

St. Johns United Church of Christ

News from Pastor Ken

April 2022

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It just seems that everyone I talk to lately is experiencing winter fatigue. Even my consulting client that is an absolute winter sport junkie including snowmobiling, skiing, snowboarding, outdoor hockey, snowshoes, etc. has informed me that he is "so done with winter."

Many of you have commented or inquired about Easter being early this year. Not really. It just came rather late last year. We have had both earlier and later Easters. Well here is how it was decided. We can thank our Pagan friends in part for this. In 325CE the Council of Nicaea established that **Easter** would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. From that point forward, the **Easter** date depended on the ecclesiastical approximation of March 21 for the vernal equinox.

Here is what I know for sure. Spring and Easter are here even though it may not feel like spring at this moment. I heard a couple church folks discussing how many robins that have already seen and my neighbor mentioned that she already has crocus' and I noticed little green sprouts popping up from beneath the cold earth as I walked through thinking about my gardens. It must be spring!!

As we finish this Lenten season and enter into Easter, remember it is just like the transition from winter into spring. During what seems to be the endless cold dark days of winter, we start to experience the new life that rises up from what we once were sure was dead. That is what the Easter season offers us as well, to seek and experience new life, new life in our congregation and new life for ourselves.

This Lenten season was a powerful season for me as I hope it was for you, filled with reflection, preparation and discernment. We spent time this Lenten season considering our own personal journey through the wilderness into Jerusalem.

<https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnsuccmarinecity/>

We prayed about what we bring to the cross and more importantly, what resurrection and transformation we have come to expect in our own lives this Easter. Over the past weeks, we have been talking about discovering the Christ within us, to be the resurrected, living Jesus we know God has called us to be.

As we come into spring, expect the miracle of new life. Expect to be transformed. Again, that is what Easter is all about. Some miracles are large and some are small, some require that we look for them. A number of them even require that we work to reveal them. However, if we do look, if we keep expecting them and are willing to do what God asks us to do; those miracles will just keep coming.

I am excited about what this Easter season has in store for us all, personally and as a community in Christ. I encourage you to keep your heart, mind and spirit open. Let us plan together, pray together, and work together. Let us prepare to be transformed.

I invite you all to participate in the Holy week services including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the Great Easter Eve Vigil and of course Easter morning Communion service. Invite those you have missed to join us and share in this time of personal transformation and renewal.


Take care and be well, Peace
Pastor Ken

Happy Birthdays in April

- 4-11 Megan Hincherrick
- 4-13 Nelson Prange
- 4-15 Christina Galvin
- 4-16 Tom Kaufman
- 4-16 James Wood

Anniversaries in April

- 4-16 Tamara & Tom Gorence
- 4-29 Lynn & Steve Andrews



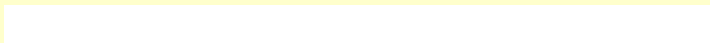
Military Prayer List

I will be including a list in the newsletter of our men and women in the military, to acknowledge those who serve and to pray for their safety. Please submit your love one's, family member or friend's name, rank, and branch of service to be placed on the list.

Joshua Bieske Sgt. First Class US Air Force

Prayers For

.... Claudette, Barb, Ralph, Wayne, Danielle, Keith, Karen, Sue, Mark, Harvey, Lynn, Don, Lois, Marion, Tom, Brenda, Prange Family, Tamara, Ken, Kathy, Michael, Gina, Families of St. John & St. James



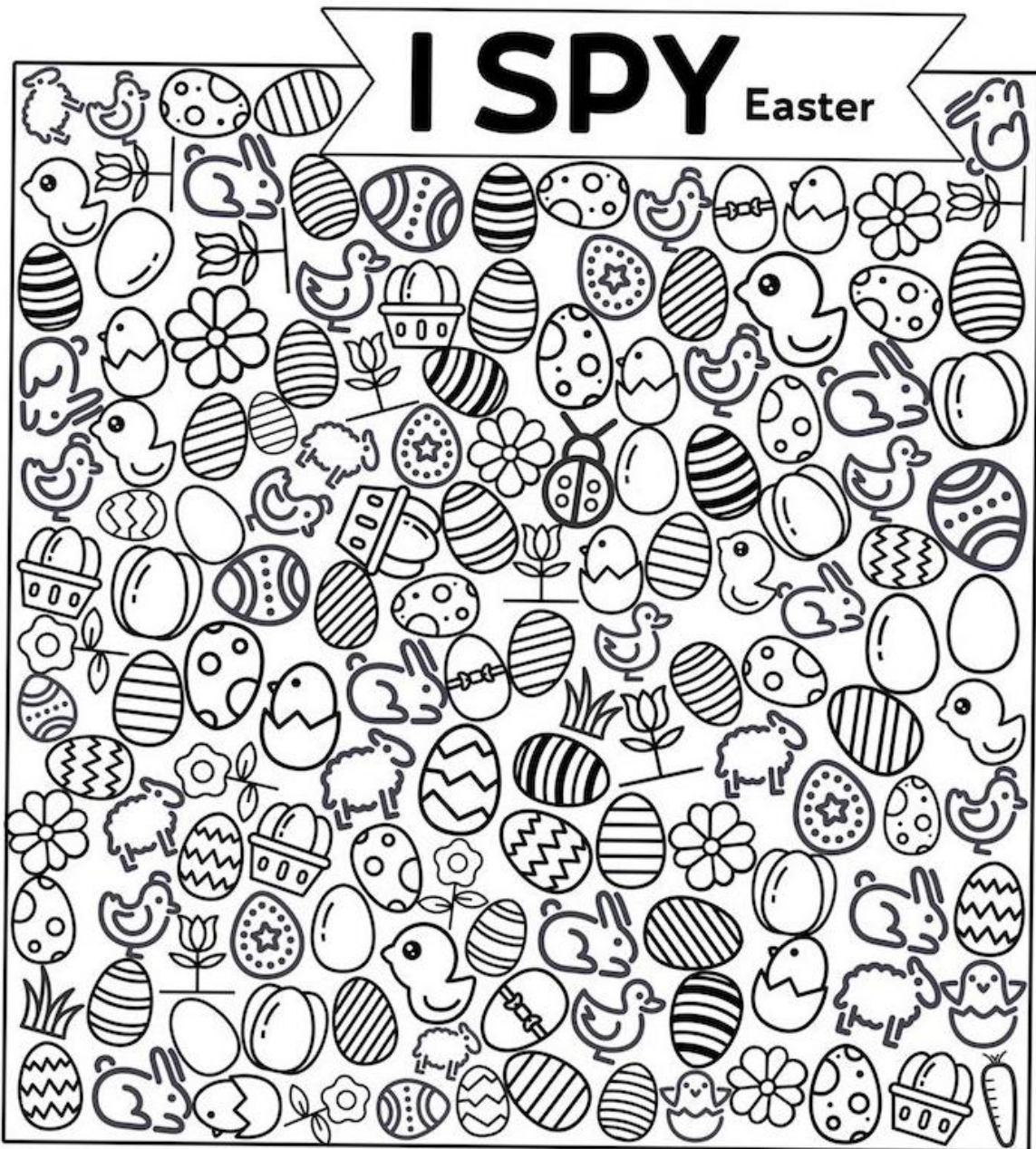
Worship Ministry

**Volunteers Needed
Please sign-up**

Please consider signing up for the ministries of Usher/ Greeter, Liturgists, Communion Servers and altar Care.

****Live streaming of Sunday Services will continue at 9:00am on the St. James Facebook page and St. Johns Sunday Services will continue at 11:00am on the St. Johns Facebook page. Both will be available as a video any time after the live streams.****

Kid's Page



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 2 | | 4 | | 4 | | 5 | | 4 | | 5 | | 7 | | 4 | | 6 | | 5 | |
| 1 | | 6 | | 7 | | 1 | | 3 | | 6 | | 7 | | 4 | | 7 | | 5 | |
| 3 | | 3 | | 4 | | 6 | | 2 | | 7 | | 5 | | 9 | | 6 | | 3 | |

Easter Poem



The SWEET Truth of Easter

These candies tell a story~
the best news you'll ever hear.
~It's about Jesus dying on the cross
so that we could be brought near.

So hold them and turn them and you will see...
the "M" become a "W" an "E" and then a "3"

The "E" stands for... Easter....
God's everlasting love and His eternal plan.

It reminds us of the cross
and the way God rescued sinful man
The "3" represent the 3 days Jesus spent in the grave....
By His death, His children He did save

The "M" reminds us of the mercy the Messiah showed
as He died in our place.
and the miracle of the resurrection
so we can see Him face to face.

The "W" reminds us... that He alone
is worthy of our worship and praise
and calls us to be His witnesses
around the world for all of our days.

by Bethany Tapp
<http://ministry-to-children.com/easter-poem/>

Meeting Minutes / Reports

St. John's United Church of Christ

Council Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2022

Call to order: 6:38 p.m.

Roll Call/Council Members: Georgia Phelan, Carolyn Hosford, Shari Faucher, Miriam Guyor, Don Weichert, Pastor Ken Gadd. Absent: Katie Phelan

Opening Prayer: Pastor Ken

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Carolyn to accept Agenda. Second by Shari. Carried,

Minutes of last meeting: Motion by Shari to approve minutes with correction. Second by Carolyn. Carried.

Calendar Updates: February 20: Installation of Officers
March 2: Ash Wednesday service at St. James, 7:00
March 27: St. James corned beef dinner
March 9: Zoom discussion group begins through April 13, 7:00
April 14: Maundy Thursday service at St. James, 7:00
April 15: Good Friday services followed by Stations of the Cross at St. James at noon, St. John's at 7:00
April 16: Holy Saturday service at St. James, 7:00
April 17: Easter Sunday service, 9:30 at St. James and 11:00 at St. Johns

Our new Council member is Linda Girard.

Election of Officers: All officers will retain their positions - Georgia Phelan, President; Don Weichert, Vice President; Carolyn Hosford, Treasurer; Miriam Guyor, Secretary

Ministry Reports

1. Worship
 - A. Lent and Easter plans
 - I. Georgia will check our supply of pre-printed programs and check with Dorothy and Roberta.
 - II. Carolyn will get the palm fronds.
2. Fellowship
 - A. We are still waiting to hear St. James Chili Cook Off date before setting our date for our Chili Potato Dinner.
3. Outreach
 - A. St. John's/James cooperative 2022 Christmas totes program is ongoing.
 - B. Blue Water Safe Horizons program will be cooperative with St. James.
 - C. 2022 Rummage Sale will be held May 20-21. Donations can be brought in after Easter.

Spiritual Growth

- A. Prayer Group/Mary Martha Guild. MMG meeting was held February 9. Loretta showed the Crazy Quilt that will be raffled at the Rummage Sale. They will also hold their bake sale during the Rummage Sale. Requested that the fellowship room floors be washed and waxed.
- B. Sunday School Report. The new curriculum is working well.
- C. Discussion group will begin March 9 at 7 p.m. and run through April 13. The subject will be the Apostles.
- D. Scheduling is being done for our Confirmation candidate.

Earthly Gifts

- A. Treasurer's Report. Motion by Shari to accept P&L and Balance Sheets as presented. Second by Miriam. Carried. It was noted that the new format for these reports have been well received.
- B. Online vote to approve the proposed 2022 budget: Yea, 5 and Nay, 0
- C. Online vote to approve insurance premiums: Yea, 6 and Nay, 0

Records/History Book. Shari is doing ongoing maintenance.

Pastor's Report

Unfinished Business

- A. Shari will take over sending out cards and Dorothy will continue doing flowers.
- B. Draft use agreement/use of Community Room: ongoing (Georgia)
- C. Annual Meeting Review: we had a good turnout and enjoyed the potluck.

New Business

- A. Scholarships. Motion by Don to have our graduating student/member receive a \$300 scholarship this year. Second by Shari. Carried. The high school will be contacted regarding recognition at their Scholarship Night.
- B. Don will conduct the March Council meeting in Georgia's absence.
- C. We do not need to renew our Sam's Club membership as Carolyn uses hers when she shops for us.

Adjournment: Carolyn made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Second by Shari. Carried.

Closing prayer: Carolyn

Next meeting: March 14, 2022

1:43 AM
3/09/22
Cash Basis

St. John United Church of Christ
Profit & Loss
February 2022

	Feb 22	Jan - Feb 22	% YTD
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Disaster Relief	0.00	-760.00	0.0%
Envelope Offering	0.00	15.00	0.0%
Initial Offering	20.00	70.00	28.6%
Interest Earned	0.36	0.36	100.0%
Interest Income	0.01	0.97	1.0%
Lenten Service	20.00	20.00	100.0%
Mary Martha Donations	0.00	50.00	0.0%
Memorial Fund	50.00	50.00	100.0%
Miscellaneous Income			
Coffee Hour	33.00	75.00	44.0%
TOPS #1904	0.00	20.00	0.0%
Tuesday Night AA	0.00	100.00	0.0%
Total Miscellaneous Income	33.00	195.00	16.9%
Plate Offering	4,105.00	8,661.79	47.4%
Total Income	4,228.37	8,303.12	50.9%
Expense			
Bank Service Charges			
Paypal Charge	3.78	3.78	100.0%
Bank Service Charges - Other	5.00	10.00	50.0%
Total Bank Service Charges	8.78	13.78	63.7%
Dues and Subscriptions	0.00	120.00	0.0%
Insurance Expense	2,786.00	2,786.00	100.0%
Internet and Phone	71.52	105.60	67.7%
Office Supplies	32.96	32.96	100.0%
Payroll Expenses	3,116.66	6,308.32	49.4%
Postage and Delivery	58.00	58.00	100.0%
Reimbursement	0.00	13.50	0.0%
Repairs and Maintenance	600.00	600.00	100.0%
Utilities	383.44	770.16	49.8%
Total Expense	7,057.36	10,808.32	65.3%
Net Ordinary Income	-2,828.99	-2,505.20	112.9%
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Interest Earned on CD	0.00	3.21	0.0%
Interest Earned on Money Market	2.90	2.90	100.0%
Total Other Income	2.90	6.11	47.5%
Net Other Income	2.90	6.11	47.5%
Net Income	-2,826.09	-2,499.09	113.1%

Scripture Readings for April

Sunday, April 3
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Isa 43: 16-21
Ps 126
Phil 3: 4b-14
Jn 12: 1-8
Something New

Sunday, April 17
Easter
Acts 10: 34-43 or Isa 65: 17=25
Ps 118:1 – 2, 14-24
1 Cor 15: 19-26 or Acts 10: 34-43
Jn 30: 1=18 or Luke 24: 1-12
Resurrection Joy

Sunday, April 10
Palm Sunday
Isa 50: 4-9a
Ps 31: 9-16
Phil 2: 5-11
Luke 22: 14-23: 56 or Luke 23: 1-49
Into Jerusalem

Sunday, April 24
Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 5: 27-32
Ps 118: 14-29 or Ps 150
Rev 1: 4-8
Jn 20: 19-31
Resurrection Witness

Blue Water Area Humane Society

St. John's Sunday School students and counterparts at St. James have been collecting items for the Blue Water Area Humane Society Shelter in Wadhams. With an assist from St. John's member and shelter director Katie Phelan, they visited on March 19 and eight kids of varying ages participated. The kids brought dog and cat food, blankets and towels, cleaning supplies, paper products and a lot of other supplies. Pastor Ken brought St. James' donated items to St. John's and on March 18, our friend Jeff Duceatt completely filled his pickup with all the goods for the trip to the shelter the next day. In addition to the pet products, cash donations were received and sent along. Our group also contributed while at the shelter by helping socialize puppies and kittens. In other words, they got to play with them! Congrats to all who participated and donated to our Sunday School ministry.

Message from St. Johns Council President

April- spring time, Lent and Easter. This is a favorite time of year for me- so full of hope and promise. I hope you feel the spirit, too!

I have great hope that you have contributed as best you can to our Ukraine Relief effort in partnership with St. James. Donations are scheduled to be received through March 27. My heart just breaks for the people of Ukraine. War is a brutal, unforgiving monster and so many innocent people are victimized. Jobs are gone, homes are gone and the destruction rages on. I know whatever size our efforts are, they will be appreciated by these people. May they find our Lord in the hands reaching out to them from around the world.

Easter is on April 17 this year. Please check the enclosed calendar for important activities during this holy season of Lent, particularly Holy Week leading up to Easter Sunday.

Pastor Ken's Discussion Group on The Apostles continues on Zoom each Wednesday through April 13. It's never too late to join in; each week is its own discussion. All you need to do to join is to provide Pastor Ken with your email address and he will send you the invitation. Then, all you do is click on the link and you're in on your computer, laptop or phone.

We can all be very proud of our Sunday School students' collection for the animals at the Blue Water Area Humane Society. St. James also collected items and brought them to St. John's in time to be delivered all together on March 19. Eight young people from Sunday School helped on delivery day and stayed on to help socialize the animals. That translates to playing with puppies and kittens- wish I could have been there! Many thanks to teacher Miriam Guyor for orchestrating this effort, St. John's and St. James' members for their contributions, St. John's Council Member Katie Phelan for organizing on the Humane Society end, and Friend of St. John's Jeff Duceatt for use of his truck to deliver the goods!

Of course, it wouldn't be spring without our Annual Rummage Sale and Mary Martha Guild Bake Sale. This year's dates are Friday and Saturday, May 20 and 21 for the sale, with preparation days just prior to that. We will begin accepting donations right after Easter. If you can help during prep or the sale, please let Miriam Guyor or me know. And all baked goods will be welcome on the day before and days of the sale. So, it's time to plan that big clean out of closets and garages (we'll take donations from friends and neighbors, too) - we can use all of your "stuff"!

Please note that the memorial for St. John's member Irene Lindeborg will be held on Friday, April 8, at 11:00 a.m. here at St. John's.

Like the flowers of spring, may God keep you growing in faith 😊
Georgia

April Activities

Sunday, April 3 – Sunday Worship with Holy Communion – 11am

Wednesday, April 6 - Zoom Discussion Group, The Apostles - 7:00 pm

Friday, April 8 – Irene Lindeborg Memorial – St. John’s – 11:00am.

Sunday, April 10 – Palm Sunday Worship – 11am.

Wednesday, April 13 - Zoom Discussion Group, The Apostles - 7:00 pm

Thursday, April 14 - Maundy Thursday - 7:00 pm at St. James’

Friday, April 15 - Good Friday Service - Noon at St. James’, includes Stations of the Cross
7:00 pm at St. John’s, includes Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 16 – Great Easter Vigil / Holy Saturday - 7:00 pm St. James’

Sunday, April 17 - Easter Breakfast – 8am at St. James (bring a dish for the Potluck Breakfast)
Easter Service - 9:00 am service at St. James’
11:00 am service at St. John’s

Sunday, April 24 – Sunday Service – 11am.

May Activities

Sunday, May 1 – Sunday Worship with Holy Communion – 11am

Monday, May 9 – Council Meeting – 6:30pm.

Sunday, May 15 – Sunday Worship with Holy Communion – 11am.

Thursday, May 19 -Rummage Sale Prep Day - 9 am-?

Friday, May 20 - Rummage & Bake Sale, St. John’s - 9 am-5:00 pm

Saturday, May 21 - Rummage & Bake Sale, St. John’s - 9 am-3 pm

Sunday, May 22 – Sunday Worship – 11am

Sunday, May 29 – Sunday Worship with Healing – 11am.

Additional Activities

Sunday Services

Sunday Service is in person 11:00 a.m. Service is also available via online streaming on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. If it is not available on our Facebook page, please try St. James' - it is the exact same service. Both will be available to view as a video any time after the live streams. www.facebook.com/Stjohnsuccmarinecity or www.facebook.com/St.James-United-Church-of-Christ-10150090210425008.

Council Meetings

Church Council's next meeting is April 11th at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

Sunday School

Sunday School meets Sunday during service.

Coffee Donations

There is a container on the counter by the coffee pots for freewill donations to help pay for the cost of Coffee Hour. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Giving Lasts All Year!

St. John's & St. James' Christmas Charity Tote Bags: Some needed items:

School supplies:

Colored pencils/markers

Crayons

Pencil sharpeners/erasers

Scissors/rulers

Toothpaste/Floss

Washcloths

Socks- for ages 2-14

Headbands/barrettes/bows

Toys ages 2-14

Donations accepted all year to accumulate 100 of each item;
distribution is via local organizations. Donation box & COMPLETE LIST on table.

St. Johns United Church of Christ
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We're on the Web!
stjohnsmarinacity.org



APRIL NEWSLETTER