



MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

10207 Lincoln Trail, Fairview Heights, IL

618-397-6323

Website: www.stjohnfairview.org

Judy Hartmann – Office Administrator

Pastor Rosemary Captain

Secretary Office Hours:

Monday and Thursday 9am – 3 pm

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your patience during this trying year of the pandemic. We were open then closed, then opened again, then closed again. When we gather in the sanctuary, temperatures are taken for contact tracings, we keep the records in case someone comes down with Covid. You have to sit every third pew, sit with the people in your family pod, children stay with their family, masks are worn unless you are 6 feet or more away from people, offering is in the basket in the narthex, no handing out bulletins, they're in your seats, communion is different and it is passed out by ushers wearing gloves. No coffee or fellowship time, service should be less than 45 minutes. No long sermons (that's probably a good thing.) And, it seems like the list goes on and on. I know other churches are not following all these guidelines, but as far as I know, NO ONE caught Covid in our church. I'm very proud of you for cooperating. If you grumbled, I didn't hear it.

The thing I miss most is the no singing!! I'll be so happy when the choir and the congregation can start singing again. Sharon Banjavcic and I have been talking about that. We have an idea for a hymn sing outside in the back yard with every one sitting far apart. Maybe some time in June before it gets too hot. What do you think?

In the meantime, we've added a hymn during worship just to listen to. Let us know if you have a favorite. Your Church Council really stepped up to help all of us to be safe. If you would like to volunteer to be an usher, please let me know. You could give one of them a break.

Once again, I thank you for your patience through all of this. It's been a challenge for all of us. I so enjoy seeing you in worship, even if I can't see your smiles behind the masks.

If you have not received the vaccine, I urge you to do so. They've been giving the vaccine since December with very, very, very few bad side effects, so it should be safe.

Stay safe and I look forward to seeing all of us back together soon, with coffee and cake in hand.

Pastor Rosemary

AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



May Birthdays:

5/3	Sue Williams	5/17	Michael Schmitt
5/4	Jane Cohlmeier	5/18	Sharon Kistler
5/7	Jennifer Riess	5/21	Sharon Banjavcic
5/9	Larry Riess	5/24	Urban Baum
5/14	Ginny Ganschinietz	5/25	Bob Puckett
5/15	Brian Ganschinietz	5/26	Polli Allen
		5/29	Anne Brown

Condolences: to the family and friends of Jack Gammon.



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, Becky Ballard, P.J. Bennett, Nelson Libell, Joe Knapp, Danny Ballard, Jim Garrett.

ARE THERE GRADUATES IN YOUR

Call the office and let Judy know who, what, and where so we can recognize them in worship and include them in the June newsletter.



FAMILY?

A REQUEST FROM CAMP DUBOIS



SPACE TO PUT OUR BEST FOOT FORWARD

The DuBois Center office needs your help to replace the DuBois Center office flooring so that the new Acting Director, Haley Elliott can “put her best foot forward” in her new position at DuBois Center.

An office update, started in late 2017, needs to be finished. The Conference Property Committee has undertaken the lead on this project and identified these necessary updates:

- Prepare and paint all interior walls and ceilings,
- Replace all ceiling light fixtures,
- Remove carpeting in one office,
- Level all floors,
- Install all new baseboard trim and
- Cover all floors with new laminated flooring.



Currently the office has four types of flooring, of which all are not level from room to room. Some small areas might be old asbestos tiles and some areas are down to the sub-floor, as you can see in these photos.

Volunteers have offered to provide the labor to do everything except lay the new flooring. Dave Hoffmann, Co-Chair of the Property Committee, has secured a price of just under \$9,000 for the new flooring materials and installation. The Conference Council Executive Committee has given approval for this work; however, we lack a big portion of the funds to start with the floor replacement. That’s where you come in – your donations, your intent to donate, or your skill in laying flooring is needed soon to “put our best foot forward” in welcoming Haley to the Illinois South Conference and DuBois Center.

Donations are welcomed from individuals, churches and/or their organizations. Checks can be sent to the ISC office at 1312 Broadway, Highland IL 62249 or click [here](#) to donate online. Designate your donations to the DuBois Office Flooring Project.

If your group plans to donate or raise money to donate to this, please contact Julie at 618-357-1809 or [email](#).

If you or your group have experience with this type of work and want to volunteer to help, contact one of the ISC Property Co-Chairs: Priscilla Self at 618-318-0083 or [email](#) or Dave Hoffmann at 618-791-7002 or [email](#).

SPEAKING OF DUBOIS, there will be camp this summer. Plans are underway and we should receive information soon.

And there is a new director!! →

The Search Committee and the Executive Committee are pleased to announce the Illinois South Conference has extended a two-year contract with Hayley Elliott for the position of Acting Director of Outdoor Ministry. After an extensive search process which included: Zoom interviews; submissions of candidates’ faith journeys and personal theology; a strategic plan of staffing, programming, finances, and partnerships for the coming year at DuBois Center; checking candidates’ professional



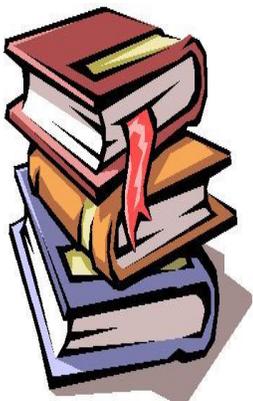
references; and an onsite tour of DuBois, the Search Committee unanimously recommended Hayley to serve as the Acting Director of Outdoor Ministry.

Hayley Elliott was born and raised in West Virginia, where love of nature and earth were instilled in her from a young age. She spent most of her formative summers at church camp and has fond memories of learning to swim, making friends, playing games, and learning the importance of faith formation in this setting. As she grew up, she began volunteering at camp and eventually became a camp counselor.

Hayley received a B.S. in Business Administration from Mars Hill University. Her undergraduate capstone project was related to the digital and social marketing of camps and how to reach new audiences and form new partnerships. After completing undergraduate studies, Hayley entered Vanderbilt Divinity School in Nashville, where she completed an MTS (Master of Theological Studies) degree. While in divinity school, Hayley furthered her commitment to youth education by working at a local elementary and middle school as the lead counselor in their afterschool and summer programs.

Hayley is very passionate about outdoor ministry within the United Church of Christ and excited about the future of caring for God's creation and extending God's extravagant welcome at DuBois Center!

Hayley began her new ministry with us on Monday, April 5, 2021. In the meantime, the Outdoor Ministry Team has done a phenomenal job creating staffing, programming, and safety contingency plans to hold programming this summer in some form at DuBois Center with summer staff onsite to welcome children, youth, and adults to experience what makes DuBois Center such a special and sacred space.



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. More information will be coming soon.

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



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



NOTES AND THANK YOU’S

Dear St. John Family,

We want to send a belated thank you to Carol Bulva and St. John for placing the beautiful bouquet of flowers on the alter on our 50th anniversary. It was so thoughtful!

Tom and Jan Miller

EVENING CIRCLE

We will be having an Evening Circle meeting (after worship) in May to distribute our funds for this year. The date is tentatively set for May 23. Hope everyone will be there to help us decide.

May

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am	3	4	5	6 AA Meeting	7	8
9 Worship at 10 am	10	11	12 Church Council 7 pm Via Zoom	13 AA Meeting	14	15
16 Worship at 10 am	17	18	19	20 AA Meeting	21	22
23 Pentecost Sunday Worship at 10 am Evening Circle Meeting after worship	24	25	26	27 AA Meeting	28	29
30 Worship at 10 am	31 Memorial Day holiday. Church office closed.					