**St. John United Church of Christ**

***“In Christ We Live, Celebrate, & Serve”***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| October 10, 2021 | 20th Sunday after Pentecost |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor | Ritch Alexander, Organist |
| 9:30 Zoom & In-Person Worship | 9:30 Sunday School for Children |
| 2901 Nameoki Road | Granite City, IL 62040 |
| E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com | (618) 877-6060 |

Web-stjohnuccgranitecity.com

**Currently face masks are REQUIRED for all.**

Large print bulletins are available from the Ushers.

***Bold italic denotes congregation reads or sings.***

\*Denotes all who are able, please stand.

**WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

A STORY FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Would [the Almighty] contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me. (Job 23:6)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Prelude on “Dix”* Lani Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER Response from Mark 10:27b

We have come to worship God with troubles on our minds

and worries in our hearts. How can we make everything right?

***“For mortals it is impossible, but not for God;***

***for God all things are possible.”***

Can we find easy, painless answers to our life questions?

***“For mortals it is impossible.”***

Can we find what we need in possessions?

***“For mortals it is impossible.”***

Is there any hope for the hopeless?

***Yes! because “For God all things are possible.”***

Let us pray together:

***Almighty God, you know the thoughts and intentions of our hearts. We come before you boldly seeking mercy for our disobedience, and the assurance of salvation. We cannot save ourselves, but with you all things are***

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***possible. Therefore, we confess our faith and choose to follow Jesus. Help us humbly give our lives to discipleship and accept the promise of new life. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“Search Me, O God”*** #385

**\*RESPONSIVE ILLINOIS SOUTH CONFERENCE UCC ANNUAL MEETING LITANY**

Adapted from the Service Written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian, Senior Pastor of St. Paul UCC in Belleville, IL

Spirit of Wonder—as we gaze down the future with hope, we prepare our hearts to understand your intentions. As we seek your guidance on tomorrow’s Church, our souls listen intently for your call to serve our world.

Our fellow congregant, Justin Gibson, has answered the call to serve the larger church as a delegate to the Illinois South Conference UCC and as a member of the Justice and Witness Team. He, as well as Delegate Debbie Winkle, and our clergy delegates in unity and covenant with other churches in the Conference, will make decisions for the good of the Church and Christ’s mission of love in our world.

***With the help of God, may they share their time and talents with the larger Church, seeking the intentions of God’s Spirit as they make decisions. May they remember the dignity of all human beings, as children of God made in the Divine image, as they voice their thoughts and vote on resolutions. May they work to strengthen the covenant between each of them, our church, the conference, the denomination and the entire Body of Christ.***

Congregants of St. John United Church of Christ, will you share your support with the delegates to the Illinois South Conference UCC, and commit to the covenantal bonds that unite us?

***We will with the help of God***

God of the Covenant—in each time and place, you have surrounded your people with your presence and love. When the day of Pentecost arrived, your people were able to speak through the Spirit who gave them the ability to communicate and understand as needed. As we look forward to the future of the Church, we ask that your Spirit fill the delegates with wisdom.

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***May visions from the Spirit awaken them and all of us to dream about new possibilities for the Church, and may these dreams stir creativity in each of our congregations. May these delegates know your intentions for the church, believing that you continue to journey with us just as you did with Moses and the Israelites, the followers of Jesus on the day of Pentecost, and all believers in each time and place.***

We thank you for your steadfast love for all the delegates today and know that your wisdom journeys with them as they serve the Church.

***Amen.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

EPISTLE LESSON Hebrews 4:12-16 pg. 206

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Old Rugged Cross* arr. Benton Price

Chris McMillan

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 10:17-31 pg. 43

SERMON

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Take My Life and Let It Be”***  #466

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & UNISON LORD’S PRAYER

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *O Jesus, I Have Promised*  arr. David H. Hegarty

\*RESPONSE ***“As Saints of Old”*** Vs. 3 #570

Words: Frank von Christierson, alt. Music: English melody; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams. Words © 1961, Ren. 1989 The Hymn Society (Admin. Hope Publishing Company). Reprinted by permission, CCLI License #1334401.

***With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you,***

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***not just to serve your cause,***

***but share your love with neighbors too.***

***O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son, help us to give ourselves each day until life’s work is done.***

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***We rejoice, and do not grieve, to give these gifts, O God, for you bless our generous efforts. Empower them to accomplish more good than we can imagine, as you make all things possible. Be with us as we dedicate our ever-changing lives to following Jesus first and foremost. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”***  #345

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE  *Festive March in D* W. Rebikoff

“Seek the Lord and live,” declares the prophet Amos (5:6). So we gather now to hear from God and to be nourished with abundant life. Welcome!

The **bulletin** is given in loving memory of the birthday on October 13th of Lois Winter by Sandy & Judy Buchheit and Janet Kies.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Patty Bade** at 618-610-0350. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at 877-6060. The next available dates are October 17 & 31.

**Thank you** to Chris McMillan for serving as guest organist today and to Greg Young for serving as liturgist today.

A rose has been placed on the altar to honor the birth of **Jaxon Dean Streid**, who was born on September 26, 2021. He is the son of Aaron & Taylor Streid, and the grandson of Tim & Donna Streid and Susan & Anthony Stoicheff.

A rose has been placed on the altar to honor the birth of **Arizona Helen West**, who was born on October 5, 2021. She is the daughter of Alyson & Richard West, and the granddaughter of Donna & Tim Streid, and Kathy West.

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Congratulations to **Charles Ray Sullivan** & **Pamela Ann (Jones) Sullivan** who were united in marriage on October 3, 2021. May God richly bless them in their new life together.

**THIS WEEK**

Today: In-person and Zoom Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School for Children, 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hour Sponsored by Cemetery Committee

Monday: Al-Anon, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Brotherhood, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Hilltoppers, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Bell Choir, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday: Apple Sauce Making, 8:30 a.m.

Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Granite City Community Band Rehearsal, 6:45-9:30 p.m.

Friday: **Annual Reports Due**

Saturday: Illinois South Conference Zoom Annual Meeting

Next Sunday: In-person and Zoom Worship, 9:30 a.m.

No Sunday School

**Sausage Dinner, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

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We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Don Luddeke, who passed from this life on Sunday, October 3, 2021. A funeral service was held Friday, October 8, 2021. May the peace and comfort that come from God sustain his loved ones during this time of grief.

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**ANNUAL SAUSAGE DINNER**

This year’s Sausage Dinner will be held next Sunday, October 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. or until we run out. All dinners are $10.00 and include sausage, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, sauerkraut,

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apple sauce, bread, and cake. Due to the ongoing pandemic, this year’s Sausage Dinner will be drive-thru carry out only, just like last year. All food preparation is done in the church using safety guidelines and the social distancing of workers and customers is observed as much as possible. Flyers for the event are available on the table in the entrance.

Diagram

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**MAKING APPLE SAUCE**

We will be making the apple sauce for Sausage Dinner in the church basement on Thursday, Oct 14th. We will start at 8:30 a.m. If you’re able to help, please check the box at the bottom of the insert. Please bring your favorite cutting tools, a bowl, and a mask!

Text

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT!**

On Sunday, October 17th, there will be **no** Sunday School due to the Sausage Dinner.

**SCRIP (GIFT CARDS)**

The scrip program has resumed. Plans are to submit orders the first and third Sundays with delivery the subsequent first and third Sundays. Revised “favorites” order forms are on the table in the narthex. There is also an updated list of ALL vendors for your review. Use a revised form or one from last year. Check payable to St. John UCC or cash should accompany order. Please give your order to Betty Meszaros. Not attending worship in person? No problem as you can still order cards. Just send a note with your payment to the church office. Delivery arrangements will be coordinated. Cost is face amount of gift card. No tax or service fee. Rebate is automatically sent to the church. For your planning: Last date to order for pre-Thanksgiving delivery is November 6th. December orders will be accepted the first and second Sundays with last order submitted in 2021 on December 11th to allow for delivery before Christmas. Please contact Melissa Lane 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros 618-670-5267 with questions.

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A picture containing text

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**ATTENTION SENIOR CITIZENS!!!**

As you may know, Granite City has begun using Republic Trash for their trash services. What you may not know, is that senior citizens can claim a senior discount! To claim your senior citizen discount, call Republic Trash at 618-656-6883.

**EVENING GUILD**

Want to join the TOW Club? Not another roadside assistance plan but Together on Wheels for members or guests wanting to attend an Evening Guild meeting the first Monday of a month at 6:30 p.m. If you are no longer comfortable driving at night or if you would be willing to give someone else a ride, please contact Evening Guild member Betty Meszaros at 618-670-5267. Matchups will be arranged if possible.

A picture containing gear, metalware, wheel

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**HALLOWEEN PARTY**

Calling all ghouls and boys! On October 24th, we’ll be hosting a Halloween costume party! Please join us from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for a night of crafts, games, snacks, and lots of fun! Children are encouraged to invite family and friends. Please note, this year will not be open to the general public due to Covid19 concerns.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Salvation Army has been chosen for our Mission of the Month for October. With the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, the support for this organization is greatly needed. They continue to provide food baskets for the needy at Thanksgiving and Christmas and toys for the children at Christmas. This is just another outreach program that we can support in our community as members of our congregation.

**BROTHERHOOD SEMI-ANNUAL MEAT SALE**

The Brotherhood Semi-Annual Meat Sale is accepting preorders until October 25, 2021. Pickup will be November 5/6 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Due to Illinois state regulations, no meat can be returned to the Meat Market, thus **pre-orders are now** **mandatory.** Please have all preorders back to Brotherhood by October 25th and make checks payable to St. John United Church of Christ Brotherhood. Note that some items cannot be prepaid. The Brotherhood would like to thank you for your continued support. A portion of the proceeds from the meat sale will go to several local charities. Any questions, please contact David Douglas at 618-806-4795.

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**OUR PRAYERS**

*Nursing & Assisted Living*

**Cedarhurst of Granite City, Memory Care**, 3432 Village Lane, Granite City, IL 62040

JoAnn King, #215,

**The Fountains of West County**, 15826 Clayton Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011

Ruth Buer, #215

**Granite Nursing & Rehab**, 3500 Century Dr, Granite City, IL 62040

Karen Luddeke

**Meridian Village**, 27 Auerbach Pl., Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Mary Lee Krohne, #611 (Call Linda Nitchman for updates)

**River Crossing of Edwardsville *(Riverside)***, 6277 Center Grove Rd., Edwardsville, IL 62025

Loretta Cook, #502

**Villas of Holly Brook**, 121 S. Bluff Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234

Hilde Few, #208

*At Home*

Ritch Alexander, 2243 Cleveland, G.C., IL 62040

Rose Marie Bauer, 1438 Schaefer Rd. G.C., IL 62040

Isabella Boyer, 4722 S. Hazel, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Marlene Brokaw, 112 Summit Rdg., Maryville, IL 62062

Myra Cook, 4034 Stearns Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Randy Fischer, 2517 Edison Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Bonnie Fornaszewski, 200 Carlson Ave., Apt. 17D, Washington, IL 62040

Mary Franz, 3117 Willow Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Luitgard Fries, 4117 Old Alton Rd., G.C., IL 62040

Norman Hente, 3708 Joyce St., G.C., IL 62040

Gayle Lindsay, 431 Arlington Dr., G.C., IL 62040

Bill McAmish, 3320 Colgate Pl., G.C., IL 62040

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Sandy Mueller, 308 Warson Ln., G.C., IL 62040

David Oliver Jr., 2716 Dale Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Karen Orr, 421 Edwardsville Apt 1, Troy, IL 62294

Cliff Robertson, 2336 O’Hare Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Merle Rose, 2447 Waterman Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Marge Schmidt, 4857 Danielle Court, G.C., IL 62040

June Stille, 49 Riviera, G.C., IL 62040

Trish Stromlund, 1359 Kyle Dr., Apt. B, St. Charles, MO 63304

Nancy Wilson, 4062 Sara, Apt. 81, G.C., IL 62040

Don Young, 112 Summit Rdg., Maryville, IL 62062

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**Illinois South Conference**

St. Jacob UCC, Rev. Philip (Kate) Barbier. Smithton St. John’s UCC, Rev. Andrew (Kristin) Wilson. Retired Pastor, Rev. Elmer and Linda Bowman, Jr., Trenton, IL.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Hebrews 4:12-16**

**12**Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. **13**And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

**14**Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. **15**For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. **16**Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Mark 10:17-31**

**17**As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” **18**Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. **19**You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” **20**He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” **21**Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” **22**When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. **23**Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” **24**And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus

said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! **25**It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” **26**They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” **27**Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.” **28**Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” **29**Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, **30**who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses,

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brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. **31**But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

Text, letter

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***“Search Me, O God”***

***Search me, O God, and know my heart today;***

***Try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray.***

***See if there be some wicked way in me;***

***Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.***

***I praise thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin;***

***Fulfill thy Word and make me pure within.***

***Fill me with fire where once I burned with shame;***

***Grant my desire to magnify thy name.***

***Lord, take my life and make it wholly thine;***

***Fill my poor heart with thy great love divine.   
Take all my will, my passion, self, and pride;***

***I now surrender, Lord – in me abide.***

***“Take My Life and Let It Be”***

***Take my life and let it be***

***Consecrated, Lord, to thee;***

***Take my hands and let them move***

***At the impulse of thy love,***

***At the impulse of thy love.***

***Take my feet and let them be***

***Swift and beautiful for thee;***

***Take my voice and let me sing***

***Always, only, for my King,***

***Always, only for my King.***

***Take my lips and let them be***

***Filled with messages for thee;***

***Take my silver and my gold,***

***Not a mite would I withhold,***

***Not a mite would I withhold.***

***Take my love, my God, I pour***

***At thy feet its treasure store;***

***Take myself and I will be***

***Ever, only, all for thee,***

***Ever only, all for thee.***

***“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”***

***Jesus calls us o’er the tumult***

***Of our life’s wild, restless sea;***

***Day by day his sweet voice soundeth,***

***Saying, “Christian, follow me.”***

***Jesus calls us from the worship***

***Of the vain world’s golden store,***

***From each idol that would keep us,***

***Saying “Christian, love me more.”***

***In our joys and in our sorrows,***

***Days of toil and hours of ease,***

***Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,***

***“Christian, love me more than these.”***

***Jesus calls us – by thy mercies,***

***Savior, may we hear thy call,***

***Give our hearts to thine obedience,***

***Serve and love thee best of all.***

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**ATTENTION MEMBERS**

Time is rapidly moving and we are, too! We’re getting ready for the Sausage Dinner on October 17, 2021. It takes the entire church family to make it a huge success. We are asking for your help during the day of the dinner in different areas. If you’re able to help, please fill out the form below with your name and telephone number. You can drop it in the offering plate, take it to the office, or give it to Nancy Jacobs or Donna Brandes.

You can also call:

Church: 618-877-6060

Donna Brandes 618-802-1072

Nancy Jacobs 314-712-6388

**Please fill out the information below if you’re willing to work.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please check mark whether you’d like to work inside or outside.**

INSIDE OUTSIDE

**Please check mark the time you’d like to work.**

First Shift (11:00 am – 2:00 pm)

Second Shift (2:00 pm – 5:00 pm)

Third Shift (5:00 pm – Clean up)

A close-up of a red fruit

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**PLEASE INDICATE BELOW IF YOU’RE ABLE TO HELP MAKE APPLESAUCE ON OCTOBER 14.**

Yes, I can help No, I can’t help

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**ILLINOIS SOUTH CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING 2021**

**Annual Meeting Goes Virtual! (And you’re invited.)**

**Schedule of Events**

**Monday, October 11, 2021**

**Orientation to Zoom Webinar**

As a delegate, you will use the same Zoom Webinar link that you will receive upon registering for the Annual Meeting. Don’t share the link.

**Wednesday, October 13, 2021**

**Workshops for Clergy – FREE**

**1:00 – Beyond Chocolates & Bath Salts** with Rev. Donna Pupillo

**2:30 – The Rainbow Connection** with Andy Lang

**Thursday, October 14, 2021**

**Workshops geared for lay, although delegates, non-delegates, and clergy may attend – FREE**

**6:00 – Lifting the Shame** with Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

**7:00 – Reimagining Our Collective Missional Call** with Rev. Kristina

Lizardy-Hajbi

**Saturday, October 16, 2021**

**Delegates:** Saturday Business Meeting will open at 8:30 am on Zoom Webinar

– the link will be emailed to you once you register.

**Visitors:** Saturday Business Meeting will be live Stream from 9 am-12 pm –

check you email for the link or check on the ISC website: [www.iscucc.org](http://www.iscucc.org).

Find more information about Annual Meeting 2021 here:

<https://iscucc.org/annual-meeting-2021-general-info/>

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