

# ST. JOHN'S CHIMES

*Published monthly in the interest of*



**St. John United Church of Christ  
204 Seventh Street  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656**

**February 2022 Newsletter**

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
204 Seventh Street ~ Lincoln, Illinois 62656  
217-732-6957

E-mail address: [stjohnucclincoln@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnucclincoln@yahoo.com) | Website: [stjohnucclincolnillinois.com](http://stjohnucclincolnillinois.com)

*"Letting God's love shine through us to the Community we Serve"*

Rev. Laurie Hill  
Darlene Begolka  
Volume 53, No. 2

Pastor  
Office Manager  
February 2022



# LOVE

Love is patient

Love is kind

It does not envy

It does not boast

It is not proud

It does not dishonor others

It is not self-seeking

It is not easily angered

It keeps no record of wrongs

Love does not delight in evil

but rejoices with the truth

It always protects

always trusts

always hopes

always perseveres

*Love never fails*

Corinthians 13:4-8

## FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

There are a plethora of hymns of reaching out to God, Christ, the Spirit and asking them to “Take My Hand”, “Walk with Me”, “Tell me I am His Own”, etc. The reason for this is form of hymn is the same as the need we have when we pray and then, crickets. Sometimes, it feels like God has abandoned us. Sometimes it feels like no one is really there, listening to us. Jesus felt it when he cried out on the cross, “My God, My God, Why have You forsaken me?” He was actually quoting the Psalms which are filled with laments about wondering where God is in the midst of pain, suffering and longing. I really don’t know of anyone who hasn’t experienced this from time to time. It’s awful and feels so very awkward when attending church, hearing the pastor claims of God’s loving presence and yet feeling as if God is so very far away. Sadly, some quit church at this point. Mystics, Saints, Pastors, all have felt this absence of God’s presence.

So then, how do we pray? Well, I have two suggestions when you are in this difficult time. And both suggestions aren’t easy! The first is: Wait. It’s not God, it’s usually us. And there’s probably something in your life that is happening where you have grown away from God. So, wait. Don’t beat yourself up for this feeling, but just wait. Don’t put your spiritual self in reverse, just idle for a while. Trust that your warmth toward God will return. I know that waiting is hard but it’s the best thing to do when we don’t know what to do. And the second suggestion is trust. Just as when we don’t see a loved one for a long time but we trust they are still our friend and we are still theirs, we can trust in our God, too. We may not feel or experience God in the moment, but we can trust that God is there.

During this time, then, pray from your heart, even if it’s anger towards God. God has heard it before and God will hear it again. Tell God why your angry

and then wait and trust. Act in your life with faith, so that you still are worshipping, still serving, still faithful to our God. Even the most famous Thomas Merton wrote this prayer: “My Lord God, I have no idea where I’m going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end nor do I really know myself. And the fact that I think I am following Your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please You does in fact please You. And I hope that I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this, You will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust You always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear for You are ever with me and You will never leave me to my peril alone.”

Blessings in your prayers,  
Pastor Laurie



**ST. JOHN  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
UNAPPROVED CHURCH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, January 17, 2022 | 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Warren Goetsch, Carolyn Pech,  
Jack Leich, Edna Mara, Bill Gosda,  
Tricia Pineda, Jan Hahn, Kent Paulus,  
Troy Meinershagen, Darlene Begolka  
(Office Manager) and Pastor Laurie Hill

President Goetsch called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, January 17, 2022.

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL**

President Goetsch inquired if there were any items up for removal or discussion as it related to the Consent Agenda items. No issues or concerns were raised. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda and Jack Leich seconded. All voting aye, the motion passed.

**PASTORS REPORT**

Pastor Laurie indicated she has been getting ready for Lent as this year it starts in March. She also indicated we had received an invite to participate on Wednesday services at alternative church sites. After discussing it was decided we would wait until summer and revisit the subject given the current pandemic.

Pastor Laurie also indicated that Jerry and Mary Berglin requested to be members of St. John United Church of Christ. So she is seeking Council permission to allow them to join. It was moved and seconded to grant their request to become members. All voting aye, the motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Security System** – President Goetsch indicated he had talked with Gary Atteberry and there had been some recent developments with Johnson Controls. It was discovered that there was a superseding agreement that only requires our church to provide a 30-day notice in order to sever our relationship. However, Johnson

Controls is stating the church still owes them \$600 plus dollars for prior equipment upgrades. Gary had also reported to Warren that he is having a difficult time connecting with Tech Electronics. He indicated the status at this point is that Tech Electronics is tasked with getting all needed equipment and giving Gary a timeline for installation and taking over the administration of monitoring the equipment.

**Nominating Committee** – Edna Mara indicated that Sandy Meinershagen will be the third person to join Council. She also indicated that Bailee Pineda was asked to be the youth delegate and declined due to a busy schedule. She stated there is no youth delegate at this time.

President Goetsch reiterated the Annual Congregational Meeting date of January 30, 2022 and indicated there are a few possible changes to the budget from Stewardship. Kent Paulus noted under Operations that for insurance in 2022 the proposed \$20,000 dollars would not be enough and would need to be increased by \$2,000 dollars for a total of \$22,000. The increase was in property and workers compensation coverage. He also noted there was a few other minor adjustments such as new 2022 pledges:

Current: \$77,431  
Sister Church: \$1,952  
OCWM: \$10,135  
Contingency: \$6,204  
Good Samaritan: \$1,772

It was moved and seconded then to make adjustments to the annual budget for presentation at the annual congregational meeting for final approval. All voting aye, the motion carried.

President Goetsch indicated due to COVID related illnesses in the church, the annual report at best would be done around mid-week prior to the congregational meeting on January 30, 2022. Discussion was had on the best way to notify members and was determined that on Sunday, Pastor Laurie would make an announcement that

printed copies would be available in the church office mid-week prior to January 30, 2022. She would also follow up with an email the following Monday after the announcement for those who may have missed the notice.

During the congregational meeting Jack Leich indicated that Outreach would like to reward a congregational member for their outstanding service. President Goetsch indicated he would talk to Jack regarding the matter after Council.

**Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society –** Pastor Laurie indicated that this entity archives historical documents from churches and inquired if we would like to send them some of our history so it could be archived. The archiving is funded solely by donations. Pastor Laurie indicated she believed around \$100.00 a year would be a sufficient donation to be a member. She indicated that they also send out 2 newsletters annually. After discussion with Council, it was determined Pastor Laurie would inform Nancy Gehlbach, church historian, and get her input. Pastor Laurie would also reach out to Tom Norwalk. The biggest issue that would need to be looked into is how E&R would be able to keep our information safe.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Protocol –** President Goetsch indicated with the increase in COVID in Illinois we need to discuss if there needs to be any changes in protocol. Much discussion and many Council members voiced their opinions and ideas. However, in conclusion it was moved and seconded to continue with current protocol mandating mask wearing and no singing for the current time. Any questions or concerns between Council meetings would continue to be addressed by the Elders and Pastor Laurie. All voting aye, motion carried.

**Marcella Lenhardt's piano –** Marcella's son and daughter inquired with the church if we would be interested in Marcella's piano. It was purchased in 1975 and is Maple and in excellent condition. Discussion was had about the piano in fellowship hall not holding a tune, so President Goetsch

recommended Laura Lee be asked for her input on which might be better for the church. In the meantime, Darlene will look into the origin of the fellowship hall piano to see if it was donated from a member.

### **Other**

- Pastor Laurie apologized for not passing out oranges at Christmas Eve service. She indicated she will bring them to Sunday's service.
- Jack Leich stated we would be celebrating the Boy Scouts on Monday, January 31, 2022 and buying them dinner at Culver's for all of their assistance at Christmas time in decorating.
- Jack Leich also indicated there would be a card at a future service to sign for Pastor Charlotte Nold who is going to be celebrating her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and is still preaching at our sister church – St. John United Church of Christ-Chicago.

**CORRESPONDENCE and EMAILS-**President Goetsch indicated a thank you card had been received from Pastor Laurie and he then read the card thanking Council for their support.

The meeting was closed with President Goetsch thanking Council for the past three years and wished them the best of luck on future issues. He also thanked off boarding members Edna Mara and Troy Meinershagen.

### **ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION**

With no further business to discuss a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. Meeting concluded at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tricia Pineda  
Church Council Secretary



## NEW MEMBERS! Jerry and Mary Berglin



Many of us remember Jerry as he was our custodian for many years and his faithful wife, Mary who helped him from time to time. Jerry retired from St. John UCC and they now live in Castle Manor. They have been worshipping with us every Sunday morning on Facebook. Although we have considered them as part of our family, they are now official! Welcome, Jerry and Mary!

So, if anyone else is inspired to join our membership, what does that mean? First of all, it generally means you agree to worship God, follow Christ and be led by the Holy Spirit with us on our journey of faith. It means you promise to join us in our mission and ministries. It means that you would be able to vote in congregational meetings and be a member of council. You just need to give Pastor Laurie a call, email, text, etc. and we will be sure to get you going. You can transfer from a different church or join by acclamation of faith (basically saying that you believe the above questions). We would LOVE to have you as an official member! Just say the word and we will make it happen!



## PRAYER PARTNERS/GROUPS

2022 is the year of prayer and some have expressed interest in becoming a prayer partner or being involved in a prayer group. There are differences and similarities with each of these.

**Prayer Partners:** Being a Prayer partner means having someone (just one) with whom you pray together on a regular basis. Prayer partners can happen in all different ways. When two people agree to be prayer partners, they decide to meet in person or on the phone. They decide if they will pray aloud or quietly or both. They choose the frequency they will meet or talk together. (Usually once/week). In all cases, prayer partners agree to trust one another, which means absolutely observing confidentiality in all matters, and being faithful to the time and place they decide to meet. Good prayer partners withhold judgements and are very good listeners to one another. They sometimes choose an end to their being prayer partners, such as a year and then they re-evaluate their relationship. But I have a prayer partner that I've had for many years. And sometimes they choose to read a devotional when they are together (on the phone or in person). Usually there is a sign up list and the people self-choose their prayer partner but other times, they ask the pastor to assign them.

**Prayer Groups:** Being in a prayer group is self-explanatory, in that it is a small group of people who agree to meet in person to pray together. Prayer groups usually form for a particular reason that can be broad or narrow, long term or short term. Prayer groups can meet weekly, bimonthly, or monthly. Prayer groups usually are not bigger than 6 people. Sometimes they begin with a particular devotional. Sometimes they have a list, such as the prayer list from church they review. Then they add their own concerns and joys. Usually then, someone prays aloud or they go around the room and each one prays. If someone prays, usually this leadership is shared so each time, it's someone else. Sometimes there are written prayers and sometimes, it's spoken.

Normally they close with a common benediction they all know. With a group, there is an agreement of confidentiality, but in my experience, it's harder to maintain. Just like with a prayer partner, there needs to be a high degree of trust and faithfulness to the group.

If you are interested in being a prayer partner or in a prayer group, please sign up in the back of the church or notify the church office or Pastor Laurie.

**ST. JOHN GAMERS**  
Sunday, February 13, 2022  
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall



Come enjoy some relaxing fun and fellowship and play some games with your church family. Theme for the afternoon is Super Bowl.

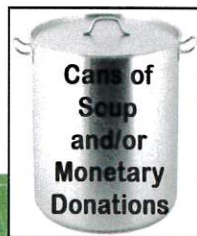
A graphic for "Super Bowl of Caring". It features a football on the left with "SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13" written on it. Below the football is a bowl of soup. The text "SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" is written in large, stylized letters. To the right, it says "HELP US CHANGE THE GAME AND TACKLE HUNGER!". At the bottom, it says "Donations will go to the CAPCIL Food Pantry".

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

**HELP US CHANGE THE GAME AND TACKLE HUNGER!**

**Donations will go to the CAPCIL Food Pantry**



**ST. JOHN DINERS**  
Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup>



The Small Group Ministry has planned that the February St. John Diners outing will be to the Country Aire Restaurant in Atlanta. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 11:15 a.m. Reservations are for 11:30 a.m. A sign-up sheet will be in the back of the sanctuary. As always you can either ride the bus or drive on your own. Just sign the sheet accordingly.

A graphic for "Men's Breakfast". It features a coffee cup, a paintbrush, a circular saw blade, and a screwdriver. The text "MEN'S BREAKFAST" is at the top. Below the tools, it says "SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m. Imo's Café All Men of the Church are WELCOME.".

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**Imo's Café**  
**All Men of the Church are WELCOME.**



**LET'S REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND**

**ST. CLARA'S REHAB and SENIOR CARE**

1450 Castle Manor Drive, Lincoln, IL 62656

- Dave Armbrust
- Steve Aue
- Leola Dowling
- Evelyn Fulkerson
- Susan Webb
- John Wilmert

**CASTLE MANOR**

1550 Castle Manor Drive, Lincoln, IL 62656

Carol Turner

**CENTENNIAL POINT SENIOR LIVING**

3440 Hedley Road, Springfield, IL 62711

Patty McCann

**AT HOME**

Jean Cummings

1114 Pekin Street, Lincoln, IL 62656

**CHARITY GUILD MEETING**

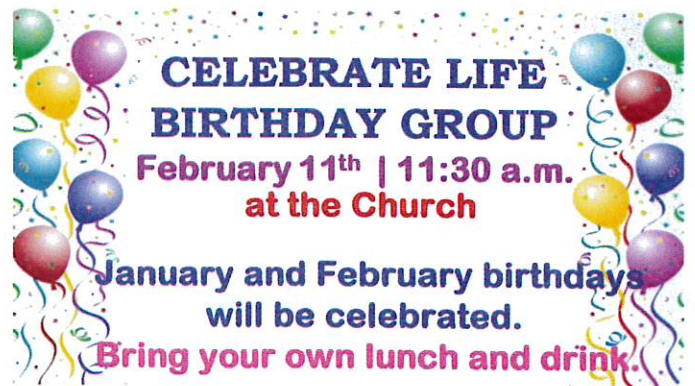
Charity Guild activity had to be cancelled for January's CELEBRATE LIFE. Cards were sent with hopes of combining with luncheon for February birthdays on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Charity Guild received a Thank You note from St. John UCC in Chicago and Pastor Charlotte Nold:

*"Thank you and your organization's wonderful donation for Christmas. What a blessing you are to us here at St. John church in Chicago. Our food pantry is growing every week and it is a blessing for us to be able to feed the families in desperate need of food so that their children do not need to go to bed hungry. We also have many people who live alone who need and receive food.*

*Thank you again for the wonderful blessing of much needed financial support that you are giving to the church and to me."* (Signed: THANK YOU! You truly are a blessing to us. Charlotte Nold)

Tonita Reifsteck, Secretary





## OUTREACH and PUBLICITY NOTES

Co-Chairs: Jim and Leslie Wilmert  
and Tonita Reifsteck – 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planner

Outreach/Publicity meeting in January was ‘tacked to’ the taking down the Christmas Decorations. Those helping were several Boy Scouts, Jack and Nancy Leich and grandson, Jake Curry, Bob Meinershagen, Pastor Laurie and Tonita Reifsteck. During that time we set the date for honoring and thanking the scouts for their help decorating (and defrocking) our church. The scouts and their scoutmasters will be treated by the church at Culver’s on Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup> (with a ‘winter storm date’ if it has to be cancelled, of February 7<sup>th</sup>.)

Other business was the ordering of Daily Devotionals (shared order with Immanuel) for shut-ins who want one and anyone desiring one to pick up at church. Cost is to be determined.

The Outreach Ministry’s Annual Report was shared and via phone meeting was ‘tweaked’ and submitted on time!

HUMAINE SOCIETY welcomes prescription and/or over the counter drug containers WITH THE LIDS ON (remove personal information please). They also welcome newspapers and plastic bags!

Central School and Lincoln Junior High School reported that they are ALWAYS in need of #2 pencils. Also, constant need is Kleenex! Will put a box for these under “The Giving Tree”.

Outreach is making a Daily Devotional “*Christ In Our Home*” available for the taking. This is a booklet in a 3-month edition (first come served). Some will be given to shut ins. (IF we run out the number we get can be increased) Questions – see a member of Outreach.

Beginning Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> a Birthday Card will be in the Narthex for all to sign for Pastor Charlotte Nold’s 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Charlotte has been at St. John UCC in Chicago (our Sister Church) for over 30 years. Some know her from Conference meetings (signed everything — music included) and many have made Mission trips to the church (now torn down/2 or 3 houses there) both adults and youth. If you would like to send a card personally send to:

The Rev. Mrs. Charlotte Nold  
St. John UCC  
2442 W. Moffat Street  
Chicago, IL 60647

Any questions see Toni Reifsteck



160<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY: BULLETIN BOARD – Beginning in February the large Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall will be open to anyone who has a picture or article to share. Explanation/details put on a memo note and tack behind the item so there is space for everyone wanting to participate. Questions – see Tonita Reifsteck.

## ST. JOHN 160<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

By: Tonita Reifsteck

Recap #5

Niebuhr family (1898 - 1913)



In a former recap the ministry of St. John was noted in the building of a hospital for the Lincoln area who were not able to be cared for in the St. Clara's Catholic Hospital. Plans were started by the foresight of then pastor Hermann Schmidt, who had come to St. John in 1877 and whose wife, Adelheid had taken training in the Deaconess order established in the Evangelical

Church in Germany at Kaiserswerth on the Rhine in 1836, Pastor Schmidt in 1894 led the efforts to have trained deaconesses from St. Louis in the congregation. With Mrs. Schmidt's prior leadership, a hospital association was formed in 1899 and the pledge of a father with a seriously ill child the medical needs of the people and the building of the hospital was begun. Pastor Schmidt left St. John in 1897 and Rev. F. W. Schnathorst continued the quest. In 1897-98 many contracted typhoid fever, including Mrs. Schmidt. On April 23, 1899, the Deaconess movement organized a Deaconess Hospital Board. The constitution was adopted on May 14, 1899, and a Board of trustees elected. It was at this time Deaconess Sister Mathilda Feldman and later Sister Eda Wiehe (from Germany) were instrumental in caring for the ill either in the house provided or in their own homes. Meanwhile the campaign to fund a build for a new hospital continued. While ideas for building were gathered the property on the corner of Seventh and Walnut was purchased for a sum of twenty-five hundred dollars for the new hospital. The cornerstone was laid Sunday, November 4, 1900 and it remained on various locations of that site until the new ALMH was built on Stahlhut drive in 2011. At that time the cornerstone was moved to the back entrance of St. John where it stands today.

In summer of 1902 Rev. Schnathorst resigned as pastor and hospital administrator. In early fall Rev. H Gustav Niebuhr was called as pastor and hospital administrator. Several Deaconesses were added to the nursing services of St. John membership and training began for others to join the order. The first was Rosa Gerhold of Tower Hill and Louise Mernitz of Minonk – those names would become familiar leaders of the E & R churches throughout the region for many years (and yet today) Being highly regarded both in the wider church and the community, Pastor Niebuhr taught in the school, confirmation was taught in English and German. Later he was relieved of teaching in the school as he was also administrator of the new Deaconess Hospital. In 1903 a parsonage was built on 5<sup>th</sup> and Union. The Niebuhr family for a time lived in the upper level of the hospital while the parsonage on 5<sup>th</sup> Street was being built (has been told Reinhold would sit on the windowsill with his feet dangling on the outside!). In 1904 St. John joined the Evangelical Synod of No. Illinois, always forward thinking, adult home study added to Sunday School, and the sanctuary, Sunday School area and school rooms remodeled/updated. In 1908 the steeple that had been destroyed in a storm 7 years earlier, was rebuilt. In 1912 a Boy Scout troop was organized- with son Walter scoutmaster. The parochial school closed in 1916. Pastor Niebuhr confirmed all 4 children at St. John's altar – Hulda, Walter, Reinhold and H. Richard. Taken suddenly ill in 1913 pastor Niebuhr died in the parsonage. Reinhold, a senior at Eden Seminary became the interim pastor from April through September. The Niebuhr influence remains a strong foundation in St. John's history and ministry.

The children: **Hulda** (1889-1959) was a renowned author and leader in the church and in the field of education. She began her college education at Lincoln College. She eventually became head of Religious Education at McCormick Theological Seminary. Students referred to her as "Teacher as Artist" as she incorporated faith learning with art and drama. Her book "The One Story" was used as a confirmation resource for many years at St. John. Son **Walter** is the lesser known of the five Niebuhr

children (one died in infancy) Walter was a financial businessman and journalist. Son **Reinhold**, who in 1913, was St. John interim pastor when his father died suddenly, is known world-wide for the Serenity Prayer (1930) which shows his feelings and expectations of relationship from one person to another. In conflicts was often on opposite sides of the populace, especially in Detroit when he was pastor there dealing with the auto industry's treatment of their workers! Known to be too conservative for the liberals and too liberal for the conservatives, his theology recognized the reality of gray area of thinking not just the black and white. Reinhold put religion into two categories – prophetic religion and priestly religion. Although a library of the Niebuhr books are in a section of our church library, many find their contents too 'deep' to comprehend. In 1964 he was awarded the Presidential Metal of Freedom. The case outside Fellowship Hall has items of the Niebuhr's given to St. John and there is also a Niebuhr collection of books & memorabilia in the Library at Lincoln College. The youngest son, H. Richard pastored a church upon graduation from Eden for 3 years in St. Louis, Mo. His life then returned to journalism (his first job was as a reporter in Lincoln 1915-1916). He was a theologian and teacher at Harvard Divinity School until health intervened. He died in 2017 at the age of 90.

The most familiar member of the Niebuhr family to most St. John members was Sister Adele Hosto, sister of Rev. Niebuhr's wife, Lydia. Sister Adele, her Christian name was from her mother's friend, Adelheid Schmidt (former pastor's wife) She took her vows on December 27, 1914 and remained a dedicated servant until her death in 1975 Sister Adele will be remembered for her Scrabble games and making



her Stamp art cards with the young people and visits in the Extended Care wing of ALMH.

The Niebuhr grave site in Lincoln is the site of Pastor Gustav, wife Lydia, Hulda and Lydia's sister, Sister Adele Hosto.



### DECEMBER FINANCIALS

Beginning Balance	\$24,503.97
Income	\$31,664.10
Expenses	\$29,663.65
Ending Balance	\$26,504.42

### ATTENDANCE

January 2<sup>nd</sup> – No Church

January 9<sup>th</sup>

19 In-Person, 84 on Facebook, 16 bulletins mailed and website = 103+

January 16<sup>th</sup>

25 In-Person, 76 on Facebook, 16 bulletins mailed and website = 117+

January 23<sup>rd</sup>

23 In-Person, 70 on Facebook, 16 bulletins mailed and website = 109+

## MISSION COMMITTEE

By: Verdeen Ingram, Co-Chair

**SPECIAL OFFERING SUNDAYS...**The Mission Committee has designated the following Sundays:

- **Second Sunday of each month** a special offering will be taken following church for the **Children of Lincoln project.**
- **Fourth Sunday of each month** a special offering will be taken following church for the **Diaper Project for Head Start at Community**



Action.

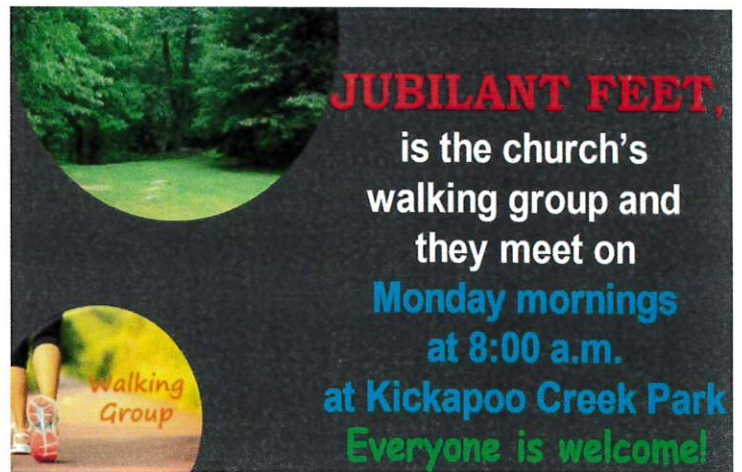


Your donations to the Children of Lincoln fund are making a difference! When Edna Mara took over as liaison to Central School, she immediately reported that they like to keep a small supply of coats on hand for kids that need one. Their supply was very low, so Larry and I bought about 15 coats in a variety of sizes and delivered them to the school.

Principal Kelly told us that they also like to keep sweatpants and leggings on hand in case students have an accident and need clean pants. Marlene and I shopped for sweatpants at Wal-Mart and Pastor Laurie shopped online. When Marlene delivered the pants, she was told, "We need a pair right now!". What great timing!

As other needs arise, Edna will keep the committee informed. We are making learning the priority for these students. Adequately dressed, they can now concentrate on their classes.

Thank you for supporting the Children of Lincoln!





We will be celebrated SEMINARY SUNDAY this year on Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup> during the morning worship service. Remember,

we will also be taking a special offering that Sunday for CUE (Chicago Theological Seminary, United Theological Seminary and Eden Theological Seminary). Watch for more info on this special Sunday.



## PROTOCOL

**SERVICES WILL CONTINUE TO BE "HYBRID":** (a combination of online and in-person).

**MASKING:** Is required of everyone, vaxxed and unvaxxed.

**SINGING:** Masks required.

**OFFERING:** The Offering Plates will still be in the back of the sanctuary, but the usher will be bringing the plate forward during the offering time in the service. Another offering plate will remain in the back

**COMMUNION:** Communion sets will remain in the back for you to pick up as you come in. If you wish to bring your own, of course, that's fine. Darlene has "smidget" Tupperware containers if you wish to use one for your own juice/wine.

**FOOD:** ALL food still needs to be prepared in a commercial kitchen.



## BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Avery Birnbaum  
Loren Birnbaum
- 9 Morgan Fuller  
Ruth Post
- 10 Kent Paulus
- 12 Carol Turner
- 13 Wyatt Conrady  
Sandy Meinershagen
- 19 Sandra Morgan
- 27 Jan Hahn  
George Wilmert
- 28 Aidan Nemeth  
Bailee Pineda



## ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Jeff and Jackie Curry
- 7 Rich and Barb Reinwald

## ALTAR FLOWERS

- February 6<sup>th</sup>:
- February 13<sup>th</sup>:
- February 20<sup>th</sup>:
- February 27<sup>th</sup>:

# February

## **Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Rotary at 12:00 noon  
St. John Chimers rehearsal at 7:15 p.m.

## **Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Outreach and Publicity meeting at 7:00 p.m.

## **Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**

Men's Fellowship at 8:30 a.m.

## **Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service  
with Communion at 10:00 am  
St. John Ringers rehearsal after church

## **Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.  
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

## **Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**

Creative Delights at 3:00 p.m.

## **Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**

Rotary at 12:00 noon  
St. John Chimers rehearsal at 7:15 p.m.

## **Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

Celebrate Life Birthday Group at 11:30 a.m.

## **Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service  
at 10:00 am  
Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday  
Children of Lincoln Special Offering Sunday  
St. John Ringers rehearsal after church  
St. John Gamers at 2:00 p.m.

## **Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.  
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

## **Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

Rotary at 12:00 noon  
St. John Chimers rehearsal at 7:15 p.m.

## **Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**

St. John Diners at 11:15 a.m.

## **Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service  
at 10:00 am  
Blanket Sunday Offering  
It's Birthday Sunday  
Time to celebrate the February Birthdays  
St. John Ringers rehearsal after church

## **Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.  
Church Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

## **Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Creative Delights at 3:00 p.m.

## **Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Rotary at 12:00 noon  
St. John Chimers rehearsal at 7:15 p.m.

## **Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>**

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service  
at 10:00 am  
Diaper Project Special Offering Sunday  
Seminary Sunday  
St. John Ringers rehearsal after church

## **Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.  
Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

# *In Our Thoughts & Prayers*



John Barrick  
Linda Barrow  
Barb Bauer  
Jerry Berglin  
Wayne Bowns  
Ron Brandy  
Miley Bruder  
Lindsey Burge and family  
Valerie Canning  
Marsha Fernandez  
Evelyn Fulkerson  
Alta Gehrke  
Ruth Gordon  
Perry Groves  
Cindy Hansen  
Dave Harding  
Marianne Ingram  
Emily Jewsbury  
Judy Kline  
Kris Lucas  
Kyle Lucas  
Sammy McClure  
Mary Francis (aka Franny)  
Ronnie Merold  
Bill Post  
Lynn Price  
Kayleigh Reifsteck  
Mercedize Reyes  
Alissa Smith  
Chris Sprague  
Kathy Staten  
Karen Sutton  
Kent Tangman  
Lela Westerfield  
Leslie Wilmert  
Fred Wiseman  
Jason Yates

Caryn  
Kenneth

Jo  
Joyce  
Kyle  
Nathan  
Elizabeth  
Gunner and family  
B. J.  
Tony  
Donna  
Bethany  
Cheryl  
Kate  
Jeff  
Chris  
Sherri  
Lisa  
Scott  
Allen  
Fred  
Lynn  
Regina  
David  
Betty  
Kelli  
Lucille  
Jim and Becky and Grandmother  
Rachel

- The Residents at the Christian Village and St. Clara's Rehab and Senior Care
- All those from our "Church Family", Community, State and Nation working in the Medical Field
- Illinois Conference/Wester Association

**MILITARY** – Wyatt Conrady

## **FACILITIES AND HOMEBOUND**

David Armbrust, Steve Aue, Jean Cummings, Leola Dowling, Patty McCann, Carol Turner, Susan Webb, John Wilmert

# Staff of St. John United Church of Christ

## Members and Friends of St. John UCC

Rev. Laurie Hill  
Darlene Begolka  
Carolyn Pech  
Dana Denny  
Steve Spaulding  
Laura Lee  
Darlene Begolka  
Calob Pluhm

## Ministers

Pastor  
Office Manager  
Financial Manager  
Custodian  
Maintenance Person  
Organist  
St. John Chimers Director  
St. John Ringers and St. John Singers Director

## Church Council for 2022-2023



Kent Paulus (Elder), President  
Leland Semple, Vice President  
Bill Gosda, Jr., Secretary  
Jan Hahn, Current Fund Treasurer  
Danny Row, Special Funds Treasurer  
Bill Gosda, Jr., Financial Secretary  
Jack Leich  
Sandy Meinershagen (Elder)  
Carolyn Pech  
Tricia Pineda (Elder)

## Contact us:

**Email:** [stjohnucclincoln@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnucclincoln@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [stjohnucclincolnillinois.com](http://stjohnucclincolnillinois.com)

St. John United Church of Christ  
204 Seventh Street  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656  
217-732-6957

Pastor Laurie's cell phone number: 217- 521-7747  
Pastor Laurie's email address: [pastorlauriehill@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlauriehill@gmail.com)

**"Letting God's love shine through us to the Community we serve"**