

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Rev. Laurie Hill
Darlene Begolka
Volume 50, No. 4

Designated Pastor
Office Manager
April 2019

WORSHIP SCHEDULE for Holy WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14th: Worship service at 10:00 a.m. In celebration of Palm Sunday, palms will be available to wave during all the hymns.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18th: Upper Room Maundy Thursday Vigil from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Worshippers are invited to come at their convenience between these times for a private candlelight service of the Lord's Supper.

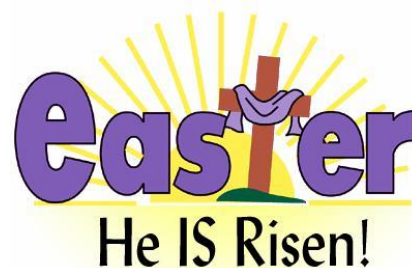
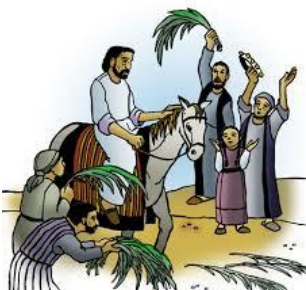
GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19th: Good Friday Service at Trinity Episcopal Church at 7:00 p.m. This will be an Ecumenical service with Trinity Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church and St. John United Church of Christ.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21st

Easter Continental Breakfast with serving from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m.

Menu: Biscuits and Gravy, Sausage Links, Sweet Rolls/Coffee Cake, Fruit Salad, Apple Juice, Orange Juice, Coffee, Milk, and Tea. RSVP by Sunday, April 14th. There will be sign-up sheets in church.

Easter Service with Communion at 10:0 a.m. Both the Handbell Choir and Chime Choir will provide special music for the service.



Worship Schedule

COFFEE HOUR AT 9:15 A.M.
MORNING WORSHIP AT 10:00 A.M.

NEW LOCATION...



All men of the church are invited to a Men's Breakfast on **SATURDAY, APRIL 6th** at **8:30 a.m.** at **MAMA'S ARCADE.**



Small Group Ministry has a Walking Group...
The walking group is known as **The Jubilant Feet.** They meet on Monday mornings at **8:00 a.m.** **and** are now walking at the church. Everyone is welcome!

OUR NEW MISSION STATEMENT

"LETTING GOD'S LOVE SHINE THROUGH US TO THE COMMUNITY WE SERVE"

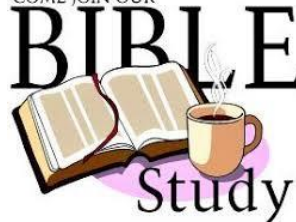


Articles for the **May 2019** newsletter should be in the Church Office by **April 19th.**

ATTENDANCE

March 3 rd :	45
March 10 th :	38
March 17 th :	44
March 24 th :	41

COME JOIN OUR



following church

SUNDAY, APRIL 7th

Overview on the Gospel of Luke

SUNDAY, APRIL 14th

Overview on the Gospel of John



Singers are needed for Easter Sunday for the choral introit "*Alleluia, Christ is Risen*".

If you would like to add your voice with others in making a joyful noise in celebration of Easter Sunday, you are encouraged to do so. There will be a brief practice on Sunday, April 14th promptly at 9:15 a.m.

FROM OUR DESIGNATED PASTOR...

Dear Friends,

A few years back, about this time of year, my husband's father died. Vernon, my father-in-law was and is and I believe always will be a great man of faith. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, faithful worshipper of God, and devoted servant in too many ways to count. He was a great love for many people, including me. And I think during the time of Lent, it was most impressive that somehow, his body, mind, and soul chose this time to fade. The grass withers, the flowers fade. . .our bodies are dust and to dust they shall return. People of faith die beside those who are just beginning to open their eyes to the largeness of God's grace. The thief dies beside the King of the Jews. The atheist and agnostic die beside the Christian and Jew. And all who can see, whether or not it's all their lives, like Vernon, or at the last minute, like the thief. . .will see the glory of God in their last breath. . .and we will take them off the cross, off their death bed and carry them to a tomb or casket to be buried. Seems like an ending, when in reality, it's only the beginning.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the ending." says someone named John who has a vision of eternity and a vision of God's presence with us. God will determine the ending. Our bodies are finite, but our souls live forever. Vernon, the truest, most divine sense of Vernon. . .that part that was made in the image of God, lives forever with God. And how do I know? It's by the fruits that blessed me and the rest of the world when he was alive on earth for me to know him. It's by the fruits of the confession of the thief on the cross. . .I believe. I serve. I am not worthy, but I/we belong to You, great Creator!

Lent is a good time to die, both literally and figuratively. It's a good time to recognize that

we are dusty, sinful earthly creatures and a good time to let go of that part of ourselves as best we can right now in this time of our journey. And it's a good time to recognize whose we are. Jesus turned towards the thief and said he would be with him in paradise! Paradise! Everlasting life is like paradise. A place of beauty and glory! A place of grace and wholeness. A place where so much love surrounds and embodies us that we cannot even imagine now. Easter is a time to celebrate that God rolls away the dead stones of our lives. . .the ones that that carry weights and burdens. Easter is a time to celebrate that God makes all things new! God raises us, like his very Son, to new and glorious places even while we are here on earth, so we may see the glimpses of heaven that await us.

I saw the glimpses of heaven in Vernon as he smiled when I brought him his favorite pie, as he cheerfully and willingly offered help to others, as he extended his love to his family and friends in so many ways. I've seen glimpses of heaven in you as we have worshipped together, met together in committee meetings, worked together at Culver's and visioned together what the future of St. John UCC might be. Christ has risen! Christ has risen indeed! And because of that resurrection, we can also spring forth like Easter bulbs: new life, new passion, new energy and new ways of being Christ in the world, in the community and in each other!

Blessed Lent! Happy Easter!



Peace, Pastor Laurie

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LENTEN SUPPER AND WORSHIP



Something new and exciting has been taking place for our Lenten journey this year. It all takes place in Fellowship Hall.

Starting at 5:15 until 6:00 p.m. you are invited to bring a Brown Bag

dinner...bring your own dinner but let's eat together!

Then from 6:00 to 6:25 p.m. **"LENT IN THE ATTIC"** skits during worship.

The **"LENT IN THE ATTIC"** skits are written by Rev. John Trump (no relation). The scene in all the skits is an attic in a house. Different people are in the house, some moving out, some moving in, some events that take place in the attic are pretty exciting. The skits are humorous and have a great Lenten theme for us all to think about on our Lenten journey this year.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3rd

Based on Luke 23:32-43

"Caught in the Act"...Two burglars break into the house and search the attic. They are confronted by "Chauncey the Warthog." One burglar takes this as a sign from God; the other has no such notion. Does God call us to repent in strange ways?

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10th

Genesis 7:1-10

"Cobwebs"...It is now years later. This play requires only one person. It is the woman who bought the house two plays ago, now 30 years ago. Her husband has died. It is time to clean out some things. How is God with us in the pain of such times, dealing with such loss?

2019 SPRING FLOWER ORDER FORM



The Worship Team is excited to be adding color to the sanctuary for Easter this year. We are purchasing a variety of potted spring flowers (tulips, daffodils, etc.). Please support and help with decorating the sanctuary for Easter.

What about Easter lilies? Due to an increase problem with allergies; the Worship Team will be purchasing silk Easter lilies, so they will be present, not to worry!



Each potted Spring Flower will be \$10.00 each.

**ALL ORDERS FOR THE POTTED SPRING FLOWERS
ARE DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY
SUNDAY, APRIL 14th
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST.**



WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

Jonathan and Tami Pagel and family at the death of his father, Harley Pagel

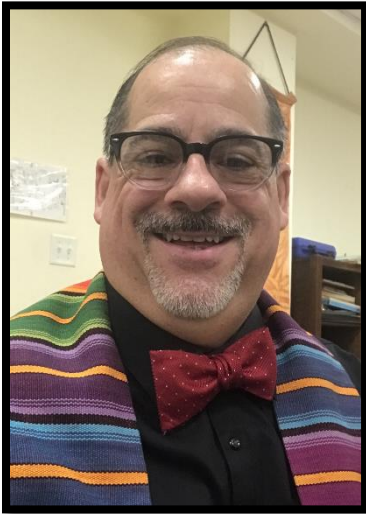
Maureen and Ed White and family at the death of her brother, Steve Larson.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 28th;

our Interim Conference Minister, Rev. Justo Gonzalez will be here to deliver the sermon that morning. Let's show him a **RADICAL WELCOMING** here at St. John UCC with a large number in attendance that Sunday morning.

**The Reverend Justo González, II, M.Div.,
M.S.S.A., M.A.P.M.**



Energetic and dynamic, the Reverend Justo González, II, brings a love of God and compassion to his ministry, social activism and community engagement. He came to the Illinois Conference in October 2018 to serve as Interim

Conference Minister. Previously, he served as the Associate Conference Minister for the Michigan Conference.

González, II, the youngest of seven children born to Isaias and Bernarda González, Puerto Rican immigrants who migrated to Buffalo as part of the first wave of Latinos in Western New York.

“My dad taught me that service to others is service to God. His activism helped many obtain justice from oppressive structures and helped to bring about bilingual (now multilingual) education in Buffalo Public Schools. Mom taught me to pray. She was a profound woman of faith. She would pray 3 to 4 hours per day. I try to combine my mother’s spirituality and faith with my father’s passion for justice for all of God’s people.”

He is a passionate activist on issues of immigrant rights, worker and women’s rights, educational justice, equality and extravagant welcome for all

of God’s children. He believes and is actively living a “people first and who the hell cares about papers” philosophy that is challenging 45’s war against immigrants and refugees. He and his previous congregations are actively challenging US Customs & Border Patrol and ICE by housing undocumented aliens and allowing a variety of community groups and activists to use their space at no charge.

“I am so proud of that fact. Our community of faith and the activists within among us are bold, prophetic risk takers. Our work is a team effort. We are on the right side of justice and history.”

Gonzalez earned his undergraduate degree at Medialle College in Media Communications (1983). Additionally, he has earned three Master’s degrees. He was awarded a Masters in Social Administration (Counseling) from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH (1993), a Master’s in Divinity from the Iliff School of Theology, Denver, CO (1996) and a third in Pastoral Ministry from Christ the King Seminary, East Aurora, NY (2001). He has also earned Doctor of Ministry credit hours from Barry University, Miami, FL. Most recently he completed his Master of Fool-ology degree from SAK Comedy Lab where he finished his training in Improv Comedy. He started ENC Improv in October 2013 and offers free Improv training for the community as part of his ministry. He is also trained as a professional Chaplain and a professional Life Coach.



**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
UNAPPROVED CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 18, 2019**

Present: Warren Goestch, Randy Pech,
Troy Meinershagen, Laura Lee,
Randy Buse, Keith Birnbaum,
Don Begolka, Greg Jurgenson,
Selma Wilham, and Pastor Laurie Hill

Absent: Suzanne Tockey

President Goestch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2019, and Pastor Laurie Hill gave the invocation.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved and seconded to approve the consent agenda as submitted. All voting aye the motion passed.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Pastor Laurie submitted her report and pointed out that she is now certified as a "Healing Arts Facilitator". She's always had an interest in art and decided that she wanted to take a course on her own and hopes to use this in her ministry.
- She will be taking Study Leave Time on Tuesday, April 23rd – Monday, April 29th. This includes one Sunday off. She will be bringing the reading list to the next council meeting. Her contract does allow for time off for this. At this time that Sunday service leader has not been decided.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- ✓ March 30: St. John UCC hosting the Western Association Meeting
- ✓ March 31: Rev. Judy Kennedy installation at First Congregational UCC, Pekin
- ✓ April 18: Maundy Thursday Service - Similar to individual meditation time from previous years, however, Pastor will be available to serve communion to individuals.

- ✓ April 19: Good Friday Ecumenical Service with Trinity Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church
- ✓ April 21: Easter Breakfast and Service
- ✓ May 19: Rev. Tom Norwalk's Retirement Party at St. Luke's Union Church, Bloomington

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Pictorial Directory** - Work is continuing. If you or your family's photo has not been taken yet, people are asked to bring photographs to the church office or email family or individual photos to Erin Abbott at esemp3@gmail.com or text her at 217.737.1300. Photos will be returned after being scanned for the directory.
- B. Technology Ministry** – Work has been started in adding new technology to the sanctuary. More will be done in this ongoing project, until it's completed. A desk to put everything together in the back of sanctuary has been ordered. Then everything will be wrapped up in the sanctuary, then work in the fellowship hall will be next.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved and seconded to go into Executive Session. After a brief discussion the council exited Executive Session and went back into Regular session.

- A. Greg Jurgenson asked what the next step for the church will be after CPR is completed. A discussion about several options of how the church may be utilized to help the community. One option is as an Infant Care location. Adding an intergenerational Church service, and Messy Church Service were discussed for the future.
- B. Set New Goals: A discussion about CPR and the Council having a day retreat to discuss setting new goals for the church after CPR is completed.

C. Search Committee: Almost completely finished with the Ministry Profile of the church. Will meet with Tom Norwalk at least one more time. His replacement will be determined very soon. They will be to the point where Pastor Laurie can't be at the meetings and won't be able to report to the council on their progress. So the Search Team will need a liaison to report from them to the council.

D. Memorial Committee Report and Requests:

1. Marvin Johnson's memorials were used to purchase a new podium made by Brian Pineda and made from recycled St. John UCC church pews. The podium will be placed in the narthex (back of the sanctuary) to be used to place wedding guest books and funeral visitor books, and for special events.
2. The committee received a variety of requested needs from other committees and individuals. The Memorial Committee would like the council to consider approving the expenditure of memorial funds for the following:
 - a. Christmas Decorating Committee - Lighted Christmas Garland for Fellowship Hall
 - b. Worship Team – Chancel: Request Silk Lilies for Easter
 - c. Kitchen – Pots and Pan, Oven Mitts, and Pot Holders
 - d. Building and Grounds – New Floor Buffer, Vacuum Cleaner, and Landscaping for the parsonage

It was moved and seconded to give the Memorial Committee permission to purchase items as requested in the report. All voting aye, the motion passed.

E. Prayer Time during church: Council discussed having prayer requests written on a prayer card at the beginning of the service, then collected by the ushers and given to Pastor Laurie prior to the prayer time during the service. She would read all the requests and

hopefully make it easier for all to better hear them.

F. Different wine for communion: Soon a different wine will be used for communion. Two finalists were chosen to taste. Both were produced at local wineries.

CORRESPONDENCE AND E-MAILS – None

ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. with the council reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Laura Lee,
Church Council Secretary



EAT AT LINCOLN CULVER'S
Sunday, April 28th | 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Hosted by: St. John United Church of Christ
Veteran Celebration



10% of the sales between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. on **April 28th** will go to the Logan County Veterans Celebration.

Drive-thru, Carry-out or Dine-in. Mark your calendars and come out to support this project.

“Letting God’s love shine through us to the Community we Serve”

MISSION COMMITTEE

By: Verdeen Ingram, Co-Chair

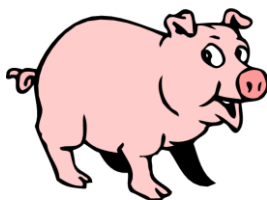
SPECIAL OFFERING SUNDAYS. . .The Mission Committee has designated the following Sundays:

- **Second Sunday of each month** a special offering will be taken following church for the **Diaper Project for Head Start at Community Action.**



- **Fourth Sunday of each month** a special offering will be taken following church for **Brooklyn.** She is the child we sponsor through Children, Inc.

PORK PROJECT



Farm to Table is a growing movement in this country. Farmers markets are more popular than ever. Restaurants are growing their own herbs and buying locally grown meat and vegetables. It is a great way to get better quality food and support the local economy.

Right here at St. John UCC we have our own Farm to Table program. It is called the Pork Project and it makes locally grown pork available to the clients of food pantries in Lincoln. This joint project of St. John UCC and Immanuel Lutheran churches collects money for processing the pork which is donated by local pork producers. That's right - these pork producers provide the pigs and all we have to do is provide the processing.

Please pick up an envelope in the back of the sanctuary and fill it with your donation any time during the month of April. You will be doing your

part to help provide good quality meat for the hungry families of Logan County.

THE GIVING TREE

Come into the church and what do you see?
A great opportunity for you and for me.
Just one look and you will agree,
It's perfectly natural - The Giving Tree!



We celebrate Earth Day on April 22, so this is a good time to celebrate our new addition - The Giving Tree. Stop by on your way into church and take a look at all the ways you can help to protect the Earth. But not only are we helping to keep God's creation beautiful, we are helping our neighbors at the same time. These are projects benefit the Earth as well as the people who live here.

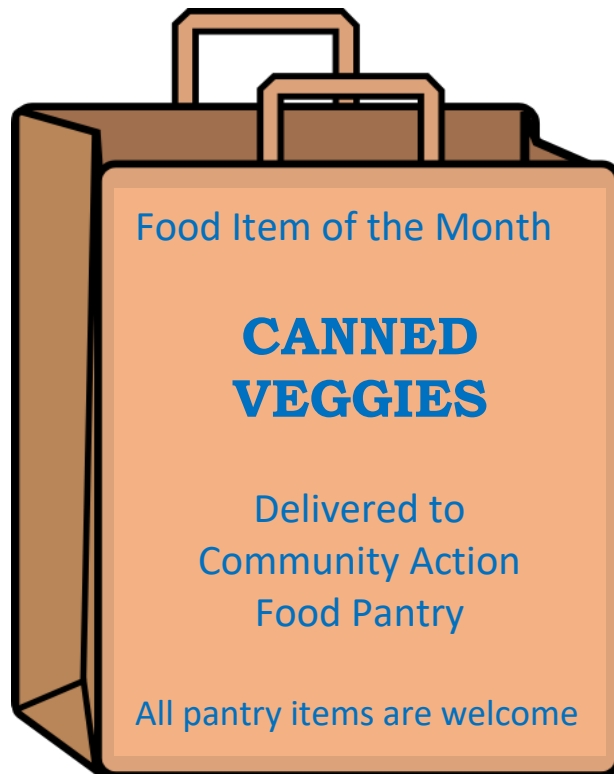
As a reminder:

- **Caps and Lids** - Plastic caps and lids have been donated to Zion Lutheran Church to support Heifer Project and to the Atlanta 4H clubs for a park bench. These caps may include those from containers such as milk, juice and detergent bottles. The lids come from containers such as cottage cheese and margarine.

- **Pop tabs** - The tabs are taken to Ronald McDonald House in Springfield and Peoria where they help to provide housing for families of children who are hospitalized or in treatment.
- **Aluminum Cans** - The money raised from the can collection is sent to our sister church - St. John in Chicago.
- **Athletic shoes** - Used and worn out athletic shoes are taken to Nike outlets. They are ground up and used for playground and court surfaces.
- **Printer cartridges** - Used ink cartridges are also used to support Ronald McDonald House
- **Eye glasses** - These are given to the Lion's Club for their eye glass projects.
- **Cell phones** - The phones are given to Ronald McDonald House to use as emergency phones for their clients.
- **Cancelled stamps** - We give the stamps to the catholic church. They are a source of income for the nuns.
- **Box tops** - West Lincoln Broadwell School was the latest recipient of box tops. These are used to provide needed equipment for the school.
- **Prescription bottles** - Bottles with lids (labels removed) will be given to the health department for re-use by local veterinarians.
- **Re-chargeable batteries** - Our only goal here is to keep these things out of the landfill!
- **Bingo prizes** - Our group who organizes Bingo at St. Clara's is always looking for prizes that those in the nursing home will enjoy.
- **Christian Child Care** - This bucket includes a variety of items that can be used for crafts for the kids. Toilet paper and paper towel rolls, egg cartons and anything else that can be used for crafts are welcome.
- **Greeting cards** - New cards are used in the pew folders and given to Logan/Mason Rehab. Used cards are used for craft projects.
- **Food pantry** - Obviously, this is not a recycling project! We collect food items every month for the Community Action Food Pantry.
- **Diapers** - We collect money for diapers for children in Early Head Start. There is no

money in the budget for diapers and parents can't always afford enough diapers for the day.

- **Brooklyn** - We support Brooklyn through Children, Inc. She is a third grader who lives in Salyersville, Kentucky.



OUTREACH and PUBLICITY NOTES...

By: Sandy Meinershagen, Outreach Chair
Toni Reifsteck, Publicity Chair

Outreach Ministry met on March 7th. Outreach was notified we were receiving the funds remaining from the "Loads of Fun" of \$350. To be used for outreach to nearby schools. It was decided and voted on to immediately spend half (\$175) for some of the requested supplies needed at Central Elementary School. The balance will be spent at the beginning of the next school term when a new list is available.

Note received from Bailee Pineda in regards to the Cheer Section shirts we sponsored for her cheerleading squad. Note will be posted on bulletin board.



Time tentatively set for **May 5th SPRING SING to the shut-ins for 2:00 p.m.** depending on

schedule set and any additions that may occur – (i.e. noted that Leola Dowling is now in Congregate Building of Lincoln Christian Village). Sign-up sheet will be posted.

Final preparations for Potato Bar made. Toni announced Officer Christy Fruge and she would be on the Atlanta Radio Station on Wednesday, March 13 from 8:15-9:00 am.

Certificates of Appreciation will be presented to Officer Fruge, LCHS Honor Society and Elaine Aue/Culver's during the month of March. Edna Mara has done the calligraphy art on them.

THANK YOU, EDNA!

Leslie and Toni have both been keeping notes sent to the visitors in worship which have been several and frequent in the past 2 -3 months. Helpers who have offered to take a 'Greet and share visitors pad and popcorn with visitors' on a

given Sunday are: 1st Sunday-Dan Row; 2nd Sunday (open) 3rd Sunday-Randy Pech; 4th Sunday-Gary Atteberry and 5th Sunday-Outreach or volunteer.

All news media outlets have been contacted for Ads and articles. The Courier is \$145 (deadline April 1st); Lincoln Daily News is \$75 (deadline March 26th) and New Herald News has not given a dollar amount but motion to engage all was passed. Toni will proof ads, Pastor Laurie said she would write articles for all who want.

Concerns – again and more so since rise in postage stamps for mail being returned to those who send cards to shut-ins or others. Toni will talk with Pastor Laurie regarding a monthly 'block' in chimes when information is available – to post updates of church members status/address i.e. change of name, address, addition in family etc.

THANK YOU to Katy VanSlambrouck, a senior from LCHS Honor Society who helped Outreach Ministry at Culver's for the SAFE PASSAGES INITIATIVE of the Lincoln Police Department on March 17th. Officer Christy Fruge was present all evening to answer questions and share the general hopes for the program for Logan County.

Outreach also says **THANK YOU** to Lynn Spellman, Jean Webb and Sandy Wilmert who joined Jim Wilmert, Leslie Wilmert, Jack Leich, Nancy Leich and Toni Reifsteck in keeping the guests and supporters served. The 3 buses of hungry ball players heading back to Chicago area and Wisconsin kept everyone moving at top speed. Thanks also to all who have supported the 3rd Sunday Culver's night for Outreach Ministry's programs (and others) throughout the year. We are making a difference in the lives of others as we share our love in word and actions/deeds. Funds collected: \$57.36 in donation canister and Culver's 10% was \$214.75 making a total of \$272.11.



THANK YOU to the 'Bingo ladies' as they've come to be called by the residents at St. Clara's Rehab and Senior Care. A double treat this

month: Sandy Sanders and Karen again pleased them with Snickerdoodles and Irish green sugar cookies for St. Patrick's celebrators! Helpers were: Karen Birnbaum, Mary Fuller, Ruth Post, Tonita Reifsteck, Sandy Sanders, Jean Webb and Sandy Wilmert.

THANK YOU received from Bailee Pineda: "Dear Outreach Committee – Thank you so much for the generous donation! It means a lot to me and my cheer squad. I appreciate you supporting a great cause." (card posted on the bulletin board)

THANK YOU to Jerry for searching for and finding the handbell mallets!

THANK YOU to all who supported the Potato Bar on St. Patrick's Day. The donations of \$156 will go a long way in helping supply cups and utensils for the children served by WIC.

THANK YOU also for the support of Officer Christy Fruge and the program on the Safe Passages Initiative. A lot of clarification on the drug problems of our communities and the nation came to light and the strong support we are creating with the LPD in their efforts to help those who have been overpowered by their habit in getting help. It also came to light that unused drugs should be disposed of responsibly to prevent an accidental use or become a victim of a break-in by someone looking for drugs – more common than we realized. LPD will take all medicines – dump in a bag and drop off at the Police Station on 5th Street. They DO NOT take any liquid or cream prescriptions. The local Health Department also takes unused drugs and they recycle the prescription bottles through the needs of the veterinarian in the community or

drop prescription containers off in the Recycle Corner and they will be delivered.



Pour a cup of coffee, Tea or Juice and join the FELLOWSHIP every Sunday for COFFEE HOUR in Fellowship Hall from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m.

Willing to make coffee for this fellowship hour, please sign up on sheet at the back of the sanctuary or speak to Sandy Meinershagen.



YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

A Farewell Worship and Reception for

Rev. Thomas Norwalk


As he retires from ministry at the
ILLINOIS CONFERENCE as
ASSOCIATE CONFERENCE MINISTER
SERVING EASTERN and WESTERN ASSOCIATION

Sunday, May 19, 2019
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

St. Luke Union Church
2101 East Washington Street
Bloomington, Illinois 61701

Reception to follow

Please RSVP by May 10, 2019
at ilconfconnie@gmail.com





I want to thank Pastor Laurie and friends of St. John UCC for their prayers, cards, and food during my surgery and recuperation. Keep me in your prayers as I go through treatments in the upcoming months.

Carolyn Pech

St. John United Church of Christ,

Thank you very much for the generous food donation for our food pantry.

Community Action appreciates your support!

Thanks again!
Community Action

Dear members of St. John United Church of Christ,

Your continued support of our mission work and the rebuilding of our church structure I the lower level of the parsonage is such a wonderful blessing to us.

This has been a long journey for us. We are currently working the Greater Food Depository and our food pantry is now open. We will let you know when we are able to open our rummage sale again.

Our worship services and the deaf AA meetings twice a week continue as well as several weekly counseling sessions.

Your financial support and prayers are vital to help us keep our extremely important work alive here on Moffat Street in Chicago. Your support and love are so appreciated.

Rev. Charlotte Nold, Pastor
and the St. John Congregation

We would like to Thank my wonderful church family for your kind words, attending Larry's visitation and funeral and for the memorials. Also, thanks to the Charity Guild for the delicious dinner. It was all so **VERY** much appreciated.

Thanks again,
Selma and family



NIGHTS

Eat at Culver's the 3rd Sunday of each month between 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. and support the projects each group in charge that month is sponsoring. Any committees or organizations that would like to host a month at Culver's should call the Church Office (732-6957) to set up their month.

- April 28th: Veterans Celebration
- May 19th:
- June 16th:
- July 21st:

Following is a NEW PRAYER CARD REQUEST we will be using at St. John UCC.

- They will be located in the pews and at the back of the sanctuary.
- If you have a Prayer Request, you are encouraged to fill one out before the service.
- An usher will pick them up during the prelude and give them to Pastor Laurie.
- She will then use these cards during the Pastoral Prayer.

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Please Print

Prayer Card

Joy Concern

Name of Person _____

Concern _____

___ Yes, I have their permission to say their name.
(This is required by HIPPA)

___ No, I do not have permission to say their name.
(Prayers still said, names omitted)

Submitted by _____

If you include their address on the back, we will send them a card.



**RELAY FOR LIFE OF
LOGAN COUNTY**



We know that several of our family or neighbor or friends have heard that “You Have Cancer” or “I have to tell you your cancer has returned” from their doctor this year. We’d like to have a bigger team this year in support of all those who have been survivors for years in the past and also in support of those just beginning this journey. The theme this year (the 21st year of Relay for Life in Logan County) **“Relay for Life, Cancer: not here, not there, not anywhere”** and inspired by Dr. Seuss. All activities will be in the Lincoln Center on the Lincoln College campus from 1:00 - 11:00 p.m. Saturday, June 15th.

St. John’s team **“St. John U.C.C. Remembers”** is open to anyone wanting to participate – whether it be collecting donations, walking, being on a committee or work one of the special fund-raisers, put up posters or purple ribbons (see Tonita Reifsteck). To sign up see Carolyn Pech or Tonita, C-chairs or take a form from the rack at the back of the sanctuary and after filling it out give to one of the Co-chairs. To get a shirt each participant must turn in \$100 prior to May 15th. Any new survivor should call Tonita Reifsteck 732-9796 or (cell) 855-1645. Five new names have been added to our banner since last year that hangs at the back of the sanctuary during the campaign. We have to and can stop this disease.

Donations or purchase of luminaries can be given to Carolyn or Toni which go to Bill Post so they’re credited to you. Luminaries to honor anyone



whether a survivor, caregiver or in memory of one who has had this dreaded disease are \$10 each. All checks should be made out to "American Cancer Society/Relay for Life of Logan County. Now our only goal is to find cures for the various sites and stages of this horrific disease. Luminaria forms can be obtained from Toni –at any time starting now. Later a supply will be put in the rack at the back of the sanctuary.

**EVENTS ALREADY SCHEDULED
ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE**

PLANNING MEETINGS

- March 25th at 6:00 p.m. at Mama’s Arcade
- April 22nd at 6:00 p.m. at Lincoln Christian Church
- May 20th at 6:00 p.m. at Lincoln Christian Church

FUNDRAISERS (will be updated on poster)

- March 25th from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Mama’s Arcade Chicken/Noodle Dinner

Northern Lites Team

- May 3rd from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 Crafts, plants, etc. at United Methodist Church in Atlanta
- May 4th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Crafts, plants, etc. at United Methodist Church in Atlanta
- May 15th from 5:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. 10% at Country Aire in Atlanta

Lincoln Daily News

- May 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Drive-thru Rib eye sandwiches
- June 8th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Drive-thru Rib eye sandwiches

SURVIVORS DINNER is Wednesday, June 12th. Details will be mailed to registered survivors.

THANK YOU for all your support. **TOGETHER** we can help wipe out this dreadful disease. Any questions or requests call: Co-chairs: Carolyn Pech (871-6634) and/or Tonita Reifsteck (855-1645).



BIRTHDAYS

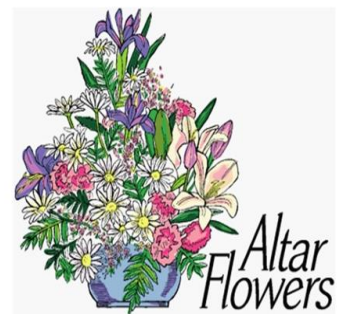
- 9 Esther Denney
- 13 Brady Curry
- 15 Esther Johnson
- 16 Emmett Nowack
- 17 Heather Goetsch
- 19 Marcella Lenhardt
- 20 Karen Birnbaum
- 25 Mary Fuller
Laura Lee
- 27 Robert E. Lenhardt
Wayne Mara
Betsy Pech



ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Randy and Betsy Pech
- 13 Steve and Elaine Aue
- 20 Rich and Rochelle Joseph

The Flower Chart is on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. You are encouraged to sign up for flowers in memory of loved ones or for a special occasion.

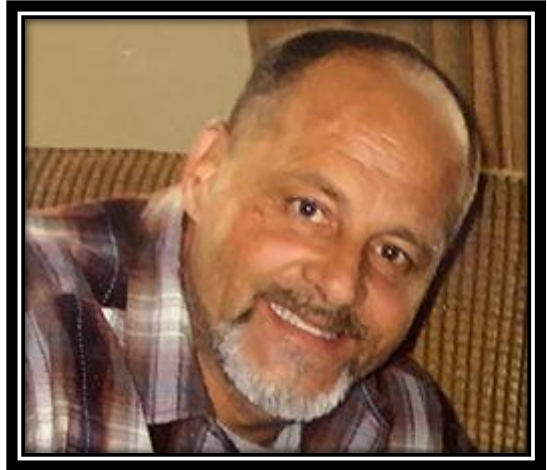


PRAYER LIST

Lucy Acheson
Jane Agnew
Dennis Ash
Dr. B
David Boyd
Elaine Conrady
Shyanne Conrady, Military
Wyatt Conrady, Military
Phil Dehner
David Harding
Aaron Johnson
Emma Knauer
Edna Mara
Bob Miracle
Carolyn Pech
Ilona Pech
Margaret Peifer
Keith Pettus
David Reifsteck
Amy Row
Bob Sanders
Sandy Sanders
Richard Swearingen
Edith Sykes
Kaye Wilmert
Alicia (Lee Westerfield's sister)
Rebecca (Friend of Jan Hahn)
Ron (Lynn Spellman's borther)
Students at Lincoln College

Names will remain on the Prayer List for several weeks. We will remove them at that time unless we hear differently.

In Loving Memory...



Steven R. Larson, 58, of Lincoln, Illinois passed away on March 7, 2019, at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Illinois.

Steven was born August 31, 1960, in Joliet, Illinois the son of Carl and Doris (Prynn) Larson.

He was formerly employed at Trinity Industries as a Welder, Lincoln College in Maintenance, and Lincoln Christian University in Food Service.

He attended St John United Church of Christ.

He was interested in sports.

Surviving are his children: Karl Larson, Cecelia Larson, and Raven Arch; 1 grandchild; and sisters Maureen White and Sandra Bell.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Through Gift of Hope Organ and Tissue Donation, Steven has given the gift of life to several people.

Cremation rites have been accorded by Holland Barry & Bennett Funeral Home.



Staff of St. John United Church of Christ

Members and Friends of St. John UCC

Rev. Laurie Hill
Darlene Begolka
Jerry Berglin
Steve Spaulding
Kirby Rodgers
Laura Lee
Darlene Begolka
Tonita Reifsteck

Ministers

Designated Pastor
Office Manager
Custodian
Maintenance Person
Financial Manager
Organist
Music Makers and Chime Choir Director
Interim Bell Choir Director

Church Council for 2019



Warren Goetsch, President
Randy Pech, Vice President
Laura Lee, Secretary
Keith Birnbaum, Current Fund Treasurer
Troy Meinershagen, Special Funds Treasurer
Randy Buse, Financial Secretary
Don Begolka
Greg Jurgenson
Suzanne Tockey
Selma Wilham

Contact us:

Email: stjohnuclincoln@yahoo.com

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St. John United Church of Christ
204 Seventh Street
Lincoln, Illinois 62656
217-732-6957

Pastor Laurie's cell phone number: 217- 521-7747
Pastor Laurie's email address: pastorlauriehill@gmail.com

"Letting God's love shine through us to the Community we serve"