

ST. JOHN'S CHIMES

Published monthly in the interest of



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

January 2022 Newsletter

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Rev. Laurie Hill

Darlene Begolka

Volume 53, No. 1

Pastor

Office Manager

January 2022

2022 is the Year of Prayer



FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

As the council and I have thought about this next coming year, we agreed that the theme needs to be prayer! I strongly believe, as I'm sure you know by now, in the power of prayer. And so does my family. My Dad has had a vision that it's through prayer that our country will turn around, no matter what someone's faith community may be or if they even are not connected to one. He believes that prayer is the first step towards turning the world to the ways of God which of course are all good things: love, peace, justice, forgiveness, etc. And he may just be right about this.

So, in 2022, I would like to ask you each to commit to praying for our church every single day. It doesn't matter what words you say, or what specifics you are praying for, but I'd like you to pray every day. And I want to make it as easy and convenient for you as I can. So, you can simply say a prayer using our mission statement: "God, may our church, St. John United Church of Christ, grow mightily in being Your light within the community we serve." Of course, you can say more words or pray for someone or something specific. You can say it with your prayers for others in your life and/or your own soul. One suggestion is to say it at the same time each day so that it becomes a habit. Choose a time and place that works best for you. Perhaps it's best before you rise in the morning or sleep at night. Or you may like to say it as you start up your car or you eat a particular meal. Be intentional!

The one other part of prayer that is most often forgotten is listening. We can say lots of words to God, but we also need to make time for God to speak to us and to hear what God is saying. God may not come to you in a burning bush, but you never know. God is God. God often comes to me in dreams and in thoughts. It's usually a new thought that I don't think I would've thought up myself. For example, every sermon I write, I pray a

lot during the writing of it. And often times, I suddenly come up with an idea. I often smile and say, "Thank you!" Also, God speaks through other people or situations. Sometimes I'm contemplating an idea about a Scripture, and someone will say something perfect to illustrate that idea. Sometimes you can be reading the Bible or a devotional book and suddenly something just comes to you. How do we know if it's God? If it's a thought, idea, feeling, etc. that clarifies, teaches love or kindness or lifts your heart? Well, you know the Divine has sparked your soul!

Let's let 2022 be the year of prayer in St. John United Church of Christ. As Paul says, "Pray without ceasing", which is wonderful but even if it's just one sentence a day, I'm so excited to see what God will do with us as we grow closer and closer to our God in prayer. Maybe we will be the ones who start changing the world! Invite others to pray for our church, too. And! If you'd like a prayer group or a prayer partner, please let me know! You are all in my prayers!

Peace,
Pastor Laurie



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

Monday, December 13, 2021 | 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Kent Paulus and Troy Meinershagen

President Goetsch called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, December 13, 2021.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

President Goetsch inquired if there were any items up for removal or discussion as it related to the Consent Agenda items. President Goetsch did make note that the transfers for this year are at \$120,000. \$105,000 from Special Funds and \$15,000 from the Farm Income. He indicated that the transfer amount was about the same as it was last year. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. All voting aye, the motion passed.

PASTORS REPORT

Pastor Laurie indicated today she held communion at St. Clara's. She stated she is also still delivering communion to the homebound as well as still working on worship planning. Pastor indicated she has been issuing personnel reviews and the only two still outstanding are Laura Lee and Tracy Welch. Pastor indicated that all job descriptions were reviewed and minor amendments were made to the Office Manager, Financial Manager and the Chime Choir Director. President Goetsch indicated he had sat in on a couple of the reviews and believe they went well. It was moved and seconded to accept all changes to the job descriptions. All voting aye, the motion passed.

Pastor then discussed the Mission Insight changes passed out which highlighted the demographics in regards to the top 15 ministry recommendations and social media preferences of area population.

Pastor also indicated she will be on vacation from December 26, 2021 through December 30, 2021 and on Sunday, January 2, 2022.

OLD BUSINESS

Security System – President Goetsch indicated Gary Atteberry had negotiated the technology bid down to approximately \$9,950. The bid included upgrades of 3 cameras replaced, and additional camera as well as a new DVR recording system. Service agreements for the monitoring of fire and smoke were still being worked out. It was moved and seconded to empower a committee made up of Gary Atteberry, Warren Goetsch, Kent Paulus and Pastor Laurie with the assistance of Darlene Begolka to approve negotiations with the vendor resulting in contracts for less than \$10,000 for the replacement/additional equipment and less than \$3,000 for the annual service agreements. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Nominating Committee – Edna Mara indicated that there is still no Youth Conference delegate. She presented that Dan Row and Leland Semple have agreed to join the Council. They are still working on a third person and will follow up with Troy Meinershagen on the status. Delegates for the Western Association are Bob Meinershagen and Donna Kessinger. The Illinois Conference delegate is Donna Kessinger and Edna Mara will replace Karen Birnbaum on the Scholarship Board.

President Goetsch reiterated the Annual Congregational Meeting date, due date for the Annual Reports and when the 2021 Treasurer's Books close for advisory purposes only.

Jack Leich indicated Tonita Reifsteck was seeking Council approval to update the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Council approved. Jack also indicated that without the Boy Scouts there would be no Christmas trees in the sanctuary. Jack indicated he would like to reward the Scouts for their hard work by treating them to a meal at Culvers. It was moved and seconded to thank the Boy Scouts for assisting with decorating the church that he would like the church to treat the Scouts to

a meal at Culvers. The date would be worked out with the Scouts. All voting aye, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Cue Offering – Pastor Laurie inquired if it was possible to move this offering to Seminary Sunday which is February 27, 2022. She believes the church would get a better offering by moving it to a later date. President Goetsch suggested to move the CUE Offering to Seminary Sunday and Council agreed.

Pastor Laurie recommended to close the office at noon on Fridays. It was moved and seconded to close the church office on Friday afternoons to the general public and church members. All voting aye, the motion carried. The action will be effective January 1, 2022.

President Goetsch indicated the church office will be closed on December 27th through the 30th as Pastor Laurie is on vacation and Darlene is taking some time off.

Pastor Laurie indicated that it is tradition to pass out oranges and apples at Christmas Eve service. Pastor Laurie has a box of rotary oranges and the Council approved the tradition to continue just the oranges. The cost of the oranges was \$44 dollars. Pastor Laurie will be reimbursed.

Pastor Laurie recommended Communion be changed to January 9th instead of January 2, 2022 due to her absence. Council approved.

Jack Leich reminded Council that when Pastor Laurie is absent, that whoever is replacing her on that Sunday needs to be introduced to the Congregation.

CORRESPONDENCE AND E-MAILS-President Goetsch indicated he did have one item for discussion that he left at home. He will review and present at the next meeting in January.

ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION

With no further business to discuss a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. Meeting concluded at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Tricia Pineda
Church Council Secretary



TAKE NOTE: REGARDING THE CHURCH OFFICE ON FRIDAY AFTERNOONS...

Starting January 1st, Council has decided to close the church office on Fridays at Noon. So, everything you need to get into the bulletin, please get to Darlene before Friday. So, January 7th, the office will close on Friday at noon. If you have an emergency, always call Pastor Laurie on her cell phone on Fridays: 217-521-7747. If you see Darlene in the office on Friday afternoon, please do not talk to her about the bulletin or scheduling an event, etc. What seems to be a quick bit of information to you may mean a lot more work for her. She may be here but working on special projects. You can write her a note and put it in the box on the office door or email it to her. Thanks.

CEBRATE LIFE BIRTHDAY GROUP...

The Celebrate Life Birthday Group met on Friday December 10th at Chi's with 20 people in attendance.

Norma and Danny had placed a special treat at everyone's place setting. Norma led us in prayer. We enjoyed a nice meal served by polite waitresses. We sang Happy Birthday to our December birthday people; four of whom were present with us. Norma had some fun, Christmas Challenge games for us to enjoy.

Our January birthday people, who were present, choose to have our January 14, 2022 birthday celebration lunch at 11:30am at Cracker Barrel in Lincoln.

Please call Sandy Wilmert or Toni Reifsteck, if you are planning to attend. All are welcome.

Karen Birnbaum



Our Boy Scout Troop 1102 is holding an Avanti's Gondola Fundraiser.

Full length Avanti's Gondolas are \$7.00 each or a Loaf of Bread is \$3.00 each.

Orders due
Monday, January 10, 2022 by 12:00 noon.

Pick up
Friday, January 14, 2022
between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. at St. John UCC.

Contact Dean Meinershagen for tickets.
(Jean's number (217-737-1883)
or Don Begolka (217-737-6177)

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM...

May all your
CHRISTMAS WISHES
come true now and
throughout the year.

Merry Christmas!
Dave and Marilyn Armbrust

Merry Christmas 2021
Carolyn Oreo and Remi

Wishing you a merry and bright holiday
season and new year.
Your friends at Church World Service

May peace fill your heart
at Christmas and always.
Merry Christmas
Jean Cummings

Peace on Earth
will come to stay
...when we live
Christmas
every day.

Illinois Conference Stewardship Committee

The best gifts of the season
are family and friends.
Merry Christmas!
Thanks for the gift of friendship!
Larry and Verdeen

May Christmas shine brightly
in your home and in your heart.
Hope, Joy, Peace and Love,
Rev. Laurie and Rev. Steve Hill and Liza

Let us join in prayer
to ask for God's peace
at Christmas and always.
Christmas Blessings
Janet Johnson

Praying that the gracious
gifts of the season bring you
happiness and peace
in the New Year.

Donna Kessinger

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

May God bless you richly
throughout this holiday season.

Merry Christmas!
and Happy 2022!

Norma

Merry Christmas

From your friends at Lincoln Christian University

Wishing you
beautiful winter moments
and New Year of Peace.
Have a Blessed Holiday Season

Love,

Sandy and Bob Meinershagen

Season's greetings and best wishes
for a happy New Year.

Thanks to all of you St. Johners for your support of
our mission projects!

Merry Christmas!

Yor Mission Committee

Merry Christmas

...and a happy new year, too!

To our church family,
Greetings and wishes for a safe
and healthy New Year –

Alice Paulus

A song for healing,
a branch for justice,
and a path for love.

May these gifts be yours and ours.

Merry Christmas from

The Pilgrim Press

Dear St. John family –

Have a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year and many more.
May the memories of Blessings of past Christmases
be a guiding star as you celebrate once again the
birth of our Savior.

Love, Tonita Reifsteck

It's Christmas –

Time to gather together and make merry!
We Wish y'all a Happy Holiday Season filled with
plenty of cheer, good times and family.

Merry Christmas everyone!!

Shanda and J. D.

Peace in every heart...

joy to all the world.

Our warm wishes to all the members of the
St. John UCC Family!

Lynn and Hank

To our St. John's Family

May God's many precious GIFTS
continue to BLESS you
and all those you LOVE

Merry Christmas

Love and Blessings,

George and Marlene Wilmert

Merry Christmas

With love, Kaye

Wishing you
a magical holiday
Merry Christmas
Prayers and blessing
to my church family –

Sandy Wilmert



ST. JOHN GAMERS

Sunday, January 9, 2022

2:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall



Come enjoy some relaxing fun and fellowship and play some games with your church family.

ST. JOHN DINERS

Saturday, January 15th

Plans have been made to go to Chi Family Restaurant located at 819 Woodlawn Road in Lincoln.

This is **NOT** a bus trip though. We are asking that you either drive yourself or carpool or let us know if you need a ride. Reservations are being made for 11:30 a.m.

There will be a signup sheet in the back of the sanctuary or call the church office, even though the bus is not going out we still need to let the restaurant know how many are coming.

What more could you ask for on Saturday, good food, good fun and fellowship. See you there!

**2022 Virtual Event to benefit the
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Minority Scholarship**

For the pasts fourteen years, Lincoln College and community members have worked together to provide academic scholarships for minority students in Logan County in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Joyce Kinzie. These scholarships have helped many local students

reach their goals and keep alive the visions of both of these leaders. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, donors and friends, we have raised over \$80,000 to help fund these scholarships and ease the financial burden of attending college while allowing the students the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, concerns surrounding large group gatherings, and with the health and safety our students, staff, and guests in mind, we have had to make the difficult decision to cancel this year's traditional Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr./Joyce Kinzie Breakfast. This has been done with a heavy heart, as one of our greatest joys is to see our community gather in fellowship to celebrate Dr. King's legacy of peace and unity and Mrs. Kinzie's legacy of community service.

In place of our traditional event, we will have a virtual event which will be shared on Monday, January 17th on both LCTV (local cable channel 5 or <https://lincolncollege.edu/lctv-stream>) at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 6:00 p.m. or on Lincoln College's Facebook page anytime that day. This event will include remarks by this year's scholarship recipient, Mr. Jalen Franz, Lincoln College President Dr. David Gerlach, and performances by the Second Baptist Praise Ministry and the Lincoln College Gospel Choir. We hope that you will join us on Monday, January 17th to celebrate Dr. King and Mrs. Kinzie and support the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Minority Scholarship. For more information, please contact Tom McLaughlin at 217-735-7210 or via email at tmclaughlin@lincolncollege.edu.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr./Joyce Kinzie Breakfast
Committee

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL PROJECT...

A gift from Gary and Judy Atteberry.
A gift from Laurie Hill.
A gift from Bob and Sandy Meinershagen.
A gift from Alice Paulus.
A gift from Jean Webb.

In memory of Ray and Evelyn Begolka
from Darlene and Don.
In memory of Earl and Ruth Bidner from
Verdeen and Larry Ingram.
In memory of my mother, Millie Bunner and
my father, William E. Gosda, Sr. from
Bill Gosda, Jr.
In memory of Daniel Brian Denney and
Wayne Denney, Sr. from Esther Denney.
In memory of Albert and Iola Gehlbach,
Richard and Edith Lawrence and Norman
Lawrence from Jerry and Nancy Gehlbach.
In memory of Harold and Gene Gockel from
Glenn and Terri Shanle.
In memory of Harold and Gene Gockel and
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Muhlach from
Twila and Wm. Muhlach.
In memory of Greg Jurgenson from Carla.
In memory of Ken Kramer, Jr. from Norma Kramer.
In memory of Donald and Blanche Kurtz from
their family.
In memory of Larry Kurtz from his brothers and
sisters and families.
In memory of Bob and Alice Lee from Laura Lee.
In memory of Mike from Mom and Dad.
In memory of André Nemeth from Mom and
Wayne and Anton.
In memory of Wallace Reifsteck, Lucinda Reifsteck,
parents, other family members, Selma Wilham
and Marita Schneider from Tonita Reifsteck.
In memory of Jim and Charlotte Shearer from
Lynn Spellman.
In memory of Mary and Albert Webb from
Carol Webb.
In memory of John and Irene Zurkammer from
Jean Cummings.

In memory of loved ones from Kaye Wilmert.
In memory of loved ones from Sandy Wilmert.



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



OUTREACH and PUBLICITY NOTES

Co-Chairs: Jim and Leslie Wilmert
and Tonita Reifsteck

Outreach's activity for December centered around decorating the church and preparing the church's entry in the Christmas Parade. Led by Jack Leich those getting the bus ready were Roger Michelson whose scenery for the sides was breathtakingly vintage of our theme: "It's A Wonderful Life". Also helping create or supply props were Nancy Leich, Jim Wilmert and Toni Reifsteck. Putting it all together included those plus Bob Meinershagen, Tricia and Bailee Pineda. A card was signed by all for "THANKS Roger".

The night of the parade with Bob driving the bus and streets so full we ran out of pencils – were Marilyn Armbrust, Laurie Hill, Jack and Nancy Leich, Bob and Sandy Meinershagen, Dean Meinershagen, Carolyn Pech, Bailee Pineda, Chloe Vineyard, Toni Reifsteck, Sandy Wilmert and Lee Westerfield.

Jack applauded the work of the scouts for our Hanging of the Greenery! Helping him supervise was Bob Meinershagen. Those helping alongside and amongst the scouts were Justin Brickey, Jake Curry, Brady Curry, Jack and Nancy Leich, Bob Meinershagen, Dean Meinershagen (scout) Tricia and Bailee Pineda, Tonita Reifsteck, Lynn Spellman, Carol Webb, and Sandy Wilmert.

Group consensus was to honor the scouts and their work with a 'treat at Culver's' in the near future to be confirmed with scout leader.

True to the spirit of the season several members of St. John shared the message of Christmas with caroling to the residents of St. Clara's Rehab and Senior Care and Castle Manor on Sunday, December 12th. With Norma Kramer leading the singing and the poetry reading – residents are anxious for a return visit. Joining her were Laura Lee, Jean Webb, Carol Webb, Carolyn Pech, Marilyn Armbrust and Pastor Laurie Hill.

The season was made brighter by all who shared their time shopping for the Angel Tree and singing and visiting with the residents.



ST. JOHN 160th ANNIVERSARY

By: Tonita Reifsteck

Recap #4

Highlights Sons and Daughter of St. John in Ministry

St. John United Church of Christ in Lincoln in its lifetime has, among other contributions to the community, started a school for children, opened a hospital during an outbreak of Typhoid Fever, and enriched the spiritual life of the world with the ordination of four ministers and a commissioning a nurse into missionary work in Africa.

On June 29, 1913 Reinhold Niebuhr, son of the pastor Gustav Niebuhr, was ordained at St. John Evangelical and Reformed Church. He immediately became Interim pastor as his father had died suddenly on April 13th of that year. Reinhold Niebuhr, a senior at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis at that time, had been 'filling in' for his father when he became ill and suddenly died. As a child, while the family was living in the hospital because of construction on the parsonage on Fifth Street, Reinhold, it has been told, was sitting with his feet dangling off the windowsill of their living quarters! Years later his aunt, Sister Adele Hosto would be living in a section of the 'new Deaconess Hospital'. Reinhold, after his duties of Interim were completed (finished the confirmation classes studies and confirmed that class) he entered Yale University, pastored a church in Detroit Michigan before becoming chair of faculty at Union Theological Seminary in New York City where he raised his family.

On July 13, 1925 another son of then current church's pastor, Elmer H. Hoefer having completed his studies at Washington University and Eden Theological Seminary was ordained by his father, Rev. J. A. Hoefer (and 3 clergy uncles). His first pastorate was in Fulton, Missouri. After many years in St. Louis, Missouri he retired in Lincoln contributing to St. John's ministry for many years until he and Thekla moved to Colorado.

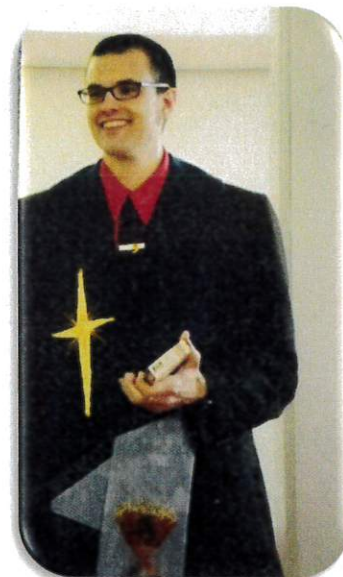
On June 9, 1940, Walter W. Lauer was ordained into the ministry. Walter was the first 'son of the laity' of St. John – graduating from Elmhurst College and Eden Theological Seminary. His first pastorate was assistant pastor at St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed in Pekin. Walter has participated in several special commemorative services and dedications throughout his ministry.

On June 6, 1965, John W. H. Bock, another son of the congregation was ordained into the Christian ministry. Son of a Lay leader, Henry F. A. Bock, John studied at Elmhurst College and Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis. Missouri. His first pastorate was in Westphalia, Indiana then Elmira Ohio where he is retired.

February 11, 1962 Elsie Bock Piotraschke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. A. Bock (and brother to John W. H. Bock) completed her studies at Elmhurst College and Deaconess School of Nursing. She was commissioned a missionary nurse and was assigned to Ghana West Africa where she was a nurse for 2½ years. Returning home, she served as a midwife in Chicago for a time and then Colorado where she met Gerald. She was married at St. John and lived and worked in nursing in Colorado but never forgot her experience and needs in Africa. Elsie died in 2016.



Another son of the congregation, Ted Michalsen was ordained on January 11, 2009. Ted also grew up at St. John UCC, studied art at Eastern Illinois University and entered United Theological Seminary in Twin cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul) and finished his seminary training at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. His 'natural' artistic talent has enhanced many facets of his ministry including his ordination program. His first pastorate was in Andover, Ohio and has been pastor at Bethany UCC in Freeport since December 2011.



Dear St. John Family,



Thank you for everything you did to make my Mom's Memorial Service Beautiful!

Suzanne Tockey





NOVEMBER FINANCIALS

Beginning Balance	\$12,589.15
Income	\$30,485.59
Expenses	\$18,570.77
Ending Balance	\$24,503.97

ATTENDANCE

November 28th

31 In-Person, 49 on Facebook, 16 bulletins mailed and website = 96+

December 5th

35 In-Person, 44 on Facebook, 16 bulletins mailed and website = 95+

December 12th

36 In-Person, 63 on Facebook, 16 bulletins mailed and website = 115+

December 19th

39 In-Person, 88 on Facebook, 16 bulletins mailed and website = 143+

ALTAR FLOWERS

January 2nd:

January 9th:

January 16th:

January 23rd:

January 30th:

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.



Reagan Grace Rader-Ingram daughter of Orry Ingram and Rebecca Rader received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, November 14, 2021 during the morning worship service at St. John UCC.

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.**



MISSION PROJECT RESULTS...

We appreciate all of you St. Johners for your support of our mission projects. Because of you we are able to make a difference in the lives of many people in Lincoln and Logan County.

Earlier in the summer we held a Rock and Stroll fundraiser for the family of Emma Welp. We cleaned out a former Sunday School room so we can use it to store all of the coats, hats, stuffed animals and recyclables as we are collecting them. We also delivered school supplies to Central School and Lincoln Junior High School.

We had several exciting projects this fall!

321 coats were delivered to Community Action in September

82 hats, 97 pairs of gloves, 2 earmuffs, and 16 scarves were also delivered to Community Action.

19 boxes of groceries were delivered to the Community Action food pantry as a result of our Thanksgiving Food Drive

94 Christmas decor items were delivered to St. Clara's

61 Christmas decor items were delivered to Vonderleith

4 boxes of toys and a check for \$125.25 were given to Toys for Tots

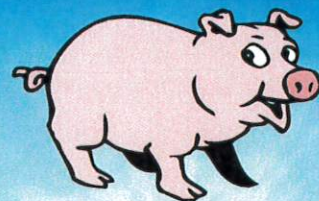
Of course, we couldn't have done it without all of you!

Thank you!

GREETING CARDS...

Please take note of the Card Ministry list which is found behind the hymnals in the pews. Greeting cards are available in the back of the sanctuary for you to use. Our home and facility bound members would be so glad to hear from you. You are always welcome to send a birthday greeting, a get well wish or a thank you note to a friend, neighbor or someone you haven't seen here in a while.

JANUARY IS PORK PROJECT MONTH...



Be sure to memo your check for Pork Project.



BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Colleen Pech
- 7 Ty Row
- 17 Jackie Curry
Bret Paulus
- 18 Janet Johnson
- 19 Norma Kramer
- 22 Jonathan Pagel
- 26 Connor Costello
Brandon Muhlach
- 27 Jean Meinershagen
- 28 Kyle Atteberry
- 30 Lori Christensen
- 31 Tom Pech



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!**

WORD FROM OUR NATIONAL OFFICE...

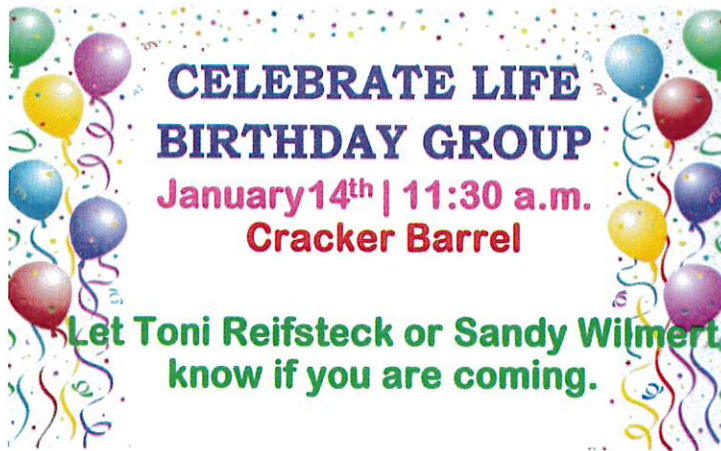
A tornado outbreak on December 10-11 took the lives of at least 88 people across five states and caused damage and economic losses projected at \$18 billion. The outbreak is already considered the costliest tornado event in U.S. history, according to AccuWeather. A few days later, severe weather caused loss of life and did further damage from Arizona to the Midwest.

There were a total of 34 confirmed tornados across eight states in the weekend outbreak, seven of which were rated EF3 strength by the National Weather Service. One of the 34 confirmed tornados had an approximate 227-mile-long-path of destruction spanning four states, with 200 miles of destruction in Kentucky alone.

Here at St. John UCC we have been collecting a 2021 Disaster Relief Offering for this purpose. You still have time if you would like to donate. There are envelopes in the back of the sanctuary labeled

**DISASTER RELIEF
SPECIAL OFFERING
December 2021 Tornados**

We will continue this special appeal until mid January. Thanks for your support.



**CELEBRATE LIFE
BIRTHDAY GROUP**
January 14th | 11:30 a.m.
Cracker Barrel

Let Toni Reifsteck or Sandy Wilmert know if you are coming.



Articles for the **February 2022** newsletter should be in the Church Office by **January 19th**.



Saturday, January 1st

Happy New Year!

Sunday, January 2nd

Coffee Hour at 9:15 a.m.

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
at 10:00 am

Monday, January 3rd

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 5th

Rotary at 12:00 noon

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

Thursday, January 6th

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

Friday, January 7th

Reports for the Annual Report are due

Sunday, January 9th

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
with Communion at 10:00 am

Children of Lincoln Special Offering Sunday

St. John Ringers rehearsal after church

St. John Singers rehearsal at 11:30 a.m.

Monday, January 10th

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Taking Down the Greens at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 11th

Cub Scouts at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 12th

Rotary at 12:00 noon

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

Friday, January 14th

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

Saturday, January 15th

St. John Diners at 11:30 a.m. at Chi Family
Restaurant

Sunday, January 16th

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
at 10:00 am

It's Birthday Sunday – Time to celebrate
January Birthdays

St. John Ringers rehearsal after church

St. John Singers rehearsal at 11:30 a.m.

Monday, January 17th

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Church Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 19th

Rotary at 12:00 noon

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

Sunday, January 23rd

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
at 10:00 am

Diaper Project Special Offering Sunday

St. John Ringers rehearsal after church

St. John Singers rehearsal at 11:30 a.m.

Monday, January 24th

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 26th

Rotary at 12:00 noon

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

Sunday, January 30th

In-Person and Live-stream Worship Service
at 10:00 am

Annual Congregational Meeting following
church

Monday, January 31st

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

Boy Scouts at 7:00 p.m.



PRAYER LIST



Matt Adams
John Barrick
Linda Barrow
Jerry Berglin
Wayne Bowns
Harold Boyer family
Ron Brandy
Valerie Canning
Marsha Fernandez
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
Lynn Price
Kayleigh Reifsteck
Mercedize Reyes
Diane Roschnafsky
Bonnie Sanders
Sandy Sanders
Alissa Smith
Chris Sprague
Kathy Staten
Karen Sutton
Kent Tangman
Donna Welch
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
Jerry
Rachel
Carol

- 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
St. John Chimers Director
St. John Ringers and St. John Singers 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"