



OCTOBER 2020

NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST

10207 Lincoln Trail, Fairview Heights, IL

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Pastor Rosemary Captain

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

You might have noticed that I love to learn. My philosophy is we're never too old to learn new things. I especially enjoy learning new things about our sacred writings contained in the Bible. I was recently reading a book called "Introducing the Bible" written by William Barclay. You might find that odd and think, "didn't she learn everything about the Bible when she was in seminary?" The answer is no. I believe you can read the Bible your whole life and still find new knowledge and inspiration every time you open the pages. William Barclay explains what the Gospels are and what they are not.

Dr. Barclay described the Gospels, the first four books in the New Testament, thusly, "The Gospels are not primarily historical documents; they are not intended to be regarded as biographies of Jesus. They are in fact the preaching material of the early Church. John tells us the aims of his Gospel: 'These are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name' (John 20:31). The aim is not to write a life of Jesus. Many of the things that we would look for in a biography are not there. There is, for instance, no description of what Jesus looked like. It is impossible to construct a time-table of the life of Jesus from the Gospels.

"It has been said that there are two ways of writing a story. You may follow the story from day to day and from hour to hour and from event to event in strict chronological order, trying to make the record as complete as possible, and trying to leave nothing out. Or, you may take a series of significant incidents and episodes and use them as windows to see into the mind and the heart of the person you are seeking to know. It is the second method that the Gospel-writers use. They make no attempt to follow Jesus from place to place and day to day.

They take a series of things he said and did to open a series of windows through which we catch glimpses of his mind and heart. It is the difference between a photograph and a portrait. A photograph shows us the subject reproduced in every detail; a portrait seizes on the special characteristics of the person being painted and brings them out. A photograph reproduces in every detail what the person looks like externally; a portrait tries to reveal his inner character and mind and heart. The Gospels are not biographies; they are not photographs; they are attempts to show the mind and the heart and the character of Jesus; and they make this attempt, not simply as a matter of interest, and not simply as a contribution to history, but so that those who read may see the mind of God in Jesus. The Gospels are not simply descriptions of Jesus; they are invitations to believe in him as the Son of God.” (Pages 64-65)

Blessings to you as you continue to explore our sacred Words in scripture.
 You never know what you’ll find. Pastor Rosemary Captain

Memorials for Tom Petroff are not listed because many went directly to the Food Pantry.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 10/9 Janice Petroff | 10/23 Doris Stewart |
| 10/15 Lew Thomasino | 10/25 Caitlin Turnbull |
| 10/15 Gemma Thomasino | 10/27 Terry Randle |
| 10/18 Pastor Rosemary | 10/27 Morgan Myers |
| 10/20 John Arbeiter | 10/28 Melinda Stidham |
| 10/20 Cole Underwood | 10/29 Russ Hartmann |
| 10/21 Silas Thomasino | 10/30 Chuck Kistler |



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:

- | | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| 10/15 | Melinda & Mike Stidham # 9 |
| 10/20 | Becky & Larry Riess # 30 |
| 10/20 | Chris & John Arbeiter # 19 |
| 10/22 | Judy & Rich Schmitt # 43 |

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

(If there are names on this list that you believe can be removed, call the church secretary.)

NOTES AND THANK YOU'S:

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us..... Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered.

The Thomas G. Petroff family



To my Church family,

Thank you for all the prayers and cards and memorials. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Love, Janice Petroff

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS:

Ardella Morris
1201 Hartman Lane Apt. 235
Belleville, IL 62221



Darlene Bax
220 Fieldcrossing Drive Apt. 40
Highland, IL 62249

Terry Kissel
429 South Main Street Room 228
Shiloh, IL 62269

Jeanette Brown
5904 Perrin Road
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

WHAT HAPPENS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3?

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

WHY SHOULD WE DO THIS?



ARE YOU REGISTERED? FIND OUT. <https://vote.gov/register/il/>

EVENING CIRCLE

Current officers were re-elected for 2020-2021 Evening Circle year and packets were handed out to the circle members.

There will be a box in the Narthex to collect the signed Christmas cards on October 11th and 18th. The cards will eventually be given to current military and veterans.

Check your packets for October. We all probably have extra time; so take a few minutes to read, try a new recipe, or decorate (a little) for Halloween.

Here is a Halloween Riddle to solve: A Zombie, a mummy, and a ghost bought a house. It has all the usual rooms except one. What room won't you find?
Answer coming sometime in October Sunday bulletin!

Last but no least; a big "THANK YOU" to everyone that ordered and bought face masks. An even bigger "**THANK YOU**" to Nancy Eisenhauer for making the masks. Also heard she had help from the younger generation, "**MADISON**". Final profit has not been calculated yet.

Stay Safe and Keep Smiling, Eileen Gammon, Co-Chair

Masks for Ministries

When I suggested to Eileen and Carol that maybe we could offer custom made masks for an Evening Circle fund-raiser, they gave me the go-ahead. The congregation has responded in a big fashion! This morning, September 27, I passed out mask #80. This afternoon I got an order for mask #81!

You all have been so generous in your response to this project. Thank you so much for supporting the St. John women's ministry, and in turn, worthy ministries in our southern Illinois community.

Stay safe. Blessings, Nancy

October

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 AA Meeting	2	3
4 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am	5	6 Bible Study at 7 pm	7	8 AA Meeting	9	10
11 Worship at 10 am	12	13 Bible Study at 7 pm	14 Church Council 7 pm Via Zoom	15 AA Meeting	16	17
18 Worship at 10 am	19	20 Bible Study at 7 pm	21	22 AA Meeting	23	24 AA Potluck at church Illinois South Conference Annual Meeting via Zoom
25 Worship at 10 am	26	27 Bible Study at 7 pm	28	29 AA Meeting	30	31