



## **JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER**

### **ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**Secretary Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday,  
and Friday noon – 3 pm**

## **IN THE SPRING OUR THOUGHTS TURN TO . . . BASEBALL, OUR NATION'S NUMBER ONE SPORT!! EVEN SNOOPY LIKES TO PLAY THE GAME!**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As I am writing this article, I just completed the message for Pentecost Sunday. The story of the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit is wondrous. However, the point that has always interested me the most was when the disciples were able to speak all the languages of all the people present. It's sort of the story of the Tower of Babel in reverse.

People of the world speak many languages such as Spanish, French, Greek, Tagalog, Japanese, Chinese, etc. But we also speak the language or slang of our profession, our sports, or our hobbies. Physicians speak medical terms. Cooks have their own terms. Farmers have their own agricultural lingo. Some speak with abbreviations or acronyms such as the military. It's easy to lose the message when we aren't able to translate from these terms, slang, lingo, and acronyms.

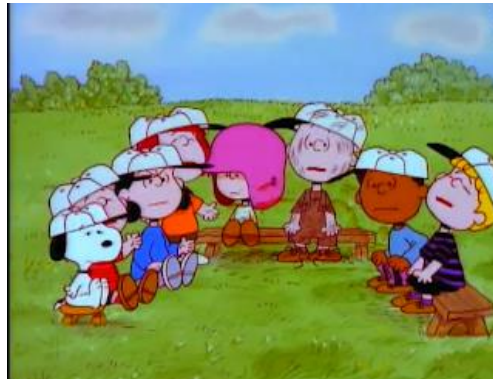
JUST FOR FUN, I wondered how the terms of the sport of baseball are like the message of Jesus Christ?

- 1.) Players spend many hours practicing and getting their bodies in tip top shape to play the game. As Christians we should spend time "exercising" love and compassion to make our world better.
- 2.) Players should listen to their coaches and other players to learn the rules. We Christians need to study our "rules" from Jesus and the apostles.

- 3.) When there is a new player on the team, they should be welcomed warmly. People exploring Christianity for the first time should be welcomed. It may be a competition for baseball players, but it's not for our Christian brothers and sisters. The more the better.
  - 4.) In baseball three strikes and you are out. Not so with Jesus. Jesus forgives over and over no matter how many times we swing the bat.
  - 5.) Just as the church is a community of people with the same goal, baseball players should be faithful and loyal to their coaches and team players.
  - 6.) In baseball there is a reward when you go "home". Same for Christians.
- IF YOU LOVE YOUR SPORT, YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW THE RULES.  
IF YOU LOVE GOD, YOU FOLLOW THE "RULES" OF JESUS.**

HAVE A GOOD SUMMER! PLAY SAFE.

Pastor Rosemary



**COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP TIME** Have you volunteered to host a Coffee and Fellowship time? There are lots of dates available.



**USHERS:**

- 6/4 Judy Schmitt, Chuck Kistler
- 6/11 Sue Williams, Sue Sharp
- 6/18 Eric Moayer, Nancy Eisenhauer
- 6/25 Ginny & Sue Ganschietz

**SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** June 25 after worship for an update on finances



## 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	6/21	Kim Turnbull
6/6	Elle Heiligenstein	6/23	Earlene White
6/9	Olivia Captain	6/29	Lily Brown
6/9	Scott Ganschinetz		

### June Anniversaries:

Chris & Anne Brown	17 years
Aaron & Christine Drake	9 years
Michael & Ashley Schmitt	9 years



**PRAYER LIST:** Urban Baum, David Seneczyn, Theo Mally, Becky Ballard, Rosemary Williams, Ronald Bopp, Syd Safriet, Mary Holcomb, Beth Sheldon, Marilyn Paul, Gloria Coble, Jackie Canterbury, Yvonne Weber, Bill Donovan, Carson Edwards



### GRADUATES:

Alex Mueller - Our oldest grandchild, Alex Muller, graduated with a Medical Doctors degree from the University of Kentucky. He will be doing his residency in Dayton, Ohio. We are very proud of him.  
(Urban & Mary Lou Baum)

March Ganschinetz is graduating from high school and is planning on seeking a degree in funerary sciences.

Job Ganschinetz is graduating from high school and is planning on investigating a career in iron works

**Hunter Brink** is graduating from high school and is planning on attending American Trade School in the fall in the electrical field.

**Tyler Underwood** is graduating from high school and is planning on continuing his welding career with MAC Medical in Millstadt who has awarded him a scholarship to SWIC to obtain an Associate's Degree in Welding in addition to working full time.

**Olivia Captain** received her GED high school diploma May 17, 2023. Her goal is to become a Nail Technician.

## **EVENING CIRCLE**

Our last meeting was held May 21st. Carol Bulva wants to hold another "Dress Event" Aug. 26th from 8:00 A.M.- Noon. Anyone that would like to help contact Carol.

Because of our members generosity and that of the congregation, we were able to disburse \$1,200 divided among the following organizations: St. John Building Fund, Hoyleton, DuBois, OCWM, and Kindercottage. A big "Thank You" to everyone.

It was decided our first meeting in the fall will be held in October.

After our meeting was adjourned, all members (and two special guests) enjoyed a potluck luncheon and conversation.

We hope everyone has a wonderful summer. God Bless!

**Eileen Gammon, Co-Chair**

## **FREE TICKETS!!!**

On Sunday, June 4, we will have a drawing for 5 free tickets to the Quilts from the Heart quilt show. Anyone at church that day can sign a ticket for the drawing



after church during the social hour. Imagine that -- Holy Communion and a chance for a free ticket to a quilt show! By the way, it will be the largest show the Hearts 'n' Hands Quilt Guild has ever held. Over 300 beautiful quilts! See you then!

# June

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Bible Study via Zoom at 6:30 pm AA Meeting	2	3
4 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am Fellowship time after worship Quilt group	5	6	7	8 Bible Study via Zoom at 6:30 pm AA Meeting	9	10 Hearts & Hands Quilts From the Heart 10am-5pm Whiteside School \$7 admission
11 Service of Word 10 am Quilt Show continues 11am-4pm Whiteside School \$7 admission	12	13	14 Church Council Meeting at 7 pm via Zoom	15 Hearts & Hands daytime Quilters 10-2 pm Bible Study via Zoom at 6:30 pm	16	17
18 Service of Word 10 am	19	20	21	22 Bible Study via Zoom at 6:30 pm AA Meeting	23	24
25 Service of Word 10 am Semi-Annual congregational mtg. following worship	26	27	28	29 Bible Study via Zoom at 6:30 pm AA Meeting	30	

**THOSE WHO COULD USE A CHEERFUL GREETING CARD.**

Yvonne Weber  
200 St. Clair Drive  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Ivy Schneider  
213 Merriweather Lane  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Becky Ballard  
1211 Moreland, Apt 12  
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Jeanette Brown  
5904 Perrin Road  
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