



St. John's United Church of Christ
Holy Humor Sunday
 April 7, 2024



* Please stand if it is comfortable to do so. L=Leader, P=People

PRELUDE CHURCH BELLS

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GREET ONE ANOTHER

***CHORAL INTROIT** Surely the Presence of the Lord # 263

***GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** (responsively)

L: O praise to the God of laughter whose humor sends ripples through even the river of death, who turns a mustard seed into a tree.

P: Like a trickster, you turn my world topsy-turvy.

L: Here in the Fun House the popular routes lead me in circles but the dead- ends have doors.

P: O for a thousand tongues to sing the praise of One who is All, who is as invisible as the wind, yet as firm as a rock.

***OPENING HYMN** Alleluia! (2nd time through with kazoo) #106

***WE INVITE GOD TO WORSHIP** (unison)

All: God of joy, we know that you have blessed us richly. Yet so often, we are down in the dumps over silly little disappointments. You have given us Jesus Christ, raised him from the dead and promised us eternal life. But we act as though we don't know it! Forgive us, God! Keep us mindful that you always have the last laugh, and that your promise is for true joy in every circumstance, and life forever. Amen.

***RESPONSE** Christ Arose (chorus) #224

VIDEO CLIP All for the Best from Godspell (1973)
 (From patchesandfacepaint website)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (children come forward during *Jesus Loves Me* and depart during *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)

OFFERING INVITATION

L: God is so good and we are richly blessed. Let us give back to God with gratitude and thanksgiving.

***DOXOLOGY** #46

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

We dedicate these gifts in response to Christ's call, and offer ourselves in full commitment. Take us and mold us according to his will. We pray that who we are may be acceptable, what we do may find favor and that which we give will reflect your love.

ANTHEM We Have Seen the Risen Lord Pethel

WE GATHER IN PRAYER

Silent Prayers – Pastoral Prayer-The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Congregational Response: *He Lives* (chorus) #226

SCRIPTURE: John 20: 19-31 Psalm 126: 1-3 1 Corinthians 4: 10a

L: This is the Word of God **P: Thanks be to God**

SERMON Our Laughing God

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Prayer

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution; Consecration and Sharing of the Elements

Thanksgiving Prayer (unison)

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** Christ Joyful (4th verse with kazoo) #272
 (melody: *The Church's One Foundation*)

***BLESSING** (responsively)

Christ is raised from the dead! Love wins! Hallelujah! Christ lives and reigns for us! Hallelujah!

In Jesus Christ, we have been given new life in Christ. Thanks be to God!

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Go In Peace #445

* **POSTLUDE**



ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

- **Continuing Prayer Requests: Bruce Deckard, Gary Meyer, Zoey Bahr, Don Osborne, Jr., Dale Linneweber, and family. For the family of Carole Klein, and Don Hoffhaus. For the silent trials and struggles everyone is carrying, let's include all in our prayers.**

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, - Room 118, 1622 S Hart Street Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

Leona Conway, Willow Manor, - Room 73B request correspondence be sent to 2009 Forbes Rd. Vincennes IN

Marge Beamon, Oak Village Health Care Center— Room 333 bed 2 Remains in rehab. Please send cards and notes to, 1401 Ritterskamp Avenue.

Franklyn Schroeder, Oak Village Health Care Center—Room 120 200 4th Street, Oaktown, IN 47561

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 (co-chair 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 (co-chair), Connie and Dan Coulter, Peggy Meyer, Ray Pieper, Terry and Janet Goodman, Lonny Vieck, Larry and Betsy Marchino.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE BABE STORE! Please consider becoming a volunteer for the BABE Store which is housed at St. John's UCC , 606 North Fifth Street. Minimal commitment of two hours, one Monday per month. The BABE Store allows pregnant women and families with children under the age of four to redeem earned vouchers for diapers, wipes, and many other supplies. Duties include checking ID, collecting correct amount of vouchers for items purchased and assisting clients as needed. If you're interested, please contact Cindy Deckard ant 812-887-2999. Our volunteers frequently comment on how rewarding it is to help out the families of Knox County!

NEW MEMBERS will be welcomed into our church family during worship next Sunday. If you would like to unite with our church, please see Pastor Debbie Jo for more information.

ALAN PANCAKE will perform during our worship next Sunday. He will bring his unique brand of gospel music and the Christian message to us, so please invite your friends and family to join us.

SOME ECLIPSE TIPS!

TOTAL ECLIPSE IS TOMORROW!

Partial Eclipse begins at 1:46 pm EDT

Totality begins at 3:04 pm EDT (lasts for 4 min 5 sec; longest darkness in the State of Indiana)

Totality ends at 3:08 pm EDT

Eclipse Ends at 4:29 pm EDT

EYE PROTECTION AND SAFETY DURING A TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE:

Never look directly at the sun without proper eye protection. Never look at the sun through unfiltered binoculars, sunglasses, cell phone cameras or telescopes. Do not use regular sunglasses. Use only solar eclipse glasses manufactured to ISO-12312-2. Observing the Sun with the naked eye puts you at risk for damaging your retinas and causing permanent damage to your eyes. Don't do it! Prepare your eyes for the darkness of the glasses, cover your eyes with your hands. Let your eyes adjust and then put your glasses on with your eyes still closed.

OBSERVING THE SUN AND MOON DURING TOTALITY:

You may remove the solar viewing glasses during totality when the Moon is fully in front of the Sun. This moment is marked by the "Diamond Ring" effect when the Sun's light is shining through the topography of the Moon. In the moments before the Sun's corona is visible, a beam of light shoots through the landscape of the Moon. This is the moment to remove your glasses to gaze at the Sun's corona. At the end of totality, the diamond ring will appear again, signaling that it is time to replace your glasses. If you choose to keep your glasses on, you won't see anything due to the absence of the Sun's light. The only time it is safe to remove your viewing glasses is during totality.

ST. JOHN'S UCC STAFF and VOLUNTEERS

Pastor	Pastor Debbie Jo Atkins
Liturgist	Janet Daniels
Head Usher	Jake Alexander
Organist	DeEtta Welte
Music Director, Pianist	Becky Brockman
Children /Family Ministry Coordinator	Will Meyer
Nursery Attendant	Darcie Bahr
Projection	Jill Doggett
Sound	Jonathan Lange
Church Secretary	Angie Robinson
Church Board President	Jana Vieck
Greeters	Betsy Emmons , Carole Graham



Cereal Drop ...want to know more , read on!
Some time in the near future St. John's UCC will be requesting new unopened box's (has to be a box) of cereal . Once we have collected several we will ask the children (and parents too!) to set each box up as you would dominos! Be watching bulletins for more information .



No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!



Virtual Worship Service is still available on the church website, myucc.org.
Worship Services are also "Live Streamed" on the Church's FACEBOOK page



THIS WEEK in the Life of St. John's

SUNDAY, April 7

Sunday School 9:15 am

Worship 10:30am

Outreach & Mission after Service

MONDAY, April 8

Solar Eclipse Day

All Closed

WEDNESDAY, April 10

Christian Education 6 pm

Choir 7pm

THURSDAY, April 11

Dinner & Conversation 6pm Bobe's Pizza Express (Washington, IN)

Girl Scouts 4:30-6:30pm

LOOKING AHEAD

SUNDAY, April 14

Sunday School 9:15 am

Worship 10:30am

Alan Pancake @ Service

MONDAY, April 15

FRIENDS 5-6:15 pm

Worship Comm. 6pm

Church Board 7 pm

WEDNESDAY, April 17

Friends Addams Family Production 5:45

Choir 7pm

THURSDAY, April 18

Dinner & Conversation 6pm Dogwood