

St John United Church of Christ

"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

August 2019



It is Hard to Believe

It's hard to believe that I have been with St John's for over a year and a half. It has been fun, exciting, challenging and gratifying. It hasn't always been easy or fun, but we have made significant progress. Looking back, I see accomplishments and successes like the Annual Flower Sale, Flea Market, The Ham Supper and The Women's Guild Luncheon. All activities that required participation by everyone.

I see an increase in the energy of the church – the soon to be completed kitchen remodeling, an all-day massive cleanup around the church and planting native plants in front of the church. We had a wonderful and profitable outing to the Estate, we have increased our donations to the food pantry, Thanksgiving baskets and Christmas donations to Heifer International.

We have faced challenges and have risen to them; losses and adjusted to them. Challenges continue to lie ahead, and we still have a way to go. But I am optimistic that we are on the right road and our future looks bright.

I hope that you feel the energy and have taken time to celebrate our achievements. And I hope you will continue to find new and exciting ways in which St John can expand our service to the community.

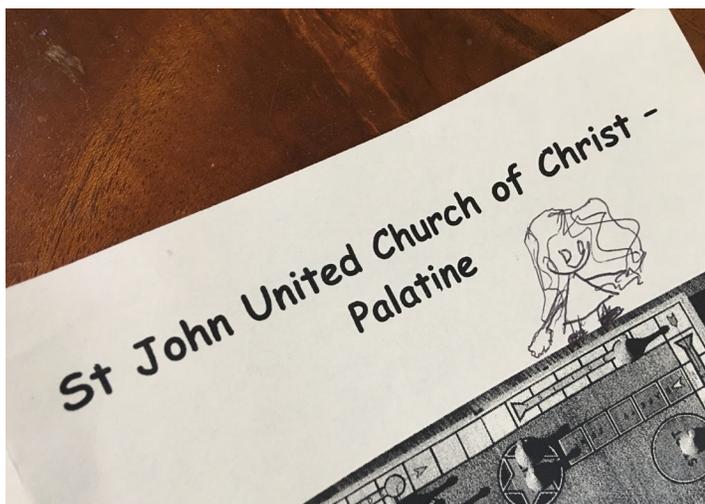
As our 175th Anniversary is 18 months away – let's think about how we can celebrate our presence in our communities.

And let's remember - ***Small churches can do great things.***



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

– Pastor Sandy Kolar



Have you noticed the extra attention we receive from our young ushers.

Tiffany personalized each bulletin one Sunday for everybody. Darren finds and marks the hymns in the hymnals for the Sunday worship for us. Donovan helped Sue with the collection this past Sunday. Thanks to the Cooley children, Darren, Tiffany and Donovan for being such welcoming greeters.



Children's Ministry

– by Robin Turpin

The Craft fair and Flea Market is around the corner.

– by Robin Turpin

This month the children worked on a special project, which integrated nicely with their lessons on Noah and the Ark. If you recall, last year two of our young parishioners (Darren Cooley and Cassie O'Campo), won honors from the Insurance Board's art contest. The contest theme this year is lightening and the power it exhibits. The children learned about lightening safety, and worked diligently on this project over the last few weeks. Even Donovan painted a lightening storm cloud. Special thanks to Laura D'Argo for her expert direction and assistance!

"Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you are doing."

– 1 Thessalonians 5:11.



Plans are forging ahead for the **45th Annual St. John Craft and Flea Market**, to be held September 21st this year. We already have 33 booths, with more requests coming in daily. Please be sure to spread the word to any vendors you know and to everyone interested in shopping, eating, and having a good time! As you know, it is always a gorgeous day for the Craft and Flea, so make sure to mark your calendar now.

We are still in search of volunteers to help with parking, baking, and just helping around the Market. Sign up in the basement, or just show up and don a red apron to lend a hand.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it."

– Hebrews 13:2



Notes from the Women's Guild

by Sandy Stoops – Acting President

We held the third meeting of 2019 on July 10. Our next meeting will be on September 10th at 10:30 am.

The Guild will be contributing \$5,000 to the new kitchen cabinet project. We have packed up 3/4 of the kitchen items.

Even though our numbers have decreased we still hope to have a presence at the Flea Market September 21 with a Bake Sale table once again. It is only through the support of the entire church that we can even begin to think about a successful day. Items can include candy treats as well.

Please package any contributions so that they are ready for sale. Either wrapped in plastic wrap or better yet, in plastic baggies, marked with description and price you feel appropriate. Big sellers....everything. Cookies, bars, squares, cakes, breads, pies (for us or the kitchen as well - they sell them by the slice).

There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. However, we appreciate anything you can offer. If you have any questions feel free to ask a Women's Guild member. Items can be dropped off the days before or the morning of the Flea Market. Don't forget to have them packed and priced for immediate sale.

Vendors like to stop by after they've set up their wares.



Say goodbye to the old kitchen!



Breaking news – Watering just got a little easier at St. John United Church of Christ. With the installation of the dual connector at the spigot, there are now two hoses running out to the gazebo and out to the front. Also with the addition of 100 foot hose out front and easy disconnect reconnectors on the main hose, watering has never been easier. We can now water the sign in the front, the flowers in front, the pots and the side of the church. Yay!
Thank you to all who continue to water and weed our native plant beds.

The Sanfilippo Fundraiser is a big success.

Thanks to all who supported this event. A special thanks to our friends at St Paul church and the Historical Society who joined us. **AND** The Sanfilippo Foundation. We all had so much fun and we made a \$1,698 profit.



Thriving Pastors in Revitalizing Congregations (TPIRC)

– by Pastor Sandy

The Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ has received a grant of \$1 million from the Lilly Endowment over the next five years to help establish a new program entitled “Thriving Pastors in Revitalizing Congregations.” It is part of an initiative that supports a variety of religious organizations across the nation.

The Illinois Conference’s program focuses on pastors who fit one of three categories: new to ministry, bi-vocational, or serving a declining congregation. The program, designed for 45 selected pastors, will pair the pastors with trained coaches and provide participation in a Clergy Community of Practice group. In addition, 3 or 4 of the pastors’ lay leaders will also be involved to provide support and participate with the pastors in annual Summit Learning Events and cohort groups. The first summit is Friday and Saturday September 13th and 14th, Not only will the 45 pastors and their churches be strengthened, the program provides for the training of the coaches and facilitators of the Clergy Community of Practice groups. The program will have an impact on many people! “Leading a congregation today is multi-faceted and exceptionally demanding,” said Christopher L. Coble, Lilly Endowment’s vice president for religion. “When pastors have opportunities to build meaningful relationships with experienced colleagues, they are able to negotiate the challenges of ministry and their leadership thrives. These promising programs will help pastors develop these kinds of relationships, especially when they are in the midst of significant professional transitions.”



– by Sue Jacobs

Council Meeting 7/11/19 7PM - 8:30PM

Present: Pastor Sandy Kolar, Lori Neumann,
Jared Cooley, Sue Jacobs

Absent: Gary Hartfelder

With our mower still out of commission and Cole returning to college soon, we are researching landscaping services that also do snow removal.

We are also looking to make alternate arrangements for cleaning of the church building, as the service has been less than adequate.

The kitchen cabinets that were ordered from Menards have arrived. The timing of the installation work will be coordinated with our contractor before taking delivery of them.

***Ideas are being developed for celebrating/
commemorating the 175th anniversary of
the founding of St. John's.***

There was a discussion of the possibility of the Women's Guild opening participation in some way to working persons who cannot attend Wednesday mornings.

We continue to discuss assessing repairs possibly needed for the parsonage structure. Contact was made with the Illinois Department of Transportation to look into a warning (yellow diamond) sign in advance of the western-most driveway into the church property.

2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



January

February

February 10 Annual Meeting postponed

February 14 Valentine's Day ♥

March

March 2, 4:00 pm Chili Cook-off

Laura and Greg – Chairpersons

March 4th 6:00 pm Feed My Starving Children

March 6, 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday

March 10 Daylight Saving Time – Spring ahead!

March 16 St Patrick's Day Parade – Palatine

Pastor Sandy Chairperson

Parade kicks off 11:00 am

March 31 Annual Meeting - After worship

April

April 6 9:00 am Church Grounds Cleanup

April 14 Palm Sunday 10:30 am

April 18 Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm

Potluck Soup/Salad Service

April 19 Good Friday

Open for prayer, Noon – 3:00 pm

April 21 Easter

Easter breakfast 9:15 am

Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 am

Easter Worship Service 10:30 am

May

May 11 Flower Sale 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Committee: Jody Moody, Laurie Biesterfeld, Ellen Kayler, Dodie Kayler, , and Judy Hartfelder, Ginny Lint, Paula Kayler

May 15 Women's Guild Luncheon -11:30 am

June

June Semi-Annual Meeting canceled due to the delayed Annual meeting earlier in the year.

July ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

July 6th Palatine Independence Day Parade

For more info on walking in the parade contact Pastor Sandy.

September

September 21 Craft Fair/Flea Market

Committee: Jody Moody, Robin Turpin, Jenny Cooley,

October

October 19 Ham Supper Third Saturday of the month. 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm seatings

October 27th Totenfest

November

November 3 Daylight Saving Time ends - 2:00am fall back.

November 24 – 4:00 pm Turkey Hymn Sing

November TBD Hanging of the Greens

December

Monday – December 24th Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10:00 pm

Quiet Meditation Prayer

6:30 pm - 9 pm 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.

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

FAITH IN ACTION

We partner with the Palatine Food Pantry. The last Sunday of *each* month food items are collected and Sue Jacobs drops them off at the Palatine Township Food Pantry.

Keep in mind they are always in need of baby care items, such as diapers, and baby wipes. – Thank you to all who gave.

Women's Guild

Officers

Acting President

Sandy Stoops

Treasurer

Dodie Kayler

Accounts

Dodie Kayler

Secretary

Kathy Reuter

No Meetings

January & February

Meetings at St John Church

March 6th – 10:30 am

May 1st – 10:30 am

July 10th – 10:30 am

September 11th – 10:30 am

November 6th – 10:30 am

December – TBD

Church Info you need to know

Services Sunday 10:30 am – All Year

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

Coffee Hour Fellowship

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

Pastor Sandy

PastorSandy500@gmail.com

Please email her to make an appointment.

St. John UCC

1475 W. Algonquin Rd, Palatine, IL 60067

Phone 847-358-7620

email – stjohnUCCpalatine@gmail.com

website – www.StJohnUCCPalatine.org

Keep our Church in prayer.



Last Sunday of the Month

- Communion
- Food Pantry donation



ACTION BOX

Make use of our "ACTION BOX". Make a helpful suggestion, suggest a solution or an idea. We want to hear from you.

Kudos are also accepted.

Our Paypal Donate button is under construction.

Thank you for your Patience