



2022

NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH

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Pastor Rosemary Captain

Secretary – Judy Hartmann

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“According to Wikipedia, Lent is a Christian tradition that is observed in many denominations. It is the hallowed forty-day period of sacrifice leading up to Jesus' death and Resurrection. During Lent, Orthodox Christians, Catholics and some Protestants prepare for Holy Week by fasting, praying, and reconciling with the Lord. These forty days are a wonderful time to rethink everything and to allow ourselves to take up our crosses as Christ once did. It's a season of solemnity and sacrifice commemorating Jesus' exodus into the desert; our sacrifice is a reminder of the sacrifice of self Jesus made to save us from our sins. Because of this, it is a Lenten tradition to sacrifice something for these 40 days.” Lent is a time to get closer to God.

However, as we learned in our Gospel message last Sunday, **Christians DO things not just give up things**. So, here's a few things I thought someone could do. Clean out a closet and donate the clothes to a charity. Clean kitchen cabinets and donate what you don't use. Check your bookshelves. If you never plan to read a book or read it again, donate them to the Memorial Hospital Book sale. Right now, there are bins for your book donations inside the doors of both hospitals, and all their medical offices. Clean the inside of your car and clean your neighbor's car also. After your garbage truck has been through your neighborhood, walk the empty bins back to their places for all your neighbors. Call church members you haven't seen lately. Send cards to all the shut-ins. Maybe you can think of some more.

I ordered some devotionals to offer you. I'll put them in the narthex when I receive them. And speaking of devotions, **beginning on March 16 I will offer a Lenten study. It will be through Zoom and start at 6:30 pm the last three Wednesdays in March and the first Wednesday in April. We will share some readings, discuss them, and have a time for prayer. If you don't have a computer, you can call in. We will be able to hear each other but not see each other. The Zoom meeting ID is 878-8123-0951 and the pass code is 651278. The phone number is 1-312-626-6799 and use the same ID and passcode. If you miss one week, its okay. Each lesson will be "self-contained".**

Peace on your Lenten journey, Pastor Rosemary

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Palm Sunday April 10 at 10 am
 Maundy Thursday reading of the Passion
 April 14 at 7 pm in the sanctuary
 Easter Sunday service of Word and Sacrament April 17 at 10 am



AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:



- | | | | |
|-----|------------------|------|---------------|
| 3/1 | Dee Schott | 3/9 | Jan Miller |
| 3/3 | Hayden Myers | 3/9 | Barb Whitaker |
| 3/8 | Nancy Eisenhauer | 3/12 | Carol Bulva |
| 3/8 | Donna Isselhard | 3/19 | Terry Kissel |
| 3/8 | Tiffany Baldwin | 3/20 | Mary Lou Baum |
| 3/9 | Ardella Morris | | |



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES:

- 3/11 Pat Bregen & Larry Cates # 17
- 3/14 Mary Lou & Urban Baum #58
- 3/16 Amy & Cody Brink #20
- 3/17 Tiffany Baldwin & Lew Thomasino #21
- 3/20 Jan & Tom Miller #51

PRAYER LIST: Urban Baum, Donna Isselhard, Agnes Doctolero, David Seneczyn, Cathy Ganschinetz, Warren Neff, Lynn Hursey, Carol White, Dennis Franklin, John Biehl, Cheri Schutzenhofer, Rich Schmitt, Dorothy Wagner.



CHOIR

We begin Lent in March this year. For me, it is always a time to think about our faith journey. One of the key parts of that is prayer. Our anthem for March is “Bow the Knee”. Here are the lyrics to one verse:

“There are days when clouds surround us, and the rain begins to fall
The cold and lonely winds won't cease to blow
And there seems to be no reason for the suffering we feel
We are tempted to believe God does not know
When the storms arise, don't forget we live by faith and not by sight “

You know when it is time to bow the knee in prayer. Not only are the words of this anthem beautiful, the melody and arrangement are absolutely gorgeous with rich harmony. Make sure you are in church to hear us this month, or better yet – join us!

Nancy

DUBOIS QUILT FOR 2022: ALL THINGS SEUSS

March 20 the Happy Quilters from St. John UCC in Mascoutah will be here before and after service to sell chances on the Dubois Youth Quilt (74 x 84), “*All things Seuss*”. Chances are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. St. John UCC, Mascoutah, matches all money that the Happy Quilters raise, so each dollar you donate is two dollars for DuBois Center. Also, write this date on your calendar: St. John UCC, Mascoutah 41st Quilt Show – April 23, 2022

(P.S. Nancy Eisenhauer will be doing the bed turning at this year's quilt show)



EVENING CIRCLE:

As February leaves us, will it take the freezing rain and snow? Thanks to the wonderful support of our Evening Circle members; we were able to give \$400 to the DuBois new fund-raising campaign and \$100 dollars to the Fairview Heights Food Pantry.

Our next meeting will be March 13th after church in the L-Room. We will continue discussing a yard sale for this spring. Jackie Canterbury won our attendance prize.

They say everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day. So here is an Irish Blessing:



May your heart be light and happy
May your smile be big and wide
And may your pockets always have
A tinkle of gold inside.

Blessings to All, Eileen Gammon Co-Chair

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

DON'T FORGET THE TIME CHANGE ON SUNDAY MARCH 13, WE RETURN TO DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME. You don't want to be late for church.



March

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Ash Wednesday Services at noon and 7 pm	3 AA Meeting	4	5
6 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am	7	8	9 Church Council Meeting 7 pm	10 AA Meeting	11	12
13 Worship at 10 am Evening Circle meeting after worship	14	15	16 Lenten Study via Zoom at 6:30 pm	17 AA Meeting	18	19 Day of Discipleship 8:45 to 11:20 via Zoom
20 Worship at 10 am	21	22	23 Lenten Study via Zoom at 6:30 pm	24 AA Meeting	25	26
27 Worship at 10 am	28	29	30 Lenten Study via Zoom at 6:30 pm	31 AA Meeting		