

ST. JOHN'S CHIMES

Published monthly in the interest of



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

October 2021 Newsletter

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

204 Seventh Street ~ Lincoln, Illinois 62656

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

Rev. Laurie Hill
Darlene Begolka

Pastor
Office Manager

Volume 52, No. 10

October 2021

OCTOBER HAPPENINGS

Articles on each are in the newsletter

World Communion
Sunday

Neighbors in Need
Offering

Celebrate Life
Birthday Group

St. John Diners

St. John Gamers

Pork Project Month

Children of Lincoln
Offering

Men's Fellowship

Diaper Project Offering

FROM OUR PASTOR...

Dear Friends,

Our council has been considering the question, "What's Next?" for our church. You see, the Center for Progressive Renewal (now named "Convergence") had us working with a coach who has resigned and the new one presented a possibility for a retreat that our council felt was not helpful for our future. They consulted with other coaching firms as well, but none really met our needs. So, they allowed me to put together a plan, in consultation with the Stewardship team, that may be a launching pad for more intentional ministry in the future, building on what we have already achieved.

While the goal for CPR may have been increased membership, that goal is widely known throughout all of mainline denominations as unrealistic. It's not just us. It's everyone. Some see First Christian Church or Jeff Street Christian in town as flourishing members. Although at this time, they may have more members than we do, their membership is lowering as well. Open Arms has big events with many carnival kinds of activities that has brought in attenders, but my guess is that their church membership will be short lived and/or sporadic. In one way, we need to face that people who will actually attend worship in person and then join the church and be active, tithing members, is over. The GI generation were the last tithing generation as a whole, according to church giving experts. Baby Boomers are sporadic, but they are trying to fund the church now. It's not enough, usually. Generation X and younger just will not support the church as it has been in the past, even if there are oodles of them. There is just too much competition for any unlikely disposable income and time. I know this all sounds grim. What is the good news?

The Good News is that we now must think of ourselves as a HYBRID church. Those who worship in person, please look at your bulletins to see how

many people cyber worshipped the week before and know they are all there that week, as well. Those worshipping online, YAY! We're so happy you worship! Some worship at different times, which is great! We may have 27-50 in church, but there may be 75-122 worshipping at home. That's a huge increase! Worship attendance is WAY UP from years gone by.

The other Good News is that congregations are finding ways to be financially secure in other ways besides the offering plates. Some have multiple rental properties; some have purchased farm land; some have opened stores that also serve the community like thrift stores or "Ten Thousand Villages" kinds of stores, with fair trade coffees or chocolates, etc. Some have created something to sell. Some have rented out space to vendors in their communities and asked a percentage of sales. There are so many ways to help secure our financial security.

The Best Good News is that during our time with CPR, we did not fail, quite the opposite! We Grew! We have wonderful technology that continues to grow and has HUGELY helped us to be the Hybrid Church that we are now. We have also opened our entry way with the giving tree and coffee table (that will hopefully be in use, soon), because of our RAW (Radical and Welcoming Team), and we have many, many small group ministries that have increased the love and fellowship of our congregation. The itchiness you all feel now is the sign that we're ready for something new! We're ready for the next steps. SO! SAVE THE DATE! NOVEMBER 14th: We will be having an after church, catered dinner, and we will then spend some time visioning together about what God is calling for us to do in this next great adventure that awaits! PLEASE CLEAR YOUR CALENDAR because this is SO VERY IMPORTANT!!!! WE NEED EVERY SINGLE PERSON! God speaks through the young, the old, the women and the men! YOU!

Peace,

Pastor Laurie

**ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
UNAPPROVED CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 20, 2021 | 7:00pm**

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

Absent: Pastor Laurie Hill

Guest: Tonita Reifsteck

President Goetsch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 20, 2021.

President Goetsch indicated before going to the first agenda item, he would like noted there would be a presentation from the Veteran Celebration Committee as well as the Small Group Ministry.

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 were raised. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as is. All voting aye, the motion passed.

President Goetsch indicated he would now turn the meeting over to Tonita Reifsteck. Tonita indicated that in light of the church's 160th anniversary she would like to get a reproduction of the current history book for our church. She indicated she has had an interest from members who would like a copy. She was quoted a price from Lincoln Printers that equated to \$4-\$5 dollars each. She requested \$200 to get approximately 50 books printed with the understanding if additional books were requested that Council would revisit this matter. She indicated the order would not be placed until January 2022. She indicated that those who would like a copy, a recommendation of a \$5 donation payable to the church, would be made to cover the expense. It was moved and seconded to authorize production of the church history book for

50 copies with possible additional orders. All voting aye, the motion passed. President Goetsch indicated the monies for this project would come from interest.

PASTORS REPORT

President Goetsch indicated in Pastor Hill's absence; he would like Council to take a couple minutes to review the Pastor's report. Bill Gosda inquired when Totenfest was to be held. It was confirmed it would be held on November 7, 2021. No further questions regarding this report.

OLD BUSINESS

Upgrade for Virtual Services: Darlene Begolka indicated that Jeff from RTech was going to look into the buffering system and President Goetsch asked that Jeff be reminded to look into the split screen issue. Darlene then stated that there will be a tech team meeting soon to be able to train on the system.

Security System: President Goetsch indicated there were no real updates to this matter. Gary Atteberry had met with Synergy and was still awaiting a dollar figure from the company. It was advised that Gary should follow up with Senergy via phone.

Pay Pal: It was confirmed this program is now up and running on the church's website.

Safety Team: It was confirmed that this committee will meet on September 27, 2021.

Veterans Committee/Small Group Ministry

Update: Jan Hahn initiated the Veterans Committee met and discussed many concerns regarding COVID with the upcoming event. After much discussion she indicated the dinner would be rescheduled for November 13, 2022. She also indicated the committee would be proceeding with various fundraisers to help support the 2022 event and would put a "Thank You" announcement in the Lincoln Daily News and the New Herald News to thank all veterans for their service. Jan also stated

they would be expanding the name of this committee to the St. John's Veterans Ministry.

Jan then proceeded to explain the Small Group Ministry met to plan out the events for the remainder of 2022 and to rename some of their groups.

Bus trips that go to a restaurant will now be called "St. John's Diners". A bus trip to Ted Garage was just held on September 18, 2021 and the next will be held on Saturday, October 16, 2021 and it will be a luncheon by request. Saturday, November 20, 2021 the committee will be going to dine and shop in Elkhart to support local businesses. Friday, December 10, 2021 the Committee will be going to the Lady of the Snow in Belleville.

Functions known previously as Family Night will now be called "St. John's Gamers". The next gamers event will be held on October 10, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. and then another event on November 14, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. Both events will be in Fellowship Hall.

Jan indicated she has had a special request to do something for the ladies of the church. The event will be called "A Cup of Christmas Tea".

The Men's Fellowship Breakfast was then discussed as the date had recently been moved around due to conflicting events. It would be discussed with Wayne Mara about moving the date back to the 1st Saturday of the month and possibly moving the location to Lincoln to centralize for those joining from the south.

Black Pearl: President Goetsch gave Council a couple minutes to review the current proposal from Black Pearl consulting. After review, it was noted that the proposal does not have the option of proceeding with the Open and Affirming initiative given the lack of time constraints from Black Pearl. After Council reviewed and had given the proposal careful consideration it was moved and seconded to pass on the proposal at this time. All voting aye, the motion passed.

President Goetsch then passed out a proposal from Pastor Laurie Hill. President Goetsch gave the Council a few moments to review the document. After discussion was had it was determined that the Council is interested in the proposal. However, Council is recommending the proposal continue to be flushed out and a component for Open and Affirming needs to be added. It was moved and seconded to continue to pursue the proposal, provided a component for O&A was added. All voting aye, the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

LAMS: LAMS has requested to again utilize St. John's for practice. President Goetsch indicated as long as they follow masking and State guidelines for their rehearsals it should be allowed. Council members were in agreement.

Illinois Conference Financial Clean-Up and Restructure Conversations: President Goetsch indicated to review and read the material provided on these items and indicated a Zoom meeting would be held on September 26, 2021 regarding the restructure if anyone wanted to participate.

It was noted that three members of the current Council terms are expiring. Warren Goetsch, Edna Mara and Troy Meinershagen. Arrangements were discussed regarding the replacement process.

A moment of silence was held in honor of the passing of Greg Jurgenson.

ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION

With no further business to discuss a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. Meeting concluded at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Tricia Pineda
Church Council Secretary

ST. JOHN 160th ANNIVERSARY

Recap #1 - Highlights 1830-1868

St. John United Church of Christ's heritage/beginning began in the years following the 300th anniversary of the Reformation = following King Frederick Wilhelm III of Prussia attempt to unite the Protestant Churches of Germany – becoming the “Evangelical Church”. In 1830, on the 300th anniversary of the Augsburg Confession, due to ‘violent dissension of liturgical language’ this break in the state church carried over with the German immigrants to America. Once organized in America the churches were nurtured by foreign-mission training schools. Once in America, they were independent of the German society that had commissioned them – thus the formation of “Der Deutsche Evangelische Kirchenverein des Westes” (The Evangelical Church = society of the West) which later became “The Evangelical Synod of North America” (which many long-time members of the UCC can recall St. John being a member of). Churches in the early years were organized by laymen – clergy were few and had a circuit ministry that afforded each church only one visit a month if that. Thus, the beginning of St. John Church. (In many documents and some signage on the church you still find the German signage)

In 1850 a group of immigrants from various provinces of Germany, that had settled in Postville and the area surrounding it began assembling for worship services – mostly held in homes when a pastor was available. Then they obtained their first building to meet in – the RothChild School House.

As most groups did, they met in a school until they could have their own building. In 1860 they moved to the first schoolhouse built in Postville – the



Fourth Ward School in 1842. On September 9, 1860 the first German Evangelical congregation was founded in this area although this wasn't the first German church—that being the Evangelical

Lutheran church in Mt. Pulaski in 1851. The Rev J. Stumpf was the first pastor of this new church - following their native faith became ‘St. Johannes Kirche’. The custom of observing communion at their first service encountered delivery problems of their communion set – thus Frank Frorer -the local tin smith/hardware merchant was sought out to fashion one and it has now become a cherished possession of St. John. Often a pastor's problem was having a mixed choir – permitted if the women were not in view of the congregation. It was preferred that boys sang the soprano parts. Tradition also was that the men sat on one side of the church – the women and children across the aisle. It was also a practice that women did not have any voice in government of the church.

From 1860 to 1875 ten churches were established in Logan County. A group joined the original group of the Rothschild School. In 1864 a new house of worship was erected on SE corner of Broadway and Kankakee Street; dedicated January 1864. The new building was rented out for other church congregations worship services. In 1864 Lincoln was selected to be site of Lincoln College so the Presbyterian church sold St. John their church on corner of McLean and Clinton streets on February 25, 1865. (A drawing of this church is in the 100th year anniversary booklet). Pastors were not easily available in the new frontier. On April 7, 1867, the church gave their pastor Re. Sickel the right to conduct services and be paid 4/5 of offerings and 1/5 to the church. That spring they also began a parochial day school. Rev. Sickel left in 1867 to teach in the Lincoln public schools.

In 1868 pastor Johann Wettle came to America from mission society in Germany. Pastor Wettle was one of the charter members of the Kirchenverein” the founding group of the Evangelical Synod. In 1868 St. John purchased its first parsonage-property on northeast corner of McLean and Decatur streets. Pastor's annual salary was \$500. The Reverend Johann Wettle stayed until 1873.



AUGUST FINANCIALS

Beginning Balance	\$19,339.66
Income	\$21,321.31
Expenses	\$22,392.89
Ending Balance	\$18,268.08

ATTENDANCE

August 29th

37 In-Person, 90 on Facebook, 17 bulletins mailed and website = 144+

September 5th

28 In-Person, 69 on Facebook, 17 bulletins mailed and website = 114+

September 12th

34 In-Person, 42 on Facebook, 17 bulletins mailed and website = 93+

September 19th

31 In-Person, 164 on Facebook, 17 bulletins mailed and website = 212+

ALTAR FLOWERS

October 2nd:
 October 9th:
 October 16th:
 October 23rd:
 October 30th:

PROTOCOL

Sadly, we are having to take a step back due to Covid risk in Illinois. CDC declares Logan County as a "substantial risk". Let's keep each other safe from this enemy: The Delta variant of Covid!

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


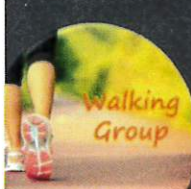
MASKING: Is required of everyone, vaxxed and unvaxxed.

SINGING: We will be back to humming or very softly singing 1 hymn.

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.

JUBILANT FEET,
 is the church's
 walking group and
 they meet on
Monday mornings
at 8:00 a.m.
at Kickapoo Creek Park
Everyone is welcome!

LET'S REMEMBER OUR FACILITY and HOMEBOUND.....

ST. CLARA'S REHAB and SENIOR CARE

1450 Castle Manor Drive, Lincoln, IL 62656

Dave Armbrust
Steve Aue
Evelyn Fulkerson
Susan Webb
John Wilmert

CASTLE MANOR

1550 Castle Manor Drive, Lincoln, IL 62656

Carol Turner

CONGREGATE BUILDING AT CHRISTIAN VILLAGE

1500 Seventh Street, Lincoln, IL 62656

Leola Dowling

CENTENNIAL POINT SENIOR LIVING

3440 Hedley Road, Springfield, IL 62711

Patty McCann

AT HOME

Jean Cummings

1114 Pekin Street, Lincoln, IL 62656



The Flower Chart is on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. You are encouraged to sign up for flowers in memory of loved ones or for a special occasion.



WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

Larry and Verdeen Ingram and family at the death of his brother, Bob Perdue.

The family of Gina Fuller Lockenvitz.

CELEBRATE LIFE BIRTHDAY GROUP
October 8, 2021 | 11:30 a.m.
Kickapoo Creek Park
(first pavilion)
Bring your own lunch and drink.
In case of rain, meet in the Fellowship Hall at church.



Articles for the **November** newsletter should be in the Church Office by **October 19th**.

TOTENFEST
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7th

If you have a friend or family member whose life you would like to celebrate, either email the office with their name, date of death, and relationship to you. We need the information by Monday, November 1st.

OUTREACH AND PUBLICITY NEWS

Jim and Leslie Wilmert and
Tonita Reifsteck, Co-Chairs

Tonita Reifsteck, 160th Anniversary Planner

Highlights of the Outreach and Publicity Ministry which met on September 1, 2021 had the update of the supported ministry projects as follows:

- **LOGAN REHAB:** cards, catalogs, calendars
- **LOGAN ANIMAL SHELTER:** plastic bags, any over the counter or prescription bottles with lids, newspapers
- **CHRISTIAN CHILD CARE:** yarn, fabric (even old sheets to make crib sheets with), cereal boxes, any tube (toilet paper, paper towel, gift wrap etc.) egg cartons, cards, plastic food trays, tin foil pans (all sizes), craft items, wrapping paper and ribbon, buttons – “we can do craft with anything clean you discard” is the message I get.
- Plastic tubs are shared at Logan Rehab, Christian Child Care (CCC), Lincoln Junior High School and Oasis.
- Pencils and other school supplies have been given to Central as brought in by Lee and others.

Lincoln Junior High School and Central School:



Voted to supply 2000 face masks and water bottles to Lincoln Junior High School along with the Ear buds we were just able to get (took 48 ear buds, 1000 masks and water bottles within the week). Also took 1000 masks to Central School – lists of other needs not provided yet. Lincoln Junior High School requests newspapers (so papers are split between 2 entities).

Coffee Hour resumed in September – coffee and hot tea with possible ‘individual snacks’ on occasion until restrictions are lifted. Personal coffee cups on wall (clean) can be used and wash own afterwards or disposal cups and individual creamers and sugar provided.



CAROLING: Looking ahead to follow whatever format it entails – we will carol to our shut-ins however we can plan at that time.

160th Anniversary: Jack Leich and Roger Michalsen’s display in the entryway applauded. Praying Hands Memory cards available to pin on board by any member or friend of an event, etc. that will be included in anniversary memoirs. A ‘highlight of St. John’ will be featured each month in Chimes. Reproduction of 100th Anniversary book was thought to be so historical instead of ‘gleaning some info’ to reproduce for anyone wanting one. A cost has been accepted and a list of interested families will be gathered before printing is done in January. Sign up in Narthex for a booklet (copy on display) or call a member of Outreach or Anniversary chair (Toni) to order a copy. It is full of not only St. John history but also a lot of Lincoln and Logan County history.



PUBLICITY: Articles sent for Rock ‘n Stroll for Emma Welp. Remembrance service for 9/11 20th anniversary and monthly Red Cross Blood Drive news releases.

Outreach ministry contacts: Jim and Leslie Wilmert (chair); Jack and Nancy Leich, Lee Westerfield, Sandy Wilmert and Tonita Reifsteck.

CHRISTIAN CHILD CARE is in need of
Gallon sized milk jugs with lids
 need for Halloween project.
THEY ONLY NEED 20.

NOTE: ½ gallon jugs are NO LONGER NEEDED



You are cordially invited to join us at
A fund raiser benefiting
"Friends and Family" Relay Team for Breast Cancer Awareness
Thursday, October 7th, 2021
DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 P.M.
"Pink Pumpkin" LIVE Auction will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Kiss the Pink Pig *This event is being held at* **Silent Auction**
Collision Concepts **5 pm**
1005 Macon St., Lincoln, IL
And is co-hosted by Lincoln Daily News
 RSVP by Sept, 22nd to
pink@lincolndailynews.com
 Or call (217) 737-7418 for information

RELAY FOR LIFE of Logan County as we have known it for over 25 years is now - 'if you want to work a fundraiser - you can but it is an individual team choice - no Relay leadership'.

St. JOHN UCC REMEMBERS team has been invited to support a Fundraiser by the "Friends and Family" team for Breast Cancer Awareness for Research.



Luminaria for any survivor or in memory of someone who fought the cancer fight are \$10 each and can be obtained from Bill Post (217-732-7564), Tonita Reifsteck (217-855-1645) or Lincoln Daily News (217-737-7418). There will be bags indicating those being remembered or celebrated. Questions call Lincoln

Daily News (LDN) or pink@lincolndailynews.com

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY PLANS...

ST. JOHN'S DINERS



- **Saturday, October 16th:** We will leave the church parking lot at 11:30 a.m. and travel to Chestnut, Illinois. The group will be dining at the Chestnut Family Restaurant.
- **Saturday, November 20th**
- **Friday, December 10th**

LADIES! SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, December 4th
"A CUP OF CHRISTMAS TEA"

ST. JOHN'S GAMERS



- **Sunday, October 10th** at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
- **Sunday, November 14th**
- **None in December**



THANK YOU NOTE

St. John's Scholarship Board,

Thank you so much for the scholarship! It will help with books that I need for classes! I appreciate the support!

Love,
 Emily Paulus

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY Sunday, October 3, 2021



- Our Presbyterian Friends will be joining us for worship
- You are invited to wear something from another country
- The Lord's Prayer in different languages
- If you are able, please sit up in the balcony next Sunday

CELEBRATE LIFE BIRTHDAY

GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

By: Karen Birnbaum

Fourteen people met for the Celebrate Life Birthday Group at 11:30 on Friday, September 10th at Kickapoo Park. We all enjoyed fellowship on a beautiful fall day. Sandy Wilmert brought two pencil and paper games that we all enjoyed playing.

We signed *Birthday Cards* for two ladies and one *Thinking of You* card.

The group decide to meet again on the second Friday of October (October 8th) at the same time and place.

Hopefully it will be another nice Fall Day.




NEW LOCATION **MEN'S BREAKFAST**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021
8:30 a.m.

MAMA'S ARCADE in Lincoln
All Men of the Church are **WELCOME.**



CHURCH OFFERINGS CAN BE:

- Placed in the offering plate on Sunday morning
- Dropped in the Sunken Garden Mailbox
- Mailed to the Church Office

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.**

CHRISTIAN CHILD CARE...

On September 12th the new Mission Room was



A quick look at the new Mission Room

dedicated and we had an open house to show off our new storage space. Thanks to all of you who attended! Nancy Gehlbach

was the big winner of the Cracker Barrel gift card drawing. It will be great to have a room we can call our own. It will be used to store the coats and all of the other items we collect and donate.

Since this room was previously the nursery, there were toys, books, puzzles, coloring books and craft supplies in the cupboards. These things had not been used for several years, so we offered them to the community. For the final cleaning, Toni Reifsteck and I sorted out five big boxes of things for her to distribute. She made deliveries to Lincoln Junior High, Christian Child Care and nursing homes. Thank you, Toni, for another job well done!



Just a couple of days after Toni delivered toys to Christian Child Care, she received these pictures of the children playing with their 'new' toys! It's great that these toys are once again being used.



Add this to the list of ways St. John spreads our love to our community!

COATS...



For several years people have been saying that we should give out the coats earlier in the year, so the kids have a new coat before cold weather hits. Change is hard, but we finally did it! On Sunday, September 12th we blessed our coats and sent them on their way to Community Action. The Head Start parents were notified ahead of time so that they could plan on getting coats for their children near the beginning of the school year. Now, at the first sign of a cold snap, Community Action will have coats on hand for those kids who need them.

Our Thanksgiving offering will still be used for the coat project. Coats will then be purchased after Christmas when they are on sale. We hope you will continue to generously support this project which has been a part of St. John for over 30 years.

**THIS YEAR WE WERE ABLE TO PURCHASE
321 COATS! THE MOST EVER!
THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES AND MITTENS...

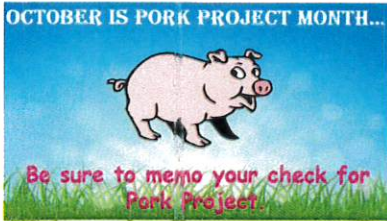


Halloween is coming and it is time to get your treats ready! The Mission Committee is not asking you to buy candy though. We want you to bring us your treats of hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for kids to enjoy.

You are welcome to bring your donations of these cold weather treats and leave them under the Giving Tree any time during October. On Sunday, October 31st - Halloween - we will dedicate these treats and take them to Community Action. The hats, scarves, gloves and mittens will keep kids warm all during the winter months. That will be a real treat!

PORK...

We are waking up to temps in the 40s and 50s this week. That is certainly a big change. A hot pork burger sounds tempting on a cool day like today. And it is a quick healthy meal for busy families.



We can provide that sandwich to families right here in Logan County by giving to the Pork Project. Phil Ruch from Immanuel Lutheran Church picks up hogs from local pork producers and takes them to the Atlanta Locker for processing. He then delivers the meat to the local food pantries. We support the project through our donations for processing. Please donate to this mouthwatering project anytime during the month of October. You may pick up an envelope in the back of the sanctuary or send your donation to the church. Thank you for your support. We want to thank our own local pork producers for their generosity as well. Thank you Paulus Farms!

NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING Sunday, October 3, 2021



The Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive on October 3rd supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through ucc.org/justice, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hock in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S. Neighbors in Need helps make Unfailing Love possible. For this to occur, it needs your support. Please give generously.

In Loving Memory



Gregory (Greg) L. Jurgenson, 69, joined his Savior on August 27, 2021, at his home, surrounded by family and friends.

Greg was born on July 19, 1952, in Fairmont, Minnesota to Robert and Marjorie (Cowing) Jurgenson. He married Carla Conrady Alberts on May 24, 2003, in Lincoln, Illinois. She survives him.

Also surviving are Ryan (Lyndi) Alberts of Atlanta; Alissa (Rob) Smith of Elkhart; mother, Marjorie Jurgenson of St. Louis; brother, Bradley (Sandy) Jurgenson of St. Louis. Grandchildren: Danielle and Remington Alberts; Landon and Olivia Smith. Niece: Jenni Jurgenson; Nephew: Drew Jurgenson. He was preceded in death by his father, Robert Jurgenson, in-laws, Wayne and Lois Conrady and Elaine Conrady.

Greg graduated from Thornridge High School, Dolton, Illinois in 1970 and moved to St. Louis with his parents where he attended University of Missouri-St. Louis. He majored in Social Studies and English, graduating with a BS in Education. For 7 years, Greg taught at Flossmoor District # 161. He

was active in the Flossmoor Education Association/IEA in which he served as President. Greg being a strong advocate for the members in his local, enjoyed representing them in contract negotiations and protecting their rights. When the opportunity to work as an organizer with the IEA/NEA presented itself, he seized the opportunity. For 33 years, Greg worked for the Illinois Education Association representing school employees in contract negotiations and protecting their working conditions. In addition, Greg served as the President of the Illinois Education Staff Organization (IEASO). Through the National Staff Organization (NSO), Greg had the opportunity to assist other state staff unions in negotiations with their respective member unions. On their behalf, Greg negotiated for Staff in Alaska, Louisiana, Washington DC, and Mississippi. Greg and his wife, Carla retired on June 30, 2016.

For the last 18 years, Greg raised Black Angus cattle with his wife, Carla, and son, Ryan. As such, Greg was a member of the Central Illinois Angus Association, Illinois Angus Association and American Angus Association. He especially enjoyed watching the cattle being exhibited by his nephew, Cody, grandson, Landon, and granddaughter Dani at local, state, regional and national shows.

Greg was a member of St. John UCC in Lincoln. He served as a member, elder, and President of the Church Council.

Following retirement, Greg's favorite pastime was to follow his grandchildren in school and sports activities and livestock shows. He enjoyed nothing more than to hear the name, PaPa or Grandpa. Greg was a wonderful and loving husband, stepfather and grandparent. His humor, storytelling and command of trivia will be missed by many.

Funeral services were held on September 4, 2021 at St. John United Church of Christ with the Rev. Laurie Hill officiating; burial was in Hartsburg Union Cemetery.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

World Communion Sunday, October 3rd

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
with Communion at 10:00 a.m.

St. John Ringers practice after church

Monday, October 4th

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 5th

LAMS Board Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Veterans Ministry meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 6th

Rotary at 12:00 noon

St. John Chimers practice at 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, October 7th

Outreach and Publicity at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 8th

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

Sunday, October 10th

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
at 10:00 a.m.

Children of Lincoln offering

St. John Ringers practice after church

St. John Gamers at 2:00 p.m.

Monday, October 11th

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, October 12th

Creative Delights at 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 13th

Rotary at 12:00 noon

St. John Chimers practice at 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, October 16th

St. John Diner's at 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, October 17th

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
at 10:00 a.m.

It's Birthday Sunday

St. John Ringers practice after church

Monday, October 18th

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Church Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 20th

Rotary at 12:00 noon

St. John Chimers practice at 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, October 24th

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
at 10:00 a.m.

Diaper Project Offering

St. John Ringers practice after church

Monday, October 25th

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 26th

Creative Delights at 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 27th

Rotary at 12:00 noon

St. John Chimers practice at 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, October 28th

Scholarship Board of Trustees meeting at
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 31st

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
at 10:00 a.m.

St. John Ringers practice after church



BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Rhonda (Kincheloe) Howard
- 7 Rod Morgan
- 13 Cody Conrady
- 14 Troy Meinershagen
- 16 Alison Pagel
- 25 Carla Jurgenson
- 26 Pastor Laurie Hill
David Wilmert
- 30 Leland Semple
- 31 Greg Fuller
Jenna Michalsen
Michelle Muhlach

PRAYER LIST

Jane Agnew
John Barrick
Wayne Bowns
Harold Boyer family
Ron Brandy
Esther Burge
Jan Collins
Dana Denny and family
Marsha Fernandez
Alta Gehrke
Ruth Gordon
Perry Groves
Cindy Hansen
Dave Harding
June Hurd
Robert Hurd
Marianne Ingram
Emily Jewsbury
Tim Leich
Kris Lucas
Kyle Lucas
Sammy McClure
April Martin
Yolonda Wilmert Martin
Mary Francis (aka Franny)
Lynn Price
Kayleigh Reifsteck
Mercedize Reyes
Jane Roemer
Nate Rohlfs
Bob Sanders
Bonnie Sanders
Sandy Sanders
Schneider Family
Chris Sprague
Kathy Staten
Karen Sutton
Kent Tangman
Fred Wiseman
Jason Yates

Caryn
Kenneth
Jo
Joyce
Kyle
Nathan
Elizabeth
Gunner and family
B. J.
Tony
Donna
Bethany
Cheryl
Dawson
Kate
Jeff
Jim
Chris
Sherri
Brett and family
Chris
Lisa
Scott
Allen



- 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, Evelyn Fulkerson, 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
Chime Choir Director
Bell Choir Director

Church Council for 2021-2022



Warren Goetsch (Elder), President
Kent Paulus (Elder), Vice President
Tricia Pineda (Elder), Secretary
Jan Hahn, Current Fund Treasurer
Troy Meinershagen, Special Funds Treasurer
Bill Gosda, Jr., Financial Secretary
Jack Leich
Edna Mara
Carolyn Pech

Contact us:

Email: stjohnucclincoln@yahoo.com

Website: 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

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