

✝️❤️✝️❤️✝️❤️ *A Word from the Pastor* ✝️❤️✝️❤️✝️❤️



“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.”

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

Beloved Church Family,

Earlier in the summer, your church leadership put together a mutual ministry review which aimed to gather input on how we (as a church body), think and feel about the ministry of St. John UCC in recent years. In our society, there are surveys everywhere – on our receipts, in our mailboxes, on our phones, etc. Most of the time; however, we don’t get to know the outcome of the surveys we complete. It can all feel overwhelming and futile, and it’s easy to wonder if our input really matters.

With this in mind, we felt it was important to share our appreciation for your time and your feedback. We’ve taken the time to read and review your thoughts, feelings, joys, frustrations, and hopes, and no matter how brief or detailed, we can assure you that your input matters. As the apostle Paul reminds us in his letter to the Corinthians, we are all members of the same body, and every part of that body is important. So, please accept this heartfelt “thank you” for all the ways you participate in the work of this body – including filling out a survey.

Now, the ball is back in our court, and the Mutual Ministry Review process continues. The Church Council, the Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) and I are now taking the information you’ve offered, finding common themes, and forming goals for the coming year. The PRC and I will be focusing on the responses pertaining to my ministry in and among the folks of St. John. With these answers, and our prayerful discernment, we will be choosing 3 measurable goals for my ministry in the next 12 months. At the same time, the Council and I will be focusing on the responses pertaining to our shared ministry as a church. Through a process similar to the PRC’s, we will choose 1 or 2 measurable goals that we can focus on as a congregation. These goals will help guide us in the year ahead.

In the meantime, I’d like to share with you some of the common themes we found in the survey responses dealing with what we, as a church, feel we are doing well. While we all have room to grow in our faith and in the way we live out that faith in the church and wider community, it is also important to celebrate and lift up ways we are already living out our ministry as the body of Christ. 1) St. John UCC feels like a **family**. 2) We have many well-established **outreach ministries and missions** in the community and beyond. 3) There is a **strong lay leadership** within our congregation. 4) Our **fellowship** is meaningful and fulfilling. These four themes were seen in various forms throughout the surveys we received, and I agree wholeheartedly. Each one names a blessing I’ve seen and/or experienced at St. John over the last six and a half years.

Thank you for the ways you already live out our call to serve as the body of Christ in Trenton. I am grateful beyond measure for the honor of serving alongside you. Together, I know we can rise to meet whatever goals or challenges lie before us.

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St. John Prayer List

Chris Bates	Tish Bates	Lois & Stan Clark	Greg Erdmann
Cathy Haller	Denise Hamilton	Pauline Kraemer	Mary Lou Lurtz
Marian Nelson	Lonna Patton	Billie Rinderer	Orville Rinderer
Rogers Family	Connie Zimmers		

Elaine Dupuis	(Mickey & Mike Williamson's friend)
Ken Erdmann	(Greg Erdmann's brother)
Ken Fritz	(Cathy Haller's brother)
Richard Haller	(Cathy Haller's brother-in-law)
Angie Jones	(Pehg Zeller's friend)
Kurt Joseph	(Pastor Christy's friend)
Logan Miller	(Ron & Kimberly Tremmel's son)
Wendy Patterson	(Pastor Christy's cousin)
Tammy Press	(Marian Funk's niece)
Gary & Carol Weshinsky	(Laura Wesselmann's father & mother)



Pastor Christy is usually 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. Beverly Adams, office administrator, will usually be in the office 9 AM to 3 PM, Monday through Friday, but her schedule may vary. Contact her at stjohntrenton@gmail.com or call 224-9828.

SEPTEMBER Birthdays



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 Ootem Sept. 10	Bella Johnson Sept. 23
Mickey Williamson Sept. 10	Maggie Gerstner Sept. 25
Dorri Stempel Sept. 12	Heather Johnson Sept. 25
Eileen Hoffmann Sept. 13	Marilyn Wehrle Sept. 25
Derek Von Bokel Sept. 13	Dustin Atwood Sept. 28
Deanna Lucas Sept. 15	Brian Nelson Sept. 30

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries



Brittany & Ryan Wuebbles Sept. 2
Courtney & Jessie Davis Sept. 10
Kim & Shane Nollau Sept. 11
John & Lois Roach Sept. 15
Jordan Groennert & Katherine Pickerell-Groennert Sept. 16
Stan & Lois Clark Sept. 17



SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ron Tremmel & Hank Henderson



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 the Pastoral Relations Committee for your time and efforts with the survey*
- *To all who came to the Wurstmart Meeting*
- *To all those who worked the rummage sale*



BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will be meeting October 9th at 1:00 PM to discuss their newest pick, “James” by Percival Everett which will be available for check out in the church library starting September 8.



Book synopsis: A reimagining of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn told from the enslaved Jim's point of view.

When the enslaved Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he decides to hide on nearby Jackson Island until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck Finn has faked his own death to escape his violent father, recently returned to town. As all readers of American literature know, thus begins the dangerous and transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and too-often-unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond.

Rally Day

Sunday, September 8th
at 9:30am

You're Invited to join us for a potluck brunch and a short worship service in the south pavilion at Trenton Community Park.

Come enjoy **fresh** air, **faith-filled** worship, fabulous **food**, fun **fellowship**, and the **friendly** faces of your **St. John UCC family!**

Bring a seat, a friend, and something to share!

Please RSVP by September 1st with how many will be coming and what you'd like to bring for the brunch.

We look forward to seeing you there!



In case of inclement weather, Rally Day will be at the church.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The Fellowship Breakfast is the first Tuesday of the month at 8:00 AM at Good Ol' Days in New Baden.



Breakfast dates: Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5 & Dec. 3. Come join us for an enjoyable breakfast with others. It's a time for great conversation, food and fellowship. Everyone is welcome!

♥♥♥♥ Women's J.O.Y. Fellowship ♥♥♥♥

It was a full load of items for Kindercottage this month. The request was for school supplies and we sent the following: 226 pencils, 900 sheets of loose leaf paper, 72 glue sticks, 200 index cards, 50 erasers, 6 rulers, 6 large folders, 7 bottles of glue, 5 small folders, 22 pens, 14 spiral notebooks, 30 report covers, 4 sets of markers, 40 boxes of crayons, 250 sticky notes, 22 sets of colored pencils, 5 pair of scissors, 2 pencil sharpeners, 3 manuscript tablets (for practicing penmanship), a package of construction paper, and some scissors from the rummage sale. In addition, chips from the BBL program went along as well as kid's books from the Little Free Library at the park. The park library will be restocked with books from the rummage sale. This way, everyone gets new books to read. The staff at Kindercottage has requested paper products for September. We will collect paper towels, paper napkins, toilet tissue, and facial tissue. The last day for drop off will be September 24.



BROWN BAG LUNCHEES RECAP

The total cost of the lunches this summer was \$461.91. This covered food and supplies. The Green Bean Food Pantry supplied meat which lasted about eight of the eleven weeks. It cost about \$1.58 per lunch to feed the kids on Tuesdays. Monetary donations this summer to the fund totaled \$225. There were also a number of snacks and other food items donated which helped to keep down the cost. The BBL fund had \$518.49 when summer started, leaving \$281.58 to begin next year. St. John has not received its share of the grant which helps pay for the program. When the grant money arrives, this article will be updated. Thank you to everyone who donated money or snacks or helped to pack lunches and deliver them to Base 215. It was definitely a team effort!



RUMMAGE SALE UPDATE

The rummage sale was another successful team effort. Thanks to all for the many donations. There has been \$5,245.00 deposited from this fundraiser. When we get all of the bills in we will be able to make a final report. Thanks to all who helped with check out, running the elevette, managing the upstairs and all our floaters who helped with customers and keeping things neat. Special thanks to Pehg Zeller, Lonna Patton, Susan Heiser, and Laurie Henderson who made decisions on advertising, set up and pricing along with their helpers Bonnie Arentsen, Tim Bair, Margie Bopp, Steve Feldmann, Donna Graul, Lisa Groennert, Elaine Hoffmann, Joyce Kniepkamp, Billie Rinderer, Lois Roach, Kim Tremmel, and Laura Wesselmann.

5TH SUNDAY OFFERING

On Sunday, September 29th we will be taking a special offering for OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) to support wider UCC ministry in Associations, Conferences, and in the national and global church. It's important to give to OCWM because it's a multiplier effect since the love and power of one congregation are multiplied with others. Your gifts to OCWM help the UCC spread God's love to more people in more places than any one of us can do alone. Envelopes will be in the narthex for your convenience.





Applesauce Making

Applesauce for the Wurstmart will be made on two days in the coming weeks. On **Saturday, September 21, at 9:00 AM** applesauce will be made and canned for sale at the Country Store. On **Thursday, October 3, at 10:00 AM** applesauce to be served at the Wurstmart will be made. Both days we will process nine bushels of apples. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for both dates. Lunch will be provided on September 21, and desserts will be available on October 3. The apple coring and slicing is a sit down job that takes many hands to complete.

Raffle Ticket Sales

Raffle tickets will be available on Sunday, September 1. Look for them on the table in the Narthex. The price is the same as last year: a dollar for one and \$5 for six. Ticket money can be turned into the office or handed to Margie or Pehg. The quilt is hanging in the Narthex. The quilt was made with donated blocks that were embroidered by Kathy Graul Koch. We will sell raffle tickets two days this year at IGA. The first date will be **Saturday, September 14, and the second date is Tuesday, October 1. Both days the hours will be 10 AM until 2:30 PM.** There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. It is more fun if you work in teams so grab a buddy and sign up. Tickets and money need to be returned to the church by the day of the Wurstmart.

Quilt & Basket Raffle Items

Along with the quilt, we are asking for other raffle items like gift baskets or gift cards. If you would like to donate a basket or two, you can 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 Wurstmart. 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 Wurstmart, October 4th,** so there is time to catalogue everything.

Pie Orders

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for apple or cherry pies for the Wurstmart. There are no sugar free pies available this year. Pies will be ordered and delivered from Berkemann's Bakery for \$14 each. We are asking 2 pies from each family. Please put your name and the number & flavor of pies you want to order. Pay by check or cash in an envelope with your name on it and put it in the offering plate or send it to the office. If you want to bake your own apple or cherry pies or buy them somewhere else, please note that under "Paid." This way 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 Wurstmart, October 6.**

Workers

On Saturday, October 5th we will need help with making gravy, preparing the roast beef and serving the applesauce. On Sunday, October 6th we will need people to set up signs and canopies, along with other jobs such as greeters, taking orders, collecting payments, handing out orders, cashiers, runners, food servers and raffle helpers. Down in the kitchen we will need cooks, helpers, dishwashers, pie cutters and the much needed clean-up crew. **Sign-up sheets for all of these jobs are in the narthex.** Thank you!

Rainbow Preschool News

Hello everyone and welcome to the new school year! By the time you read this we will have completed three 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: Ashton, Aubrey, Blair, Emerie, Ezlynn, Hazel, Naomi, Piersyn, Reese, Steven, Wade, Walter, and Wade. Welcome the following students to our Tu/Th class: Bailey, Cameron, Eliana, Floyd, Gavin, Grayson, Henry, Ivrey, Kora, Luke, Oliver, Remi, Rowan, Shae, Trevor, Violet, and Willa.



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

Thank you to Pastor Christy for coming in and reading the story “The Caring Me That I Want To Be”. Students did a great job sitting and listening to the story. We are looking forward to having Pastor Christy come in and read some great stories this year to both classes.

Thank you to the preschool board for their continuous support and guidance as we get the new school year started. Thank you to everyone that donated items to the preschool. A huge thank you goes out to the parents and grandparents for being patient with us during drop offs and pickups. Happy August birthday to the following students: Shae H. on 8/9, Luke L. on 8/12, and Piersyn K. on 8/27

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.

Just a few reminders:

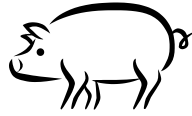
- If your child is absent, please email me or call the church to let us know.
- Book orders due September 13th. You can go online and place your order using our class code Y34JV
- No school- Monday September 2nd-Labor Day and No school- Friday September 13- Wesclin Teacher Institute
- September tuition will be due on Thursday September 5th and Friday September 6th.
- 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!

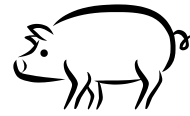
Misty



INFO FOR SUNDAY, OCT. 6, 2024



WURSTMARKT



- Times for the dinner will be 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. It will be drive-thru only.
- Ticket price is \$15 per dinner.
- Beef will be the second selection of meat.
- Applesauce will be made on 2 days: **Saturday, September 21st beginning at 9 am**, (light lunch provided) and **Thursday, October 3rd 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 donated.
- Sign-up sheets for pie donations and applesauce/Wurstmarkt workers are in the narthex.
- Workers are needed for preparation on **Saturday, October 5th at 8 am** and before and after church on **Sunday Oct. 6th**, 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. (Please sign up for the area you would like to work or call the office at 224-9828 to be put on the list.)
- **Only apple or cherry pies will be ordered from Berkemann's Bakery @ \$14.00 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 **October 4** 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

Venmo Techs – Pastor Christy & Kimberly Tremmel

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. This year we will be accepting payments by cash, check or Venmo.

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 work we do. 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, October 5, from 8 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, October 3** (applesauce making day) and perishable things before 9:00 am on **Saturday, October 5**.

Thank you