

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



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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

Let's Really Rally on Rally Day!

Rally Day - Wordnik.com offers a description of “rally” as “a renewal of energy in joint action.” Often, the Sunday when Sunday School Classes resumed after a “summer break” was designated as Rally Day. It was a day for coming back together, seeing friends again, getting together knowing that Sunday School classes would either start that day or the following Sunday. When we gather together we sense more communal energy, sharing, and caring. When we invite others to join us, either those who are already part of the congregation or others, the communal energy increases. Take time to consider who you can invite to Sunday School and Worship on Rally Day and then offer the invitation(s).

Grandparents Day - This year, Grandparents Day is on September 10 so we will be doing some “uplifting” of this special day which provides a time for us to learn a little more about those in our church family. Kati Hanson, in an article on *“Today.com,”* explains some of the background of Grandparents Day, which started with the signing of a proclamation in 1978 making the first Sunday after Labor Day *“National Grandparents Day.”* Hanson quotes Donna Butts, executive director of Generations United, in describing some of the purpose of Grand-parents Day:

“It’s a day when we stop to honor grandparents and grand-friends for their contributions to our families, neighborhoods and communities,” Butts says. “It’s also a time to remind people of all ages they can do something grand with another or for another generation. People at all ages and stages of life have value and something valuable to contribute to making our world a better place.”

We are encouraging **everyone** (all grandkids) to **bring a picture or pictures** of their grandparent, grandparents, or grandfriend(s) during the All-Church Breakfast and lay or stand the pictures in front of you while you are having breakfast. And, *please* bring a picture of yourself-to show on your downsized pictorial family tree.

If you are able to, please take a picture of the arrangement of your pictures of grandkids, grandparents (great, great-great, etc.), grandfriends, and yourself.

If it's ok for your pictures to be used around St. John's and/or in the ministry of St. John's please email a copy to pastorlindaucc@gmail.com.

Blessings & Joy!

Pastor Dennis and Pastor Linda

P.S. - We hope to see everyone, and your pictures, at Rally Day!



Church Board Highlights August 21, 2023

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

Joys and Concerns: Mark Welte is doing well after hip surgery, Delaney's reports have all come back good and all of her restrictions have been lifted, continued prayers for Franklin Schroeder and his wife Carol, prayers for Cheryl Meyer's cousin who will be having aortic surgery, and it has been wonderful having so many children during VBS.

UCC 175th Anniversary Celebration. Sheri Stodghill updated the Board on the activities that are being planned for the 175th Anniversary celebration. She passed out an itinerary (which is subject to change) highlighting the events that are being planned for each quarter beginning with the first Sunday in January, 2023. She said that she has not received very many pictures yet and encouraged people to bring pictures they may have of Sunday school class outings, Christmas programs, weddings, whatever anyone has of pictures from church activities.

Committee Report Highlights

Christian Education. VBS is going well and the VBS sharing will be August 27th during the worship service. Rally Day will be Sunday, September 10th with a breakfast for everyone, not just the children, and 4th grade Bible presentation will also be during worship service.

Outreach and Benevolence. Kid's Hope is seeking new mentors. We currently have 5 mentors. A Hawaii fund is being established due to the tragic fires. More information will be forthcoming. The committee recommended and received approval for the following benevolent gifts:

OCWM	\$1,000.00
LAM	\$ 500.00
Phoebe's	\$ 500.00
BABE	\$ 500.00
VCSC Nurses	\$ 500.00
NK Nurses	\$ 500.00
SK Nurses	\$ 500.00
Lichte Fund	\$ 500.00
Food Pantry	\$ 500.00
Friends	\$ 500.00

For a total of \$5,500.00 of benevolent gifting.

Membership and Evangelism. Sunday, September 17 is the Church Block party that is open to all church members, friends, and neighbors.

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

Next meeting will be September 18, 2023.

Betsy Marchino, Church Board Secretary



September Birthdays

Mark Cummings
Hannah Shields
Abby Linneweber
Bailey Stephens
Ray Pieper
Ryan Cummings
Lauren Cummings
Elaine Workman
Mike Cantwell
De Etta Welte
Daniel Vieck
Casey Dick
Tim Horton
Adam Schotter
Owen Schotter

September Anniversaries

Nyal & Hannah Shields
Luke & Mackenzie Jones
Chris & Kim Vieke
Shawn & Christina Schlag
Pastor Dennis & Pastor Linda
Frische-Mouri

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

Rock Around The



ALL St. John's UCC
Members Inviting Our Neighborhood

Sunday September 17, 2023
4-6 p.m.

St. John's United Church of Christ
Church Parking Lot
606 N. Fifth Street

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Chips,
Cookies, Ice Cream, Tea, & Lemonade

Family Activities: Bounce Houses,
Games, Fellowship, Photo Booth,
Rock Painting and More.



KIDS HOPE USA RESUMES FOR FALL 2023



The KIDS HOPE USA in Partnership with St. John's United Church of Christ and Riley Elementary has resumed its mentoring to 5 Riley School children as school reopens this fall. We have the honor and valued mentors naming Larry Marchino, Eric Meyer, Linda

Gilbert, Jill Lopez and Brett Summers fulfilling those positions at this time. Prayer partners are Betsy Marchino, Cheryl Meyer, Pastor Linda Frische-Mouri, Janet Goodwin and Pam Summers. Thank you to all for continuing. Plus, we already have had smiles of joy reuniting mentor and child from a summertime separation. Kudos to Kids Hope USA.

A few survey statistic results from 2022-2023 are inspiring to the integrity of our 22 years of service with Riley School.

- * Top 5 States with KIDS HOPE USA Programs : Michigan, Texas, Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio.
- *99% of Mentors found their time valuable with their student.
- * 10,690 lives impacted through KIDS HOPE USA program in 2022-2023 school year.
- * 87% of mentors said they feel more connected to their church because of mentoring.
- *90% of mentors were encouraged about their relationship with their students
- *Key areas mentors saw as the biggest impact on their students are; Social Emotional Skills, Confidence and Attitude.
- * Top Activities during Mentoring were Games, Conversation, Creative activities and Reading.

Every child at Riley wants a mentor (SMILE, they love us!)and mentors are needed.

The program is presently open to new mentors. We invite anyone who may love children, have 1/2 hour a week to give through Kids Hope USA , please contact us for more information. The time during the day is generally lunch hour. 11:00-11:30/11:30-12:00 depending on grade level of student. Training is available. The rewards and commitment is like no other and you are valued and appreciated. Reach out to us by contacting the church office 882-2720 leaving your contact information, You will be contacted by Jerri Johanningsmeier. director of St. John's UCC Kid's Hope program with Riley School for more information.

September

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Phoebe's Mission 4:30-6pm	2
3 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	4 Labor Day Office Closed	5 Sandy's Pantry 11-12:30pm	6 Choir 7pm	7 Sandy's Pantry 11-12:30pm	8	9 CFM Wabash Trails Fun Houchins Shelter house 5-8 pm
10 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church Rally Day Breakfast 9:30am 4th Grade Bible Presentation Grandparents Day	11 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Evangelism & Membership 7pm Friends 5-6:15pm	12	13 Christian ED 6pm Choir 7pm	14	15	16
17 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church Block Party 4-6pm	18 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Worship 6pm Church Board 7pm	19	20 Choir 7pm	21	22 Newsletter Deadline	23
24 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	25 BABE Store 12-5:30pm	26	27 Laundry Love 6-8pm Choir 7pm	28 Technology 10am	29	30



ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

- **Continuing Prayer Requests:** Don Osborne, Jr., Bruce Deckard, all church family members who are serving our country, The families of Hank Lopez, Robin Root, Mark Lange and John Jackson. For the silent trials and struggles everyone is carrying let's include all in

Addresses for Shut-ins and Others

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

Susie Milligan, Colonial Assisted Living, 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

Marge Beamon, Remains in rehab. Please send cards and notes to her home address, 1401 Ritterskamp Avenue.

Home

Alexander Family

Bruce Deckard

Dan Roark

2023 Hawaii Wildfires



A fund has been set up through our church to help support victims of the 2023 Hawaii wildfires. Anyone who wishes to give money may do so in offering collection using the green envelopes on the pews, or submitting to the church office, 606 N 5th Vincennes, IN 47591. Please makes checks payable to St. John's UCC and mark Hawaii fund on the envelope.

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 .



Jean Wells
March 6, 1931~August 10, 2023

Jean Jackson Wells, 92, of Vincennes, passed away August 10, 2023 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes. She was born March 6, 1931 in Carlisle, IN. She will be remembered as an Early Childhood Educator of the North Gibson Schools. She graduated from Fritchton High School in 1948, Indiana University in 1952, and taught Kindergarten in Indianapolis Public Schools. She received her Masters degree from the University of Evansville in 1979. In College, she was a member of Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society and Alpha Gamma Delta Social Fraternity. Jean moved to Vincennes in 1987, and joined Daughters of the American Revolution. She was a Docent for the William Henry Harrison's Grouseland Mansion, and member of St. John's United Church of Christ and sang in the church choir.

She is survived by her husband, William Lathrop of Vincennes; children, John Wells (Debbie) of Princeton, Julie Wells of Madison WI, Jennie Schmidt of Princeton, and James Wells (Sara) of Gilbertsville, KY; step-children, Bob Lathrop (Ronnie) of Boise, Idaho and Twila (Don) Nantz of Newburgh; 7 grandchildren, Ashley Wells Jenne (Steve), Benjamin Ching, Daniel Ching, Jacob Schmidt, Andrew Schmidt, Jameson Wells and Jessica Wells; 5 step-grandchildren, Diana Donaldson, Aaron Lathrop, Melody Lathrop, Karen Mandujano and Aiden Nantz; great-granddaughter, Gwyn Jenne; sister, Joy Mobarroy of Minnesota; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Perry F. Jackson and Ora R. (Rich) Jackson; and a brother, John Jackson and his wife, Patty.

Jean Wells family is so grateful for the support and love of the St. John's family! She loved singing in the choir and helped remodel the chapel. She feels no pain now, and is a new member of the soprano section of heavens choir.



SEPTEMBER 10th BREAKFAST and More!

Hosted by the Christian Education Committee, our All-Church Breakfast is Sunday, September 10, beginning at 9:30 AM. Breakfast will be served until 10:20, finishing in time for morning worship at 10:30. This event coincides with the recognition of Grandparents' Day. Since everyone has (or had) grandparents, this is indeed a special day! Feel free to bring a picture of them to share with others.

During 10:30 worship service we are pleased to present individual Bibles to our fourth graders! If you have a fourth grader and have not yet been contacted about this date, please call the church office and let the secretary know.

All adults are welcome to join the Adult Sunday School class any Sunday at 9:30 AM, in the living room of the parsonage annex. Classes for children and youth are held upstairs during this time. Nursery care is also available. Sunday School is a great way to explore your faith through applying biblical stories to today's world, to grow and learn from others' faith journeys, and to enjoy and support one another as friends.

Looking Ahead

The Christian Education Committee would like to revive an Advent celebration, similar to the Advent Festivals of the past. However, we would need your help. Please contact a CE committee member if you would like to help or have ideas to contribute.



The Sanctuary Choir will begin regular rehearsals on Wednesday, September 6th at 7:00 pm. We look forward to meeting together again to make a “joyful noise” as our contribution to morning worship. Thanks to donated Memorial Gifts, several new anthems have been acquired; we look forward to sharing those with you this coming year.

Remember: “Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness;

come before him with joyful songs.” (Psalm 100:1-2, NIV)

Please give serious thought to joining us in our music ministry. All voices are welcome!

Look for new **Communion Banners displayed** in the sanctuary as St. John’s, along with Christians everywhere, observe World Wide Communion on Sunday, October 1. These banners are two of the six banners recently purchased with designated Memorial Money. What a special remembrance of our St. John’s angels!

VBS Wrap-up

Our 2023 Vacation Bible School “Sharing and Celebrating our Spiritual Gifts” has been completed. Hats off to the 15 children and to each of their families for participating this year! We were privileged to have church members who presented their special talents to the kids. The “snacks”, a.k.a. Fellowship Time, were phenomenal. The games and songs added joy and smiles to all the kids. Our offering went to Backpacks of Love and we gave a total of \$

An extraordinarily huge amount of thanks goes to the following people for contributing their time and talents for VBS:

Eric Meyer, Elaine and Jim Workman, Larry Marchino, Brenda Cummings, Peggy Meyer, Becky Brockman, Sarah Lowe, Will Meyer, Pastor Dennis Frische-Mouri, and Jill Lopez. We also appreciate Angie Robinson in helping us get announcements and articles into the bulletins and newsletters.

We have a great church!.



Don't Forget !! 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!



WEDNESDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

If you'd like to join others in eating out and sharing in relaxed conversation, mark your calendars for Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. starting September 6. The first gathering will be at El Corral located at 630 Kimmell Rd, Suite E at Kimmell Crossing. Restaurant locations for upcoming times together will be decided at the first gathering. Contact Pastor Linda for more information.



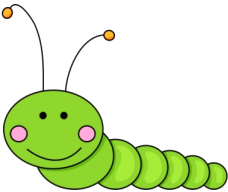
CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY MINISTRY

On Saturday, September 9, the Children and Family Ministry will enjoy a Wabash Trails Fun Day in the Houchins Shelter house from 5:00 pm-8:00 p.m. The meat, drinks and table settings (cups, plates, and silverware) will be provided! Please sign on here on

Facebook to bring a side dish/dessert to share with the other families! There will be extra side dishes/desserts provided in case your is family running from one activity to this one. There will be many games and activities for the families at the activity. This activity would be a great opportunity for the families to invite friends.

Final planning for future activities is being finished up and will be announced in the coming weeks. Please look for announcements in the bulletin, Facebook, and Children and Family Ministry mailboxes for future information.

Preschool News



We welcome back all our preschool friends, and say hello to the new ones! ! Everyone is learning how to walk in line, raise our hands and make new friends.

Our Butterflies made classroom and playground rules. We are learning to find nice things to say about our friends every day!

We are beginning the new school year o the right foot, with car- ing kids learning to have empathy for others.

If you have a child ready to attend preschool please fill out a waiting list form.

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

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