

Dear Church Family and Friends,

I am so pleased how well our time together is going. Everyone is very kind and helpful and although I still do not know everyone’s names, I certainly am learning more and more every day.

Vacation Bible School was so much fun! I was very impressed with how well everyone worked together to make the time with the children meaningful. To be honest, when I was a child I loved Bible School so much that I truly believe it was one of the things that inspired me to become a minister.

The women are working hard to sort and mark items for the rummage sale in August. It takes a great deal of work and we appreciate very much what they are doing for the operation of the church.

Although I do have office hours on Wednesday, should you have a need, please do not hesitate to call me on my cell phone at 618.604.4320.

As we approach the 4th of July, may we never take our freedom for granted. 2 Corinthians 3:17 says:

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”

Blessings and Peace,
Rev. Nancy Brooks

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This year’s VBS theme was “A Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God”. It was a combined effort of the First United Methodist Church of Trenton and St. John UCC. St. John was the host this year, but the volunteers came from both churches. Twenty-six children attended and were kept busy with recreation, story time, crafts, snacks, and puppets. See the full article from our co-director Pehg Zeller in this newsletter. Enjoy these pictures!  
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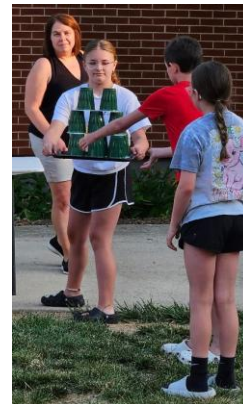
Laurie Henderson



Grace Johnson



Pehg Zeller



Lana Tobin
(far back)



Bonnie Arentsen



Outdoor Recreation



Storytelling



Snacks



Crafts

St. John Prayer List

Sandy Booth	Lois & Stan Clark	Greg Erdmann	Marian Funk
Cathy Haller	Denise Hamilton	Leon Jones	Walter Kunz
Pauline Kraemer	Marian Nelson	Orville Rinderer	Amber Robison
Rogers Family	Jenn & Hannah Thompson		Connie Zimmers

Kristofer Booth	(Sandy Booth's son)
Mike Conley	(Friend of the community)
Betty Curtis	(Leon Jones' daughter)
Ken Erdmann	(Greg Erdmann's brother)
Ken Fritz	(Cathy Haller's brother)
Rich Fritz	(Cathy Haller's father)
Richard Haller	(Cathy Haller's brother-in-law)
Roik Hockenberger	(Heather Netemeyer's father)
Brenda Luensman	(Pehg Zeller's friend)
Logan Miller	(Ron & Kimberly Tremmel's son)
Tammy Press	(Marian Funk's niece)
David Severitt	(Connie Zimmers' brother-in-law)
Connie Shildt	(Marian Funk's sister)
Carol Weshinsky	(Laura Wesselmann's mother)



Pastor Nancy is in the office on Wednesdays from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM but will make appointments if needed. Contact her by calling her cell phone at 618-604-4320. To contact Bev Adams, the church office administrator, please email her at stjohntrenton@gmail.com or call 224-9828 Monday through Friday. Bev will be on vacation June 29, 30 & July 3-6.



★ ★ ★ ★ JULY Birthdays

Shane Nollau July 2	Ollie Bair July 20
Jo Ann Turner July 3	Diane Marsh July 24
Barbara Szpila July 5	Cathy Ostrander-Biggs July 27
Taylor Fisher July 7	Kim Nollau July 28
Lois Winkler July 15	Shirley Niggli July 15
Margie Bopp July 18	Collins Gerstner July 31

★ ★ ★ ★ JULY Anniversaries

Hank & Laurie Henderson July 18
Gary & Carol Schwend July 29
Dorri & Tim Stempel July 29



**JULY COUNCIL
MEMBER ON DUTY**

Mary Lou Lurtz



Virtual Worship Services

Virtual services will continue for those wishing to attend. We want to make worship as convenient as possible for our members and the community. Please see our website or our Facebook page for the Zoom link.



- To call in with phone audio only, call
- **1-312-626-6799** and then the meeting ID:
 - **8436488110** followed by the pound sign.
 - Password, if needed, will be: **62293**
 - Masks are not required during indoor worship service (even during singing) but will still be available for those who would like one

Thank You!

- To the well-coordinated team of VBS actors, readers, helpers and singers!! (See article about VBS on page 4.)
- To all who are taking on the task of church yard work during the summer
- To our Brown Bag Lunch volunteers and coordinators who make sure the children of the community have lunches



YARD WORK VOLUNTEERS

A sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex for people to sign up for yard work. The sign-up sheet is also online through Sign Up Genius. See our e-announcements to sign up.



Trivia Corner

Questions this month continue with the book of Exodus and the story of Moses who brings the Israelites out of Egypt to a better place.



1. What did Moses see on a mountain while he was taking care of his sheep? Bonus if you can name the mountain he was on.
2. What task did God give Moses? Bonus if you know why God wanted this task done.
3. Moses felt he would not be able to convince others to help him with the task. What three signs did God show Moses and tell him to show others to give him confidence?
4. Moses is still hesitant about speaking to people. Who does God say can help him speak?
5. When this person, along with Moses, speaks to the people, and they perform the signs, what do the people do?

Answers are on page 5

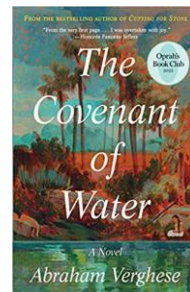
LITURGIST & COFFEE HOUR HOSTS



A sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex for liturgists and coffee hour hosts. Please sign up for a Sunday in the upcoming months.

BOOK CLUB

The next book club discussion will be Wednesday, September 13th at 1:00 PM. The book will be “The Covenant of Water” by Abraham Verghese. The book is available in the church library for check out.



CONDOLENCES



Our thoughts and prayers for the family of Rich “Sticky” Sappington who passed away in June. Our prayers are especially with his wife, Betty Sappington, his daughter Lisa Groennert and son-in-law John Groennert during their time of grief.



Vacation Bible School



The list of people to thank is extensive. First, we want to thank our financial donors: Ann and Don Stalcup and the family of the late Beryl Kuhn. We also thank the many volunteers who did not turn in their individual bills. VBS would not be possible without this support.

Leading off each evening was the dynamic team of Laurie Henderson, Ana VanGorkom, and Bonnie Arentsen. Laurie was the Top Chef, Ana played the part of DJ Cupcake, and Bonnie was the song leader. They worked in conjunction with Dustin Atwood who ran the sound system and kept up with the various videos.

Billie Rinderer and Jackie VanGorkom made certain the craft corner was functioning and even trained two young girls to do it next year. Lana, Jared, and Kaeden Tobin were in charge of recreation and found ways to keep the kids moving so as not to be bored.

Mary Lou Lurtz, Deloris Sprock, Margie Bopp, and Doreene Elmore fed the children each evening with themed snacks which followed the lesson of the evening. They were assisted by Grace Johnson, our Praying Hot Dog...a first at St. John.

Marie Bair told the story of manna and quail the old-fashioned way on Monday evening: the children sat at her knee while she recounted this old Bible story. Tuesday's story about feeding the 5000, was a play starring Jenn Thompson, Hannah Thompson, Maisyn Wittenstrom, Alex Reinhardt, Elizabeth White, and Ana VanGorkom. Another play on Wednesday night, "Jesus cooks the catch of the day". rounded out the lessons. This play starred Louann Kahrhoff, Ana VanGorkom, Roxanne Kohlbrecher, Marcy Buckles, Colby Buckles, and Teresa Haas.



We also had a group of "kid herders" who guided the children from station to station and kept them on schedule. Those volunteers were Heather Johnson, Anita Peters, Katie Timmermann, Courtney Davis, Rose Trimble, Kim Tremmel, Sandra Long, Rebecca Stack, and Marie Bair. Cathy Haller stepped in to handle registration each evening with the help of Billie and Jackie.

All of this happened because of people volunteering to do things behind the scenes. That list includes Tom Kuhn, Mike and Mickey Williamson, Curt and Garrett Wesselmann, Dustin Atwood, Jeanne Heuberger, Hank Henderson, Lonna Patton, Steve Feldmann, and the man who is usually "voluntold", John Zeller.

The secretaries at each church played their part. Joni Kloeckner and Bev Adams always step up to do whatever is asked for VBS or anything needed at church. Both pastors, Pastor Rena from FUMC, and Pastor Nancy, sabbatical pastor at St. John, offered their spiritual help and guidance all week.

Finally, I want to thank Virginia Schoene, my co-director: partly for talking me into this position and mostly for keeping me moving forward on it since January. She kept excellent notes of VBS last year so all we had to do was follow her playbook. She is a doll.

Thank you to everyone for making VBS happen and making it successful

Pehg Zeller, Co Director





Women's J.O.Y. Fellowship

Kindercottage Donations - The next trip won't be until mid-August. That trip will be for school supplies. Anything your child needs for school is needed at Kindercottage and supplies can come in during July and August. The vestibule is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays (except 4th of July) for your convenience but if you find that it's closed during office hours, give the office a call at 224-9828 so the door can be opened for you. Some of the school supplies are given to children who need them for regular school; other things are kept in the building for use before and after school by the older children and for use by the preschoolers who have class at Kindercottage. Your donations help the staff to stretch the budget and make a big difference for the children. Our monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, June 6th at 1:00 PM.

RUMMAGE SALE NEWS

The vestibule will be open from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays (except 4th of July) for rummage sale donations to be dropped off. We will also need workers who can help sort items from 1 until 3 PM on the drop-off days. The rummage sale is a church fundraiser so any help with sorting or organizing would be greatly appreciated. If you live in Trenton and are having a hard time with mobility, give the office a call to make arrangements for a pick-up. Please no large items at this time. The rummage sale dates are August 10, 11 & 12th.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



The Men's Fellowship will not be at Good Ol' Days in New Baden on July 4th for their monthly Fellowship Breakfast due to the Independence Day holiday. If you have any questions you can contact Leon Jones, Gary Kniepkamp or Hank Henderson.

Brown Bag Lunch

The BBL program has started again on Tuesdays at 10:30 AM until August 8th, which will be our last day. We have our volunteers signed up on Tuesdays but if you would like to help make sandwiches or donate treats, let Pehg Zeller know. If you would want to give a donation, checks can be made out to St. John with BBL on the memo line. So far we have been making almost 50 lunches each week so the need is out there. Thanks to everyone who helps or donates. It truly is beneficial to children in our community and it's wonderful that we have Base 215 as a central location where children can pick up lunches.

Thanks
for Your
Help!



Council Meeting Highlights – June 13, 2023

- We welcomed Pastor Nancy Brooks for the summer sabbatical.
- Work continues on storm damage repairs. We have a lead on a company to repair the broken stained glass window in the sanctuary.
- Work is starting on preparation for the August Rummage Sale.

Next council meeting date is Tuesday, July 18 at 6:00 PM.



Trivia Corner Answers



1. Moses saw an angel in a flame of fire out of a bush, which was blazing but not being consumed. Bonus: Mount Horeb Exodus 3:1-2
2. Moses was told by God to go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt. Bonus: Moses was given this task because God had heard the cry of the Israelites and how they were oppressed by the Egyptians. Exodus 3:9-10
3. God changed Moses' staff into a snake and back into a staff, God changed Moses' hand to look diseased and then changed it back, God told Moses to pour water from the Nile onto the ground to make it change to blood. Exodus 4:1-9
4. God says Moses' brother, Aaron, will help him speak to others. Exodus 4:13-15
5. When Aaron spoke the words God had given to Moses and they performed the signs, the people bowed down and worshipped God. Exodus 4:30-31

Rainbow Preschool News

Tuesday is the weekday for Summer Preschool so students can keep up with the skills they learned during the school year. Bella Johnson also offered her time and abilities as a helper this month. The students enjoyed her reading to them and helping them with activities. Thanks to the VBS teachers for leaving the Food Party “truck” in the classroom for us to use. Playing outside, working on projects and play time with friends in the classroom is great summertime fun.

There is still room in both summer classes for children ages 3-5. Class times are 8-10 AM and 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Cost is \$20 every Tuesday. We are still enrolling students for the 2023-2024 school year. Contact Misty at rainbowpreschooltrentonil@gmail.com to get enrollment information.

