

# ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS

## JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I realize that Thanksgiving is long gone, however I would like to take this opportunity to give thanks for **YOU, ALL OF YOU**, at St. John UCC. We've just passed through the joyful celebrations of Christmas and many of you stepped up to be sure it was a "jolly ole' time" for the rest of us.

I'm thankful for Ruth Ogles and others who organized the poinsettia sales and the creativity of Becky Reiss for displaying them so beautifully on the back table. Those who purchased poinsettias in honor or in memory of a loved one, thank you.

All those who helped with Hanging of Greens further enhanced the look of the sanctuary. I'm very thankful for Sue Williams, Mary Lou Baum, and Rosemary Williams for leading Lessons and Carols.

All liturgists and candle-lighters who helped us celebrate the Advent Candle and Wreath. I'm most grateful. All those who brought or bought the goodies at the Bake Sale were certainly appreciated.

I loved "The Carpenter's Tree" imagined by Nancy Eisenhauer, but portrayed by Lew Thomasino. All the families and their children helped by reading or decorating the ladder. WELL DONE ALL!

The Choir "pulled out all the stops" for our two services on Christmas Eve as we also welcomed the flute duet by Stacie Pickens and Shannon Banjavcic. The Banjavcic family also sang in the choir along with Mike Stidham, and some others who helped out. The music was beautiful!

All the ushers and greeters did their assignments very well, from passing out ornaments for the ladder tree, to passing out candles and glow bracelets. Barb, Janice, and Melinda prepared and cleaned up our communion elements. It was a professional job done by all.

Of course, the person who keeps the whole church humming and keeps the pastor on track, is Judy Hartmann. Our holiday celebrations would not have been possible without her guidance, suggestions, and organizational skills. Next year she should play Mary in the pageant.

I'm so blessed to be a part of this wonderful faith family. You all work together like a "well-oiled machine." I pray that all of you have a safe and happy holiday season and that the spirit of cooperation remains at St. John UCC for many more Christmases.

Blessings to you all, Pastor Rosemary



## AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

### Funeral:

Although there will not be a service at this time, Dennis Ford, a member since 2011, died on Tuesday, December 26. There will be a memorial service in the spring when all of his family will be able to attend.

### January Birthdays:

1/2	Judy Hartmann	1/22	Kendra Clark
1/4	Job Ganschinietz	1/24	Cheri Schutzenhofer
1/4	March Ganschinietz	1/27	Shari Hamilton
1/14	Jim Turnbull	1/28	Amy Brink
1/17	Rich Williams	<b>1/28</b>	<b>Ensley Turnbull</b>
1/21	Eileen Gammon		

## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

If I said it doesn't seem like it's been 4 years since I was first elected to the Church Council I would be lying. But I have to say that this year has just flown by. This year's Council has made a lot of big decisions with your help and hopefully we will see the results of those decisions soon.

To thank everyone individually at St. John for all they do would be quite a job. There are so many folks that do so much I'm afraid I would miss someone. So thanks to all of you for the great job this year at keeping St. John going. A special thanks to Judy Schmitt who is leaving the Council this year - we can't even remember how long she has been serving! Judy does so much and is always willing to take on more - she has some big shoes to fill. Thank you to everyone for all of your support and the faith you have put in me as your President.

Susan Williams

## Sunday School

Our Christmas program this year, "The Carpenter's Tree", was one for our Sunday School families and the entire congregation. We built a truly Christmas tree from a ladder! A special thanks to Lew Thomasino for playing the carpenter and supervising the decorating. Those lights were tricky! Thanks, also, to the parents and grandparents who worked with their young ones on the readings. We retold the Christmas story in a unique way.

In January our crew of Sunday School teachers will be back in action. Each of them work hard to provide a lesson for the kids that is tied to the scripture readings for that day and will make them think. I hope the kids are able to take advantage of these opportunities. As always, the first Sunday of the month is family communion Sunday. Materials and activities for the kids are provided at the front table, after the children's time.

The mission for January will be something for the homeless in our area. We will be working with Trinity UCC program for homeless and are asking you to bring socks for adults (they can be used as socks or mittens), baby wipes and travel size hand lotion.

Nancy

## **EVENING CIRCLE**

So, here we are in December already and there are a few thank you's to be said. Thank you to everyone who baked goodies for the bake sale and also to those who bought goodies. Thank you to Nancy Eisenhower for donating the table centerpiece that was raffled and thanks to all of you who bought tickets. The winner of the raffle was Judy Schmitt. Eileen and Jack Gammon delivered the Christmas gifts to Kinder Cottage for the little boy we sponsored. A big thank you for all of you who bought gifts for him.

Those who were unable to come to our Christmas party Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, you missed a great time. There were beautiful decorations, fun games and Eileen even had a craft project for us. Thanks to all of the ladies for the delicious treats that were enjoyed by all.

We are planning to make sub sandwiches again for Super Bowl Sunday, watch for sign up list. We will also be making and selling "turtles" candy before Valentines Day.

The Evening Circle meets the third Monday of the month and all ladies of St. John are welcome. Hope to see you on January 15!

## **Choir Notes**

I hope you were at church on Christmas Eve, for at least one of the services. Choir members sang at each of the services that day and I think they sounded angelic! At the 10:00 a.m. service, the ladies of the choir sang a beautiful arrangement of "Of the Father's Love". In the evening, the entire choir sang "Mary, Did You Know?", "All is Well" and they did the first verse of "Silent Night", using an a capella Pentatonix arrangement – beautiful.

In addition, Stacie Pickens, Scott and Shannon Banjavcic joined Sharon in offering instrumental music and accompaniment. Thanks to Scott and Shannon for joining us, as well as Kim Christ, who sang at both of our services in addition to her own church in Belleville. As always, we appreciated Mike Stidham's rich baritone. Thanks for the help, Mike! (He also worked the screens in the morning.)

The blessings of the season were many. Wishing you and your family many more blessings in 2018.

Nancy

P.S. – Here is an idea for a New Year's resolution: join the choir! Contact Nancy at 233-5894.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN UCC?

2018 is a new year and a chance to participate in events at the church.

**December 31 and January 7** Angie Hausmann will proclaim the Word in worship while Pastor Rosemary is on vacation.

Due to Pastor's vacation, **HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE CELEBRATED ON JANUARY 14 INSTEAD OF JANUARY 7, 2018.**

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** including approval of the 2018 budget, election of new Council Members, and other important items, will be discussed and voted on immediately after worship on **January 21, 2018.** It's important for all members to attend.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL RESUME January 14** after our holiday break. We meet in Fellowship Hall from 8:45 to 9:30 am.

**JANUARY 28** is Health and Human Services Sunday and we will have a guest speaker in worship, Rev. Donna Smith-Pupillo, RN and Executive Director of Deaconess Nurse Ministry.

**ALSO, JANUARY 28** we will have **LUNCH AND A MOVIE** following worship. Meat was donated to our church to have a spaghetti meal and so we shall, including salad and desert. After which we will enjoy a movie together.

The Adult Sunday School Class enjoyed their study of Martin Luther in the fall, and Pastor Rosemary has received a copy of "**MARTIN LUTHER: THE IDEA THAT CHANGED THE WORLD**". This film was shown on **PBS** back in September and shows the impact Luther's ideas have had on the course of history. Parts of his theology affected our own denomination, the United Church of Christ. The film will be both interesting and thought provoking.

During these sleepy days of winter, come to church and see **WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!**



### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SUNDAY**

**January 28, 2018      10 am Worship Service**  
**GUEST SPEAKER - Rev. Donna Smith-Pupillo,**  
**RN, MSN, MDIV**

**Executive Director of Deaconess Nurse Ministry**  
At our worship service on January 28 we will have a guest "in the pulpit". She will talk to us about the connection between Christian service and holistic health care.

Faith Community Nursing is a movement among several thousand Registered Nurses in America and abroad. These Registered Nurses focus on the intentional care of the spirit, the importance of the wholistic model of health, and prevention of illness within the context of a community of faith.

<http://www.faithnurses.org/>

## OUR CHURCH WORKERS FOR JANUARY

### USHERS

1/7 Cheri Schutzenhofer and Sue Williams  
1/14 : Urban and Mary Lou Baum  
1/21 : Ginny Ganschietz and grandson  
1/28 : Shari Hamilton and \_\_\_\_\_

### LITURGISTS

1/7 Eileen Gammon  
1/14 Sue Anne Sharp  
1/21 Jan Miller  
1/28 Ginny Ganschietz

## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY 2018 ALL READINGS FROM THE COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE TRANSLATION

12-31-2017 Isaiah 60:1-6  
UNISON READING OF Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

1-7-2018 Genesis 1:1-5  
Acts 19:1-7  
UNISON READING OF Psalm 29

1-14-2018 1 Samuel 3:1-20  
HOLY COMMUNION

1-21-2018 Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
UNISON READING OF Psalm 62:5-12

1-28-2018 Acts 4:23-31  
UNISON READING OF Psalm 111  
GUEST SPEAKER

2-4-2018 Isaiah 40:21-31  
UNISON READING OF Psalm 147: 1-11, 20c  
HOLY COMMUNION



## WHERE TO FIND OUT IF CHURCH HAS TO BE CANCELED

In case of inclement weather, St. John will post closures on KSDK, channel 5. We will only close when the safety of the congregation and staff is an issue.

## NOTES AND THANK YOU'S

"Thank you, Pastor Captain and the members of St. John U.C.C., for your prayers, your cards, and your uplifting thoughts. The miracles of modern science aided by the miracles of faith have been a great blessing in my life. I am on my way to recovery, and you have helped in this process.

Dean Drake

Merry Christmas and hope you all have a wonderful New Year.

I'm still living in the log house out by the lake and of course have Jesus to help me through each day.

Our family has grown a bit. Tim and Jan are still at the church in Grantfork and Jan preaches at New Baden and other churches. Their daughter, Grace is teaching Spanish in Carbondale. They have a little daughter, Bedelia, making me a great grandma for the first time. Her husband, Treesong, is also a teacher. Their son Matthew is continuing his architecture education abroad, after working in Australia this year

Steve and Sarah live by me on the lake (I'm so glad). They are very helpful. Steve still has his watch and clock store in Glen Carbon, Exactime, and does a great business. His son David, works for his Dad in the watch store and does some Organic farming here on the farm. He has proposed to his girlfriend, Chelsea. Steve and Sarah's son, Jacob, is studying to be a vet at Mizzou. My dog, coco, loves him. Steve's lovely wife works for Purina and provides Coco with food.

James is still a weatherman in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. He can tell me what kind of weather is coming my way. His lovely wife, Sherri, works for the school there. Their daughter Alex is a dancer and teaches dancing. She also dances in some operas. Brenna the other daughter is getting her Masters in Oklahoma.

My daughter, LeAnn lives in nice warm Florida. She is an office administrator for builder's showroom. She keeps them organized and helps sell their products.

My daughter Susan, and her two boys, Bryson and Graham, live in Phoenix, where she is a property manager of a community.

Well that is about it. I stay busy working at the Food Pantry in my sister Karen's church in Wood River every other week on Mondays. I also visit and help patients at Hitz Home two morning a week. I also like to walk every day with my friend Grace at the YMCA.

Keeping all of you in my prayers and have a great new year.

Love to each of you,  
Marilyn Paul

Greetings everyone, from all of us here at Kindercottage. Thank you so much for supporting Cayden and his mom this Christmas. I know mom will be very happy with everything you've done.

Blessings!

P.S. We also had a visit from 2 quite jolly elves bearing the gifts to make Christmas special for Cayden. Thank you!

**PROPOSED  
BUDGET FOR 2018**

Envelope, Tithes & Offerings	85,000.00
Esript (Schnucks Rebate)	200.00
Loose Offering	3,000.00
Savings Transfer (Budget Deficit)	2,884.50
Rent	500.00
	<b>91,584.50</b>

**Professional Staff Expenses  
Pastor Salaries & Benefits**

PASTOR ROSEMARY	23,395.00
Expense Reimbursement	1,500.00
Continuing Education	500.00
Pension	3,275.00
FICA Offset	1,790.00
Insurance, Disability/Life	351.00
Housing Allowance	7,018.50
<b>Total Pastor Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>37,829.50</b>

**Support Staff**

Custodian	8,017.00
Organist	5,508.00
Secretary	10,302.00
Substitutes	400.00

**Total Support Staff 24,227.00**

**Church Portion of FICA 1,823.00**

**Total Professional Staff Expenses 63,879.50**

**Worship & Education**

Altar & Worship Supplies	150.00
Christian Education	500.00
Flowers/Miscellaneous	200.00
Pastoral Benevolences Fund	100.00
Pulpit Supply	800.00
Music	300.00

**Total Worship & Education 2,050.00**

**General Church Expense**

Annual Mtg	
Conference/Membership	500.00
Bookkeeping	1,800.00
Copier Lease	1,500.00
Internet	750.00
Office Expense	1,500.00
Vanco Service Charges	0.00
Postage	300.00

**Total General Church Expense 6,350.00**

**Insurance Exp**

Insurance Church/Parsonage	6,000.00
Workman's Compensation	1,600.00

<b>Total Insurance Exp</b>	<b>7,600.00</b>
<b>Repairs &amp; Mtce</b>	
Maintenance/Repairs, Cemetery	750.00
Maintenance/Repairs, Church	1,000.00
Maintenance/Repairs, Parsonage	0.00
Mtce/Repairs Yard/Snow Removal	600.00
<b>Total Repairs &amp; Mtce</b>	<b>2,350.00</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	
<b>Church</b>	
Electric & Gas, Church	7,000.00
Sanitation/Sewer, Church	600.00
Telephone, Church	500.00
Waste Management	400.00
Water, Church	500.00
<b>Total Church</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>
<b>Parsonage</b>	
Electric & Gas, Parsonage	250.00
Sanitation/Sewer, Parsonage	60.00
Telephone, Pastor's Cell	0.00
Water, Parsonage	45.00
<b>Total Parsonage</b>	<b>355.00</b>
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>9,355.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>91,584.50</b>



# January 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<u>1</u> ● Pastor Rosemary on Vacation	<u>2</u> ● Pastor Rosemary on Vacation	<u>3</u> ● Pastor Rosemary on Vacation	<u>4</u> ● Pastor Rosemary on Vacation	<u>5</u> ● Pastor Rosemary on Vacation	<u>6</u> ● Pastor Rosemary on Vacation
<u>7</u> ● Pastor Rosemary on Vacation ● Sunday Worship 10am	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u> ● 7pm Church Council	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>14</u> ● Worship at 10am with Holy Communion	<u>15</u> ● 7pm Evening Circle	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> ● 9am Wild with Words Writing Group	<u>20</u> ● IL South Conference Meeting
<u>21</u> ● Sunday Worship 10am. Congregational Meeting after Worship	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>28</u> ● Sunday Worship 10am ● Meal & a Movie after Worship	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>			