



JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

10207 Lincoln Trail, Fairview Heights, IL

618-397-6323

Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

Pastor Rosemary Captain 618-660-8894

gcaptain@charter.net

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, Not only can we celebrate the Fourth of July soon, but we can also celebrate moving back into our sanctuary for worship on July 5; both celebrations have some limitations due to our pandemic. It has been a long journey since March 15, over three months, since the Stay-At-Home order was announced in the State of Illinois as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Who could have imagined? Who could have known? Who would have realized that it would be more than three months until next we would begin being able to worship together in the sanctuary, even if in small numbers? So much has happened, so much is happening and there is more which will be made known in the days ahead about COVID-19, about the Black Lives Movement, and about our shared journey together.

On June 26, our Governor moved the state to Phase 4, allowing us to gather 50 people in worship. The Church Council has been working very diligently to make informed and thoughtful recommendations as to how the St. John UCC faith family can come together in worship safely, according to the guidelines established by the CDC, the State of Illinois and our own Insurance Advisory Board. The Church Council is currently preparing for our congregational return and to make clear the many details, precautions and limitations we will be experiencing to keep us all safe and healthy.

We understand that not everyone will be ready or willing to return to in-person worship services, whether because of health, age or vulnerability. **THAT IS ABSOLUTELY FINE.** We respect everyone's personal decision about corporate worship and will honor that without question. I will continue to send out mini-worship bulletins via snail mail and email mail so no one will be left out.

And, of course, if you are not feeling well, please stay home until you are better. Here is the most up-to-date list of symptoms that may indicate the Covid

virus affecting you. These symptoms usually appear two days to two weeks after exposure to the virus, according to the CDC. Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea.

If you have recently traveled outside of the metro area, and especially to a COVID-19 hotspot, or if you have been around someone suffering from the virus, please wait 2 weeks before coming to church.

ON SUNDAY JULY 5 AT 10 AM;

- Only the south door will be open for entrance into the sanctuary. Please maintain appropriate space between yourself and others on the sidewalk, which will be marked. The door will be propped open until worship begins to avoid touching. Feel free to bring a personal bottle of water, if needed.
- When you arrive at a door, you must wear a mask. If you forgot yours, one will be provided. An Usher will take your temperature. If it is 100 degrees or higher, you cannot come in. Your name will be written down for our records of attendees, which must be kept for one month in the event someone does contract COVID-19 and attended here.
- An Usher will place a dollop of hand sanitizer in your hand for you to rub in before entering. Once you enter the church, the offering plate will be on a stand to welcome your gifts. We will have one sheet of paper with prayer concerns, announcements, words to the music you will hear, and reminders of the precautions we are taking. Take it home with you. There will be no bulletin as you remember. Everything will be on the screen.
- Then you will be seated by an Usher. Seating will be first come, first served; from the front of the sanctuary to the back (no bargaining for back seats!) Ushers will seat people in every third pew to allow for 6 feet of distancing. Family groups will sit together. Children should remain with their parents. At first there will be no Sunday School or Children's Time.
- Please do not hug or shake hands as you meet people. As much as we all want to, this is not helpful in preventing the passing of germs among us. If you have to sneeze or cough, do so into the crook of your arm.
- Although we will be sharing in Unison Readings and Responses, we will not have congregational, solo or choral singing, because of the high incidence of

virus exchange as a result of the action of singing. We will have instrumental music present during worship, with videos of individuals, groups and choirs singing offered on the screens.

- It is best that the Pastor come in to lead worship, with a mask on, and depart without shaking hands or greeting. At the conclusion of worship, please be seated during the Postlude until the Ushers release you, starting from the back to the front, again to help limit the possibility of contact as people pass each other in the aisle. Please don't touch anything unnecessarily on your way out.
- You are welcome, even encouraged to visit with one another outside after worship with appropriate social distance.
- Sanitizing wipes will be available in the bathrooms to wipe surfaces you touch and please wash your hands.

If this all seems a bit 'overdone', please know that it is all for your/our safety. Until there is a proven vaccine and/or cure, this may be the new 'normal'. COVID-19 is as serious as it is because it spreads easily and respects no age, race, economic or religious distinction. The leadership of St. John UCC loves who we are together and is striving to bring us together safely and well, so that we can enjoy each other's company and shared discipleship for many years to come. I trust you, too, will respect the actions they/we are taking.

Blessings on this journey of faith, wherever God leads us. Pastor Rosemary



BIRTHS:

Congratulation to Christine and Aaron Drake on the birth of their daughter, Juliana on June 16 in Sunnyvale, CA.

JULY BIRTHDAYS:

7/2 Betty Hayes
7/8 Darlene Schaperkoetter
7/10 Tiffani Eisenhauer
7/23 Yvonne Weber
7/26 Clay Harris
7/28 Sherry Hackbarth



JULY ANNIVERSARIES:

7/14 Kim & Jim Turnbull # 36
7/15 Sharon & Steve Banjavcic # 42
7/17 Trisann & Bill Underwood # 21
7/30 Stacie & Tim Pickens # 4

ST. JOHN PRAYER LIST: Dave Seneczyn, Eric White, Lori Riess, Charles Chamberlin, Donna Isselhard, Mitch Nallie, Candy Pearce, Greg Talley, Carol Meyer, Leah Williams, Pat Holtgrave, Jane Riess, Rich Schmitt, Shari Hamilton, Charlotte Watson, Becky Ballard, Bill Underwood, Nelson Libell, Father Roger Karban.

EVENING CIRCLE MEMBERS!! On **JULY 12** please stay in the pew after worship for a brief meeting to distribute our mission money from this past year.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR CHURCH

info@stjohnfairview.com



St. Clair County

INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANTS DEPARTMENT

June 24, 2020

Saint John UCC
10207 Lincoln Trail
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Re: Housing Rehabilitation Program Pre-Applications

To Whom It May Concern:

Please display the attached Public Notice.

The Housing Rehabilitation Program is designed to assist eligible low-income resident homeowners of St. Clair County with funds to be used to repair interior and exterior systems that threaten the health or safety of occupants. This includes areas such as electrical, plumbing, heating systems, roofing, painting, windows, doors, and lead hazard reduction.

The St. Clair County IGD will be accepting calls from homeowners requesting a pre-application to the Housing Rehabilitation Program. Calls will be accepted on Monday, August 3, 2020 to Friday, August 7, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 618-825-3223. Request for a pre-application will only be accepted by phone and will be mailed to clients. Walk-in's are accepted.

This program will be published as an advertisement in the Belleville News Democrat and East St. Louis Monitor on July 23, 2020 and July 30, 2020 and posted on the County Website. Please encourage participation in this program with your constituents who are income eligible homeowners.

If you have questions or require additional information please contact Gizelle Kirkwood at 618-825-3223 or Sherry Scott at 618-825-3215.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christina Anderson".

Christina Anderson
CD Program Coordinator

Enclosure: Public Notice and Income Guideline



IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Program Year 2020 Moderate Housing Rehabilitation Program

PRE-APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

The St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants Department will be accepting pre-applications from resident homeowners to participate in the St. Clair County Community Development Block Grant Moderate Housing Rehabilitation Program.

This program is designed to address housing code violations. Funds will be used to repair interior and exterior systems that threaten the health or safety of occupants. This includes areas such as electrical, plumbing, heating systems, roofing, painting, windows and doors.

Call to request a pre-application:

From 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Monday, August 3, 2020 to Friday, August 7, 2020

Walk in clients will not be given a pre-application.

Final applications will be completed by eligible low-income resident homeowners of St. Clair County whose pre-applications are selected through a public lottery drawing.

Eligibility documentation is **not** required to complete a pre-application.

Only one pre-application per household or disqualification will result.

St. Clair County
Intergovernmental Grants Department
19 Public Square, Suite 200
Belleville, IL 62220-1624
(618) 825-3223

An Equal Opportunity Employer



July

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Happy 4 th of July
5 Return to worship at 10 am in the sanctuary	6	7 Zoom Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scout meeting	8 Zoom Church Council meeting at 5:30 pm	9 AA Meeting	10	11
12 Worship at 10 am Evening Circle members to stay in pews after worship for a brief meeting.	13	14 Zoom Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scout meeting	15	16 AA Meeting	17	18
19 Worship at 10 am	20	21 Zoom Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scout meeting	22	23 AA Meeting	24	25
26 Worship at 10 am	27	28 Zoom Bible Study 7 pm Boy Scout meeting	29	30 AA Meeting	31	