



FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

**10207 Lincoln Trail, Fairview Heights, IL
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Secretary Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri. 9am – 3 pm
Pastor Rosemary Captain

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I have a confession to make. It seems the older I get, the more “set in my ways” I become. I’m sure it’s has never happened to you. The worst part is when something happens that “throws off” my ways. I get very annoyed. It may be a very small thing, but for some reason, it drives me nuts until I get things settled again.

This week my computer has been acting up; I have been unable to send any emails out. I get emails in, but I cannot respond, at least in the manner I usually do. I think what’s most upsetting is that I can’t figure out how to fix it. I tried all my usual “tricks”, but I keep getting one of those annoying messages that the sender (me) is not “recognized.” I was recognized Monday morning but not Monday afternoon. Eeeeerrrrrr!! And heaven forbid, I should ask for help from anyone who might know how to fix it. That’s probably the hardest part for me. I’m too darned independent.

There are starving children in Africa (as my mother would say) and I’m obsessed with my computer inconvenience??!! There’s a sermon in there somewhere and I think I found it.

Jesus tells us to repent; turn around from how we view our value system. Change how we live our lives to think more about how each of us can change someone else’s life. Keep God first in our minds, hearts, and always give thanksgiving, praise and glory to God through Jesus Christ.

February 26 is Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent begins. Lent is the time of year that we journey with Jesus to Jerusalem, his suffering, and his resurrection on Easter. We are intentional in our devotions, prayers, meditations, repentance, and perhaps fasting, to become closer to God by reflecting on all Jesus teaches us along this journey.

I believe I have discovered some places where I need to repent and listen closer to what God is telling me to do, in place of grumbling about a computer, that I can offer as a sacrifice for Christ. May you find such a gift to give.

Peace on your journey. Pastor Rosemary

AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

2/4 Tyler Underwood
2/10 Conner Brink
2/11 Ivy Schneider

2/14 Dylan Turnbull
2/23 Sue Ganschinietz
2/27 Aaron Eisenhauer

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES:

2/21 Russ & Judy Hartmann # 56



PRAYER LIST: The Petroff Family, Dave Seneczyn, Roger Fox, Eric White, Lori Riess, Charles Chamberlin, Donna Isselhard, Mitch Nallie, Becky Ballard, Candy Pearce, Greg Talley, Carol Meyer, Leah Williams, Pat Holtgrave, Jane Riess, DeAnne Weiss, Rich Schmitt, Les Sattery, Cherie Klostermann, Ardella Morris, Phillip McLaurin, Tyler Underwood.

PRAYERS during his deployment, AIC Gabriel Alvarez.



SHUT – INS: Terry Kissel, Ardella Morris, and Alice Stidham.

DIRECTORY CHANGES: Darleen Bax
220 Fieldcrossing Drive Apt. 40
Highland IL 62249

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED:

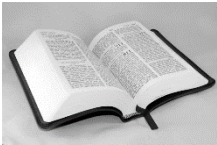
Clay Harris and Ardella Morris



WORSHIP LEADERS

USHERS:

2/2 – Urban and Mary Lou Baum
2/ 9 – Ginny Ganschietz and Sue Ganschietz
2/16 - Chuck Kistler and Dorothy Ovelgoenner
2/ 23 – Lew Thomasino and Judy Schmitt
2/26 – Ash Wednesday
 noon Ginny Ganschietz,
 7 pm Nancy Eisenhauer



LITURGISTS AND READINGS:

2/2	Eileen Gammon	Micah 6:1-8	1 Corinthians 1:18-31
2/9	Anne Brown	Isaiah 58:1-9a	1 Corinthians 2:1-12
2/16	Dorothy Ovelgoenner	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	1 Corinthians 3:1-9
2/23	Judy Schmitt	Exodus 24:12-18	2 Peter 1:16-21

WOMENS' EVENING CIRCLE:

The Evening Circle met Monday, January 19 for our regular meeting. The ladies made plans for making the sub sandwiches for Super Bowl Sunday. We will also be making turtles for sale in February so don't forget to bring your sweet tooth with you this month. As has become our tradition we signed Valentines to be sent to local Veterans. Our next meeting will be our annual movie night and Carol has promised us a good one.

The Evening Circle meets the third Monday of the month and all ladies of St. John are welcome. Hope to see you all February 17th!



OUR LENTEN STUDY

From **March 4 – April 1** we will be meeting for five Wednesday evenings to enjoy soup, study, and fellowship. This year we will be reading and watching a DVD on "Simon Peter – Flawed But Faithful Disciple" by Adam Hamilton. We will begin at 6:30 pm with soup and bread followed by our study and discussion, ending at 8:30 pm at the latest. Let me know if you plan to join us so I may order enough books. Pastor R.

FOOD PANTRY

When you come to worship the first Sunday of every month, **PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING DONATIONS FOR THE FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS FOOD PANTRY.** Their supplies are down from last year, even with the Scouting for Food campaign. There is much need, so be generous.



Feeding the Community



PENNIES FOR MISSION

February pennies will be going to HOYLETON Youth and Family services.



FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

Thoughts from **“The Work of the People – What We Do in Worship and Why”.**

“Christianity is a ‘first-person plural’ religion, where communal worship, service, fellowship, and learning are indispensable for grounding and forming individual faith. The strength of Christianity in North America depends on the presence of healthy, spiritually nourishing, well-functioning congregations. Congregations are the cradle of Christian faith, the communities in which children of all ages are supported, encouraged, and formed for lives of service. Congregations are the habitat in which the practices of the Christian life can flourish.

“Worship is at the center of congregation life. To ‘go to church’ means, for most members of congregations, ‘to go to worship.’ In *How Do We Worship?*, Mark Chaves begins his analysis with the simple assertion, ‘Worship is the most central and public activity engaged in by American religious congregations.’

“Worship is also central on a much deeper level. Worship is the locus of what several Christian traditions identify as the nourishing center of congregational life: preaching, common prayer, and the celebration of sacraments. Significantly, what many traditions elevate to the status of ‘the means of grace’ or even the ‘marks of the church’ are essentially liturgical actions. Worship is central, most significantly, for theological reasons. Worship both reflects and shapes a community’s faith. It expresses a congregation’s view of God and enacts a congregation’s relationship with God and each other.”

February

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Fellowship hall in use all day
2 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am Followed by fellowship time	3	4 Boy Scout meeting	5 Region 9 meeting 7 pm	6	7	8
9 Worship at 10 am	10	11 Boy Scout meeting	12 Church Council meeting at 7 pm	13	14	15
16 Worship at 10 am and installation of church officers	17 Evening Circle meeting 7 pm	18 Boy Scout meeting	19	20	21	22 ISC Day of Discipleship 9:30 am to 2 pm at St. Paul UCC Waterloo "Healthy and Whole Congregations"
23 Worship at 10 am	24	25 Boy Scout meeting	26 Ash Wednesday Worship service at noon and 7 pm	27	28	29