="checkbox"/> month beginning _____</p> <p>for an annual total of \$ _____ (date and year)</p> <p>I understand that this commitment can be changed at any time by giving notice to the church officer.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I would like to talk with someone about including the church or church-related institution in my will.</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>Imagine Together</p>	<p>For YOUR RECORDS</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>With others in my congregation, I commit myself to give in proportion to what I have for the ministries of the church and the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>I plan to give \$ _____ beginning _____ (date and year)</p> <p>Each <input type="checkbox"/> week <input type="checkbox"/> month</p> <p>Annual Total \$ _____</p> 
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I just wanted to extend a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone for the wonderful celebration on my last Sunday at the end of August. It was a great 21+ years of music ministry at the church, and you all made it feel very special. I truly appreciate all the time and effort that went into planning all the details of the service - it meant a lot to me and my family! I hope to see you all again sometime soon.

- **Tim Osiek**



BIBLE STUDY **“How Will You Be Remembered?”**

The Tuesday evening group has been reading a book by James Moore entitled *At The End of The Day*. As the introduction states, “When all is said and done, in the final analysis, what will be your lasting legacy?” The series discusses various topics, such as, ‘the joy of the journey,’ ‘right from wrong,’ and ‘the battle within.’ Come to hear different perspectives on faith and life. Come to reflect on your walk with God as you seek to make your days count in this world. These gatherings will be from 7:00-8:00 pm on the first and third Tuesday nights in the Hospitality Room or your own living room. People can purchase the book online, share with a friend, or just show up and participate in the conversation. Here’s the remaining schedule:

- ✝ **Tuesday, Tuesday, November 5th** – Chapter 10 (...The Power of Words?) & Chapter 12 (...How to be Beautifully Extravagant?)
- ✝ **Tuesday, November 19th** – Chapter 13 (...How to be a Real Friend?) & Chapter 14 (...How to Close the Gate?)

If you prefer to join via Zoom, please find information below:
 Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87178121895>
 Meeting ID: 871 7812 1895
 One tap mobile: +13126266799, 87178121895# US (Chicago)
 +16465588656, 87178121895# US (New York)

Please feel free to attend for one night or all six nights. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to talk with Pastor Kevin. Come join the spiritual enrichment of Christian community!



CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
FOR THANKSGIVING
NOVEMBER 28 & 29



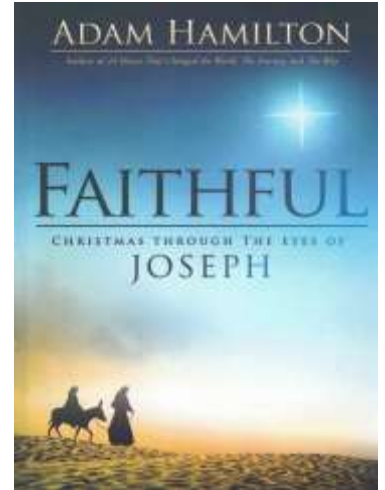
Articles and information for the **December/January** issue of the **‘Friendly Call’** are due on **Friday, November 15**. Please place a hard copy of the article in the church office mail slot or

Adult Advent Study

Faithful Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph

by Adam Hamilton

Please join the adults in the Hospitality Room beginning Sunday, November 17 at 10:45 am as they begin their **Advent Study: Faithful Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph by Adam Hamilton**. From his beginnings as a humble carpenter to his all-important role as the earthly father of Jesus Christ, Joseph's place in the nativity story is sometimes overlooked but contains valuable lessons for all of us. Join us as we examine Christmas through the eyes of Joseph. Absent from much of the biblical narrative, Joseph never spoke a word, but his courageous actions were crucial to the birth of Christ and God's salvation plan for humanity. As you read this book, you will understand how Joseph's story is much like our own. In life, we encounter circumstances that we would never have chosen for ourselves. At times it can be tempting just to walk away. Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand and faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides. Join us this Advent season for this great study. Copies of the book are available upon request.



NOTE: On December 8 the session will begin following the Advent Pancake Breakfast.



I want to say **Thank You!** My heart was full of love on September 15. The splendid reception, gift cards, hugs, speeches were all amazing and I take all of you with me. May Peace and Love surround all of you as you journey forward in the Spirit.

Prayers,
Rev. Tracey Harris

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Laura Kaempfe and Gabriel Roeseler

who were united in marriage on
September 28, 2024 at

The Lalumodiere Mill in House Spring
The happy couple will reside in Fenton, MO

and

Curtis Kalin and Katie Malloy

who were united in marriage on
October 12, 2024

in Sterling, Virginia

The happy couple will reside in Alexandria, VA





ST. JOHN PERSONNEL NEWS

The leadership of St. John has decided to move in a different direction with staff structure. Rather than an Associate Pastor position, the church will seek a part-time Director of Christian Education. A job description is available upon request. If you know of someone who might be interested, please have them contact Pastor Kevin. Please pray for St. John Church as we work to fill this new position.

As you know, we are also looking for a Director of Music at St. John. This is a part-time position which entails playing organ/piano for worship, as well as directing the sanctuary and hand bell choirs. Again, there is an updated job description for anyone who would like a copy. Should you be aware of someone who might be interested, please have them contact Pastor Kevin. Keep the congregation in your thoughts and prayers as we go through the process of filling this position.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Those of you who heard my message on the Lenten Devotional last spring may remember how important the **County Older Resident Program** is to me and many others. **CORP** provides us with transportation for doctor appointments, haircuts and shopping.


Recently I have learned that the organization is having a driver shortage. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in becoming a driver or in just learning more about the program, please contact Laura at 314-297-6419 or lconners@stlouiscountymo.gov. Drivers are reimbursed for mileage. Thanks so much.



Mary Frances Tokar

Quilt Raffle
Benefits Habitat for Humanity

Many thanks to Carol Ruh and Mary Ellen Berg for making and donating a quilt to be raffled at our Advent Breakfast (December 8) with all proceeds going to Habitat for Humanity. The quilt measures 70" x 90" (full size) and will be on display from November 9 (Sausage Supper) thru December 8 in the Gathering Area. Raffle tickets will be available during this same time. Cost will be - \$1 per ticket or \$5 for 6 tickets. The quilt is made from cotton fabrics with a cotton/polyester batting, making it washable. Questions? Contact Mary Ellen Berg. **All proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanity.** The drawing will take place at the Advent Breakfast, **Sunday, December 8.** The winner does not need to be present to win. Thank you!

A photograph of a quilt with vertical stripes in shades of blue and white. The quilt is draped over a dark surface, possibly a table or a chair.



To the family and friends of
Ross Gene Osiek
On his passing from this life to
God's eternal care on
September 29, 2024

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

On Sunday, November 24, we will
remember those members of our
congregation who have gone on to
God's eternal care this past year.
They are:

- Lynn K. Silence*
- Terrie Jean Hetz*
- Daisy Luella Roberts*
- Ruth Wilhelmina Crocker*
- Theresa Lynn McDonough*
- Barbara Arlene Cooper*
- Ross Gene Osiek*



In memory of
Ross G. Osiek

Music/Choir Fund

- Earl & Ginger Allen
- Earl & Pauline Bair
- Tom & Mary Ellen Berg
- Ken & Marty Boucher
- Fred & Mary Bruning
- Deb Burleson
- Ron & Joanne Carr
- Rhonda Coleman
- Don Daugherty
- Mark Engelhardt
- Randy Engelhardt
- Don Gaertner
- Karen Gaertner
- Keith Gaertner
- Tracey Harris
- Fred & Judy Hurley
- John & Janice Jung
- Jeff & Lisa Karl & Family
- Barbara Kolkmeier
- Margaret Korvas
- Craig & Judy Lindquist
- Pat Migneco
- Marilyn O'Donnell
- Bob & Carol Ruh
- Lynn Sabina
- Schrader Funeral Home
- Alan Stephenson
- Al & Diane Todd
- Mary Frances Tokar
- Joan & John Walker
- Chuck & Marilyn Weber
- Roger & Janet Zacher





OUTREACH TEAM MEETING

The next **Outreach Team** meeting is on **Thursday, November 7, 2024** at 6:30 pm in the Hospitality Room. Please join us!



Adopt-A-Family has returned to St. John! We have heard from many of our members how much they miss “shopping” for families (especially the children) at Christmas. This year we are sponsoring families from **Lydia’s House** and **Every Child’s Hope (ECH)**.

Ornaments will be hung on a Christmas tree in the Gathering Area the night of Sausage Supper (November 9). The ornaments will contain information about a specific gift that has been requested. Please wrap each gift and attach the ornament to the outside. All Gifts need to be returned **by December 8th!**

If a question or problem arises after you have chosen an ornament, please call either Mary Ellen Berg (314-495-1694) or Lynn Sabina (314-680-6808). We don’t want to disappoint any of the families. Many thanks to you all for supporting **Adopt-A-Family** once again.

CURRENT NEEDS:

The most needed items for Circle currently are:

- ◆ dinner side items (rice, potatoes, pasta)
- ◆ breakfast cereals
- ◆ wholesome snacks (trail mix, granola bars, etc.)
- ◆ baking items
- ◆ pasta sauce
- ◆ canned proteins
- ◆ condiments
- ◆ Feminine Care Items



Circle Of Concern
FOOD PANTRY
Feeding Families is Just the Beginning

**Please help us
keep the red
shopping carts
FULL!**



Our Thanksgiving Food Drive for 2024 has been completed and was successful. Sixty boxes were filled for **Circle of Concern** and will be distributed to the families they serve in late October & early November. Additional boxes/bags have been taken to **ECH** to help the families they serve as well. Thank you for making Thanksgiving much brighter for families in need this year. Your generosity continually amazes us! Thank you so much!



Lunch at Sunshine Ministries

St. John Outreach continues to provide and share a meal each month with the men at the residence center for **Sunshine Ministries**. We will carpool from church at 11:15 am (lunch at noon) and return by 1:15 pm. We need one or two people to help each month. If you are interested in joining us on **November 14**, please see Judy Lindquist.

To learn more about the men's outreach of Sunshine Ministries go to: <https://www.sunshineministries.org/men-s-outreach>

Fontana Friends

The Outreach Team continues monthly visits to our **Fontana Friends** in their home. We visit on the **second Thursday of the month from about 3:00 to 4:00 pm**. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the offices. We meet at church at 2:40 pm and carpool to Fontana. Our next visit will be on **Thursday, November 14, 2024**.

If you need additional information, please contact Mary Ellen Berg or Lynn Sabina.



Thank you for your caring and generous giving. We asked you to match the \$500 from the Helping Hands fund to assist those in need because of recent hurricanes and flooding in the southeast United States. You not only matched our \$500, but you quadrupled it! From October 6 through October 20 your contributions totaled **\$2,125.00!** Your unselfish concern for the welfare of those impacted is extraordinary. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Your Outreach Team

The Outreach Team would like to thank everyone who helped out and attended this year's **Trivia Night and Silent Auction** to benefit Habitat for Humanity. There were 57 people at this year's event and more than **\$1,400.00** was raised for this great cause. Thank you so much for your generosity!



Please Help Decorate Our

Tree of Warmth!



The tree will be in the Gathering Area from mid-November to mid-December. Please decorate the tree with **NEW hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks**; either handmade or purchased. Our mission partners have clients who need these items for both children and adults. This year we are including our friends in the Shannondale community. They especially need items for men (including work gloves).

You may bring your items and place them on the tree. If you prefer, you may drop them off at the Outreach counter and someone will see they are placed on the tree. Thank you for assisting us with our attempt to keep folks warm this winter.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Saturday, December 7 - 9am

On Saturday, December 7th, at 9:00 am, come help decorate the Church for the Christmas Season! To reflect our joy in the abundant life we find through Christ, join us as we beautify our sanctuary. A great time is had by all who attend...everyone is welcome!



Advent Pancake Breakfast

Please join us immediately after worship on

December 8th

for the

"Advent Pancake Breakfast!"

Crafts will be available to make to take home or to be shared with those of our congregation who will be visited by our Christmas Carolers. Please mark your calendars!!

GREEN TEAM MEETING NEWS October 10, 2024



- ♥ The **Open Door Animal Sanctuary** was very grateful for the 26 animal beds and 19 toys that were made at the workshop on Saturday, September 28. Thank you to all who helped with this project!
- ♥ On **Saturday, November 2**, a service project will take place at Camp Mo-Val. We will be planting tree seedlings in conjunction with a Girl Scout troop. Project begins at 10:00 am and goes to approximately 2:00 pm. For more information, please contact Bob Ruh.
- ♥ Expanding the vegetable garden for next year was discussed. In addition to the many trips this season to Circle of Concern with fresh produce, we also thank those who brought produce from their own garden for Circle.
- ♥ On **Saturday, November 16**, 9:30 am - noon, honeysuckle removal will take place on the church grounds near the pavilion. All help is appreciated.
- ♥ We continue to collect used eyeglasses for the Lion's Club. Several hundred pairs have been collected thus far. Many thanks for your participation!

**The next Green Team meeting will be on
Thursday, November 14 at 7:00pm. All are welcome!**

FALL WORK DAY THANK YOU

Many thanks to the great group of people who turned out to help us "shine up" the church buildings and grounds on Saturday October 19th. It was a great turn out and people put in a really good morning's work while enjoying the time of fellowship on a beautiful day. We are grateful for your support of St. John's building and grounds.

Thanks again,
Dave Gaehle and Craig Lindquist



NAMI St. Louis
1810 Craig Road, Suite 124
St. Louis, MO 63146
info@namistl.org
HelpLine: 314-962-4670

St. John UCC Manchester holds a NAMI Support group meeting the third Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is Thursday, November 21, 2024. The group meets in the Hospitality Room at 6:30 pm. Please note that you must go to the NAMI website to sign up to attend the meeting prior to arrival. Everyone is welcome to join us! NAMI Contact at St. John: Angela Kern, akern@sbcglobal.net

PRAYER REQUESTS

You will find **PRAYER REQUEST** cards in the pews. A box is located on the table in the Gathering Area for completed cards to be deposited. There are times when we all need an extra prayer said for us and where better than from our friends at St John !



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Willie Mertz at Garden View in Chesterfield
Landon Weber - Houston, Texas
Mary Jane Belsher - Friendship Village, Sunset Hills
Communities affected by Hurricanes
People in the Middle East
People in Ukraine

AT HOME

Betty Fox
Jennifer Weber
Don Gaertner
Rufus Sticker
Harry & Judy Taub
Frank & Lois Leahy
The Osiek Family



Commander Andrew Brennecke, Coast Guard, Norfolk, VA, son of Bob & Joy Brennecke
Sgt. Codey Burnham, U.S. Marine Corps, Indian Head, MD, grandson of Betty & Howard Anton
Sgt. First Class Douglas Krohn, United States Army Recruiting Command, Quincy, IL
Technical Sgt. Michael Kargauer, Eielson AFB, Alaska, grandson of Jack Martin
E Sgt. Bryan Milberg, Fort Campbell, KY, grandson of Derald & Donna Forbis
4PO Richard Livingstone, Navy, Camp Gordon, GA, grandson of Ken & Marty Boucher
Sgt. Matt Starck, Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA, son of Walter & Marcia Starck

Youth Christian Education & Sunday School



CHILDCARE FOR NURSERY and TODDLERS

is available at the 9:30 am service. Also, for your convenience, a Family Assistance Room is located at the rear of the sanctuary.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Our youngest group introduces kids to Sunday School in an age-appropriate classroom setting. We will incorporate Bible story time with games, arts and crafts, and free play. Students should come to the sanctuary for the 9:30 am service with their families and will be dismissed to their classes.

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL - GRADES K-5

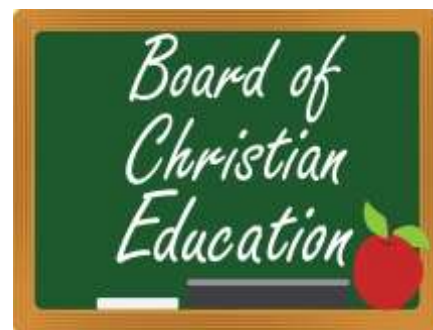
We are using the One Room Sunday School curriculum to explore the stories and lessons taught in the Old and New Testaments. Incorporating games and worksheets, we focus on getting the children acquainted with the Bible and understanding how our families and church are part of a greater community in God's world. Students should come to the sanctuary for the 9:30 am service with their families and will be dismissed to their classes.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & FRIENDS

The Youth Group (Middle & High School Sunday School) class will meet at 9:30 am in the classroom. A mix of formal lessons and open discussion is focused on understanding our faith and how it relates to our church and God's creation around us. We strive to get youth involved in church groups and activities, as well as community service events. We invite you to tell your friends to join us. Be part of this group of young people making a difference!

Board of Christian Education

BCE members meet on the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. The **next meeting will be on Thursday, November 7, 2024.** We are always looking for new study ideas and help with upcoming projects with the adults and children. Contact Chris Morton if you have any questions or would like to sign up to volunteer.



Tea with Friends

Enjoy coffee, tea, or your favorite beverage, as you take some time to visit with friends on Wednesdays, at the Panera at 14646 Manchester Road, Ballwin, between 3 and 5 pm to share conversations that lead to community. Kathy Hoadley or Joan James will be the host.

All generations are invited to stop in!



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL
Christmas Ornament Exchange

Brunch will be provided.

Tuesday, December 10th at 11:00 am

Please bring a wrapped Christmas ornament for the exchange
(place a *“from”* tag on the inside of your package).

We will play “Rob Your Neighbor.”

Let’s get the Christmas Spirit going!

RSVP your attendance to
Marty Boucher or Cindy Boddy
by Friday, December 6

This year we are also asking attendees to bring an item for
the ECH (Every Child’s Hope) Steppingstone Transitional
Living Program (household items (dish towels, bath towels),
bedding (sheets, pillow cases, comforters)
so we can spread the spirit.



JOY (Just Older Youth)

It's time for the annual UGLY Sweater gathering. We love to share fellowship and fun. The group will vote on who will win the UGLY SWEATER prize!

Will you be the winner?

Mark your calendar and sign up to attend on

December 14, 2024

12 - 3:00 pm



The afternoon will start by sharing your favorite appetizer; drinks will be provided. Bring a small gift for "rob your neighbor". Sign up sheet will soon be located on bulletin board across from the pastor's office. Questions, contact Betty Anton.



POINSETTIAS

It's time to order Poinsettias! This year's cost is \$9.00 for a 6.5 inch plant. To order, please fill out the form below and turn it in with your payment. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 636-391-6655.

DEADLINE for ordering is **Sunday, December 1st**

Your Name: _____

of poinsettias _____ @ \$9.00 each = **TOTAL \$**_____

Please make checks payable to **St. John UCC** and write "*Poinsettias*" in the memo field.

I am purchasing this/these plant/s in **Honor** or **Memory** (please circle one)

Of _____

From _____



Thanksgiving Word Search



L	R	Y	P	I	W	T	V	L	M	S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	Z	K	H	F	R
D	V	A	R	C	S	T	O	G	E	T	H	E	R	N	N	P	H	R	G	T	E	O
A	F	N	I	K	P	M	U	P	V	F	V	P	C	F	V	L	A	Q	N	F	A	D
V	N	E	E	I	P	A	P	P	L	E	T	F	J	A	B	S	R	V	I	T	S	I
I	O	Y	V	A	R	G	M	G	F	T	H	O	T	L	B	M	V	F	V	R	T	N
O	V	P	S	Q	U	A	S	H	X	E	U	G	V	L	A	Z	E	A	I	A	U	N
Y	E	G	I	S	E	D	A	R	A	P	A	R	R	E	H	G	S	M	G	D	Y	E
D	M	O	J	I	U	E	J	S	K	H	H	T	K	Z	R	V	T	I	S	I	L	R
K	B	B	G	R	E	E	N	B	E	A	N	S	H	E	E	S	A	L	K	T	X	P
K	E	B	E	T	H	A	N	K	F	U	L	Q	B	E	Y	B	H	Y	N	I	F	S
C	R	L	D	T	N	R	O	C	R	A	N	B	E	R	R	I	E	S	A	O	E	O
O	S	E	O	T	A	T	O	P	D	E	S	S	E	L	B	I	F	W	H	N	W	E
R	I	D	V	S	E	V	A	E	L	I	V	G	F	B	V	V	K	I	T	S	G	V
N	U	Z	Y	F	P	V	M	A	Y	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	Z	B	Q	E	T	K
B	O	I	M	P	F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L	J	J	R	N	F	B	K	P	E	I
Y	R	O	L	L	S	O	W	X	I	P	V	H	E	N	O	B	H	S	I	W	J	J

Find the following words in the puzzle. The words are hidden ↑ ↓ ← → and ↘

APPLE

FEATHER

LEFTOVERS

STUFFING

BLESSED

FOOTBALL

NOVEMBER

THANKFUL

CORN

FRIENDS

PARADE

THANKSGIVING

CRANBERRIES

GOBBLE

PIE

TOGETHER

DINNER

GRAVY

POTATOES

TRADITIONS

FALL

GREEN BEANS

PUMPKIN

TURKEY

FAMILY

HARVEST

ROLLS

WISHBONE

FEAST

LEAVES

SQUASH

YAM



