

JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER



In this issue

Pastors' Ponderings | Pg.4
Church Board Highlights | Pg. 2/3
Birthdays & Anniversaries | Pg. 6

Calendar| Pg. 8/9
Concerns/Announcements/Prayers
Pg. 10/11
Youth Info| Pg. 14/15



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.

606 N. Fifth Street
Vincennes, IN 47591
(812) 882-2720
stjohnsuccoffice@gmail.com
Website: myucc.org



Church Board Highlights

June 19, 2023

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

Joys and Concerns: The following joys and concerns were shared: Will and the children of St. John's had a wonderful mission work week. Thanks to Will for all he does. Bruce Deckard is having a scan tomorrow (June 20th) and prayers would be appreciated. Prayers are needed for Mark Lange who is in the hospital in Indianapolis. Prayers for healing for Betsy Klein's arm. Also, prayers for Mitch Cooper who has been deployed.

Committee Report Highlights

Christian Education. The youth mission week was a success. A trip to Holiday World is planned for July 6. Vacation Bible School will begin in August and the theme of spiritual gifts will be used. They plan to use members to share their knowledge and talents with the kids during the Sunday School hour. The children's message will be related to the theme as well as Children's Church time. Discussing ways to stay in contact with recent high school graduates.

Pre-School Committee. The committee meets as necessary and they recently met on June 14, 2023. The members of the committee are Allison Cummins, Jordan Daniels, Brenda Roark, Jill Lopez, Miss Lori, and Miss April. A Preschool assistant is needed. Minor changes were made and approved to the Handbook; the only change was to add a fee for early arrivals. There are some safety concerns with regard to the doors entering the building. They should be locked at all times. Also, there is no way to secure all the doors to the preschool room and the camera feed in the classroom no longer works. Jordan Daniels volunteered to oversee the playground maintenance, with the Board's approval. Good news – both preschool classes are full for next year!

Outreach and Benevolence. Sandy's Pantry will continue to serve summer students on an as-needed basis. Kid's Hope celebrated with an end of the year party at the 1972 facility. Five children, their families, mentors, and prayer partners participated. The requested benevolent recommendation of a total of \$6,000 was approved.

Membership and Evangelism. Mark your calendars for September 16th or 17th for the Church block party.

Congregational Life. About 50+ people attended the Church picnic and had a great time. Thanks to everyone for bringing food and helping.

Technology. There had been some issues with the website and Brian Fillingim worked with the company to get the matter resolved, at a bargain to us! The company worked on it for 20 hours, but only charged us for 6 hours. A new laptop has been purchased for Children's Ministry use. A training course will be created for guidance for online for the use of the computers at church.

Memorial. Permission was given to the Higher Bound program to use the church facilities for its' 25th-anniversary celebration in April 2024.

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

The next meeting will be July 17, 2023

Betsy Marchino, Church Board Secretary



Pastors' Ponderings July

We are in the midst of the last week of June. May and June have been really hot and the summer thermostat is cranked up. Three of the elements of summer heat are the sun, the temperature, and the humidity. When the sun is at its most intense, the temperature is in the high 90's, and the humidity is close to 100% we can feel miserable and cranky.

All of you who are miserable and cranky, come to the church where you are welcomed into the cool air conditioning and experience those summer elements in a different way. When the Sun is at his most intense, calling us to serve the poor, the fragile, the disenfranchised, and the marginalized people of the world, when the temperature of God's creative power is off the charts, and the heat and humidity of the Holy Spirit's flames bear down on us we should not be miserable and cranky, but rather energized and rejoicing. God is present in the church so we might make the world a better place. God is present at St. John's church so we continue to evolve into a life-saving, world-changing, extravagantly welcoming people that Jesus calls us to be.

Enjoy the month of July. If you are traveling remember from which church, you come and whom you serve. If you remain at home seek out God in worship, fellowship, and service. Always remember the two Great Commandments, Love God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself.

Blessings,

Pastor Dennis and Pastor Linda



There's still time! 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! Sign up sheet on hallway bulletin board!

Reminder:

We are an active church family and are in and out of our church building frequently from time to time throughout the day and evening. That's the good news. However, sometimes the doors of the building are left unlocked. This is just a reminder to double check and make sure that the doors are locked when you leave the building. Thank you!

Thank you for all the prayers and cards, and phone call from Pastor Dennis. I'm just now starting physical therapy after having my surgery 6 weeks ago and would appreciate continued prayers for healing. Blessings,
Chris Vieke

Many thanks for the prayers, cards, food, and acts of kindness following the falls and issues Dad experienced prior to his passing.

We appreciate the love shown.

Sincerely,
Susan and Mark Schutz
Bob and Vicki Jackson
& family

**THANK
YOU**

Thank you so much for all the cards and well wishes that I received after my knee surgery. They sure cheered me up after those long days.

Janet Goodman



July Birthdays

Joanna Laughary
 Sandee Covey
 Carole Culp
 Grant Deckard
 Cora Schlag
 Korbin Alexander
 Bill Henry
 Chrissy Lange
 Amy Schotter
 Ren Simmons
 Elyse Schotter
 Elliott Schotter
 Vernon Houchins
 Emily Newell
 Donna Gerhardt
 Jennifer Bilskie
 Jay Cole
 Tyler Watts
 Luke Jones
 Nancy Stultz
 Brad Summers
 Jax Wirth
 Kasey Yochum
 Bruce Deckard
 Bennett Cummings
 Dan Roark
 Pam Summers
 Mark Welte
 Janet Daniels
 Amy Tooley

July Anniversaries

David & Carole Culp
 Tom & Becky Nowaskie
 Darwin & Beth Lindsey
 Adam & Amy Schotter
 Brayton & Allison Cummins
 Charlie & Carole Klein
 Eric & Cheryl Meyer
 Patrick & Sara Schutz
 Mark & Aimee Cummings
 Ren & Lynne Simmons
 Nate & Andrea Williams
 Sean & Sara Marie Wirth
 Jim & Elaine Workman
 Lonny & Jana Vieck
 Don & Shirley Black
 Michael & Betty Lankford
 Jeremy & Natasha Coomes
 Dan & Connie Coulter

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



Congratulations to our Church Family Graduates

Mary K. Bahr on her graduation from Vincennes Lincoln High School with an honors diploma and also Vincennes University Associates with an honors degree in general studies. Mary is the daughter of Bobby and Darcie Bahr and siblings 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!

Madalynn Grube graduated from Vincennes University with a degree in Business Administration and fashion. Madalynn received an academic honors diploma and an early college program. She plans to be a business owner. She was a member of the Knox County CEO program, Student council, National Honor Society, Soccer, and basketball team, and also the Owner of Mbroidery LLC.

Isabella Lange, Isabella graduated from Lincoln High School with an Honors degree, 4.0

A list of some of her awards. Franklin Elementary Kiwanis - Roy R. Snyder Rotary - Interact VCSC Stars, Richard Hutchison Class of 1980 Rotary - Charles R. Cromwest, Lily finalist. She also received the McDonald's Swim Award and the Mental Attitude for the LHS Dance team. She was the recipient of a competitive scholarship from the University of Alabama. She received the Indiana Core College Seal (ICC). In the fall Isabella will be traveling to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to pursue Pre-Med at the University of Alabama. Currently, she would like to go into pediatrics.

Best of Luck to all of you! God Bless!

Just in time for the 23-24 school year!

The St. Johns United Church of Christ preschool committee has been established. Members include:

April Brown, Lori Petty, Jordan Daniels, Allison Cummins, Jill Lopez, and Brenda Roark.

July

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30	3 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm Evangelism &	4 Office Closed Independence Day	5	6	7 Phoebe's Mission 4:30-6pm	8
9 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	10 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends Rainbow Beach 5-6pm	11 Mental Health Meeting 8:30am	12 Christian Education 6pm	13	14	15
16 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	17 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Worship 6pm Church Board 7pm	18	19	20	21 Newsletter Deadline	22
23 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	24 Friends Ice Cream Social 5-6:15pm	25	26 Laundry Love 6-8pm	27 Technology 10 am	28	29
30	31 Friends Summer Camp 5-6:15pm					



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). Mary Gezon (sister to Lynn Simmons)) For the silent trials and struggles everyone is carrying lets include all in our prayers.**
- Elaine & Jim Workman ask to keep in your prayers PO2 Mitchell Cooper and his wife, Dasny, as they serve aboard the USS Theodore

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

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, 1401 Ritterskamp Avenue.

**Home
Alexander Family
Bruce Deckard**

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 .

John Jackson

August 14, 1933 ~ May 31, 2023



John Rich Jackson, 89, went to be with his Lord and Savior on May 31, 2023, at The Villages at Oak Ridge in Washington, Indiana. He was met in heaven by Patty, his wife of 68 years, his oldest son Jeff, his parents, and many other family members and dear friends. John was born August 14, 1933, to Perry and Ora (Rich) Jackson in Vincennes, Indiana. He married Patricia Ann Pepmeier, the love of his life, on February 14, 1954. John was a 1951 graduate of Fritchton High School. He was a lifelong farmer in Palmyra Township and the Wabash River bottoms in Vincennes Township. John became a member of St. John's United Church of Christ in 1957 and joined its Paul Sunday school class. John will be remembered fondly as a devoted family man, a man of faith, a loyal friend, a steward of the soil, and a U.S. Army veteran proud of his service with the 811th Combat Engineers in Korea and Japan during the Korean War.

John will be lovingly missed by his daughter Susan (Mark) Schutz of Vincennes, son Robert (Vicki) Jackson of Tallahassee, Florida, daughter-in-law Deena Jackson of Vincennes, grandchildren Patrick (Sara) Schutz, Josh (Kylie) Jackson, Jayme (Cody) Lane, all of Vincennes, great-grandchildren Ora Lane, Chance Lane, Ann Marie Schutz, Leighton Jackson, Colt Lane, Amelia Schutz, Mailin Jackson, Colvin Jackson, Breezlin Jackson, and sisters Joy Mobarry and Jean Wells (Bill) Lathrop. Many other family members and friends will mourn his death.

As appeared on Goodwin-Sievers Funeral Home web page

2024 is St. John's 175 Anniversary! The celebration committee is requesting the following from everyone:

Pictures of: Weddings, Baptisms, Choirs, Youth Groups, Sunday School Parties, VBS, Christmas Programs or any other Special Events that were at St. John's! A box will be placed in Memorial Hall....please put your pictures (in one of the large envelopes we have provided and write your name on them to be returned) If possible, tell us who is in the picture and/or year it was taken. We will make copies of your pictures and return the originals to you asap! We want to use them for several events we are planning during next year.

OR if you have pictures on your phone, please send them via email to me at sheri.stodghill@crawfordmh.org

Help us celebrate St. John's with the wonderful memories we've made throughout the years!

Christian Education Highlights

Congratulations to Will Meyer and the youth group for their successful mission week in June.

Vacation Bible School will once again be held during Sunday mornings in August, 9:15 through 11:30. Our theme this year is **"Sharing and Celebrating our Spiritual Gifts"**. God gives each person special gifts to use in service to others. Not everyone has the same gifts, and we need to work together so that all gifts help the church.

The tentative schedule for each Sunday looks like this:

9:15 - 9:30 Welcome, Opening, and Introductions (Memorial Hall)

9:30 - 10:00 Presentation/demonstration/hands on activity led by church members (MH)

10:00 - 10:15 Finish project or have snack. (MH)

10:30 - 10:40 Worship Service and Children's Message (sanctuary)

10:40 - 11:30 Children's Church (Upstairs blue room)

Our Sunday School hour will focus on congregational members who will share one of their gifts (passions) in Memorial Hall. This portion of VBS is an all ages presentation. Bible passages and relevance will be shared during the Children's message. Children's Church time will include discussions, games, songs, and snacks. On August 27, there will be a VBS sharing time during worship service. Please join us beginning August 6th!

Interested in helping? Have questions? Contact Jill Lopez by text or call, 812-887-3182.



Children and Family Ministry

KFC (grades 3-6) and Youth (grades 7-12th)
Thursday, July 6 @ 9:45am---Please RSVP by
Monday, July 3

Each St. John's participant is asked to pay \$25 for tickets. Friends and family are welcome to come . Each St. John's participant is asked to pay \$25 for tickets. Friends and family are welcome to come but need to pay \$35 for tickets. Please provide each child \$20-\$25 for food at the park (the average combo meal at the park is \$10-\$14) and a stop on the way back for supper. **Please note starting this year the park is cashless so anything purchased at Holiday World will be on a card. The children will have the opportunity to put cash on a "ReadyCARD" which can be used at the park and anywhere in the United States where credit cards are accepted.** Please RSVP for the activity by signing up on the bulletin board by the nursery or texting Will (812-887-5303) so the tickets can be purchased. The money can be turned in on the day of the activity. A new medical information form will need to be on file for all the children going on the trip. The forms are located on the bulletin board by the nursery and the on Facebook group. If there are any questions, please let me know!

The group will have an opportunity to watch 400 LED-lit drones take to the Holiday World & Splashin' Safari sky for a unique, drone, and fireworks spectacle! This one-of-a-kind, 15-minute spectacle celebrates Christmas, Thanksgiving, Halloween, and the Fourth of July animated light displays. The group can decide if they want to stay to watch the drone show... it's worth it. If the group stays, we would get back at 11:30pm but if we leave before the show the group will return at 10:30 pm.

The Children and Family Ministry group will be a part of the Lemonade Challenge for Knox County on Saturday, July 15th by the parking lot from 9-3 pm to support the Isaiah House. Please let Will know if your family can help with the lemonade challenge.

**Come support the Children and Family Ministry on July 15 from 9-3

23 Children and Family Ministry In-Town Mission Activity

The St. John's Children and Family Ministry had a very busy second week of June. The group of 28 kids helped different nonprofits/ outreach programs in Knox County throughout the week. Thank you to all the youth, parents and chaperones for making this week great. Every place we helped the staff were so happy with the youth that they asked when we could come back! During the week the group made memories as they helped their community.

Monday, June 5 (St. John's Day)- For the first day the group worked on some of the outreach programs that the church provides of Sandy's Pantry/Phoebe's Mission/Blessing Box. The group also helped the preschool by painting the playground.

Tuesday, June 6 (Isaiah House/Salvation Army)- On this day the group worked at the Isaiah House the group put new mulch down, planted flowers, and watered all the landscape plants. Inside the house, the youth organized/counted donated items and cleaned the house. After lunch at Gregg Park and group moved on to the Salvation Army. At Salvation Army, the youth made food boxes and helped people to their cars with the boxes. Also, the group unloaded a food trailer and stocked the shelves.

Wednesday, June 7 (Animal Shelter/Rainbow Beach)- The plan today was to help Camp Arthur with the partnership of the United Way. But the morning weather didn't allow us to help there. Instead, the group helped the pet port. At the animal shelter, the group walks the dogs, interacts with the kittens/cats and helps the staff. The group also donated pet supplies to the shelter. In the afternoon the group had an opportunity to enjoy an afternoon at Rainbow Beach.

Thursday, June 8 (Wabash Trails/Family Dinner)-The final workday the group helped at Wabash Trails. The youth painted all the shelter houses signing for the park. This project will be on display for many years ahead. Mid-afternoon the group moved on to church to prepare for the lasagna family dinner. Many people have been and will be impacted by all the work this group has done this week. Thanks to all youth and parents for everything this week.



**St. John's United Church of Christ
606 North Fifth Street
Vincennes, IN 47591**

**NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 9
VINCENNES, IN**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED