**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| September 4, 2022 | 13th Sunday after Pentecost (C) |
| 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 RECOMMENDED.**

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 Philemon 1-21

Who is in your family?

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER

From many walks of life, we come to worship God,

***Who knows our daily rhythms.***

Some of us keep schedules to balance work and activities.

***Some of us are retired and also keep schedules.***

Some of us seek training and opportunities to try new things.

***Some of us seek employers and employees who respectfully work together.***

In every stage of life, we use our gifts and abilities for good,

***Ever ready to discover God at work in and through us.***

Let us pray.

***O God, open our ears to hear your Word for us in these times. Free our minds from whatever wrongly draws our attention and help us focus on your ways. Warm our hearts to welcome everyone to gather at your family table. May your Spirit inspire our worship and our***

-2-

***covenant of discipleship, as we follow Jesus, now and forever. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“Have Thine Own Way, Lord!”*** #486

\*RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING Psalm 139:1-6, 17-18

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

***You know when I sit down and when I rise up;***

***you discern my thoughts from far away.***

You search out my path and my lying down,

and are acquainted with all my ways.

***Even before a word is on my tongue,***

***O Lord, you know it completely.***

You hem me in, behind and before,

and lay your hand upon me.

***Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;***

***it is so high that I cannot attain it.***

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

***I try to count them—they are more than the sand;***

***I come to the end—I am still with you.***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 18:1-11 pg. 677

SPECIAL MUSIC *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

Newton, Rees, Excell, Tomlin, & Giglio

Karen Gaines & Diane Peach

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 26:26-29 pg. 28

MEDITATION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“Search Me, O God”*** #385

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE ***“The Lord’s Prayer”*** (One Amen) #740

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

-3-

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *“Old Church Choir”* Diane Peach & Karen Gaines

Zach Williams

\*RESPONSE ***“One Bread, One Body”*** Vs. 1#689

Words & Music: John B. Foley. Music arr. Gary Alan Smith. Words & Music © 1978 John B. Foley, S.J., and New Dawn Music

***One bread, one body, one Lord of all,***

***one cup of blessing which we bless.***

***And we, though many throughout the earth,***

***we are one body in this one Lord.***

***Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. One bread, one body, one Lord of all,***

***one cup of blessing which we bless.***

***And we, though many throughout the earth,***

***we are one body in this one Lord.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***We bring our imperfect selves and gifts to you, O God, believing that you rework and use all that we do for your good intentions. Unite us, we pray, with all your family everywhere, so that our good works multiply and bring your Word of Hope and Life to all the world. Amen.***

CONFESSION AND INVITATION

Jesus took one loaf of bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to his disciples. And it was multiplied into the Sacrament before us this day. As we prepare to partake, let us confess and seek forgiveness of our sins.

***Creator of all that is good, re-create our distorted lives, we pray. Re-form us to be honorable and righteous, free from the sins we try to justify and from our poor excuses. Re-center us on your ways rather than broken ways. Re-store a right spirit in us, a spirit of faith and giving, in your name. Amen.***

Just as Jesus multiplied the bread and cup to fill disciples in every time and place, he also multiplied God’s gifts of mercy and forgiveness. The covenant of love and salvation is established for us and for all.

***Therefore, we gratefully partake together in the unity of the beloved family of God.***

-4-

BREAKING, POURING AND PARTAKING

\*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***God who makes all things new, we thank you for gathering us at this table to share in this meal. Thank you for filling us with Jesus’ power, his healing compassion, and his commitment to justice for all people. We thank you that through this Sacrament we have been strengthened to work together as Jesus’ disciples, freely carrying on his mission from age to age. Amen.***

\*HYMN AND NOISY OFFERING FOR FOOD BOXES

***“All Things Are Yours!”*** #687

\*BENEDICTION

\*SUNG RESPONSE ***“The Potter’s Hand”*** (Sing Once) #343

***Take me, mold me, use me, fill me;***

***I give my life to the Potter’s hand.***

***Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me;***

***I give my life to the Potter’s hand,***

***to the Potter’s hand.***

\*POSTLUDE  *Marvelous Grace*

Welcome! On this Labor Day weekend, we pray that all our daily labors may be an extension of this time of worship, done to the glory of God.

The **bulletin** is given in celebration of the 34th birthday of Lydia (Totten) Huff by Mom & Dad.

The **altar centerpiece** is given in memory of our mothers Elva Sturman and Dorothy Johannigmeier by Dennis and Linda.

The **altar vases** are given in memory of Lois Hollenbeck’s birthday on September 5th and in celebration of the birthdays of Lauren and Lakin Luebbers on September 8th and Maren on September 11th by Bob, Anna, and Alicia Hollenbeck.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up after church or on Monday, please call **Beth Ravanelli** at (618) 530-7789. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call

-5-

the **church office** at (618) 877-6060. The next available dates to sponsor the bulletin are October 2 & 30.

Thank you to **Karen Gaines** for serving as liturgist, thank you to **Rae Ellen Vogeler** for greeting, and thank you to **Karen Gaines** and **Diane Peach** for providing special music.

A picture containing logo

Description automatically generated

**THIS WEEK**

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

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

Communion & Noisy Offering

Monday: **Labor Day – OFFICE CLOSED**

Tuesday: Start bringing items for Rummage Sale

Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00 a.m.

Food Box Packing, 10:00 a.m.

Bell Choir, 5:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday: GCC Band Rehearsal, 6:15-9:30 p.m.

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

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

Text

Description automatically generated

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of **Don Young** who passed from this life on Thursday, September 1, 2022. Services will be held at Irwin Chapel, with visitation on Monday, September 5, 2022 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and the funeral on Tuesday September 6, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. May the peace and comfort that come from God sustain his loved ones during this time of grief.

-6-

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our September Mission of the Month is dedicated to committing random acts of kindness.

**EVENING GUILD & BROTHERHOOD**

All are invited to attend the Monday, September 12th joint meeting of the Evening Guild and Brotherhood. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner. The Evening Guild will provide the meat and drinks so please bring a side dish or dessert to share. The guest speaker will be Mayor Mike Parkinson who will present information on exciting happenings in Granite City. Have you heard about “The District”? Curious to know what is going on at

the old Shop ‘N’ Save and K-Mart? This meeting will be an opportunity to learn the facts and be of interest even to non-residents. Reservations are recommended. Contact Evening

Guild President Christie Roth (618-931-6194) or Brotherhood representatives Chuck Hasse (618-876-0936) or Dave Douglas (618-452-3336) to make a reservation or if you have any questions.

**SCRIP**

The next scrip order will be submitted September 18th. Order forms of “favorites” and the master list of vendors are located on the table in the Narthex. Give your order form along with your check payable to St. John UCC to Betty Meszaros or mail it to the church office. If you do not have an order form, just include a note of what you want to purchase. You can also give Betty a call and she will email the vendor list to you. Purchase cards for personal use, as gifts or for donations. Cost is face value of card with no tax or service fee. Saves you shopping time and gas. Plans are to submit an order the third Sunday of October which is the day of the annual Sausage Dinner. Cards should arrive before Halloween should you want to give to your favorite trick or treater. Many fast food restaurants participate in the program offering a $10 denomination card. Contact Melissa Lane 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros 618-451-1968 for additional information.

**FOOD BOX DONATIONS**

Thanks to everyone who has contributed food items to the September Food Box project. We have received enough to fulfill the required amount for this distribution.

-7-

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

We need help assembling food boxes this Wednesday, September 7th at 10:00 a.m. on the youth side in the basement. We will also need volunteers to assist in distributing the boxes on Saturday, September 17th at 10:00 a.m. We need a few people to

come in earlier on the 17th to help move the boxes form the basement out to the parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

Text

Description automatically generated with low confidence

**RUMMAGE SALE**

If sorting & cleaning is in your plans, this will be the perfect time to hold aside items to donate to the all-church rummage sale. The event will be held September 22nd & 23rd this year and items can

be brought to the stage in Fellowship Hall between September 6th and September 21st. No large electronics or heavy items please. General rule of thumb: If you would have to pay for it to be recycled, item cannot be accepted. This sale is sponsored by the

Evening Guild with assistance appreciated from family and friends. All proceeds are given to church projects or local charitable organizations. Please mark the following important dates on your calendar:

Tuesday, September 20th – 9:00 a.m. Set up

Wednesday, September 21st – 9:00 a.m. Pricing

**Thursday, September 22nd – 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Open for Shoppers**

**Friday, September 23rd – 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Open for Shoppers**

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**

Church Women United will meet on September 29th at 9:30 a.m. Light refreshments will be served. This meeting date was changed from its regular date of the 22nd due to the St. John Rummage Sale. We would like you to join us if you can. At this meeting there will be a speaker on Bread for the World. Bread for the World emphasizes the power of our voice to speak up for those who are oppressed and vulnerable. In this meeting,

-8-

perhaps we will hear about policies that have proven effective over time. 30,000 more people will suffer from hunger by 2030. What prevents us from sharing is we feel overwhelmed or we think advocacy, writing letters and meeting with Congress doesn’t work. One of our members, Carol Shanks, recently was invited to Washington D.C. to participate in a conference of Bread for the World. She will be at the next meeting along with the speaker.

Through a CWU State grant our Unit recently was able to donate, along with a private donation, enough money to Good Samaritan

House for playground equipment. Also from our recent fundraiser, we donated resources for discretionary funds for the 49 mothers and 94 children they have serviced over the recent years.

**JUSTINE WALKER MEMORIAL NUT & CANDY SALE**

It’s that time again to order your Nut and Candy Goodies, from Terri Lynn Nut and Candy. All funds raised will go to support St. John Cemetery. Look for printed brochures in the Narthex and Tower on September 11th and as an attachment in the online bulletin. Please take a brochure home and choose your products. Once you choose your products be sure to fill in your order form, which will be on the last page. Payment at the time of ordering is required. Cash and checks are acceptable. Please make checks payable to St. John Cemetery. Joan Mueller will be in Fellowship Hall after service on September 18th and 25th to take orders. If ordering remotely, you can submit orders by:

* Phone to Joan Mueller (618-830-0647)
* Email to [stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com)
* You can either drop off your payment at the church OR mail to Joan Mueller – 4480 New Poag Road, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Please **DO NOT** use the donate button on the web page as it is not set up for fund raisers. All orders and payments must be received by Sunday, October 2nd. Your order will be delivered to you at church late October/early November. If anyone is interested in taking orders outside of church, please let Joan Mueller know so you can be given brochures and order forms. We look forward to filling your orders and supporting our

cemetery and their vital works. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Joan Mueller (618-830-0647). Thank you!

-9-

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

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

JoAnn King, #113

**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)

Leonard Schaefer, #475

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

Hilde Few, #208

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, 2243 Cleveland, 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

Bonnie Fornaszewski, 200 Carlson Ave., Apt. 17D, Washington, IL 61571

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

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

Lou Hasse, 2689 Westmoreland Dr. Unit 2, G.C., IL 62040

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

Chuck King, 3258 Kilarney Dr., G.C., IL 62040

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

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

**Illinois South Conference**

Belleville Christ UCC, Pastor John (Lisa) Tinge. Belleville Concordia UCC, Rev. Joan (John) Mier. Retired Pastor, Rev. Ivan and Vivian Horn, Waterloo, IL.

-10-

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Jeremiah 18:1-11**

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: **2**“Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” **3**So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. **4**The vessel he was making of clay was

spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. **5**Then the word of the Lord

came to me: **6**Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the

potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. **7**At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, **8**but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. **9**And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, **10**but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. **11**Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

**Matthew 26:26-29**

**26**While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” **27**Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, **28**for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **29**I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

***“Have Thine Own Way, Lord!”***

***Have thine own way, Lord!***

***Have thine own way!***

***Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.***

***Mold me and make me after thy will,***

***While I am waiting yielded and still.***

***Have thine own way, Lord!***

***Have thine own way!***

***Search me and try me, Master, today!***

***Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,***

***As in thy presence humbly I bow.***

***Have thine own way, Lord!***

***Have thine own way!***

***Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!***

***Power – all power – surely is thine!***

***Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!***

***Have thine own way, Lord!***

***Have thine own way!***

***Hold o’er my being absolute sway!***

***Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see***

***Christ only, always, living in me!***

***“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.***

***“The 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.***

***“All Things Are Yours!”***

Words: Bryan Jeffery Leech. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted by permission CCLI License #1334401.

***All things are yours! We make that true***

***When we return our gifts to you.***

***And so we give, and so we share,***

***In Christ’s strong name expressing care.***

***“Give out of love,” your Word commands.***

***We are your head, your heart, your hands.***

***Your Word you underscore with deeds***

***By using us to answer needs.***

***O what a joy to give and then,***

***Out of compassion, give again.***

***You have no needs. Though that be true,***

***The gifts we share are given to you.***

***All things are yours! We make that true***

***When we return our gifts to you.***

***And so we give, and so we share,***

***In Christ’s strong name expressing care.***