

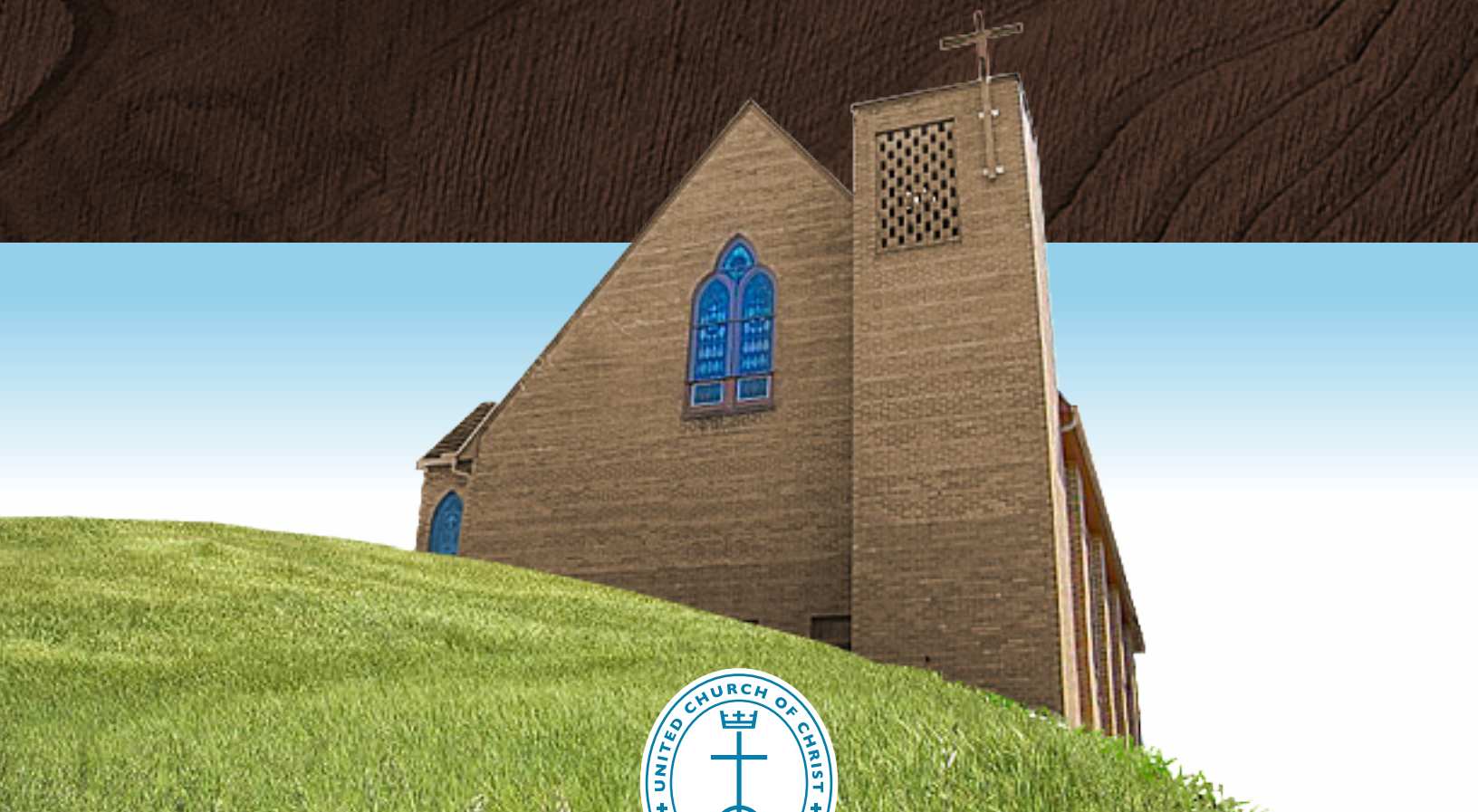


St. John's

United Church of Christ

Digital Newsletter

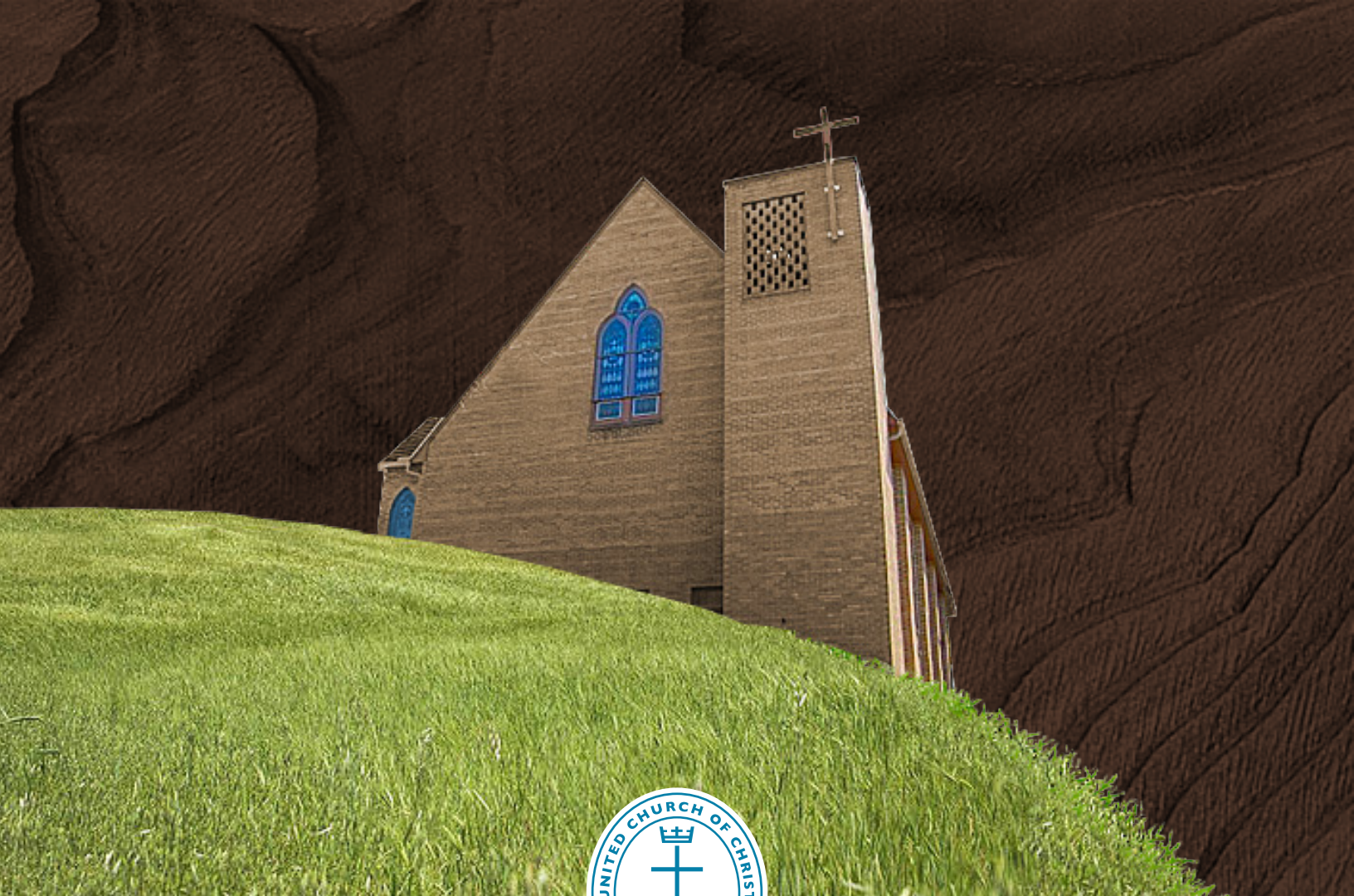
SJC Issue 0922 - September 2022



stjohnsfzwi.org

St. John's Church | United Church of Christ | 303 S Hill Street | Fountain City, WI

608.687.3277



Sunday Worship @ 8:30am

We offer two options for worship on Sundays: in person or online. Whether you prefer to worship from the safety of your home or with others, we at St. John's want to make sure you get the spiritual encouragement you need. Join us in person each Sunday at 8:30am or watch a video recording of the online service. The service is not recorded live but is uploaded after the service has ended. We look forward to worshipping with you!

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Letter From The Pastor

September 2022

From the Pastor's Desk

I write this the Monday after two consecutive Sundays where we worshiped elsewhere. First, at Eagle Valley Church, then with Hope UCC for their annual Sunday Social. These wonderful services were followed by lunches filled with good food and fun. I loved seeing you engaged in conversations, catching up with each other, sharing stories and laughter.

They reminded me the importance of these gatherings for a church. The first Christians didn't worship for an hour and then go back home. They worshiped around a meal, filled with food that nurtured their connections, built relationships, and shared joy together. Jesus didn't just teach and heal. Jesus ate with people, time spent beyond worship or teaching.

Getting together had to stop during the pandemic. As necessary as it was, it resulted in many feeling a sense of isolation and disconnect not only within congregations, but our society.

Which is why I feel it is important to have a Coffee Hour each Sunday after the service. I understand why this has been difficult to get restarted. But I also feel it's vital to the life of this congregation. You need time to see people you might not otherwise run into, or only say "Hello" to that past week. What type of food or drink isn't as important as those conversations. Some filled with laughter, some offering support during rough times, and all providing the opportunity to share our lives with each other.

So all this is my long way of asking you to please consider volunteering to host Coffee Hour one Sunday. Store bought cookies and juice are fine if that's the extent of your culinary skills or available time. (The hardest part for me of hosting such times is making the plastic box and label to look just like the Hy-Vee Bakery's.) There is a signup sheet on the table where the bulletins are each Sunday.

Continued on next page...

Letter From The Pastor

September 2022

I would love to be able to not need to announce at the end of the service that we have coffee hour that week, because we are back to having it each week. But I can only do that with your help with this vital ministry.

God's grace and peace.

Pastor Deb Kunkel

Change in dates for Confirmation Exploration Orientation and Start Dates

Confirmation Orientation has been moved to Wednesday, September 28 at 6:30pm. Confirmation Classes will start on Wednesday, October 5 from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. The complete schedule of class dates will be handed out at Orientation. If you or your child unable to attend Orientation night, please contact Pastor Deb at the office or at pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com.

Pastor Deb will be on vacation from September 4 through the September 18, 2022.

If you have a pastoral emergency during that time, please contact Church President Dale Schmidtknecht and he will connect you with the appropriate person.

Sunday School

Sunday, September 11, 2022

School age children are welcome to join our Sunday School classes during Sunday morning services at 8:30am. St. John's Church has two groups Pre-K to 2nd grade and 3rd to 6th grade. Each year the Sunday School students rehearse and perform the Children's Christmas Service in December celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. For more information, contact Karen Knospe.

Music Focus Group

Tuesday, September 6, 2022 @ 6:30pm

Do you like music? Accompanists Faye, LuAnn, and Ruth, invite you to join them on Tuesday, September 6 at 6:00pm to share your ideas for the music in our church. Are there things that you would like to see the congregation do again such as choir? Do you have ideas of things we could try? Come share your thoughts and be part of the brainstorming for new ideas for musical offerings from our congregation.



Archiving

Volunteers: Historians & Photographers

We are looking for a volunteer (or two) who would enjoy being the historian for the church. This would mean going through the old files and documents of the church, deciding what has value to keep. This can be done at your pace. This isn't an "official" position, so your term would be as long or brief as you decide.



Pastor Deb is also hoping that there might be some photographers who be willing to be contacted to see if they would be available to take pictures at special services or events that could be used either in the church newsletter, website, or press releases. This also isn't an "official" position, so is based on your availability, and how often or long you choose to do this. If you are interested in either of these, please let Dale Schmdtknecht or Pastor Deb know.

Stewardship

Stewardship Moment from the Deacons

Summer is an important time to make sure our offerings & donations to St. John's cover the times when we may be away visiting or on vacation. Look for specific updates from the Deacons in the fall about Stewardship. Our Mission seeks to establish and maintain within the local community, a Christian congregation to promote a life for worship, to advance the Kingdom of God by all means.



Creation Sermon Series

Sunday, September 25, 2022 (Four-Week Series)

This area is often referred to as “God’s Country”, but how often do we stop to reflect upon what that means? Pastor Deb’s four-week sermon series on Creation and God as Creator will allow us to do that. The series will follow the optional church season of Creation. Just as traditional seasons of the church year (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost) center around themes and periods in Jesus’ life, the season of Creation is centered around God’s relationship with all creation and with our relationship with creation (and with God through creation). This year the readings from the Creation Lectionary are “The Wisdom Series” with gospel readings from Luke, and “includes those texts where Wisdom is the designing force behind creation and the impulse that enables the parts of creation to fulfill their roles.” They focus on the ocean, fauna, storm, and cosmos.

What does it mean to say we live in God’s country? Lets take some time to rejoice in this as we explore this together.

Food Shelf

Report For August 2022

Can you give a couple hours a month and volunteer at the St. John's Food Shelf? Put a note in the offering plate this Sunday or reach out to Pastor Deb or Linda Clark at 715.495.5282. Thank you to our current volunteers! We are trying to help as many people possible!

Donations Most Needed:

- ✓ Toilet Paper
- ✓ Canned /Ham/Salmon
- ✓ Cake/Brownie
- ✓ Muffin Mixes
- ✓ Canned Frosting
- ✓ Instant Oatmeal
- ✓ Cereal (Healthier)
- ✓ Crackers (Saltines)
- ✓ Rice/Pasta Pouches
- ✓ Vegetable Spray
- ✓ Brown Rice
- ✓ Juice Boxes
- ✓ V8/Tomato Juice
- ✓ Boost/Ensure
- ✓ Canned Chili
- ✓ Canned Stew
- ✓ Spices
- ✓ Applesauce
- ✓ Salad Dressing
- ✓ Ketchup
- ✓ BBQ Sauce

1st & 3rd Monday: 4:30pm - 6:30pm
2nd & 4th Wednesday: 3:00pm - 5:00pm



- ✓ 175 Pounds Of Food Distributed
- ✓ Averages 10 Pounds Of Food Per Person
- ✓ 17 Total People Helped
- ✓ 0 Children
- ✓ 12 Adults
- ✓ 5 Seniors
- ✓ 5 Households (2 Came Twice)

Special Thanks

Food Shelf Volunteers

Thank you to our wonderful Confirmation Students for their generous help this last month. Thank you for going through the Food Shelf items looking for outdated items, while using the FMP website for guidance. Thank you for helping get our delivery of food from the Milton Town Hall up to the St. John's Church Food Shelf and then helping to re-organize all the items! Can you give a couple hours a month and volunteer at the St. John's Food Shelf? Put a note in the offering plate this Sunday or reach out to Pastor Deb or Linda Clark at 715.495.5282. Thank you to our current volunteers! We are trying to help as many people possible!



Volunteers: September

Ushers

David Schaffner, Amy Hammer & John Schmidtknecht

Greeters

08.28.22 Eagle Valley Services

09.04.22 Cara Lee Wiersgalla

09.11.22 Karen Knospe

09.18.22 Quint & Denise Yapp

09.25.22 Derrick & Amy Hammer

Counters

John & Mary Stettler

Communion & Flowers

Greg & Jessica Osborn

Financial Report

Overview as of 08.31.22

Current Income: \$5,375

Other Income: \$16,300*

Pass-Through Income: \$20,172.44**

Current Expenses: \$14,478***

* Adjustment of Memorial/Investment Funds to reimburse General Fund for Lift Expenses

** Funds held in General Fund for Future Investments to be determined

*** Final payment of \$3,937.50 was made to All Star Elevator

Birthdays

Karla Miller

Kimberly Aus

Ashley Jandro

Sam Davis-Sweazey

Taylor Baures

Marjorie Kammuehler

Jean Evans

Dylan Hohmann

Ethan Korb

Amy Hammer

Emily Conners

Karden Cheney

Ardys Keilholtz

Brianna Engelmann

Brian Wolfe

Richard Ruben

Bobbie Sue Wooden

Brooke Engel

Sue Schaffner

Jennifer Conners

Hiromi Semling

Abigail Schaffner

Karen Knospe

Shannon Ely

Crystal Dienger

Anniversaries

Adam & Jenny Krause

John & Mary Stettler

Ted Wilson & Karen Stettler

Randy & Judy Boehm

Dale & Jenny Schaffner

Quint & Denise Yapp

Joe & Hiromi Semling

Randy & Lori Maier

Greg & Jessica Osborn

Tom & Lee Carpenter

Norman & Betsy Semling

Robert & Bobbi Sue Wooden

Confirmation

Confirmation Exploration Class

We offer Confirmation class for middle or high schoolers. This process which includes class meetings, service opportunities, leading worship, and other activities created to fit the needs and interests of each particular class. Our youth will be enriched by these conversations and planning so that we can welcome them into the journey of our life together.

SEPTEMBER

WEDNESDAY

28

Confirmation Exploration Class

Starts @ 6:30pm
St. John's Church
Parents & Students

OCTOBER

WEDNESDAY

05

Confirmation Class

3:30pm - 5:00pm
St. John's Church
Education



St. John's

United Church of Christ



Confirmation Schedule:

Confirmation Exploration Class has been moved to Wednesday, September 28. The complete schedule of class dates will be handed out at Orientation. If you or your child unable to attend Orientation night, please contact Pastor Deb at the office or at pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com.

~ St. John's Church

Other Special Events

St. John's Church

Along with our Sunday Worship Service schedule, Pastor Deb's Office Hours, Consistory Meetings, Food Shelf Schedule and other recurring events. Below is a list of SPECIAL EVENTS located at St. John's Church and or the local area. Please contact us with any questions. Thanks again for all the support from volunteer and the community.



Music Focus Group St. John's Church

303 S Hill Street
Fountain City, WI
Starts @ 6:00pm



Sunday School St. John's Church

303 S Hill Street
Fountain City, WI
Starts @ 8:30am



Online Calendar

Please go online and visit our NEW easy to use website for current up-to-date, detailed event information. Our calendar is updated daily. Email us with any questions or comments.

stjohnsfcwi.org
info@stjohnsfcwi.org

Vacation Schedule:

Pastor Deb will be on vacation from September 4 through September 18, 2022. If you have a pastoral emergency during that time, please contact Church President Dale Schmidtknecht and he will connect you with the appropriate person.

~ St. John's Church

Prayer Requests

St. John's Church - Pastor Deb Kunkel

Congregation members and non-members are encouraged to request prayers for times of need, comfort, healing, celebration and joy. If you would like a visit from Pastor Deb, please call her to set up a time today!



Pastor Deb's Office Hours:

Monday's Noon to 2:00pm
Wednesday's 10:00am to Noon
239.994.2528
pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com

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United Church of Christ
303 S Hill Street, PO Box 130
Fountain City, WI 54629-0130

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info@stjohnsfcwi.org



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Church Office:

stjohnsuccfc@gmail.com

Newsletter:

stjohnsfcnewsletter@gmail.com

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