

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

10207 Lincoln Trail, Fairview Heights, IL
618-397-6323

Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

Email: info@stjohnfairview.com

Pastor Rosemary Captain

Judy Hartmann - Secretary

**Secretary Office Hours: Mon and Thursday 9am –
3 pm**



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“Getting to know you, getting to know all about you, when I am with you knowing just what to say . . . ” So goes the song from the “King and I” musical, as the teacher from England meets her students, all children of the King of Siam.

Imagine a new-to-you family moves in next door. You wave to them when you see them in their driveway sorting boxes to move in. You are curious about



them and hope they will reveal more about themselves as time goes by. So, a few days later you take over some homemade cookies to welcome them. You learn their names and you introduce yourself and your family. Ah, more information from them, as you share more information. You tell them the way to the mall and grocery store. You mention your pediatrician and physician that you trust.

As time goes by you watch them create a garden of flowers, just as you do. You notice them take their kids to the school bus stop, just as you do. You see them at the public library picking up books in the “mystery” aisle, just as you do. Eventually you invite them over for dinner and have coffee chats. You enjoy their company. You become fast friends.

How do you make that happen? What did you do to get to know them? You were friendly, hospitable, and helpful. You wanted to get to know them better. You found out you had many things in common. You invited them into your home. You shared a meal with them. You learned to trust them as you felt more and more comfortable with their company.

In John 17:6-19 we read words from Jesus the evening before his arrest. First, he gave last minute instructions to his disciples and then he had a conversation with his Father God. (NRSV) ⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you

(God) gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. “

In other words, God sent his son Jesus, to make God known to the world. Jesus has passed this mission to the disciples and to us. We are to make God known to the world. Just as we made ourselves known to our neighbors and they have made their lives known to us, we are to do the same with our “neighbor God”.



And how do we do that? How did we do it with our new neighbors? We were friendly, hospitable, and helpful. We found out we had many things in common. We invited them into our home. We shared a meal with them. We learned to trust them as we felt more and more comfortable with their

company. In the same way, we are to know more about God and then we, in turn, we should make God known to others. Amen.



As more and more people are receiving the Covid vaccine, our state is slowly opening our businesses and other venues. You may have noticed that we stopped doing temperatures and we brought back the hymnals and Bibles in our pews. Evidently on June 11, there will be announcements of further “openings”. When that happens, we will begin singing and worshipping the way we used to. So, for now, we will keep wearing our masks, and refrain from fellowship time. And we pray for better days to come. In the meantime, see the below announcement.

Do you miss singing the good ole’ hymns?

On Sunday June 13 we will worship outside in the church back yard where we can sing our hearts out. Sharon will lead us in a “Hymn Sing”, with Mary Lou Baum bringing her accordion. After worship, we will have a brief semi-annual congregational meeting.



AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

June Birthdays:



6/1	Hunter Brink	6/16	Juliana Drake
6/4	Vicki Hartmann	6/18	Judy Schmitt
6/6	Melanie Wilhelm	6/23	Earlene White
6/9	Scott Ganschinetz	6/29	Lily Brown

June Anniversaries:

6/14 Aaron & Christine Drake # 7
6/14 Michael & Ashley Schmitt #7
6/17 Chris & Anne Brown #15
6/20 Edward & Dana Buhs #29



PRAYER LIST: We pray for the health and well-being of all affected by the pandemic and we especially pray for: Urban Baum, Donna Isselhard, Nelson Libell, Joe Knapp, Jim Garrett, Durrelene, Marlene, Kathy and Linda (friends of Jackie Canterbury), Ronald Bopp (husband of Pastor's friend), Agnes Doctolero.

MEMORIALS:

For Jack Gammon

Urban & Mary Lou Baum, Cheri Schutzenhofer, Carol & Joe Bulva, Janice Petroff, Susan Williams, Jackie Canterbury, Judy & Russ Hartmann, Sharon & Steve Banjavcic

NOTES AND THANK YOU'S:

St. John Church Family and Evening Circle,

Thank you for all the prayers for Barb & I. This has been a very sad, hard, and painful journey we have begun. We can only pray with time and support, we will ease the hurt and emptiness.

Thank you, Janice Petroff & Barb Whitaker

I want to thank everyone who sent cards, expressed condolences, kept us in food, or gave memorials for my husband, Jack. Everyone's support has been wonderful and appreciated. With love, Eileen Gammon

GRADUATION CELEBRATION



We have two college graduates this spring:

Rachel Hughes - University of Alabama

Adam Mueller - Illinois State University

Proud grandparents - **Urban and Mary Lou Baum**

Carol & Joe Bulva have a granddaughter, **Maria Bedoya**, graduating from high school in North Carolina. She is planning to go to Marine Boot Camp.

Conner Brink graduates from Belleville East High School. He received the Lancer Medallion and Department award for Industrial Technology. Future plans are to continue in the work force and begin his career.

Cole Underwood was a 2020 graduate from Belleville East. He has been in the bridges program this year and is currently employed at the Rec Center.

Silas Thomasino graduated Magna Cum Laude from Belleville East. He played four years of Soccer and Wrestling, and was a member of the French Club. Silas was inducted into the National Honor Society as well as the honor societies for French, English, Science, and Math. He was also an Illinois State Scholar and National Merit Commended Scholar. In the Fall, Silas will start college at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio where he will study Sports Management and Economics and minor in French.

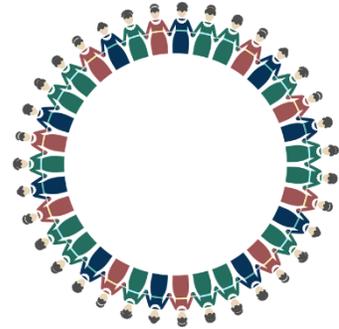
Gemma Thomasino graduated from 8th grade from Grant Middle School. She is a member of the National Junior Honor Society, as well as Scholar Bowl, Art Club, and Drama Club. Gemma will attend Belleville East for high school.

**ALL GRADUATES WILL BE CELEBRATED IN WORSHIP
ON JUNE 20, 2019, FATHER'S DAY**



EVENING CIRCLE

Evening Circle held it's last meeting on May 24, 2021. We discussed different charities to disperse money from our treasury. Beacon and DuBois will receive money from the second sale of masks and an additional \$1,100 will be divided and reported on next month.



Being no old business; it was briefly discussed how we might hold meetings next fall. We could continue meeting after church only for a longer time period, later on a Sunday afternoon, or go back to an evening meeting time. Members, please think about any options this summer and tell any of the officers your thoughts on the subject.

Hopefully Covid will continue to decline and we will all be able to get out of the house more frequently. Have a good summer and continue to keep in touch with your friends.

Eileen Gammon
Co-Chairman

OUR SHUT-INS:

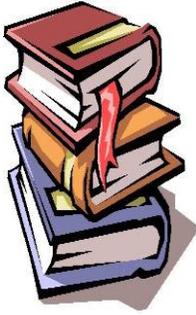
Ardella Morris
1201 Hartman Lane Apt. 235
Belleville, IL 62221

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





BIBLE/BOOK STUDY VIA ZOOM

Our Bible/Book Study is returning on the **first Tuesday of June at 7 pm.** We will be reading “The Call – the Life and Message of the Apostle Paul” by Adam Hamilton, available through Amazon, Cokesbury, and other fine book stores. Let me know if you have trouble finding the book.

Even if you are not a “computer person”, you can join in via your phone. When we first meet, we will discuss if Tuesday evenings are convenient for most people.”

I have really been enjoying our time together to read, discuss, and learn from each other during these studies. I certainly don’t know everything there is to know. That’s why I enjoy these times together to go deeper into our sacred writings and more recent books about our faith. I can always learn more. Please join us.

Pastor Rosemary

BY THE WAY: All zoom meetings can be “attended” by way of your telephone. You will not be able to be seen or see others but you can listen and talk. Let me know if you would like to do that and I’ll teach you how. Pastor Rosemary



FIRST BIBLE/BOOK STUDY HAS BEEN CHANGED TO THE SECOND TUESDAY OF JUNE.

I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER RUTH

Once, every now and then, if you are very lucky, a person comes into your life that seems to sparkle, twinkling like a star in a constellation. To me, that was Ruth.



I never saw her without a smile. Whenever I approached her, she would say “uh oh” as if I was going to reprimand her for doing something wrong. I started calling her “trouble” after that. With my too short of experience knowing her, I imagine she might have been a little naughty sometime in her life, but with that twinkle in her eye, I was immediately drawn into her magic web of innocence, as if to say, “it wasn’t me.” Her face told me I didn’t really want to know what she had been up to.

That sparkle has now left us. She will be deeply missed. Yet all we need to do to say “Hello Ruth” is to look up in the night sky, and find the brightest, twinkling star in the sky and know that Ruth is there, brightening our darkest sadness, with her smile and twinkle in her eye.

God has truly blessed each of us for having known her. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Rosemary Captain



June

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Bible Study at 7 pm	2	3 AA Meeting	4	5
6 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am	7	8 Bible Study at 7 pm	9 Church Council 7 pm Via Zoom	10 AA Meeting	11	12
13 Worship outside with a hymn sing at 10 am Semiannual Congregational meeting after	14	15 Bible Study at 7 pm	16	17 AA Meeting	18	19
20 Worship at 10 am Celebrating Graduates	21	22 Bible Study at 7 pm	23	24 AA Meeting	25 64th Anniversary of the UCC	26
27 Worship at 10 am	28	29 Bible Study at 7 pm	30			