

MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER



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"May the Lord bless you
and keep you,
The Lord make His face
to shine upon you,
And be gracious to you,
The Lord lift up
His countenance on you.
And give you peace."
Numbers 6:24-26

The text is centered on a background of overlapping, semi-transparent circles in shades of red, orange, and blue, creating a bokeh effect.

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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The Pastors' Ponderings

These fifty days of Easter, which began this year on April 9 and will continue until the Day of Pentecost on May 28, provide a special time for us to think about our living as an Easter People.

On Palm-Passion Sunday, we recalled the confrontation of powers that was taking place as Jesus entered Jerusalem. It was the confrontation of the power of the world's ways vs. the power of God's way, the love of power vs. the power of Love, the power of the Roman Empire vs. the power of God's New Reign, the power of death vs. the power of Life.

Easter is our reminder that God's way is ultimately victorious over the powers that would bring death and destruction to our lives and to the world. However, as we look around and listen to the news, it is easy to see the same confrontation of powers that was taking place on that first Palm/Passion Sunday. The forces of Good Friday that sought to end Life as God intended it are still present and pervasive.

Easter remains our challenge to continue saying "Yes" to Life as God intends it, to continue saying "Yes" to peace and justice for all people, to continue saying "Yes" to the Way of Jesus until all people and all creation know healing and wholeness. Of course, our "Yes" needs to be more than mere words. We say our "Yes" to God's way through the actions of our lives.

During this Easter Season, let us affirm and fulfill our "Yes" to following Jesus by participating in the unfolding of God's New Reign and by living as people of Resurrection Life, each and every day.

Easter Blessings and peace,
Pastor Dennis and Pastor Linda

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST MISSION STATEMENT
*United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace,
we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.*

Church Board Highlights

April, 2023

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

Joys & Concerns – The Sanctuary looked beautiful for Easter! Thanks to Donnie Black and all who helped! It was nice to see all the children in Church on Easter Sunday.

Committee Report Highlights

Music & Worship – The choir will not be singing on April 26th. Summer music - There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for anyone wanting to share their talents during worship service. Brenda Cummings will have snacks for fellowship time on May 7th.

Christian Education – The annual Easter egg hunt was a success! The last Special Sunday of the school year was held, April 29 and musically themed. 2023 Graduate recognition Sunday will be June 11 during worship service. The last day of youth/children's Sunday School will be May 21st. Children's Church will still be offered during the summer months. The adult class will continue meeting each Sunday. Vacation Bible School will be held during August Sundays again this year. City cleanup for youth will be May 6th and June 5-9 will be Mission week for the youth and children.

Outreach Committee - Kids Hope will host a fun event this Spring before school is out. Our church continues to serve the community through Phoebe's Mission and Sandy's Pantry and our benevolent support to various causes such as the Food Pantry, LAM, Backpacks, Keta, Isaiah House, Sullivan Tornado relief, Laundry Love, and others.

Evangelism & Membership – Our focus should be, "How can we become a better Church rather than how do we create what we used to have". Communication is an essential ingredient when engaging members and the neighborhood. The committee chose to plan an evangelism activity at least each quarter and is still brainstorming ideas.

Church Facilities/Improvements. The wiring has been fixed in the office, the dishwasher and ice maker have been replaced. The electrician suggested that we evaluate the wiring in the Church. The boiler is still a work in progress. The air conditioner is here!

Congregational Life. The annual picnic will be June 4th in the outdoor Shelter House at Gregg Park. We will again provide the food and drink and will have a sign-up sheet for desserts. After the service, swimming will again be paid for by the Church if anyone chooses to swim. May have pickle ball if anyone is interested.

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

The next meeting will be May 15, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Betsy Marchino, Church Board Secretary



BE A GREETER AT ST. JOHN'S United Church of Christ

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>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>
4/2	57
4/9	112
4/16	54
4/23	50
4/30	50

<u>February Finances</u>	
Contributions	\$12,752
Expenses	\$26,495
(Outreach/Missions) : \$2500	



The Kids Hope USA Program of St.

John's United Church of Christ in partnership with Riley School is completing year 21 with the ending of this school year. Our mentors and prayers partners are. Larry and Betsy Marchino , Jill Lopez, Janet Goodman, Eric and Cheryl Meyer, Linda Gilbert and Pastor Linda Frische-Mouri. You are all so appreciated and we are so grateful for your dedication and care for the program. A big thankyou also to Brenda Roark for providing treats to the teachers and staff at Riley before Spring Break. They are grateful for the extended courtesy and thoughtfulness. Thank you Brenda!!!

An outing for the children and mentors is planned for Saturday, May 13 from 4:00 TO 6:00pm at the **1972** facility. Pizza drinks and cookie dessert will be served., as well as bounce houses, rock wall climbing, computer game room, kickball darts and many other activities to enjoy with their mentors. We are looking forward to this time together. Again, this program is endearing and creates joy to mentors, teachers and families. We continue to be blessed in multiple ways. Thank you all for this year's connections and growth.

BIRTHDAYS



& ANNIVERSARIES

May Birthdays

Landry Culp
Christina Schlag
Brett Summers
Dennis Frische-Mouri
Olivia Cummings
Charlie Klein
Thomas Holka
Steve Cooper
Roger Brockman
Jordan Allen
Payton Allen
Sara Schutz
Amelia Cummings
Linda Frische-Mouri
Alan Hendrix
Lulu Miller
Brenda Roark
Joseph Christopher Cummings
William Holka
Briana Klein
Hope Clausman
Desiree Cantwell
Avery Sanders
Liz Emmons

May Anniversaries

John & Kasey Yochum
Scott & Laura Marchino
Marvin & Sandee Covey
Steven & Karen Redmond
Dan & Denise Egel
Mark & Saundra Lange
Ryan & Erica Cummings
Bernie & Pam Kirsch

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

Thank you



Preschool News

The month of April we celebrated Easter with Easter stories, egg hunting, fun bunny games, and yummy treats. All of the Caterpillars are writing their names on their paper. They are counting to 20,30,40, 50! Each day they are learning all they need to know to become butterflies next year!

The Butterflies are writing first and last names, counting to 100, and reading Little Reader books. They are going to bust through kindergarten doors full speed ahead, ready to learn!

We are learning about life cycles and how each day we grow to accomplish the next step in life! We are raising caterpillars that will soon change to butterflies. This is so fun to see the changes that are made as the caterpillar moves from each stage of life.

The preschool advisory committee is looking for a couple church members who would like to serve by brainstorming, budgeting and bringing new ideas to the table. Please contact Miss April if you are interested.

Attention all 2023 Graduates! We will honor our 2023 high school and college graduates, along with other continuing education completions on Sunday, June 11 during worship service. Please send in to the church office the following information so we can include them in our recognition:

Name _____

School _____

Degree _____

Special honors _____

Future aspirations _____

Other related info _____



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm Cinco de Mayo Evangelism & Membership 7pm	2	3 Choir 7pm	4	5 Phoebe's Mission 4:30-6pm	6 Youth Town Trash Pick Up 8:45-11:45am Meet at church parking lot at 8:30 pm
7 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	8 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm	9	10 Choir 7pm Christian Education 6pm	11 Girl Scouts 4:30	12 Preschool Graduation 7pm <i>last Day Preschool for Summer</i>	13
14 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	15 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm Karaoke Worship 6pm Church Board 7pm	16	17 Choir 7pm	18	19	20
21 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church Mental Health Sunday	22 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm	23	24 Choir 7pm	25 Technology 10 am Girl Scouts 4:30pm	26	27
28 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30	29 Memorial Day Office Closed	30	31 Laundry Love 6-8pm Choir 7pm			



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, For the silent trials and struggles everyone is carrying lets include all in our prayers.**
- **Angie Robinson and Family:** on the passing of her mother, Sandy Lane, on Tuesday April 25th.
- **Josey Bahr:** Is still fighting a serious toe infection and is on a 2nd round of antibiotics. Continued Prayers for healing

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

Robin Root– 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



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.



Back2Health hosted “Beckett’s Baby Shower” to celebrate the newest member of their family. Through the generosity of the staff and patients at Back2Health \$3000 + and a large haul of diapers and wipes for local B.A.B.E store that is located at St. John’s United Church of Christ. Congratulations to all!



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 .



USDA Mental Health Awareness Month Workshop Series

Breaking the Stigma

Join us for a series of conversations focused on sustainable livelihoods and mental health, farm stress and suicide prevention, and community health and wellbeing

Tuesdays 5/9 to 6/6 | 2:00 - 3:30 PM EDT

[More Information](#)

CONTACT: center@usda.gov



The USDA Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships is excited to host the Mental Awareness Month workshop series beginning

Tuesdays May 9 through Tuesday, June 6 from 2- 3:30PM Eastern.

they are as follows: Registration needed.

Tuesday, May 9 , 2023 2;00-3;30

Farm Stress and Suicide Prevention: Data, Challenges and Opportunities co-hosted by the American Farm Bureau Federation

Tuesday, May 16 2023, 2;00-3:30 pm Eastern

Veteran's Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Workshop

Tuesday, May 23, 2023. 2;00-3;30 pm Eastern

Rural Mental Health Matters: Challenges, Opportunities, and Resources co-hosted by National Association of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Directors

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 2;00-3:30 PM Eastern

Farm Stress and Suicide: Faith, Place, and Community Health

Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2;00-3;30 pm Eastern

LGBTQ + Mental Health in Rural Communities

St. John's contact for questions. Janet Daniels

**St. John's United Church of Christ Church Annual
Spring Picnic**



When : June 4, 2023

**Where: Gregg Park, 2204
Washington Ave. Outside shelter
house.**

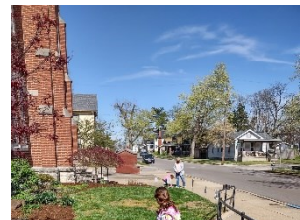
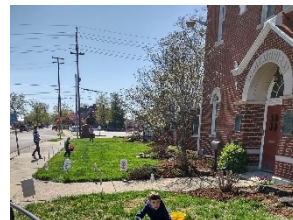
**Time: Following outside service at
10:30 am**

**Sign up for a side dish on hallway
bulletin.**



Children and Family Ministry

The Children and Family Ministry had an opportunity to enjoy the Unbeatable Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8. Thank you to everybody that came to the Unbeatable Egg Hunt and all the help for the activity! Final planning for the mission week and Holiday World trips is 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 mailboxes for future information.





On Saturday, May 6, the Children and Family Ministry and any church member will have an opportunity to do the Vincennes City Cleanup. The groups will clean up the area around the church from 8:45am-11:45am. Individuals can bring gloves for the cleanup, but some will be provided. The money made will go to the Children and Family Ministry account for future activities. This is also a great opportunity for service hours for school clubs/organizations! Helpers will meet at the church parking lot at 8:30am. Hope to see you there!



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. Just like in the past the group will be staying at a cabin and the kids can come and go for games/practices. Each day is designed for all ages/grades to enjoy the event.



Children aged 3-12 are invited to go upstairs to the blue classroom for Children Church for stories, games and activities after the children's sermon. Preschool children are welcome to go to the nursery at this time. Although your child may already be attending Sunday school, Children's Church offers these children an opportunity to learn more about God and our church. Volunteers to assist in aspects of Children's Church are always welcomed and needed! If there are any questions, please let Will Meyer know!

***** Children's Church will continue throughout June, July, and August during worship.**

Will Meyer
Children and Family Ministry Coordinator

**St. John's United Church of Christ
606 North Fifth Street
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