

# JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER



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*For lo, the winter is past, The rain is over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth; The time of singing has come,  
And the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.*

*Song of Solomon 2:11-12*



**Mission Statement Adopted March 12, 2000**  
*We are a family of many hearts and voices faithfully worshiping God. We encourage one another in our living, learning, and growing as God's people. Led by the Holy Spirit, we joyfully promise to serve others as we share the love and hope of Jesus Christ.*

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## Pastors Ponderings

June 2023



*“Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”*

--Isaiah 43:18-19

The Theme for General Synod 34 is “Making All Things New”. The dates are June 30-July 4. The place will be the Indianapolis Convention Center. More than 3000 members of the United Church of Christ, from around the world, will converge in Indianapolis for worship, fellowship, workshops, business, and elections. There will be keynote speakers, excellent preachers, and a new President and General Minister of the United Church of Christ.

There will be a Community Worship service on Sunday at 2:30 pm followed by the Indiana-Kentucky Conference-sponsor Festival of Friends featuring Carrie Newcomer and The McLain Family Band at White River State Park, [Celebration Plaza Amphitheater](#). Both events are open to the public and registration is not required. Closing Worship will be on Tuesday at 7:30 pm. After worship, you could hang around to experience the Indianapolis 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display.

Volunteers are still needed to welcome and assist the many UCC guests who will be gathering at the Convention Center and many of the downtown hotels. *Volunteers are eligible for a discounted registration fee of \$65 for all of Synod.* If you would like to volunteer go to [ikcucc.org](http://ikcucc.org), decide when you can serve, and fill out the form. Volunteers will receive a special code to use on the General Synod Registration form, which is available on the website, [ucc.org](http://ucc.org).

The Church Board has authorized a special offering to support the budget of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference Local Arrangements Committee. Please place your gifts in the offering plate on Sundays or bring/mail your gift to the Church Office. Your Interim Ministers will be at General Synod as volunteers. Hope to see you at General Synod.

Blessings,

Pastor Dennis and Pastor Linda

## Church Board Highlights

May 15, 2023

The April minutes and Treasurer's report were reviewed and approved.

**Joys and Concerns:** The following joys and concerns were shared: The sanctuary decorations for Mother's Day were beautiful. The fellowship time also was a joy! Congratulations to Mitch Cooper who was recently married. A friend of Janet Daniels was involved in a serious auto accident and in a lot of pain and prayers are needed. Prayers for the family of Robin Root who passed away. Congratulations to Cheryl who is counting down the last days to retirement!

### Committee Report Highlights

**Music and Worship:** Summer music is needed! Anyone wanting to volunteer their talents, there will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Fellowship time was provided two Sundays in May by Brenda Cummings with help from Brenda Roark.

**Christian Education:** Mission week is coming up soon, Vacation Bible School will be held during August, and there may be some Sundays when Children's Church will not be held so Will can have some time off.

**Membership and Evangelism:** Going to begin implementing greeters at the door and encourage volunteers. Block party is tentatively set for September 16<sup>th</sup> and are planning a trunk or treat event.

**Church Facilities/Improvements – Mark –** received a quote for \$90,000 to replace the boiler that was damaged because of the electrical issue. It will be turned into the insurance company and we will see where we go from there.

**Congregational Life:** Reminder that the Church picnic will be on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Memorial:** A new Last Supper picture was purchased by the Worship committee.

**Pastor Search Committee:** The committee has a profile they are reviewing.

Pastor Dennis and Pastor Linda will be gone on May 28<sup>th</sup> and Pastor Kay Pepmeier will be filling in for that Sunday.

Complete Church Board minutes and Treasurer's report are available after approval at the next month's board meeting.

Next meeting will be June 19, 2023



Congratulations to Mary K. Bahr on her graduation from Vincennes Lincoln High School with honors diploma and also Vincennes University Associates with honors degree in general studies.

Mary is the daughter of Bobby and Darcie Bahr and sibling to Sarah Ellis, Zoey, Charlotte and Josie Bahr.

Her future plans include attending Indiana State University with a major in Language studies.

Best of luck to you Mary!



Have a special music talent? We want to see it. Come share with us during Sunday morning service starting June 11 thru Sundays in August!

## General Synod 34

On June 30, 2023, the United Church of Christ will gather in downtown Indianapolis for worship, fellowship, and the business of the wider church. Delegates and visitors will converge at the Convention Center from across the nation and from around the world. Each Conference of the United Church of Christ will send delegates for the purpose of passing resolutions and electing a new President and General Minister to lead the United Church of Christ.

Delegates, visitors, and staff persons will gather for worship, and a variety of fellowship activities, including a concert with Carrie Newcomer.

More than 300 Indiana-Kentucky Conference volunteers are needed to greet and assist the more than 3000 delegates and visitors. The Local Arrangements Committee is in the process of raising \$70,000 to support the activities they are responsible for including the Newcomer concert which will be held at the White River Park Pavilion.

A list of volunteer positions that need to be filled is posted on the bulletin board outside the Church Office in addition to information on how to volunteer.



# greeters

We at St. John's would like to rekindle our Sunday Service Greeters. Due to the pandemic ,greeters were postponed for health and safety precautions. We would like to invite all members to consider volunteering to help with Sunday morning service greeters and passing out bulletins at your chosen

availability. The following list provides ways to let us know you would be able to help this endeavor.

1. Email the church office with a time.
2. Sign up on the sheet outside the office area
3. Call the church office 812-882-2720
4. Drop a note in the offering plate

Greeters can be a single person. a family, young adults, a couple, or just friends.

Greeters may sign up for one Sunday, a month of Sundays or special occasion Sundays. Just reach out to us.

Additional face to face requests can be made to. Janet Daniels. Mark Schutz, Ray Piper, Brian Fillingim, Dave Culp or Jerri Johanningsmeier.

Please prayerfully consider helping in this church hospitality role.

<u>April Finances</u>	
Contributions	\$12,081
Expenses	\$17,714
Outreach/Missions:	\$2601

<u>St. John's Attendance</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>
<u>4/30</u>	50
5/7	55
5/14	61
5/21	48



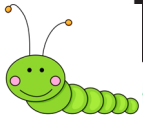
### **June Birthdays**

Janice Affolder  
Paul Yochum  
Norma Meyer  
Beth Lindsey  
Eric Meyer  
Dennis Stafford  
Will Meyer  
Joseph Goodman  
Jeremy Coomes  
Alivia Deckard  
Jake Alexander  
Grady Cummins  
Sam Lindsey  
Ann Marie Schutz  
Gary Meyer  
Susan Schutz  
Jonathan Lange  
Gabriel Goodman  
Ryan Klein  
Keith Brown  
Max Bowman  
Mallory Bowman  
Terry Goodman  
Bill Lathrop  
Sara Marie Wirth

### **June Anniversaries**

Cody & Kristi DeBouef  
Dustin & Brandie Brown  
Tanner & Carrie Horton  
Jonathan & Chrissy Lange  
Hank & Jill Lopez Jr.  
Matthew & Alyssa Vieck  
Terry & Janet Goodman  
Brian & Brenda Fillingim  
Bill Lathrop & Jean Wells  
Matthew & Jessica Bennett  
Dale & Jane Brown

**If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, but should be, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE!**  
**Thank you**



# Preschool News



Our preschoolers raised caterpillars to butterflies! The kids enjoyed seeing each life cycle change as they grew bigger. Now our preschoolers understand how they have changed and are now moving on to kindergarten.

We enjoyed end of year fun events, such as the Bike Rodeo where they were asked to bring bikes, or scooters to ride in the parking lot. Splash day and Super Soak day was a blast for the kids! They played in sprinklers, had water squirt toys and a lots of laughter!

The Butterflies enjoyed a special day with a bounce house and McDonalds for their last week of school!

Graduation took place on Friday May 12, its always a bittersweet day saying good by but also seeing how ready and excited they are for the next step, Kindergarten.

We would like to thank Mark Schutz for making sure we had heat in our classroom during the colder days. He went above and beyond taking care of our kiddos! We are grateful for his kindness, concern and willing to help others!

As they say in show biz- "That's a Wrap!"

Looking forward to a new, fun and exciting new school year in August! Get out there and enjoy the summer!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		2		1	2 Phoebe's Mission 4:30-6pm	3
4 Outside Worship 10:30 Church Picnic following	5 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm Evangelism & Membership 7pm CFM IN Town Mission Week	6 CFM Mission Isaiah House/ Salvation Army	7 CFM Mission United Way/ Rainbow Beach	8 CFM Mission Knox County Parks Community Outreach /Family Dinner	9	10
11 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Celebrate Graduates	12 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm Karaoke Outreach & Missions 6:30pm	13	14 Christian Education 6pm	15	16 <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	17
18 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	19 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm Worship 6pm Church Board 7pm	20	21	22 Technology 10 am	23	24
25 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Fellowship 10am	26	27	28 Laundry Love 6-8pm Choir 7Pm	29	30 General Synod Begins Indianapolis, IN	





## ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

- Continuing Prayer Requests: **Don Osborne, Jr., Mark Lange, Bruce Deckard, Lt. Colonel Aaron Lange** and 300 men/women of the 1st Battalion 163rd Field Artillery, Family of Hank Lopez, Nora Grabbe (Friend of Janet Daniels who is suffering from cancer) For the silent trials and struggles everyone is carrying lets include all in our prayers.
- Please keep Larry Marchino's sister in law, Jane Ann Marchino, in your prayers. She is being treated for pancreatic cancer. She will be having surgery this coming Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> to remove a tumor. Prayers for a successful surgery and recovery .

### Addresses for Shut-ins and Others

**Norma Meyer, Colonial Assisted Living, Room 142, 1622 S Hart Street Road, Vincennes, IN 47591**

**Joy Tooley, Willow Manor, - 3801 Old Bruceville Road, Vincennes, IN 47591**

**Leona Conway, Willow Manor, -request correspondence be sent to 2009 Forbes Rd. Vincennes IN**

**John Jackson, The Villages at Oak Ridge, - 1694 Troy Road Washington, IN 47501**

**Jean Wells, Lodge of the Wabash, 723 Ramsey Road, Vincennes, IN 47591 (Room number is not required).**

**Marge Beamon,- Remains in rehab. Please send cards and notes to her home address.**

### Home

**Alexander Family**

**Bruce Deckard**

**David Culp**

If you have a caregiving need such as a hospital stay, a visit or desire communion, please contact the church office, Janet Goodman (chairperson of Caregivers) or any caregiver listed below. We would appreciate your help and want to make sure everyone is blessed by St. John's when you need it!

St. John's UCC Caregivers- Ed and Brenda Cummings, Cindy Deckard, Connie, Dan Coulter, Peggy Meyer, Ray Pieper, Terry and Janet Goodman, Lonny Vieck, Larry and Betsy Marchino .

# **Robin Root**

## **December 30, 1933 ~ May 13, 2023**



*As appeared on Goodwin Sievers Funeral Site:*

Robin Dennis Root, 89, of Fritchton, IN went to be with the Lord May 13, 2023. He was born on December 30, 1933, on the Root Farm, in his current home, in Fritchton. He was the eldest son of Floyd and Sylva (Dennis) Root. He attended and graduated from Fritchton High School, where he proudly played basketball as a Fritchton Eagle. Robin married, the love of his life, Joan Pieper of Freelandville, IN on August 1, 1954. They were an inseparable team for 48 years. A lifelong farmer and active community leader, Robin was passionate about giving back to his church and community. Robin, a devoted Christian, became a member of the St. John's United Church of Christ in 1957. He proudly served on the St. John's UCC board and took an active part in the youth-related ministries. Robin was on the Knox County Farm Bureau Board, formerly serving as both President and Vice-President. He was a member of the South Knox School Board, coached South Knox Jr. High basketball, and was president of the SK Sport Boosters. He also served many years on the Knox County Co-op Board. Most remember Robin and Joan as Knox Co. Rural Youth Advisors, making hundreds of gallons of ice cream at the Knox Co. fair. Robin was passionate about basketball, likely the record holder for actively playing A-League Basketball at the YMCA well past his 65th birthday. Robin has an uncanny way of remembering games played and the outcomes from years passed, which amazed his grandchildren and any others who would listen. Ever the jokester, Robin's quick wit and an unending smile will be deeply missed by all.

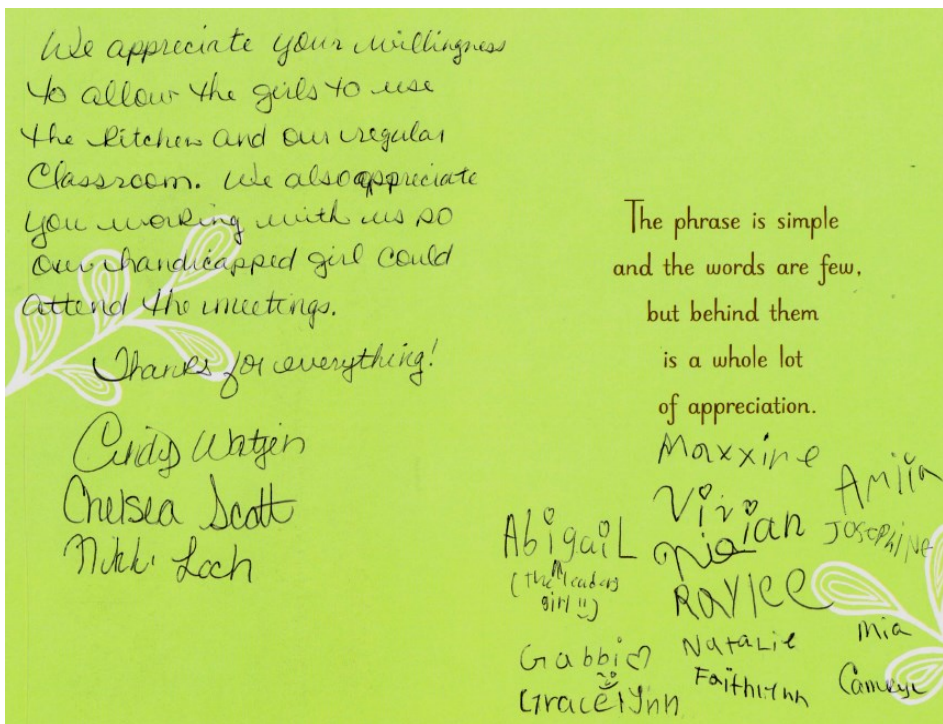
## Wedding Shower Announcement

Congratulations to James Simmons and Angele Maraj on their upcoming wedding on 6/24/2023 in Pawtucket, RI. James is the son of Lynne and Ren Simmons. He was raised and confirmed at St John's United Church of Christ. The church will be hosting an online wedding shower for James and Angele. Go to [www.theknot.com/james-angele](http://www.theknot.com/james-angele), scroll to the heading on the right-hand side labeled "registry" and click this open. You will see that they are registered at Target, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, or there is an option to give cash funds for the honeymoon. All of these things can be done through the website. While you're on the website, make sure you read their "story" and look at their beautiful photos. If you have questions or need help navigating the website, feel free to contact Cindy Deckard or Connie Coulter. We are so happy for James and Angele and wish them many years of happiness as they begin their lives together.



Congratulations to Mitchell and Dasny Cooper upon their recent marriage! Mitchell is the son of Steve and the late Jill Cooper, brother to Allison Cummins, brother-in-law to Allison's husband, Brayton, and uncle to their son, Grady. Mitchell is also the grandson of Jim and Elaine Workman and Becky Tolbert. Both Mitchell and Dasny are serving in the US Navy. Mitchell will be deployed in January; Dasny is awaiting her assignment. Please share greetings and good wishes with them at 72 Sandalwood Drive Apt. K7, Chula Vista CA 91910.

"We received this Thank You card from **Girl Scout Troop 582** that we have been hosting for the last three years at St. John's."



A big thank you to Brenda Cummings for washing and ironing the curtains!



I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, gifts and all around support during the passing of my mom, Sandy Lane. It has been a very rough time for my family and I am blessed and thankful to work around such compassionate, God loving people!

Much Love,  
-Angie Robinson



## Children and Family Ministry



On Saturday, May 6, the Children and Family Ministry and any church member had an opportunity to do the Vincennes City Cleanup. The group cleaned up the area around the church and Schoolhouse Road. The group picked up 5 bags, and all the money will be used for future Children and Family Ministry activities. Thank you to the families and church members that helped this great service project!



The Children and Family Ministry will have an in-town mission week from June 5-9. This year there will be many new opportunities and some of the same activities during the week. The M&M's (K-2 grade) and their families are invited to join the group to help with the projects on those days also. In the evenings the children in 3rd grade and up will stay at Wabash Trails in a cabin for the activity. This year lunch and dinner will be covered so each participant is asking to pay \$10 each day. Each day is designed for all ages/grades to enjoy the event. Full details are posted on the bulletin board by the nursery and the on Facebook group.

**Monday, June 5 (St. John's Day)**

**Tuesday, June 6 (Isaiah House/Salvation Army)**

**Wednesday, June 7 (United Way/Rainbow Beach)**

**Thursday, June 8 (Knox County Parks and Rec Community Outreach /Family Dinner)**



Final planning for summer activities are being finished up and will be announced in the coming weeks. Please be looking for announcements in the bulletin, Facebook and Children and Family Ministry mail boxes for future information.

**Will Meyer**

**Children and Family Ministry Coordinator**

**[stjuccfamilyministry@yahoo.com](mailto:stjuccfamilyministry@yahoo.com)**

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