

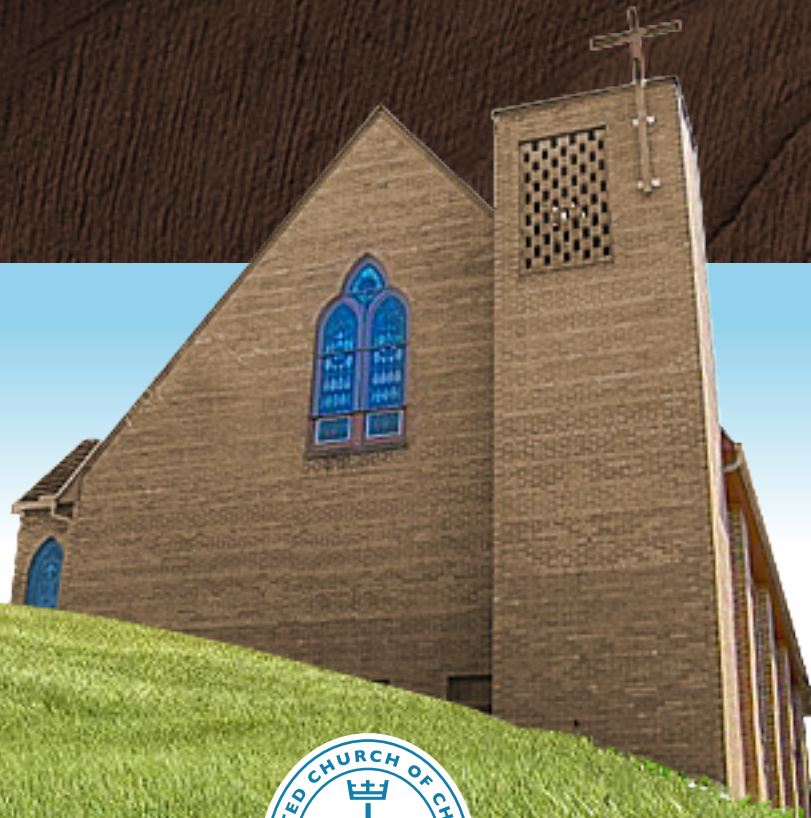


**St. John's**

United Church of Christ

# Digital Newsletter

**SJC Issue 1024 - October 2024**

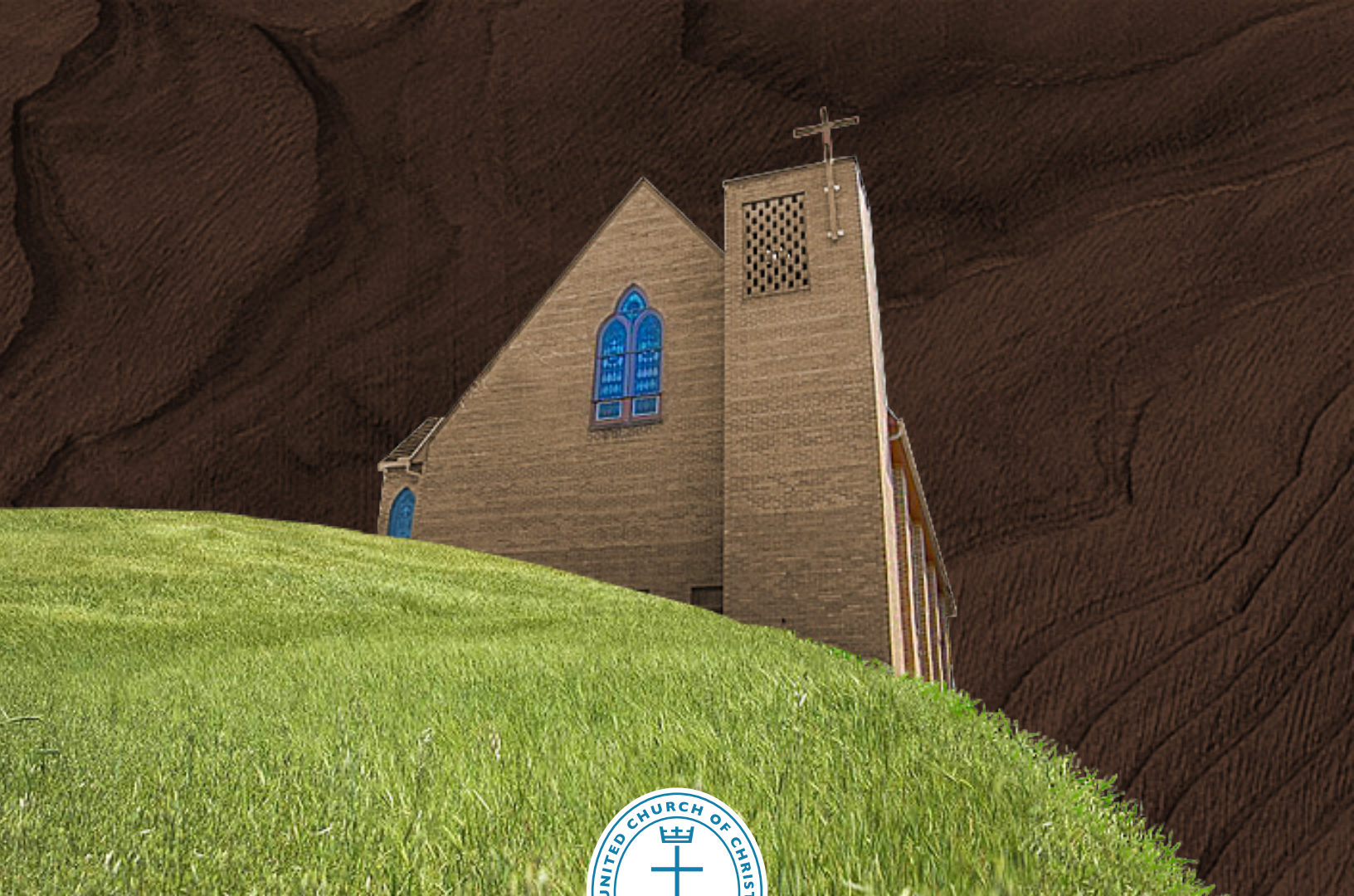


**[stjohnsfcwi.org](http://stjohnsfcwi.org)**

St. John's Church | PO Box 130 | 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!

## **stjohnsfcwi.org**

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# Letter From The Pastor

**October 2024**

Next Sunday, October 6, we will be celebrating World Communion Sunday. World Communion Sunday is a day when Christian churches around the world have all agreed to celebrate communion as a sign of our oneness in Jesus Christ. For some churches this will be the normal part of worship as they celebrate Communion each week. For others this will be one of the two or three Sundays each year that they gather around the Communion table. This day serves as embodied reminder that what joins us together is more than what differences we have in practice, understanding and worship.

We will also take up the Neighbors in Need offering. Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. They serve as part of our connection to each other, supporting and inspiring each other in our ministries.

Both World Communion Sunday and the Neighbors In Need offering are tangible ways of enacting our faith. Both encourage us to remember that our faith is larger than just what happens within a particular church's walls, and God calls us to reach out to others.

We are, for lack of a better word that isn't profane, in a contentious election season. It appears that it will not end with the closing of the voting booths on November 5th.

Continued...

# Letter From The Pastor

**October 2024**

World Communion Sunday and the Neighbors In Need offering stand as witnesses to others, examples of how one can love their neighbor even when we don't agree. They both testify to the reality and truth we can find common ground and respect differences in each other. For God creates us to live in loving community with each other, so all, not just a few, live abundantly joyful lives. And so we can be confident God will provide us the grace and compassion to do so. We only need accept.

God's grace and peace.

**Pastor Deb Kunkel**

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## Choir Practice

### Do you have ideas?

St. John's Church Choir Practice has ended until next Fall. Please watch this space for the first date. New choir members are welcome to join then or any time during the year. Do you have ideas of things the Choir could try? Please share your thoughts on new ideas for musical offerings for our congregation. Please contact us with any questions or comments.

Thank you to our choir members, director Betsy Miller-Ruben, and accompanists Fay Connors and LuAnn Schmidtknecht for sharing their gifts over this past year.

Church: 608.687.3277

Cell: 239.994.2528



# Sunday Penny Collection

## First Sunday of the Month

The Church School Students will be collecting pennies the first Sunday of every month. We haven't done this in a long time and are anxious to start again. This money enables us to do donations to people or needy projects in our area or throughout the world.

**Sunday, October 6, 2024**



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## Online Calendar

### Visit Us Online 24/7

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.

**[stjohnsfzwi.org](http://stjohnsfzwi.org)**



# Education

## Hurricane Helene Recovery

This past weekend Hurricane Helene cutting a wide swath of damage along the Gulf Coast and inland. Areas that were outside the hurricane's path were still hit with storm surges of five to eight feet. Helene also dumped so much rain in Tennessee and inland North Carolina that homes and vehicles were swept away. Many areas are still unreachable, so we won't know for some time the extent of the damage.

The national offices of the UCC are working with the congregations and Conferences in the states affected by this disaster. They have also set up a relief fund. Please prayerfully consider if you are in a position to support this fund for all whose lives were uprooted by this storm. If so, you can use this link to donate: [UCC Hurricane Helene Relief Fund](#)

Because of your and other UCC churches faithful generosity supporting the offering for Our Church's Wider Mission to the National UCC, all money donated to this relief fund will go to directly aid victims of this disaster. OCWM supports National, Conference and Association offices, local churches, and the UCC's established partnerships with service providers in the area. This means donations to this fund do not have to be used to set up temporary offices, hire staff, or other necessary expenses when providing disaster relief. Funds are directed to areas that have direct impact on the people affected. This ranges from helping individuals find shelter, to providing needed clothes and food, to helping navigate the complicated insurance and FEMA claims process, to hiring professionals to provide trauma recovery support to residents well after most relief efforts are over.

The link also contains a few other ways that you can support the people affected by these storms.

## [UCC Hurricane Helene Relief Fund](#)

# Fall Bazaar Fundraiser

**Saturday, November 2, 2024**

St. John's Church will be hosting a Fall Bazaar from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Available for purchase will be cookies, candies, breads, cakes, brownies and some surprise treats too. All baked goods should be labeled and state if they contain peanut butter and/or nuts and should be wrapped in a see through covering. All are made by some of the best bakers in Buffalo County. Catch up with friends while you enjoy a beverage and a dessert served in the fellowship hall. A lift is accessible if you are unable to do stairs. Many theme based baskets will be offered for a chance drawing. Tickets can be purchased at the church. We hope you enjoy your afternoon with us. Winners of the baskets will be drawn and announced Sunday, November 3, 2024 right after Worship Service.



**Starts @ 1:00pm**

- ✓ Bread, Candies & Desserts
- ✓ Craft Items
- ✓ Basket Raffle
- ✓ Coffee & Dessert
- ✓ Tickets Available



  
**St. John's**  
United Church of Christ

# Liturgists & Others Wanted

## Do you like to read during the service?

Then you will be happy to know that Pastor Deb is seeking liturgists. Liturgists will lead the Call to Worship and read the first Scripture Reading. If you would like to be included in the pool of liturgists or readers, please let Pastor Deb know or look for the sign-up sheet. Or do you like the spotlight or have a little bit of “ham” in you? Pastor Deb would love to have you join her in skits or dramatic monologues used on occasion during the service. Please let her know (all ages welcome.)



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## Stewardship

### Stewardship Moment from the Deacons

Stewardship is as important in today as it is in December.

From the Stewardship Theme last year we are reminded that stewardship is all year long.

**“Because of You our Church changes lives”.**

~ St John’s Church





# C-FC Area Food Shelf

## Report For September 2024

As part of our Stewardship as a church please consider a monetary donation or food donation for our Food Shelf here at Church. See list below of our most needed items. This spring and summer we have been much busier than usual providing food to people in need in our community. If we want to continue this service we do need your assistance to continue. Please put your donation of food in the green bin at church located in the Food Shelf room across from Pastor Deb's office or your monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to church with checks made out to C-FC Area Food Shelf - St John's Church, PO Box 130, Fountain City WI, 54629.

### Donations Most Needed:

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

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



- ✓ 753 Pounds Of Food Distributed
- ✓ 43 Total People Helped
- ✓ Averages 18 Pounds Of Food Per Person
- ✓ 16 Children
- ✓ 17 Adults
- ✓ 10 Seniors
- ✓ 17 Households (4 Came Twice)

# Food Shelf

## Helping The Local Community

I volunteered at Feed My People in Eau Claire packing up boxes of donated apples. It is a lot of fun - they always need volunteers for various tasks! If anyone is interested we could car pool up there together. This is the non profit organization we order our food from for our food shelf here.





# Volunteers: August

## Ushers

Linda Clark, Tom Clark, John Stettler & Mary Stettler

## Greeters

10.06.24 Cleo Losinski & Karen Pehler

10.13.24 John & Mary Stettler

10.20.24 Kristy & Bob Bauers

10.27.24 Tom & Linda Clark

11.03.24 Sandy & Tom Ruben

## Counters

Dale & LuAnn Schmidtknecht

## Communion & Flowers

Mary Schmitt & Karen Knospe

# Financial Report

For detailed information regarding the financial standing of St. John's Church, contact the office to review financial documents.

St. John's Church  
United Church of Christ  
303 S Hill Street  
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## Birthdays

Sharon Korb

Barbara Bollinger

Kevin Dietrich

Graham Schaffner

Karen Stettler

Hugh Drennan

Shirley Krause

Ryan Ligman

Greg Miller

Heroe Semling

William Knospe

Gunner Fetting

Sidney Franz

Nicholas Cummings

Michelle Pehler

Terry Miller

Quint Yapp

Kevin Keilholtz

Lisa Dietrich Stratton

Reggie Franz

Robin Lewit

Eric Schaffner

Karen Pehler

Triton Krause

## Anniversaries

Bryan & Emily Conners

Derrick & Amy Hammer

David & Sue Schaffner

Dale & LuAnn Schaffner

Keith & Brooke Engel

Greg & Terry Miller

Gary & Cara Lee Wiersgalla

# 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.



### **Penny Collection St. John's Church**

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



### **Consistory Meeting St. John's Church**

Fountain City, WI  
Regular @ 5:30pm  
Joint @ 6:30pm



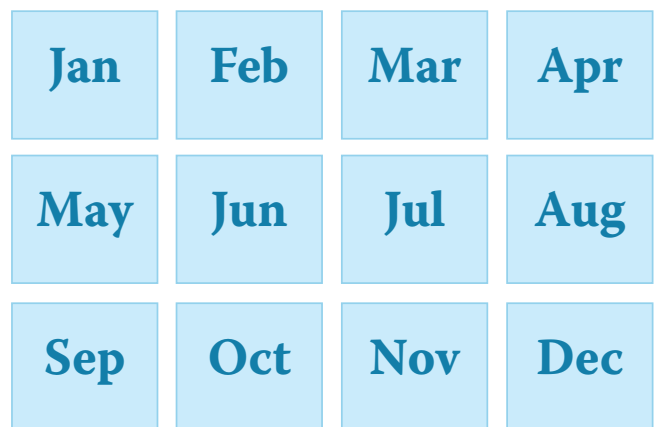
### **Fall Bazaar St. John's Church**

303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI  
Starts @ 1:00pm



### **World Communion Sunday All Saints Day**

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.

**[stjohnsfzwi.org](http://stjohnsfzwi.org)**  
**[info@stjohnsfzwi.org](mailto:info@stjohnsfzwi.org)**



# 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:**

Wednesday's 10:00am - Noon  
239.994.2528  
pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com

St. John's Church  
United Church of Christ  
303 S Hill Street, PO Box 130  
Fountain City, WI 54629-0130

608.687.3277  
stjohnsfcwi.org  
info@stjohnsfcwi.org





# St. John's

United Church of Christ

Church Office:

[stjohnsuccfc@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccfc@gmail.com)

Newsletter:

[stjohnsfcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsfcnewsletter@gmail.com)

Pastor Deb's Office Hours:

Wednesday's 10:00am - Noon

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