

NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



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Mission Statement Adopted March 12, 2000
We are a family of many hearts and voices faithfully worshipping 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

November

November is best known, at least in this country, for Thanksgiving Day. An American holiday that is steeped in both family and faith traditions. This is a time when we can pause to give thanks for the many blessings God has provided us.

We remember the pilgrims who had a vision and set out across the ocean seeking religious freedom and a new life. They persevered and enough of them survived to establish a settlement that was the beginning of what we now know as the United States of America. They gained new friends among the indigenous people of the land who taught them how to grow their own food. Through persistence, perseverance, and faith they opened up a whole new world.

We give thanks for family and friends...for opportunities and blessings...for work and for play...and of course for food. Many of us gather around tables with family and friends to partake of a feast of thanks giving.

It is also a time to remember that there are many in this country who cannot afford "turkey and all the trimmings"...who face food insecurity every day...who do not know where their next meal might come from... who go to school hungry. May we always be thankful for the abundance God has provided each of us.

Pray for peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, and other places where there is war. Pray for those who suffer from the destructive power of natural disasters. Pray for those who are victims of gun violence.

Blessings,

Pastor Dennis and Pastor Linda

Church Board Highlights

October 16, 2023

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

Joys and Concerns: The following joys and concerns were shared: Pastor's Appreciation month is October and we presented the Pastors with a basket of goodies and our appreciation for their service; Laundry Love is going strong. Our sympathies to the family of Oscar Sanders on his unexpected passing.

Committee Report Highlights

Music & Worship: Harvest Home will be October 22 and October 29th and we will be collecting can goods and non-perishable items to place at the base of the cross in the foyer. We will be honoring all Veterans of Sunday, November 12th. Christmas decorating will be on November 19th and November 26th. Everyone is invited to participate. We will have two services on Christmas Eve. We will have our regular 10:30 service and the Christmas Eve evening service will be at 7:00.

Christian Education: Advent festivities will be held on December 3 after church services. We will have a light lunch and activities for all ages.

Outreach and Benevolence: The Board approved the following recommendations from the committee:

OCWM	\$2,000.00
Food Pantry	\$500.00
BABE	\$500.00
LAM	\$500.00
Phoebe's	\$500.00 (transfer)
Salvation Army	\$1,000.00
Laundry Love	\$1,000.00
(transfer)	
Isaiah House	\$500.00
Total:	\$6,500.00

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

The next Board meeting will be November 20, 2023

Betsy Marchino, Church Board Secretary

MUSIC & WORSHIP



Sanctuary decorating help needed following worship,

November 19– moving greenery and trees into sanctuary.

November 26– **Final decorating of trees and nativity scene in sanctuary.**



Advent Festival!!!!

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Dec. 3 immediately following worship service. Our Advent Festival has returned! A lunch will be served followed by games, crafts, and other Christmas preparation fun. Plan now to attend. This is an all church, friends, neighbors, and families event.



The Christmas Program put on by the youth and children of St. John's will be held on Sunday, December 17th during worship service. We look forward to seeing our young people participate!

Just a reminder....please be diligent about locking the church door that you entered if you come into the building at times other than on Sunday mornings.

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. For the silent trials and struggles everyone is carrying let's include all in our prayers.**
- Please pray for Donna Gerhardt's daughter, Gabrielle Miller Gott, who will be having surgery next Friday.
- Prayers of comfort and peace to the family Oscar Sanders, on his passing in October. His family in our church includes son Chris, Lori, and his grandchildren: Joel, Carson and Avery Sanders.
- Please keep the families of Jerri Johanningsmeier and Jill Lopez in your prayers on the loss of their brother John B. Johanningsmeier on October 27, 2023. John was baptized and confirmed as a member of St. John's United Church of Christ.

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 1401 Ritterskamp Avenue. Vincennes IN

Franklyn Schroeder, Oak Village Health Care Center – 200 4th Street, Oaktown, IN 47561

Dan Roark—Gentle Care - 1202 S. 16th St., Vincennes, IN 47591.

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 .

November

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Choir 7pm Dinner at 5pm TBA	2	3 Phoebe's Mission 4:30-6pm	4
5 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 All Saints Day Celebration Children's Church	6 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends Special Thanksgiving Dinner @ St. Francis Xavier Parish Center 5-6:15pm Evangelism & Membership 7pm	7	8 Dinner at 5pm TBA Christian ED 6pm Choir 7pm	9 Girl Scouts 4:30-6:30 pm Friends Outing— Play @ CMS— Anastasia 5:45—7:30pm	10	11
12 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 Children's Church	13 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm	14	15 Dinner at 5pm TBA Choir 7pm	16	17 Youth Lock 7pm Fri.-8:30am Sat	18
19 Sunday School 9:15 Fellowship 10am 0 Worship 10:30 Adding Greenery to church Children's Church	20 Feast Day Preschool BABE Store 12-5:30pm Friends 5-6:15pm Worship Committee 6pm Church Board 7pm	21 Feast Day Preschool	22 Dinner at 5pm TBA Choir 7pm Preschool Out	23 Preschool Out Happy Thanksgiving Office Closed	24 Newsletter Deadline Preschool Out Office Closed	25
26 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 First Sunday of Advent Children's Church	27 BABE Store 12-5:30pm Family & Friends Holiday Dinner @ VU 5-6:30pm	28 Sandy's Pantry 11-12:30pm	29 Dinner at 5pm TBA Choir 7pm Laundry Love 6-8pm	30 Sandy's Pantry 11-12:30pm Girl Scouts 4:30-6:30 pm		

BIRTHDAYS
& ANNIVERSARIES



November Birthdays

Addison Cummings
Ross Lankford
Claire Hendershot
Amelia Schutz
Janet Goodman
Jim Workman
Sierra Deckard
Betty Lankford
Paul Goodman
Luke Lindsey
Cyndi Glass
Shirley Black
Natasha Coomes
Elise Goodman
Leo Vieck
Jana Vieck
Janice Strange
Ed Cummings
Adrienne Yochum
Rodney Lopez

November Anniversaries

Jake & Kelly Alexander
Zach & Mallory Bowman
Jay & Karen Cole

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



“To help celebrate our **175 Anniversary** throughout 2024, the Anniversary Committee is looking for singers, performers, musicians, anyone who would like to share their talent with St. John’s during a Sunday Worship Service. Please contact Sheri Stodghill at 812-890-2363 to get signed up for a special Sunday! We can’t wait to see your performance!”

Only one month left!!!

The Anniversary Committee would like to remind everyone that we still are looking for **special photographs, memorabilia, booklets, newspaper articles, etc. that took place at St. John’s**. Please share your memories with us! There is a tub in Memorial Hall where you can put your treasures and we will copy and return them back to you! Help up celebrate 175 years of our wonderful church and congregation.”



Pledge Campaign for 2024

Our theme this year is “Because of You Our Church Changes Lives”. A most important reminder to each of us that our giving to St. John’s can positively benefit the lives of others as it benefits us. Our church family is stronger because of the contributions each of

us make. Church Board President Jana Vieck will send to you a letter with your 2024 pledge card which will be collected on November 19. That morning there will be delicious treats at Fellowship time prior to church. We look forward to a positive pledge campaign to help St. John’s prosper and continue to make positive changes for our church family and beyond.



ST. JOHN'S UCC
CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY MINISTRY

The Children and Family had many opportunities in the month of October. On Saturday, October 7, the M&M (age 4-2 grade) had a Fall evening activity at church. There was crafts and light snacks to enjoy too! On Sunday, October 15, the Children and Family Ministry had an opportunity come to a Fall Fun Day at St. John's. At the activity there was hamburgers, hot dogs and BBQ and the families shared side dishes for the event. There was many games and activities for the families at the cook out. This activity was a great opportunity for the families to invite friends.

On Saturday, October 28, the KFC and Youth will travel to Holiday World for Happy Halloween Weekends. This family-friendly special event includes the rides you love at Holiday World, plus 12 acres of corn mazes and hayrides!

A black rectangular box containing the text 'LOCK IN' in a stylized font. The 'L' is white, and the 'O', 'C', 'K', 'I', 'N' are in a teal color. The 'O' is replaced by a padlock icon.

The youth (7th-12th grade) will have a lock-in at church starting at 7pm on November 17 until 8:30am the next morning. The KFC (3rd-6th grade) will also have a lock-in at church starting at 7pm on December 8 until 8:30am the next morning.

For the lock-in the children can be dropped off any time during the night after coming from other activities. If they are being dropped off/picked up after 7pm please text (812-887-5303) Will to make arrangements. The evening will start off with the groups making their own small pizzas. Some of the activities during the night will be a movie, laser tag and group games

*****For both lock-ins a 23-24 medical information form will need to be on file for the St. John's children and their friends. The medical forms are located on the bulletin board by the nursery and on the Facebook group in the file tab.**

On Saturday, December 9 the Children and Family Ministry will have a Family Holiday Dinner starting at 6:00pm. The meat and drinks for this event will be provided! Please sign-up on Facebook to bring a side dish/dessert to share with the other families! There will extra side dishes/desserts provided in case your is family running from one activity to this one. This activity would be a great opportunity for the families to invite friends.



Preschool News



The Preschoolers are getting ready for the Fall. We have pumpkins, leaves, bats, and spiders! Dr. Dan from Purdue Ag Center came and talked to us about pumpkins and even brought everyone a pumpkin to bring home!

October is also Fire Safety Month. We went through the smoke house and looked at a fire truck! Everyone knows what to do in case of a fire , we even participated in fire drills.

Our Butterflies class hosted a Dad's Day event. Dad's were invited to our preschool to enjoy singing songs, making crafts and eating snacks.

We ended our month with Halloween parties, costumes, fun games and yummy snacks! The children enjoyed a (not) so haunted house!

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

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