

St John United Church of Christ

"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

January 2019



Looking back on all we accomplished.

We are a small church, but we have big hearts. We come together to do incredible things. Here is a look back on 2018 as we welcome 2019 with hope and joy.



Chili Cookoff – taste testers and the winner Gary Hartfelder





A beautiful Sunday Flower Sale
The return of the Craft Fair Flea Market
Helping fill food packs for Feed My Starving Children



"Thanks to everyone who helped out with the Turkey Pot Luck and Hymn Sing."
– Robin Turpin – Committee Chairperson

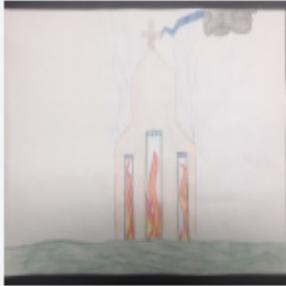


The Children's Ministry entered a contest ... and **WON!**



December 16th was an exciting day for St John UCC Palatine. Our Children's Ministry won big. Darren Cooley and Cassie O'Campo each won the Insurance Board art contest for their age category. Each prize awarded \$1,000 totaling \$2,000 to the St John's Children's Ministry. Shawn Maxon from the Insurance Board told us they received hundreds of entries for the three age groups from churches all over the country for this National contest. Never before had any church won two of the three awards given in a year. The contest was to raise fire safety awareness and the artwork needed to depict what they had learned. Because our 1885 church building is a rebuild of the previous structure that burned down from a lightning strike, we had a special interest in fire safety. So we entered the contest earlier in the year and waited to hear. We surprised the whole congregation with the announcement and presentation of the award. Shawn presented both winners with their winning artwork returned beautifully matted and framed. We will hang them in a place of honor in the church. The congregation celebrated all the children in the Children's Ministry with a congratulatory cake and gift cards.

2018 Art Contest Winners!

		
7 and Under Darrin from St. John UCC Palatine's	8-11 Cassie from St. John UCC Palatine's	12 and Over Meadow from Douglas Cong'l UCC



It was an amazing surprise for the whole congregation as the news was shared. Congratulations to all the kids for creating such wonderful art. Congratulations to the St John Children's Ministry teachers and those who helped out with the special project.

The surprises continued with the Palatine Fire Department # 36 arriving to congratulate the kids personally. Lt. John Thalman brought his team, Seth Myers, Tim Strok and Jacob Smith.





We also filled the year with congregational meetings and council meetings, and voted in a new Wellness Mission. We had our land accessed, and a monthly quiet meditation was started.

We said farewell to our friend Alex as he moved on to a congregation of his own. Our friend Seth came back to play for our Christmas Eve service. A soloist – Margo has joined us and is sharing her beautiful voice.

We supported the Adopt-a-family Giving Tree, donated to the monthly food drive for Palatine Township. and supported our US Troops. We walked in two parades and had our first Easter egg hunt.

We celebrated with palms, candles, flowers, – cake, ham, turkey and hymns.

We shared our joys and concerns, our laughter and tears.

"I look forward to see St John's future for 2019 and what God does with this small church with a big heart – one loving family in the body of Christ."

– Laura D'Argo



"My hope is that we continue to move forward with our mission and that our outreach is bigger and better in the New Year." – Lori D. Neumann

2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Women's Guild** meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am
- **Church Council** meets 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm

Dates for events to come after the January Council Meeting



January

Annual Meeting after service

February

February Ash Wednesday

March

March Chili Cook-off

March St Patrick's Day Parade – Palatine

March Palm Sunday 10:30 am

March Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm

Potluck Soup and Service

March Good Friday

Open for prayer, Noon – 3:00 pm

April

Easter breakfast 9:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 am

Easter Worship Service 10:30 am

April

Church Cleanup

May

May Flower Sale 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Committee: Ellen Kayler, Samantha Wheeler, Jody

Moody, Julie Heiderman, Judy Hartfelder,

Laurie Biesterfeld

June

June Semi-Annual Meeting after service

June Palatine Jaycees Hometown Parade

September

September Craft Fair/Flea Market

Committee: Jody Moody, Gary Hartfelder, Jenny Cooley, Robin Turpin

October

October Ham Supper

October Totenfest

November

November 4:00 pm Turkey Hymn Sing

November Hanging of the Greens

December

December 24th Christmas Eve



Last Sunday of the Month

- Communion
- Food Pantry donation

Quiet Meditation Prayer

6:30pm - 9:00pm the last **Wednesday** of each month

St John Church is open for anyone to come and sit in silent prayer during the evenings of the last Wednesday of each month. You are invited to this peaceful moment and breathe in the voice of God. Come for a few minutes or stay awhile.



Service 10:30 am – All Year

Children's Church every Sunday, following the Children's Message

Older kids from 9:30 to 10:15 am, before the service

Pastor Sandy has church office hours weekly.

Please email her at PastorSandy500@gmail.com to make an appointment.

St John
United Church of Christ



Staff & Community

Pastor – Sandy Kolar

Communications Director – Laura D'Argo

Cemetery Caretaker – Gary Hartfelder

Council

President – Jared Cooley

Treasurer – Sue Jacobs

Clerk/Trustee – Lori Neumann

Member – Gary Hartfelder

Children's Church

Robin Turpin

Lori Neumann

Wedding Coordinators

Jody Moody

Laurie Biesterfeld



ACTION BOX

Have you noticed that little box downstairs on the table during coffee hour? It is marked "ACTION BOX". You can make a suggestion you feel would help our church. Do you have a skill you would like to use at church? Got an idea? Have a solution? We want to hear from you. *Kudos are also accepted.*



Fellowship

Enjoy refreshments and conversation in Fellowship Hall after worship. When able bring a dish to share.

St. John Church

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website – www.StJohnUCCPalatine.org

You can donate to St. John Church via paypal.

Go to stjohnUCCpalatine.org and click on the Donate button on the home page OR click on the link below to go directly to **Giving**.

<http://stjohnUCCpalatine.org/giving>