



# JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF  
CHRIST

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Pastor Rosemary Captain

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

### WHO'S CLEANING THE CHURCH?

You may already know that our custodians, Bob and Steve, retired in November. Since then, members have been cleaning the church weekly – mostly Tom and Jan Miller. We are actively looking for a custodian to clean the church weekly. Right now, there is no lawn care to be concerned with.

#### **What we are doing:**

Until a custodian is found, we will continue to clean weekly--

- the sanctuary - vacuum center aisle, chancel and under some of the pews, check areas that need to be dusted
- narthex - dust mop the floor, empty waste baskets
- front hallway - dust mop tile, vacuum rugs
- front restrooms
- Tom and Jan have spent about 1 ½ to 2 hours a week keeping those areas clean.

**We propose:** that one or two people sign up weekly or take up to a month at a time to keep the above areas clean. The cleaning will have to be done on Friday or Saturday. We have a private group that meets in the building on Thursday nights and we want to clean after they come, so that the church is completely clean for Sunday mornings.

The work isn't difficult, and we will show you where the equipment and products are stored. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex on Sundays.

And -- if you see something that needs to be done, please step up and do it. Thanks.



Questions? Contact Nancy Eisenhauer 618-971-5814 or [neisenhauer3850@gmail.com](mailto:neisenhauer3850@gmail.com)



**AN OPPORTUNITY-** There are eleven more opportunities to host the Fellowship Time following communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. A list of open Sundays is posted in the fellowship area.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** Sunday, January 21 immediately following worship.

### MEMORIALS FOR:

Sharon's sister, Janice Lohman from Janet Fontenot and Matt Swinford.



### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

1/4 March Ganschinietz  
1/4 Job Ganschinietz  
1/14 Jim Turnbull  
1/21 Eileen Gammon

1/24 Cheri Schutzenhofer  
1/27 Shari Hamilton  
1/28 Amy Brink  
1/28 Trenton Pickens  
1/29 Ensley Turnbull

### JANUARY USHERS

Jan 7 – Ginny Ganschinietz, Sue Ganschinietz  
Jan 14 -- Sue Williams, Eric Moayer  
Jan 21 -- Jan and Tom Miller  
Jan 28 -- Judy Schmitt, Chuck Kistler



Thank you for all the cards and goodies on Christmas. I must confess the delicious cookies are all gone. Also thank you for all the prayers and cards when I was ill.



It is such a joy to be your pastor. All of you are patient, kind, creative, and especially compassionate to myself, each other, and those in need. I look forward to another year of serving God and worshipping together.

Peace and many blessings, Pastor Rosemary

**THE CHURCH COUNCIL NEEDS YOU**

It's that time of year again. We need two more people to volunteer to join the Church Council. The council meets once a month via zoom or telephone. The meetings usually last less than an hour. The term is for two years with the opportunity to volunteer for an additional two years. The council is the eyes and ears of the congregation. The council communicates with the Pastor as to the needs of the congregation. Likewise, the Pastor makes suggestions to the council on issues and needs that come to her attention. The council members will be voted on at the January 21 Congregational Meeting after worship. If you might be interested in joining the council, speak to Ginny Ganschietz or the Pastor. Thank you for your participation.



**REMEMBER THOSE WHO CAN NOT JOIN US IN WORSHIP:**

Yvonne Weber  
200 St Clair Dr  
Fairview Heights IL 62208

Ivy Schneider  
213 Merriweather Ln  
Fairview heights IL 62208

Jeanette Brown  
5904 Perrin Road  
Fairview Heights IL 62208

Rosemary Williams  
201 S belt W Apt 110  
Belleville IL 62220

Becky Ballard  
1211 Moreland Apt 12  
Belleville IL 62223

## CHOIR



We had our usual wonderful choir singing "The Winter Rose" for our Candlelight Christmas Eve service. Those who sang were Lew Thomasino, Shara Toennies, Anne Brown, Vicki Hartmann, Shannon Banjavcic, Kim Campbell-Miller, Oxby Thomasino, Scott Banjavcic and Madison Brown playing her flute. The choir is

small, but mighty! Thank you to all of you who attended. Your warm approval was a true Christmas gift.

## EVENING CIRCLE



I would like to "Thank" the great cookie bakers and buyers for participating in the cookie sale after church. This was a very successful fundraiser and profit will go toward mission projects. Ginny Ganschietz did a great job organizing the sale.

A large and grateful "Thank You" to everyone that contributed presents for the KinderCottage child. Here is a general listing of the presents he received: 1 Large and 2 small stuffed dinosaurs, Jeep and 2 large cars, 2 sets of small Hot Wheels, Dragon Launch - Hot Wheel Accessory, Dino building set, 3 books, 3 Activity books and supplies, puzzle, Go Fish game, Winter Coat & Hat, Hooded sweatshirt, 4 long sleeved shirts, 3 sets of pj's, 2 pairs of pants, and shoes. If I missed anything, be assured all presents were delivered with the help of Tom and Jan Miller.

We had a short meeting in December. Following the meeting, we did a small craft and Christmas game. Last but not least, we enjoyed a brunch made by all our members and ended with good conversation and fellowship.

Our next meeting will be after church on January 14th, 2024.

In conclusion, stay HAPPY and BLESSED in the coming New Year 2024.

Eileen Gammon, Co-Chair



**PRAYER LIST:** Becky Ballard, Urban and Mary Lou Baum, Ronald Bopp, Jackie Canterbury, Carson Edwards, Amy Iverson, Marilyn Paul, Syd Safriet, David Seneczyn, Amy Smith, Yvonne Weber, Rosemary Williams, Josh Mueller.

# January

## 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 NEW YEAR's DAY	2	3	4	5	6
7 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am Fellowship time after worship	8	9	10 Church Council Meeting at 7 pm via Zoom	11 Zoom Bible Study 6:30 pm AA Meeting Hearts&Hands Quilters 10-2	12	13
14 Service of Word 10 am Evening Circle after worship	15	16	17	18 Zoom Bible Study 6:30 pm AA Meeting	19	20
21 Service of Word 10 am Annual congregational meeting after worship	22	23	24	25 Zoom Bible Study 6:30 pm AA Meeting	26	27
28 Service of Word 10 am	29	30	31			

## Dear Friends,

Thank you for your memorials to St. John, cards and other messages given in memory of my sister, Janice Lohman. We appreciate each expression of kindness. Janice was a wonderful sister. We are thankful for her life. Thanks again.

Sincerely, Sharon, Steve, and Family

## A SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to Thank each & everyone for your cards, prayers and friendship!

I will always be grateful for your concerns.

I do appreciate you one & all. Thank you, Rebecca Ballard

