



SEPTEMBER 2022

NEWSLETTER

**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

10207 Lincoln Trail, Fairview Heights, IL

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Pastor Rosemary Captain

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Christ,

On July 24 our Gospel lesson for the day came from Luke 11:1-13. The disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. Recently I came across a message for all of us written by Henri Nouwen. I've quoted him several times in worship. I'll put a brief bio on him after we read this timely message.

“Maybe someone will say to you, ‘you have to forgive yourself.’ But that isn’t possible. What is possible is to open your hands without fear, so that the One who loves you can blow your sins away. Then the coins you considered indispensable for your life prove to be little more than light dust that a soft breeze will whirl away, leaving only a grin or a chuckle behind. Then you feel a bit of new freedom and praying becomes a joy, a spontaneous reaction to the world and the people around you. Praying then becomes effortless, inspired, and lively, or peaceful and quiet. When you recognize the festive and the still moments as moments of prayer, then you gradually realize that to pray is to live.”

“TO PRAY IS TO LIVE”

Henri Nouwen was a Dutch-born Catholic priest, professor, psychologist and prolific writer. He taught psychology at the University of Notre Dame and pastoral theology at the Divinity Schools of Yale and Harvard before leaving academia to become the pastor at L'Arche Daybreak, a community for people with intellectual disabilities. (He wasn't just the pastor at this "hospital." He bathed the patients, fed them, and held them when they were dying.)

A master communicator, Nouwen wrote and spoke with great openness and vulnerability about faith, spiritual formation, prayer, social justice, and other themes related to the spiritual life. He wrote thirty-nine books that sold over one million copies in his lifetime and were translated into more than thirty-five languages. Today, book sales have surpassed seven million copies. Books drawn from Nouwen's archives continue to be published. Nouwen died unexpectedly of a heart attack in 1996. He was 64 years old.



JUST A REMINDER

Hospitals no longer are available to give out information concerning parishioners admissions to the hospital. So please call or ask a friend to call the church to let us know that you have been admitted to any hospital on either side of the river. Hospital chaplains will also call churches for you.

Choir - LET'S SING!

I bet you have been waiting for an invitation to sing with St. John's choir. Here it is! We would love to have you! Can't read music? We can help. All you need is to be willing to learn.

We will begin our 2022-23 season in October. Hope to see you in the group. Questions? Catch me at church or email me at

neisenhauer3850@gmail.com

Nancy Eisenhauer

September Birthdays:

- 9/7 Sue Sharp
- 9/9 Wayne Schlosser
- 9/14 Louise Cohlmeier
- 9/18 Dorothy Ovelgoenner
- 9/23 Carol Randle
- 9/23 Jennifer Hackbarth



September Anniversaries:

- 9/17 Cindy & Clay Harris # 45
- 9/25 Carol & Joe Bulva # 46
- 9/30 Cassie & Edgar Myers # 11



REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS:

Terry Kissel
Colonnade Senior Living
700 Weber Road, Apt 105
O'Fallon, IL 62269

Jeanette Brown
5904 Perrin Road
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

PRAYER LIST: Urban Baum, David Seneczyn, Warren Neff, Carol White, Cheri Schutzenhofer, Theo Mally,



Jane Riess, Betty Massey, Gary Whitkas, Sandy Fort, Ingrid Alexiou, Becky Ballard, Peggy and her family (friends of Judy Schmitt, Rosemary Williams, Bob Puckett, Mary (friend of Nancy's), Darlene Bax

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

MEMORIALS:

For Judy Hartmann – Sherry Hackbarth

USHERS

9/4 Judy Schmitt & Sherry Hackbarth

9/11 Tom & Jan Miller

9/18 Chuck Kistler & Sue Williams

9/25 Ginny & Sue Ganschinietz



Evening Circle

Ladies, join us on September 11th for our first Evening Circle meeting. We will meet after church in the L-Room. You may grab a snack after church before our meeting begins. Officers will be elected and offering envelopes will be distributed.

This summer Evening Circle donated \$50 to Hoyleton Children and Family Services for School Supplies and donated a Mexican Fiesta Basket for the DuBois Fall Festival.

A Haiku for September

Autumn is peeking
apples for picking-baking
leaves for raking

See you soon, Eileen Gammon Co-Chair

September

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 AA Meeting	2	3
4 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am Food Pantry in gathering	5 Church Office closed for Labor Day	6	7	8 AA Meeting	9	10
11 Worship 10am Fellowship time after worship Evening Circle	12	13	14 Church Council 7 pm Via Zoom	15 AA Meeting	16	17
18 Worship at 10 am	19	20	21	22 AA Meeting	23	24
25 Worship at 10 am	26	27 Quilt Show Committee Mtg.	28	29 AA Meeting	30	