



*“People crave what they have always craved:*

*to be known and loved, to belong somewhere. Community is such a basic human need. It helps us weather virtually every storm. If Jesus’ basic marching orders were 1.) to love God and 2.) to love people, then the fruit of that obedience includes being loved by God and loved by people. We give and get here. According to Jesus, the love of God and people is the substance of life.”*

— Jen Hatmaker

Beloved Church Family,

November marks the beginning of the Holiday Season in the United States and many other places around the world. People of many different faiths celebrate festivals and holidays this time of year. For Christian communities like ours, over the next two months, we will gather around tables, sanctuaries, Christmas trees, hearths, and flickering candles as we celebrate things like Gratitude, Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. We’ll kneel before a baby’s crib and follow the glow of a guiding star. We’ll sing beloved carols, eat favorite foods, see family and friends, and give of ourselves for the good of others.



As young children, we experience this time of year primarily as a time of receiving. This is perfectly normal for this stage of development. If

you think back, can you remember a Christmas when you received a particularly exciting gift (whether expensive or not)? I remember vividly the year I got a purple bike for Christmas, and my parents tricked me by hiding it on the front porch instead of putting it by the tree. I was so excited for the snow to thaw enough that I could take my bike out for a spin. I also remember the year I received a small, wooden Jacob’s Ladder toy that brought me so much joy for years and years.



As we grow up, however, the holiday season transforms into much more than a time for receiving. We learn to value giving for the joy it brings to others and the good feelings it gives us in return. As an adult, I adore creating gifts for others or finding the perfect gift that will be meaningful and helpful to each person on my list. I am much more excited about watching my family and friends open gifts I’ve given or enjoy treats I’ve made than I am about my own gifts under the tree. (Although, I must admit, I am still rather excited about those with my name on them, too).

Over the years that I have been blessed to walk alongside you as pastor, I have seen and experienced the many ways this congregation has a heart for giving. Following the example of countless generations of saints before you (and the example of Christ himself), the members and friends of St. John live out their faith generously – by giving of their time, talent, and treasure for the good of those in need and for the ministry of Christ’s church. By living as a true community – interconnected, loving, and dedicated – St. John continues to live and move as the hands of Christ in our community.

Leaning into the generosity of heart that is present here, during this Holiday Season, we have several opportunities to give of ourselves and spread the joy that giving brings. We are...

- **Collecting items to fill Thanksgiving Baskets** for those in need through the Green Bean Food Pantry. We are excited to be collecting for this cause again. Please bring any of these items that you wish to donate to our church by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. We will be delivering the items to the Food Pantry right after worship that day.
  - o 25 Boxes of Mashed Potatoes
  - o 25 Cans of Green Beans
  - o 17 Boxes of Refrigerated Pie Crusts

- **Collecting pajamas for the children at Kindercottage** during Advent. Sizes 18m, 2t, 3t, 4t, 5t, and 6x. These will be collected at church and delivered on December 19<sup>th</sup>. More information about this collection is in the weekly announcements.
- **Collecting food items for the Snack Pack Program.** This ministry currently feeds 220 children in Clinton Country each weekend during the school year. This advent, we have the opportunity to help children have access to easy-to-cook or no-prep foods. We will begin collecting these items on November 26<sup>th</sup> (Hanging of the Greens) and will collect them through Christmas Eve. Each week, we will stack our donations in a designated spot in the sanctuary and watch it grow throughout Advent. **(For safety reasons, please do not send items containing peanut butter).**
  - o Mac and Cheese Cups,
  - o Chef Boyardee Cups
  - o Rice a Roni Cups
  - o Ramen Noodles
  - o Cup o Noodles
  - o Mini Cereal Boxes
  - o Cereal Bars
  - o Pudding Cups
  - o Fruit Cups

It is such a blessing to be able to come together as a community and give of ourselves for those in need - especially during this time of year. We have the opportunity to share not only items, but also the community of Christ and love of God, which can help us navigate the twists and turns of life. Together, may we share the fullness of all this season can bring.

*In Love and Hope,  
Pastor Christy Smith*



## Totenfest



We will be observing Totenfest on Sunday, November 5th at the 9:30 worship service. We will be remembering Ryan Haller and Pat Bair, who passed on this year, with the lighting of special candles. If you would like to remember someone who has passed on this year, please contact the church office by phone 618-224-9828 or email [stjohntrenton@gmail.com](mailto:stjohntrenton@gmail.com).

## Thanksgiving Service

The Trenton Council of Churches will be sponsoring the Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service/Appreciation Award service on Wednesday, November 15th at 7:00 PM hosted by St. John. The DARE Program will receive this year's Appreciation Award. Chief Joellenbeck and officer Mora will be asked to accept the award on behalf of the department. We hope you will be able to join others in the Trenton community as we give thanks to God, recognize helpers in our community and appreciate all of the abundant blessings given to us.



# St. John Prayer List

Lois & Stan Clark	Greg Erdmann	Marian Funk	Cathy Haller
Denise Hamilton	Pauline Kraemer	Marian Nelson	Orville Rinderer
Rogers Family	Connie Zimmers		

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)
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)



A friend of Kim Tremmel's, a young man who is struggling with depression and anxiety, asks for prayers and direction in seeking proper help to heal things from his past.



Pastor Christy will be in the office Tuesday - Friday from 9:00 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](mailto:stjohntrenton@gmail.com) or call 224-9828 Monday through Friday.



## NOVEMBER Birthdays

<b>Larry Biggs</b> Nov. 1	<b>Frank Kunz</b> Nov. 15
<b>Dwight Faitz</b> Nov. 3	<b>Kathryn Klein Schultz</b> Nov. 24
<b>Samuel Lucas</b> Nov. 6	<b>Tim Stempel</b> Nov. 26
<b>Bonnie Arentsen</b> Nov. 8	<b>Tom Louden</b> Nov. 28
<b>Anthony Robison</b> Nov. 8	<b>Shelby Atwood</b> Nov. 30
<b>Darrell Bair</b> Nov. 15	<b>Marie Bair</b> Nov. 30

## NOVEMBER Anniversaries

**Deb & Dan Athmer** Nov. 7  
**Lana & Jarrod Tobin** Nov. 14  
**Tish & Christopher Bates** Nov. 15



### NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEMBER ON DUTY

Lonna Patton



# 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**

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• *To all the wonderful workers who did mowing, edging, pruning, flower planting and yard work in general this past year. Your work was noticed and appreciated!*

- *To those who helped with and participated in the Blood Drive*
- *To everyone who contributed to the "Noisy Offering" for Hoyleton which was taken to the Annual Meeting and to those who contributed to our OCWM 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offering in October*

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## OFFICE CLOSURES



The office will be closed on Friday, November 10 for Veterans' Day and also Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for Thanksgiving.

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**Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 5th so set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night**



## Trivia Corner



The Israelites are still in the wilderness with Moses leading them. Questions this month are from Exodus 19 and concern how God talks through Moses to get the people to understand what God expects of them.

1. From what mountain did God call to Moses?
2. What did God tell Moses the people needed to do in order to become "treasured possessions?"
3. When the people agreed, what task did God tell Moses have them do to prepare for God's arrival?
4. God said he would come down to the people after three days. What did God say the people should not do or they would die?
5. What happened when God came down the mountain to meet the people?
6. God summons Moses to come up to the top of the mountain. Who does God tell Moses to bring with him?

Answers are on page 6

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## Condolences

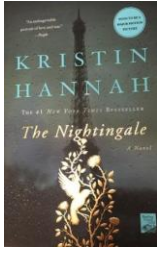
Our prayers are with the family of Dennis Haller who passed away October 3. Dennis was the brother of the late Ted Haller and brother-in-law of Cathy Haller. A private memorial service is planned at the National Cemetery in St. Louis.



We also offer condolences to the family of Charles Huelsmann who passed away October 10 at Oak Hill Care Center in Waterloo, IL. Charles was the brother of the late Miriam Huelsmann. The family has requested that memorials be made to St. John, UCC in Trenton.

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## BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will be meeting on Wednesday, November 8, to discuss the book, "The Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah which is in the library for check out.



# ◆◆◆ 2023 Wurstmarkt Report ◆◆◆

	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
<b>Income</b>						
Ticket Sales	\$ 4,688.00	\$ 2,970.00	\$ 2,479.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Carryout sales	incl. above	\$ 1,570.00	\$ 2,123.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drive Thru	\$ 1,994.00	\$ 1,512.00	\$ 1,746.00	\$ 5,592.00	\$ 5,824.00	\$ 6,832.00
Quilt Raffle	\$ 1,406.00	\$ 1,334.52	\$ 1,678.10	\$ 1,392.00	\$ 1,877.00	\$ 1,677.00
Donations	\$ 758.50	\$ 677.68	\$ 602.50	\$ 677.00	\$ 2,480.83	\$ 2,392.87
Meat Sales	\$ 486.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 205.00	\$ 1,129.00	all in misc.	all in misc
Country Store	\$ 773.75	\$ 1,119.25	\$ 1,030.50	misc/meat	\$ 654.50	\$ 635.50
Misc. Food Sales	\$ 902.25	\$ 1,043.94	\$ 532.00	\$ 664.00	\$ 1,338.00	\$ 1,028.25
	\$11,008.50	\$10,427.39	\$10,396.10	\$ 9,454.10	\$12,174.33	\$12,565.62
<b>Expense</b>	\$ 4,333.66	\$ 4,808.48	\$ 5,238.98	\$ 3,703.18	\$ 5,114.80	\$ 4,859.04
<b>Profit</b>	\$ 6,674.84	\$ 5,618.91	\$ 5,157.12	\$ 5,750.82	\$ 7,059.53	\$ 7,706.58

There was a follow-up meeting on October 8th and we appreciate all those who attended. According to the accounting (and that there was no leftover sausage), this Wurstmarkt was a great success! A word of note about the total: there is still applesauce being sold so the final profit that will be published in the Annual Report will be a bit more than what is shown here.

## Women's J.O.Y. Fellowship

THANKS  
FROM THE  
HEART

Only four things on the Wish List for Kindercottage in November: **size 5 diapers, paper towels, toilet tissue, and unscented baby wipes.** Those things will be delivered on November 21. We always take PJs in December. The babies are sizes 18 months to 2T. Bigger kids are 2T, 3T, 4T, and 6X. Finding unisex pajamas makes it easier to be sure everyone gets a pair that fits and has a new pair for Christmas morning. Remember those days with your kids? The December trip will be on December 19. The vestibule is closed on Tuesdays until November 14 but things can be dropped off on Sundays and any day by gaining access through the office. Thanks from the kids at Kindercottage.

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, the Trenton Tumbleweeds used the church facilities to host the District V Illinois Garden Club with over 70 people attending. Members of the Women's J.O.Y. along with helped immensely so the Trenton Tumbleweeds would like to thank Pehg Zeller, Mary Lou Lurtz, Lonna Patton, and Elaine Hoffmann, (along with Steve Feldmann and Dustin Atwood) for everything they did to make sure things ran smoothly and showing generous hospitality.

## Hanging of the Greens

The Worship Committee invites everyone to help decorate the church on Sunday, November 26th following the worship service. To make things easier, boxes will need to be pulled out from under the stairwell and placed in the areas to be decorated. Pulling out the decorations can be done anytime during the week of November 20-25. If you can help with that task, please let the church office know. Thank you for your help in making the church festive!



# FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The next Fellowship Breakfast will be Tuesday, November 7 at 8:00 AM at Good Ol' Days in New Baden. Come join us for an enjoyable breakfast with others. It's a time for great conversation, food and fellowship. Everyone is welcome!



## Council Meeting Highlights – October 24, 2023

- St. John UCC will be hosting the Trenton Council of Churches Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 PM.
- Salvation Army bell ringing will be December 5 and 6.
- Worship Committee is working on ideas to improve worship and some Advent activities.
- Next council meeting date is Tuesday, November 21 at 6:00 PM.



## Trivia Corner Answers

1. "They journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain." Exodus 19:2
2. "Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples." Exodus 19:5
3. "Have them wash their clothes and prepare for the third day." Exodus 19:10 & 11
4. "Be careful not to go up the mountain or to touch the edge of it. Any who touch the mountain shall be put to death." Exodus 19:12
5. "On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain and a blast of a trumpet so loud that all the people who were in the camp trembled...Now all of Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the Lord had descended upon it in fire, the smoke went up like the smoke of a kiln, while the whole mountain shook violently." Exodus 19:16-18.
6. "The Lord said to him, 'Go down, then come back up and bring Aaron with you.'" Exodus 19:24

## Rainbow Preschool News



Happy Halloween! It's crazy to think that the month of October has come and gone so quickly. We have completed two months of school and our students have learned so much already.

Our students have had a busy month of learning about fire safety, completing numerous alphabet and counting projects, completed a ghost and pumpkin craft project to celebrate Halloween, and many cutting projects.

Our older class has been working hard learning how to write their first and last names, identifying numbers to 20, their birthdates, letters, writing their letters and numbers, and so much more. Our younger students have also been working hard on writing their first names and some have

started learning to write their last names. We continue to work on learning our letters of the alphabet, identifying numbers to 15, and birthdays.

Pastor Christy stopped in and read the books “*Room on the Broom*” and “*We’re Going On A Ghost Hunt*.” We always look forward to having Pastor Christy come in to read to our classes and the students always enjoy the books she brings to read.

A huge thank you goes out to Sugar Creek Fire Department for taking the time out of their busy schedule to stop by to visit and talk to both classes about fire safety. The kids listened, answered their questions, and got to sit inside the fire truck. We look forward to having them visit again next fall.

Thank you to Monique Liguori-Weinberg for donating pumpkins to both classes. Each student was able to pick out a pumpkin to decorate and take it home just in time for Halloween. Happy October birthday to Addilyn W. on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, Charles C. on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Walter B. on October 28<sup>th</sup>

We celebrated Halloween by wearing our pajamas to school and watching a movie.

## ***A few reminders for the month of November***

- ✓ With the weather changing please make sure your child has a jacket. Weather permitting; we will continue to go outside.
- ✓ Tuition is due on Friday November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ No school Friday November 10<sup>th</sup> - Veteran’s Day observed.
- ✓ Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> is share day - Students are to bring or draw something they are thankful for.
- ✓ Wednesday November 22nd, Thursday November 23rd, and Friday November 24<sup>th</sup> - No School for Thanksgiving break
- ✓ Christmas Concert-TBD

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Ms. Misty



# 2023 Wurstmarkt Gift Baskets

Item #	Description	Donated By	Recipient	
1.	Queen Size Quilt		Jenn Vrell	1
2.	Happy Fall Pillow	Pehg Zeller	Bob Vanniger	2
3.	Santa	Margie Bopp	Judy Alberternst	3
4.	Fun & Games	Margie Bopp	Herb Heinen	4
5.	Products of the Harvest	Margie Bopp	Adrian Nelson	5
6.	Ghosts	Margie Bopp	Sinjon Zimmer	6
7.	Salad Spin Bowl	Margie Bopp	Hank Henderson	7
8.	St. Louis Blues Basket	The Tremmels	Jarrold Tobin	8
9.	Frozen	Margie Bopp	Caroline Hamilton	9
10.	Spiderman 1	Margie Bopp	John Fox	10
11.	Spiderman 2	Margie Bopp	Gerilyn Kruep	11
12.	Purple Fleece Blanket	Margie Bopp	Margie Bopp	12
13.	Top Hat	Margie Bopp	Jay Hilmes	13
14.	Orange & Black Wreath	Mickey Williamson	Cindy Zurliene	14
15.	Halloween Bucket	Teresa Von Bokel	Connie Schildt	15
16.	Bath & Body Box	Teresa Von Bokel	The Hendersons	16
17.	Purple Pumpkin	Teresa Von Bokel	Jill Rogers	17
18.	Orange Pumpkin	Teresa Von Bokel	Bob Koentz	18
19.	Flower Basket	Teresa Von Bokel	Gerilyn Kruep	19
20.	Case of Ski	Marian Funk	Cody Funk	20
21.	Case of Ski	Marian Funk	Cindy Lienau	21
22.	Case of Ski	Marian Funk	Beverly Adams	22
23.	Case of Ski	Marian Funk	Dori Mason	23
24.	Tan Fleece Blanket	Margie Bopp	Jay Hilmes	24
25.	Fall Basket	Margie Bopp	Deb Athmer	25
26.	Snowmen	Margie Bopp	Susan Drees	26
27.	Americana	Margie Bopp	Jenn Thompson	27
28.	Angel Crafts	Denise Hamilton	Deb West	28
29.	Angel Crafts	Denise Hamilton	Emma Bohn	29
30.	Winter Candy Apple Basket	Anonymous	Ruth Kalmer	30
31.	Gift Card – Trenton Processing	The Heubergers	Maddie Henderson	31
32.	Afternoon Tea	The Heubergers	Taylor Fisher	32
33.	Vera Bradley Coin Purse	The Heubergers	Betty Sappington	33
34.	Hand Painted Rabbit	The Heubergers	Sherry Hesek	34
35.	Kitchen Basket	Elaine & Marc Hoffmann	Ruth Kalmer	35
36.	Puzzles Galore	Del & Mary Lou Lurtz	Bev Rogers	36
37.	Wine Basket #1	Beverly Adams	Jo-Allison Rogers	37
38.	Wine Basket #2	Beverly Adams	Nick Oster	38
39.	Pampered Chef Products	Beverly Adams	Bev Rogers	39
40.	Cash Donation	The Grauls	Mary Lee	40
41.	IGA Gift Card	The Lurtzes	Curt Wesselmann	41
42.	Cardinal Memorabilia	Sheryl Dorman	Edith Fohne	42
43.	Shell Gift Card	Jo-Allison Rogers	Betty Dashley	43
44.	Fall Wreath		Carolyn Poettker	44
45.	Welcome Wreath		Carter John Dial	45
46.	Welcome Wreath Purple		Joyce Brefeld	46
47.	Christmas Candle		Beverly Adams	47
48.	Cash Prize		Barb Trame	48
49.	Gift Card		Barb Becker	49
50.	Beary Merry Christmas		Judy L. Hekew	50
51.	Beary Merry Christmas		Adrienne Barker	51
52.	Pumpkin		Amy Hoover	52
53.	Pumpkin		Hendersons	53
54.	Pumpkin		Evan Bair	54