

Dear Church Members and Friends,



I was at a meeting the other day at St. John in Lebanon and above the door to the kitchen was a sign in large letters that said, “Joyfully Working Together for the Lord.” I immediately thought of all of you fine people at St. John in Trenton.

During my time here I have seen you joyfully work together, whether it is for major events or just to help one another during coffee hour after church. There is a lovely Christian fellowship that defines this church.

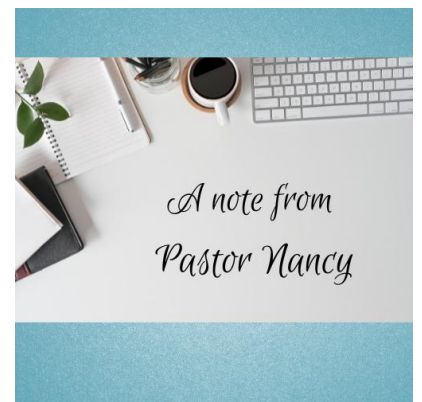
We have journeyed together these past few months and now our paths will be taking different courses. I will do a little traveling, as well as continue to fill the pulpit for ministers who are on leave or taking vacation. You will continue to be the church with Pastor Christy as your pastor and teacher. Perhaps I will be called back to your church to fill the pulpit when Pastor Christy takes vacation next year. I am sure that I will see many of you again.

There is no doubt that I have been richly blessed to serve you. May God bless all of you.

Rev. Nancy Brooks
Sabbatical Pastor

And finally...

I want to thank the dear church family and friends of St. John for the lovely reception following my final worship service on August 27. I was so touched to see a beautiful cake with “God Bless Pastor Nancy” on the top. I absolutely will always cherish the gifts that were given to me. There was a crystal cross, Christmas ornament with St. John’s church on it as well as a coffee mug with St. John church on the front and a generous gift certificate to Urban Farmhouse. Of course, the fellowship following the service is always very special. Thank you so very much for your kindness and generosity.



Fondly,
Rev. Nancy Brooks

St. John Prayer List

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

Mike Conley	(Friend of the community)
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)
Bob Marsh & Family	(Friends of the community)
Logan Miller	(Ron & Kimberly Tremmel's son)
Tammy Press	(Marian Funk's niece)
Connie Shildt	(Marian Funk's sister)
Gary & Carol Weshinsky	(Laura Wesselmann's father & mother)



Pastor Christy will be in the office Tuesday - Friday from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM but will make appointments if needed. Contact her by calling her cell phone at 618-973-3040. To contact Bev Adams, the church office administrator, please email her at stjohntrenton@gmail.com or call 224-9828 Monday through Friday.



Birthday Blessings

Connie Zimmers Sept. 1	Donna Graul Sept. 16
Kevin Kunz Sept. 2	Madeline Truscott Sept. 17
Betty Sappington Sept. 5	Dan Athmer Sept. 18
Tyler Davis Sept. 8	Kameron Fisher Sept. 19
Lana Tobin Sept. 8	Collin Henderson Sept. 20
Emily Fisher Sept. 10	Bella Johnson Sept. 23
Mickey Williamson Sept. 10	Maggie Gerstner Sept. 25
Patricia Bair Sept. 11	Heather Johnson Sept. 25
Dorri Stempel Sept. 12	Marilyn Wehrle Sept. 25
Eileen Hoffmann Sept. 13	Dustin Atwood Sept. 28
Derek Von Bokel Sept. 13	Brian Nelson Sept. 30
Deanna Lucas Sept. 15	



Brittany & Ryan Wuebbles Sept. 2
Kim & Shane Nollau Sept. 11
Lois & John Roach Sept. 15
Stan & Lois Clark Sept. 17



**SEPTEMBER COUNCIL
MEMBER ON DUTY**



Ron Tremmel

Virtual Worship Services

Virtual services 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**



- To Pastor Nancy for leading us during our sabbatical time
- To all the mowers, and people who help out with

the maintenance and beauty of the church in spite of the heat

- To Steve Wallace for assembling the new playhouse for Rainbow Preschool. The children are already enjoying it. The old playhouse was damaged by a storm in April and was removed. A new playhouse was purchased with an anonymous donation and a donation from the family of Beryl Kuhn.

DELEGATES NEEDED



Illinois South Conference
October 21, 2023
St. Peter's UCC, Red Bud, IL

If you would like to be a delegate representing St. John UCC at the Illinois South Conference (ISC) Annual Meeting and for other ISC events and meetings, please contact the office. The

Annual Meeting will be Saturday, October 21 at St. Peter's UCC, 403 Madison St., Red Bud, IL 62278. Registration deadline is October 9th. This is an opportunity to be involved in the wider church and to see how it strengthens the mission and ministry of St. John UCC.

Trivia Corner



Questions this month continue with the book of Exodus after Pharaoh lets the Israelites go. God guides the people, but Pharaoh is still not done with them.

1. Why did God guide the Israelites in a roundabout way and into the wilderness?
2. What two kinds of "pillars" did God use to guide the Israelites? Bonus if you can say how one of the pillars protected the people later in the story.
3. After the Israelites left, Pharaoh's heart was hardened by God again. What did Pharaoh do?
4. What was the reaction to Pharaoh's actions on the part of the Israelites? On the part of Moses? On the part of God?
5. What was the result of all these things regarding the Egyptians, the Israelites, Moses and God?
6. What was the reaction of the Israelites to all that happened?

Answers are on page 6

Condolences



Our sympathy to the family of Ralph Von Bokel who passed away August 25th. Ralph was the father of Jeff Von Bokel and father-in-law of Teresa Von Bokel. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or Epilepsy Foundation and sent to Moss Funeral Home, 535 N. 5th St. Breese, IL 62230.

ROBOTICS



The Wesclin Gear Heads Robotics team will again be using the small, former youth room downstairs in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays at 2:00 PM. They use the room for equipment storage and practice for robotic competitions. Last school year they won at Regionals and made it to State competition! We wish them all the success this school year.

BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will be meeting Wednesday, September 13th to discuss *The Covenant of Water*, which is in the library for check out.



Women's J.O.Y. Fellowship

John Zeller was the go-to-guy to deliver our August donations to Kindercottage.

Because of the rummage sale set up, there was not time to catalogue everything that was sent. There were plenty of brand new school supplies. Any donated crayons to the rummage sale were packed up and sent to Kindercottage to be used in its after school program. There was also toilet tissue and paper towels sent along with some PopTarts, and a generous monetary donation. After the rummage sale, the children's books that are leftover will go to Kindercottage for its lending library. ***In September, the staff has requested baby wipes, liquid hand soap, paper plates, and paper napkins.*** The next trip to Kindercottage will be the third week of September.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The next Fellowship Breakfast will be Tuesday, September 5 at 8:00 AM at Good Ol' Days in New Baden. Join the group for some great conversation, food and fellowship. Everyone is welcome!



Brown Bag Lunch Report

It has been several weeks since the first Brown Bag Lunches were served out of Base 215 for 2023. A total of 1,941 lunches were served by the five churches participating in this mission.



Tuesday was St. John's day and we packed 347 lunches in ten weeks. The 4th of July was a Tuesday so we were a week short of the other churches. St. John spent \$490.16 on the lunches. This money was taken from a grant administered by Jenn Thompson and money that was donated this year and a few years ago by the members of St. John. Our cost was kept down because we had the benefit of one less week, some food items left from VBS, and donations of sweets and veggies

from the people who packed lunches. The biggest cost savings was ham from the Green Bean Pantry that lasted for six weeks. Many thanks to everyone, big and small, who packed lunches, donated, or delivered lunches this summer.

Wurstmarkt Pies

We will again serve only apple and cherry pies to make it easier to fill orders for the Drive-Up Wurstmarkt. Berkemann's Bakery in New Baden will make them and deliver them to us. There is a sign-up sheet to purchase pies in the Narthex. The pies are \$12.72 each. To make things easier for record keeping, please pay at the time of ordering. Please make checks payable to St. John and put "PIES" on the memo line.

The payment can go in the regular collection or sent to the office. If you prefer to make your own apple or cherry pies, or purchase them elsewhere, we are happy to have them. If you would also put your name and number of pies at the bottom of the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, we can keep track of how many pies to expect. Please have all pies to the basement of the church by 8:30 AM on the day of the Wurstmarkt, October 1.



Quilt & Basket Raffle

Quilt raffle tickets have already gone on sale. Some were sold at the Rummage Sale in August so we are off to a good start on that part of the Wurstmarkt. The raffle has always included things like gift baskets, other items for home and personal use, as well as gift cards. Now is the time to bring them to church for the raffle. Small items such as gift cards should be taken to the office or handed to Margie or Pehg for safekeeping until the day of the Wurstmarkt. Please have these items



labeled. Larger baskets and other things can be placed in the library. There is a sign in sheet ready. Please list a short description of the item and your name. If you wish to give things anonymously, please list it that way. It is helpful if all raffle items are in the library by the Friday before the Wurstmarkt, September 29, so there is time to catalogue everything.

Raffle tickets are available in the Narthex. All tickets will be orange this year. If you want raffle tickets to sell to your friends and neighbors, please help yourself or let the office know and tickets will be delivered to you as soon as possible. Tickets and money need to be returned to the church by the day of the Wurstmarkt.

RAFFLE TICKET SALES

We will sell raffle tickets for the quilt and baskets, at the IGA on two days in September. On Tuesday, September 5th from noon until 4:30 pm and on Friday, September 22, from 3: 00 until 6:00 PM. It is an easy job and you can sign up with a buddy to make the time go faster.



Rainbow Preschool News

Hello everyone and welcome to the new school year! By the time you read this we will have completed the first two weeks of school. As always the numbers and changes to the class rosters have been swift and ever changing. Our students have been working hard and have completed numerous projects. They have completed alphabet, counting, color by number, August and September calendar projects, and a few cutting projects.

We would like to welcome the following students to our *Monday/Wednesday/Friday class*: Addilyn W., Andrew D., Brody D., Brycen K., Callie K., Cam D., Cam R, Charles C., Clare B., Jemma S., Jett L., Kinsley A., Oliver C., Owen B., Phoebe R., Piper R., Rydon K., Shane F., and Trent L.

We would also like to welcome the following students to our *Tuesday/Thursday class*: Ashton P., Aubrey K., Blair R., Ceci H., Emerie O., Ezlynn B., Maren K., Naomi R., Piersyn K., Reese L., Remi K., Savannah P., Steven B.R., Wade K., Walter B., and Warner K.

Ms. Lisa has returned and will be assisting in both classes again this year.



Thank you to Pastor Nancy for coming in to read to our MWF students. Pastor Nancy has been filling in while Pastor Christy has been on sabbatical for the summer.



Thank you to the preschool board for their continuous support and guidance as we get the new school year started. Thank you to preschool board member Steve Wallace for putting together the new playhouse and thank you to Hank Henderson for fixing the slide on the big playhouse.

Thank you to the parents for being patient with us and making drop offs and pick-ups run smoothly and for donating snack items and other items for our classroom.

Happy August birthday to the following students: Phoebe R. on 8/8, Cam R. on 8/9, Piersyn K. on 8/27, and Shane F. on 8/28.

We do have a few spots still available in the MWF class and in the Tu/Th class. If you know anyone looking to enroll their child in a preschool program please have them reach out to me by email rainbowpreschooltrentonil@gmail.com, contacting the church office, or sending me a message on our Facebook page.

Reminder

Just a few reminders:

- If your child is absent, please email me or call the church to let us know.
- Book orders will be sent home and will be due in September.
- No school- Monday, September 4th- Labor Day
- September tuition will be due on Thursday September 7th and Friday September 8th.
- If you ever have any questions or concerns, please email me.
- Check our Facebook page for daily updates and to see what our students have been doing.

We are looking forward to another great school year!

Misty



Council Meeting Highlights – July 18, 2023

- Storm repairs are completed and the gate on the north side of playground is installed.
- We will continue to research safe and affordable options for the south side of playground.
- We can have up to 3 delegates for the annual conference meeting so we are opening the opportunity for delegates to congregation. If interested please let the office know.
- We will begin to investigate a long-range financial plan.
- Next council meeting date is Tuesday, September 19 at 6:00 PM.

Trivia Corner Answers

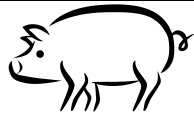


1. To avoid an on-going war which would change the Israelites' minds about being free and then they would return to Egypt, "God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness bordering the Red Sea." Exodus 13:17 & 18

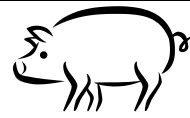


2. God used a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Bonus: the pillar of cloud was guided by God's angel to protect the people as they crossed the Red Sea. Exodus 13:21 & 14:19-20
3. Pharaoh commanded the Egyptians to pursue the Israelites with chariots and horses. Exodus 14:9
4. The Israelites cried out to God and said to Moses, "It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." Moses told them to "not be afraid, stand firm" and that "the Lord will fight for you." God tells Moses to "lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go onto the sea on dry ground." Exodus 14:12-16
5. The Egyptians followed the Israelites into the Red Sea where God slowed the chariots and horses of the Egyptians and had Moses return the sea to its normal depth after the Israelites had passed by. "The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained." Exodus:14:21-29
6. The Israelites saw the power of God and so "believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses." Exodus 14:31

INFO FOR SUNDAY, OCT. 1, 2023



WURSTMARKT



- Times for the dinner will be 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. It will be drive-thru only.
- Ticket price is \$14 per dinner.
- Beef will be the second selection of meat.
- Applesauce will be made on 2 days: **Saturday, September 16th beginning at 9 am**, (light lunch provided) and **Thursday, September 28th at 10 am** (lunch provided.) It is recommended that you bring your own favorite knife with your name on it.
- Applesauce will be canned in pints and quarts. We will need mostly pint jars but quart jars can also be donated.
- Sign-up sheets for pie donations and applesauce/Wurstmarkt workers are in the narthex.
- Workers are needed for preparation on **Saturday, September 30th at 8 am** and before and after church on **Sunday Oct. 1st**, the day of the dinner. Clean up will begin at 3:00 PM until finished.
- Workers needed: cooks, runners, baggers for carry outs, the drive thru and ticket sellers. (Call Mary Lou Lurtz at 618-363-4691 for the area you would like to work.)
- **Only apple or cherry pies will be ordered from Berkemann's Bakery @ \$12.72 each.** Members can pay as they order them and each family is asked to donate 2 pies. An order sheet is in the narthex.
- We will have the quilt raffle along with the congregation's donated baskets and single items. We need to have all basket/single items at the church by September 29 in order to get them catalogued. We will also put pictures of the raffle items on Facebook and the website as they come in.

Committee members:

Jo-Allison Rogers – Chairman

Pehg Zeller – Co-chair

Mary Lou Lurtz – Co-Chair/Workers

Margie Bopp – Co-chair, Raffle & Kitchen

Bev Adams – Publicity

Tim Bair – Treasurer

This will again be a totally drive-thru Wurstmarkt. We will be using the alley and parking lot for two drive-through lanes as we did last year. It worked very well and customers handled it ok.

All are encouraged to support this effort as the profit from the Wurstmarkt is very important for the budget of St John. Every member's contribution by their donation of time and basket items is deeply appreciated. As we come together for this annual tradition, may we grow stronger through the fellowship that will be felt throughout the occasion. At the annual meeting we will assess the Wurstmarkt for next year.

Country Store – We will have a Country Store on the day before the Wurstmarkt, Saturday, September 30, from 9 AM until noon. We will sell raw pork sausage and applesauce. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase. Tickets you have sold can be turned in that morning also. The Country Store will be out in front of the church under the portico with raffle ticket sales just inside the vestibule. We will also have fleece blankets for sale. We would appreciate donations of homemade craft items, so if you have something to contribute to the Country Store, please have non-perishable items to the church on **Thursday, September 28** (applesauce making day) and perishable things before 9:00 am on **Saturday, September 30.**

Thank you

Puzzle!

For this cryptogram, use the clues to decode
Proverbs 3:5, NRSV.



CLUES:

Y = T, D = I



Y K T P Y D X Y J Z

— — — — — — — — — — —

V Q K R F D Y J O V V

— — — — — — — — — — — — — —

C Q T K J Z O K Y, O X R

— — — — — — — — — —, — — — —

R Q X Q Y K Z V C Q X

— — — — — — — — — — — — —

C Q T K Q F X D X P D L J Y.

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — .

Answer: Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5, NRSV