

St. Johns United Church of Christ

News from Pastor Ken

July & August 2023

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Greetings to all. I hope you are enjoying the summer. It does seem however like spring and summer have been bouncing back and forth for the last month. There have been several weeks in June that felt like hot dry July days.

Even though there has been a definite shortage of rain, with the help of hauling water, the gardens have exploded with all kinds of wonderful colors and fragrances. I am excited about a couple new projects taking shape in my gardens as well. And as nature would have it, at least at my house the mosquitoes seem to be delighted with the weather as well. Notwithstanding, I am thrilled that summer is here and the long winter is behind us. It is a glorious summer.

The summer, especially July, has for many years now been a rich time of reflection and gratitude. This month provides many opportunities for reflecting on times of major transformation in my life. As we start the back half of the year, I am reminded to embrace each new day with all the opportunities, challenges, and times of spiritual enlightenment that every new day can bring. As one journey ends a new and exciting one begins.

I am hoping that for you this summer is a time of reflecting and relaxing. For some of you it will be a time of graduations, weddings, vacations, get-a-ways, and trips to the beach. I offer traveling mercies to you all, wherever this summer's adventures take you.

Remember when out and about to stop in the local church and say hello and share with them about your home church and how God has touched your life. One of my fond memories as kids was my mother always had us stop by churches wherever and whenever we were visiting places to go in just say a little prayer and look around. She would say that it was important so when the day came to meet God face to face, he would recognize us and remember we had stopped by to say hello. That funny little story still has me stopping by churches whenever I am on the road

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

whether traveling for pleasure or for work.

For some of us this has been a difficult and challenging summer dealing with issues of health, money, loss or just life on life's terms. Perhaps even to the point of trying our faith. Please know that you are not on this journey alone. God is always with us and makes God's presence known by surrounding us with friends, family (and as I like to say, some I'm related to) and the occasional encounter with a stranger that God sends along to deliver a message. I truly believe that God is with me the most when times are hardest and I feel it the least. My history is proof. I believe it to be true for you as well.

Others of us are just laying low enjoying those laid-back lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer. Remember that list of everything we were going to do this summer...relax a little. The list is always bigger than the time and energy to do it. Do what you can but remember to enjoy.

As we spend the summer relaxing and having fun, we have so much to look forward to with a new season of worship and spiritual growth. May your summer be a restful, revitalizing time, Spirit-filled and surrounded by the grace and love of God. And remember that regardless of where the summer takes you, you are held in God's unconditional love, boundless mercy, and unending grace and there is a place for you here. Have a great summer. See you Sunday!

Take care and be well, Peace.
Ken

Happy Birthdays in July

7/1 Karen Jolicoeur
7/5 Aaron Forest
7/7 Katie Phelan
7/7 Marilee Schultz
7/9 Shari Faucher
7/18 Bea Gubanche
7/18 Lori LaMontagne
7/22 Carolyn Hosford

Anniversaries in July

7/8 Dorothy & Kurt Schultz
7/26 Georgia & Mike Phelan
7/27 Mary & Bill Galvin
7/30 Denise & Douglas Beattie

Happy Birthdays in August

8/13 Janet Bulgrien
8/24 Don Weichert

Anniversaries in August

8/8 Lisa & Aaron Forest
8/11 Megan & Mark Hincerick
8/25 Lois & Don Weichert



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
Lacey Tite	Security	US Navy

Worship Ministry

Volunteers Needed
Please sign-up

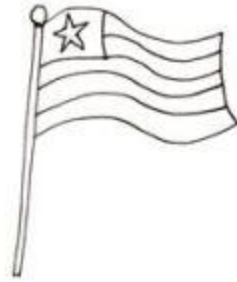
Please consider signing up for the ministries of Usher/ Greeter, Liturgists, Communion Servers, and Altar Care.

Prayers For

Prayers for Claudette, Ralph, Wayne, Danielle, Keith, Karen, Ryan, Judy, Shirley, Sue, Dan, Luran, Kathy, Art, Holly, Christopher, Al, Hazel, Gina, Michael, Deborah, Cheryl, Lorraine, Trudy, Carolyn, Ken, Sharon, James, Melanie, Scott, Bernice, Gary, Marion, Don, Dorothy, Joe, Mike, Families of St. John & St. James

Kid's Page

4th of JULY



Word Search



L E S T E Q S I X G F C I I L
M D F U N E W A G A E J X N C
W F L N P A V R O L M B U D O
K B P I C N I C E F O R R E Y
J P R V B P K B J D D B Y P M
R T K K E F R X G P E M P E J
S U R A S A T B Q A E F O N X
X L H T T M S A B A R W B D U
H T A I T I Z K C S F Q T E H
Y R O B P L Y R F I U O X N F
S N G I B Y Q P S S R M O C P
V Y I A J J R M X F X E M E W
R F L S K R O W E R I F M E F
F A I U P E F E T I H W X A R
T C L I J L G I T B E P E G K

AMERICA
BLUE
CELEBRATION
FAMILY
FIREWORKS
FLAG
FREEDOM
FUN

INDEPENDENCE
JULY
PICNIC
RED
STARS
STRIPES
SUMMER
WHITE

Fourth of July Blessings!



COURAGEOUS CHRISTIAN FATHER

4TH OF JULY

F Freedom came with a price, the price of Christ blood shed on the Cross.

O Our Lord and Savior saved us all from our sins.

U Unrighteous we may be, but the grace us God set us free.

R Rely on God, He will show our paths.

T The truth is in God's Word, the Bible, His Holy Book.

H Helping one another along the way.

O Obedient to what God wants us to do.

F Father, Creator, God is He.

J Jesus died for our sins.

U United one day, we believers will be in Heaven.

L Love one another as Christ loved us.

Y You are a special creation made from God, our Heavenly Father.

Written by Steve Patterson on June 18, 2012.
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Meeting Minutes / Reports

St. John's United Church of Christ

May 8, 2023

Council Meeting MINUTES

Call to Order: 6:38

Roll Call/Council Members present: Shari Faucher, Georgia Phelan, Carolyn Hosford, Don Weichert, Linda Girard

Absent: Pastor Ken, Miriam Guyor, Katie Phelan

Opening Prayer: Georgia

Minutes of April 10 meeting: Motion to approve as presented: Shari. Second: Linda. Motion carries.

Calendar Updates: May 7 & 21: Communion Service

May 14: Last Sunday School class

May 17 & 18: Prep and set up for Rummage Sale

May 19 & 20: Rummage Sale

June 3: Church spring cleaning day, 9 a.m. to noon

Additions: June 11, Scholarship Service, July 16, Outdoor Service and Potluck- both pending

Pastor approval

Ministry Reports No report

Worship. Compensation discussion to increase Pastor salary. Motion by Linda to increase by \$100/week, beginning in May. Second Don. Motion carries. Georgia to let Birdie know for payment.

Fellowship.

Outreach.

A. American Red Cross blood drive July 20. Can register online now. Shari will set up promotions.

B. Rummage and Bake Sale. **Volunteers needed!**

C. Scholarships. Motion to award to Andrew Rickel and Mikayla Sans by Shari, second by Don.

Motion carries. Note: Mary Martha Guild will award theirs Mikayla as these were the only two applicants. We will start this process in January next year in the hope of receiving more applicants.

D. St. John's website; no discussion

Spiritual Growth

A. Sunday School last class is May 14.

Earthly gifts.

Treasurer's Reports. Motion by Linda, second by Don to approve as presented. Motion carries.

Building and Grounds.

A. Spring cleaning day June 3, 9-noon

B. Parking lot sealing. GP to get pricing.

Records/History Book. No report.

Pastor's Report. No report.

Unfinished Business.

New Business

- A. City of Marine City: waterline inventory/excavation. Nothing for us to do, but they will be doing some work on the grounds this year to check lines.
- B. Mother's Day flowers? Shari will make arrangements with Garden of Peace florist.

Correspondence. None. Adjournment; 7:09 pm

Closing prayer.

Next meeting: July 10, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. Correct to June 12

Giving Lasts All Year!

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

We are starting over again for the next year. The tote bags are for both boys and girls between the ages of 2 and 14. The items accepted anytime: hygiene items such as: toothbrush holders, toothbrushes, toothpaste, washcloths, dental floss, comb/brushes, hair accessories such as head bands, ponyes a, clips, bows, and barrettes and school supplies such as: notebooks, crayons, colored pencils, colored markers, pencil sharpeners, scissors (for youngsters and older children) , rulers, large erasers. Pens, pencils and socks, hats, scarves and gloves/mittens and toys.

Please donate travel size items, we only have so much space to store the items in for the year and we need to get all items to fit in the bags. Please try to **stick to the list** so we receive enough of the items we need and not a little of items that are considered extra items.

Thank you!!!

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

2:21 PM
6/21/23
Cash Basis

St. John United Church of Christ
Profit & Loss
May 2023

	May 23	Jan - May 23
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Christmas Offering	0.00	30.00
Fundraiser - Income		
Fox Fire Fixin	0.00	322.70
Rummage Sale	2,104.76	2,104.76
Total Fundraiser - Income	2,104.76	2,427.46
Initial Offering	0.00	70.00
Lenten Service	0.00	270.00
Memorial Fund	585.00	1,925.00
Miscellaneous Income		
Coffee Hour	44.00	192.00
Rent		
TOPS #1904	20.00	190.00
Tuesday Night AA	100.00	200.00
Rent - Other	0.00	50.00
Total Rent	120.00	440.00
Total Miscellaneous Income	164.00	632.00
Our Christian World Mission	10.00	30.00
Plate Offering	4,565.37	22,655.66
Scholarship Fund	20.00	25.00
Tonado Relief	110.00	525.00
Total Income	7,559.13	28,590.12
Expense		
Bank Service Charges		
Paypal Charge	0.00	9.68
Bank Service Charges - Other	0.00	30.00
Total Bank Service Charges	0.00	39.68
Contributions & Donations	0.00	2,000.00
Disaster Relief Expense	525.00	525.00
Flower Expense	200.00	406.00
Fundraising Expense		
Quilt Raffle Expense	0.00	178.01
Total Fundraising Expense	0.00	178.01
Insurance Expense	0.00	3,861.00
Internet and Phone	59.95	279.75
Kitchen Supplies	21.98	74.12
Office Supplies	156.41	292.32
Payroll Expenses	3,549.99	16,166.63
Postage and Delivery	0.00	120.00
Repairs and Maintenance	290.00	1,869.99
Utilities	108.50	1,694.18
Total Expense	4,911.83	27,506.68
Net Ordinary Income	2,647.30	1,083.44
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Interest Earned	0.60	2.79
Interest Earned on CD	0.00	4.33
Interest Earned on Money Market	1.94	11.34
Total Other Income	2.54	18.46

12:21 PM
06/21/23
Cash Basis

St. John United Church of Christ
Profit & Loss
May 2023

	<u>May 23</u>	<u>Jan - May 23</u>
Other Expense		
Misc	0.00	198.05
Total Other Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>198.05</u>
Net Other Income	<u>2.54</u>	<u>-179.59</u>
Net Income	<u><u>2,649.84</u></u>	<u><u>903.85</u></u>

Message from St. Johns Council President

LET'S GO OUTSIDE! I love our outdoor service each summer- it reminds me of how blessed we are here at St. John's to have such a beautiful home for our church. And how fortunate we were to have it become available when it did. Not to mention how gracious St. Mark's members were to accept what we had to offer for it. I love to sit under that gracious old tree- one of several at St. John's- and give thanks to the Lord for the blessings we have. Be sure to invite someone to join us and experience that joy, too! And the potluck that follows- well, what's to say? That's its own kind of joy!!

We recently received a thank you note from the American Red Cross for our \$525 donation toward tornado relief. It's hard to imagine going through that kind of devastation to your home or business. God bless everyone who contributed. And speaking of the Red Cross...

July is St. John's Blood Drive month. Please register to donate on July 20 and invite others to participate in this much needed effort. We had a good turnout last year- let's do it again 😊

Many thanks to Mary Galvin, Sandy Fritz, Carolyn Hosford and Georgia Phelan (hey-that's me!) for their thorough spring cleaning in early June. With only four, not everything got done, but an impressive amount did. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

We were very pleased on June 11 to have both our St. John's Scholarship recipients at our service. What a gracious and appreciative pair! And to add some fun to this, we found out they are dating each other. Mikayla and Andrew will both be attending Oakland University in the fall, Mikayla studying education and Andrew studying social work. We all enjoyed graduation cake following service.

We really need a few more people to step up and help as liturgists, greeters, and/or ushers. The handful who continues to serve St. John's in this way deserve a break once in a while. How about giving it a try? The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Room- there's a spot for your name!

If you haven't filled out a "Why I love St. John's" card yet, please do so or just email or text your feelings about belonging to me. It's so interesting to see what others feel. We're truly like the colors of the rainbow- each so different, yet all in the same place. May God's love surround and support you!

Georgia

July Activities

Sunday, July 2 – Sunday Worship with Holy Communion Service – 11am

Sunday, July 9 – Sunday Worship – 11am

Monday, July 10 - Church Council meeting – 6:30pm

Saturday, July 15 - Euchre at St. James – 6:30pm.

Sunday, July 16 – Sunday Worship with Holy Communion Service – 11am
Outdoor Service and Potluck Picnic following service.

Thursday, July 20 - Red Cross Blood Drive – 12pm to 6pm. – Sign up soon

Sunday, July 23 – Sunday Worship – 11am

Tuesday, July 25 – Fundraiser Dinner for St. James at Murphy's Inn – 5pm to 8pm.

Sunday, July 30 – Sunday Worship with Healing Service – 11am

August Activities

Sunday, August 6 – Sunday Worship with Holy Communion Service – 11am

Monday, August 10 - Church Council meeting – 6:30pm

Sunday, August 13 – Sunday Worship Service – 11am

Saturday, August 19 - Euchre at St. James – 6:30pm.

Sunday, August 20 – Sunday Worship with Holy Communion Service – 11am

Sunday, August 27 – Sunday Worship Service – 11am

September Activities

Sunday, September 3 – Sunday Worship with Holy Communion Service – 11am

Sunday, September 10 – Sunday Worship Service – 11am

Additional Activities

Sunday Services

Sunday Service is held at 11:00 a.m. each week. This service is also available live via online streaming at 11:00 a.m. St. James' service is streamed at 9:00 a.m. Both are 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 July 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

Sunday School

Sunday School is held the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Students are encouraged to attend services on the first and third Sundays as well. Lynn Andrews and Miriam Guyor are teachers this year. Sunday School is closed till Fall.

Mary Martha Guild

Mary Martha Guild meets the second Wednesday of each month at noon in the Community Room.

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.

Prayer Group

Prayer Group meets the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Community Room. We will be praying for our family and friends. Anyone is welcome to join us. Please let us know if you have any prayer needs.

Coffee Hour

Although we gather for coffee, visiting and goodies each Sunday after service, we have a special Coffee Hour the first Sunday of each month when special food is prepared and shared. This is provided by members. To take a turn to host, please sign up in the Community Room.

Hundreds of older and disabled neighbors in our community need help getting to doctor appointments, the grocery store or other essential errands. Being able to get food and medical care can make it possible for them to remain in their homes as long as possible. The **Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers** program is in need of drivers who are available during daytime hours. If you have just a couple hours a month that you can give to someone in need, you can make a huge difference in the life of a struggling neighbor. You tell us what days, times and areas are convenient for you and we call you with specific appointments that meet your criteria. If you are free, say yes. If you're not, simply decline and we will call you another time. Even one more ride a year makes a big difference to the person who needs it! Please call our office today at (586) 757-5551. Learn more at www.ivcinfo.org

Scripture Readings for July

Sunday, July 2

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Gen 22: 1-14 and Ps 13 or

Jer 28: 5-9 and PS 89: 1-4, 15-18

Rom 6: 12-23

Matt 10: 40-42

Holy Welcome

Sunday, July 16

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Gen 25: 19-34 and Ps 139: 1-12, 23-24 or

Isa 55: 10-13 and Ps 65 (1-8), 9-13

Rom 1: 1-17

Matt 13; 1-9, 18-23

A House Divided

Sunday, July 9

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Gen 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 and Ps 45: 10-17
or Song of Sol 2: 8 – 13 or Zech 9: 9-12 and Ps
145: 8-14

Rom 7: 15 – 25a

Matt 11: 16-18, 25-30

Chosen Journeys

Sunday, July 23

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Gen 28: 10-19a and Ps 139: 1-12, 23-24 or

Wisdom of Sol 12: 13, 16-19 or ISA 44: 6-8 and

Ps 86: 11-17

Rom 8: 12-25

Matt 13: 24-30, 36-43

Wheat and Weeds Together

Sunday, July 30

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Gen 29: 15-28 and PS 105: 1-11, 45b or Ps 128 or

1 Kings 3: 5-12 and Ps 119: 129-136

Rom 8: 26-39

Matt 13: 31-33, 44-52

Weaving the Future

Scripture Readings for August

Sunday, August 6

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Gen 22: 22-31 and Ps 17: 1-7, 15 or

Isa 55: 1-5 and Ps 145: 8-9, 14-21

Ps Rom 9: 1-5

Matt 14: 13-21

Face to Face

Sunday, August 20

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Gen 45: 1-15 and Ps 133 or

Isa 56: 6*8 and Ps 67

Rom 11: 1-2a, 29-32

Matt 15; (10-20), 21-28

Bold Moves

Sunday, August 13

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Gen 37: 1-4, 12-28 and Ps 105: 1-6, 16-22,

45b or 1 Kings 19: 9-18 and Ps 85: 8-13

Rom 10: 5-15

Matt 14: 22-33

When all Seems Lost

Sunday, August 27

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Ex 1: 8, 2: 10 and Ps 124 or

isa 51: 1-6 and Ps 138

Rom 12: 1-8

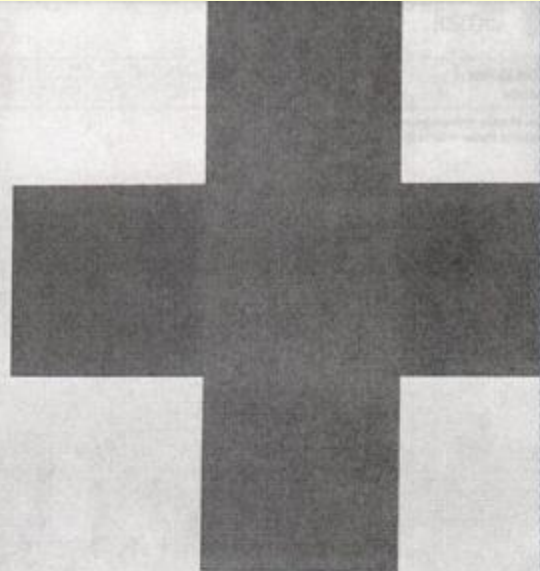
Matt 16: 13-20

Be Transformed

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



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

Fellowship Hall
527 N. William Street
Marine City

**Thursday, July 20, 2023
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: stjohnsucc or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



Come give July 17 thru 31 for an exclusive Shark Week shirt from Discovery, while supplies last!



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We're on the Web!
stjohnsmarinacity.org



JULY NEWSLETTER