



St. John's United Methodist Church

Monthly Newsletter

Tidings

February 2024

Pastor's Page – February 2024



When people pray, things happen. I have been inviting the congregation of St. John's to grow a little deeper in prayer this January. If you have tough issues, try prayer. If you have health difficulties, try prayer. If you struggle with controlling people or anxiety...try prayer!

I share this story from recent history to encourage you to have faith when facing life challenges. In 1989, the wall came down in East Berlin and 10 East European countries suddenly found themselves free from communist control. Historians cite various reasons for this significant event but one factor is usually overlooked: a prayer meeting in the city of Leipzig.

For 40 years the church in East Germany had prayed for change to their circumstances. They cared for the poor and met every Monday night to pray and worship. Since 1982, Rev. Christian Fuehrer had met with a few people in his church on Mondays to pray. Seven years later there were four churches praying together each week, the numbers increasing even as ordinary townspeople joined their Christian neighbors. After each meeting, the people took candles and peacefully marched through the city.

The communist authorities debated how best to stop the marchers. The secret police issued death threats to church leaders and roughed up some of the marchers. But the crowds kept growing...as many as 50,000 marchers came some weeks towards the end of the summer.

On October 9, 1989, police and army units moved into Leipzig. Many participants feared it would all end in a massacre. The East German commander gave permission for troops to use force, but the prayer meeting and march went as planned: 70,000 people marched; the following Monday 120,000; and a week later 500,000 people filled the streets. By November 1, one million marchers swelled the streets of East Berlin. Then something amazing happened! Marchers crossed into West Berlin and the police stood by without firing a shot. The Berlin Wall and all that it symbolized had just crumbled.

What's your big issue this month? What's the one area you most desire God to work? If prayer could bring down a wall, and eventually the Iron Curtain...might it open the door for you to experience God's grace and help today? Keep the faith!

I love being one of your pastors,

Rev. Jeff Dadisman



Saturday, Feb. 17 @ 5:30 – Guest speaker: seeing the Messiah in the Passover

Dr. Michael Herts will share this message as the speaker for our Jesus Country worship service. The public is invited to attend. He comes to give our Christian community insight into Jewish traditions so that the Jewish roots of Christianity can be better understood. He will start with all the components of a typical Passover Seder meal and explain the symbolic meanings for each item of the Passover feast; highlighting the relationship to the Last Supper which Jesus celebrated with his disciples.

Each year we host an authentic "seder meal" at St. John's during the week before Easter. If you have participated in that traditional meal, or would like to in the future, this speaker is recommended as a way to add depth to your understanding. A love offering for our speaker will be received that night.





Be the change and pass it on!

St. John's Christian Education and Youth Programs

February 2024



SJUMC Family Tubing Day

@Snowstar winter park in Andalusia, IL

February 18, 2024 2pm-4pm

RSVP to Miss Megan
by February 15th

We Welcome YOU!

2023-2024 Learning Hour

(Sundays @ 10am)

Midweek programs

for our Kid's, Youth, and Families (4:30 Kids Club, 5:30 Dinner, 6:00 Youth) we would love your presence.

If you have wondered about ways to get involved or even how to be a part of all the fun that is happening, "wander" no more!

Many Warm Blessings,

Megan Keller, Director of Christian Education and Youth Programs. megank@stjohnsumcdav.org

Are you a High School 2024 Graduate?

Consider applying for our St. John's Scholarship! If you are planning to go to college or a trade school, St. John's would like to express our love and support for you.

To qualify, the applicant must be an active member of St. John's UMC. There are applications available on our website or you can get one from our Director of Christian Education and Youth, Megan Keller.

As a part of the application, you are asked to write a 250-500 word essay on how St. John's has helped you develop a belief in God and how that belief will help you going forth in life. We ask that you also give the church ideas on how we can make the church more relevant to youth.

Please also obtain 2 letters of recommendation with the application. The application, essay, and letters of recommendation are due in the church office by March 31, 2024.

Awardees will be announced at all three services on Mother's Day weekend, 2024.



Winter Weather Policy

Please note we follow the Davenport Schools weather closure decisions.

If there is to be a program or meeting and the schools are closed due to weather, we also have to cancel.

We will send a text or phone call communication but if you see that the schools are closed, we most likely are too.

Feel free to call or text if you are unsure, and as always please use your own discretion if it is safe to travel... your safety comes first!

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal	2	3 Blanket Offering Communion 5:30pm Jesus Country
4 Blanket Offering COMMUNION 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	5 6:30pm Missions	6	7 9:00am Men's Bible study 4:30pm Kids Club 5:30pm Family Meal 5:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Praise Team rehearsal 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study	8 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal	9	10 5:30pm Jesus Country
11 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship 2:00pm Cafe on Vine Meal Preparation	12 7:00pm SPPRC	13 6:30pm Davenport Horticulture Board	14 9:00am Men's Bible study 10:00am UWF Board 1:00pm Worship Ash Wednesday 6:30pm Worship Ash Wednesday-First Baptist 6:30pm Praise Team rehearsal	15 5:45pm No Bells practice 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal	16	17 Paul Beatty Offering 5:30pm Jesus Country-Guest Speaker
18 Food Pantry Sunday Paul Beatty Offering 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship 2:00pm Snow Star Youth Tubing	19 8:00am Blessing Box Drive (KWQC) 5:00pm Trustees 6:30pm Steering Committee 7:30pm Church Council	20 2:00pm Deborah Circle 5:30pm The Center Board 6:00pm Dorcas Circle	21 12:00am Priscilla Circle 9:00am Men's Bible study 1:00pm Lenten Study 4:30pm Kids Club 5:30pm Family Meal 5:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Praise Team rehearsal 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Study	22 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal	23 Tidings Deadline	24 5:30pm Jesus Country
25 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	26	27 2:00pm Joanna Circle	28 9:00am Men's Bible study 1:00pm Lenten Study 4:30pm Kids Club 5:30pm Youth Group 5:30pm Family Meal 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:00pm Lenten Study	29 Tidings Assembly 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal		

Missions Update

Mission Report Feb. 2024

Café on Vine – The Café on Vine director told us not to prepare the food for the second Sunday of January due to the severe weather conditions. So, we did not provide food for two months. However, since the weather will get warmer next month, we hope to provide food for the community. February 11th from 2pm-4pm if anyone is interested in preparing food for the community, please contact Jan Johnson or Pastor Jae.

Winter Kits - **We are aiming for Sunday, February 18 for packing.** After the Contemporary service, please join us as we will gather in the Conference Room to assemble the winter kits. We are still collecting and you are welcome to bring items for winter kits. Thank you for your generous donations to the kits.

Blessing Box Drive: Originally date was postponed but has now been rescheduled to President's Day, February 19th from 8am-5 pm. Thank you for your support for the community.



Upcoming Offerings in February

February 3-4, Blanket Offering

February 17-18, Paul Beatty Teach Beyond

Please check out the latest Newsletter from Paul and Lucy

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mb3G1TDoApIDeBa6Yo-a1ZH56KH_rE5/view?usp=sharing

 <p>CHURCH WORLD SERVICE Blanket Offering February 3-4</p> <p>The blanket Church World Services (CWS) buys can be used in many ways; they can be hung in windows where the glass has been broken, can keep the cold out and heat in during the winter, and keep the heat out in the summer. At a cost of only \$10 each, our goal is to collect and donate \$1,300 to CWS.</p> <p>cwsblankets.org</p>	<p>SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING FEB 17-18</p>  <p>Teach Beyond</p> <p>Greetings From Mauritius from Paul and Lucy</p> <p>Paul and Lucy Beatty are missionaries serving at the Lighthouse Primary and Secondary School on Mauritius, a small Indian Ocean island east of Madagascar, which was founded in 2009 and graduated its very first class in November 2021.</p>
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The Oasis Remodeling Project



Oasis Remodeling Project:

This work started in January

The remodel has been dubbed “the Oasis”. An oasis is a place where travelers find refreshment in the desert.

The location of the Oasis is strategic: it is near the main entrance AND next to the sanctuary. We’ve been serving coffee and donuts in the crowded hallway since COVID, but in the coming weeks you will see that area expanded as walls and doors are removed.

BLESSING BOX DRIVE

Rescheduled Date:

Monday, February 19, 2024

KWQC TV 6

805 Brady Street | Davenport, Iowa

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

(We will also offer a donation box at the church through February)

“A Box Full of Blessings”

ITEMS NEEDED

Cleaning Products

Laundry detergent
Fabric softener
Bathroom cleaners
Household cleaners
Paper towels
Toilet bowl brush/caddy
Hand sanitizers
Glass cleaner

Personal Products

Toothpaste/toothbrushes
Mouthwash
Deodorant
Soap/Body wash
Lotion/Vaseline
Feminine hygiene items
Bathroom tissue, Kleenex
Socks, gloves, hats

Monetary Donations also welcomed

Sponsored by
People Uniting
Neighbors and
Churches (PUNCH)
and Friends of
Martin Luther King
(FoMLK)



Music Ministry

February is a time we continue in the hopes the new year has promised. Musically, we will now begin our journey to the Cross.

Saturday, February 3rd

We will have a rehearsal at 9:00 am to read through music for our Good Friday service (March 29). We hope as many of you as possible will join us for this incredible time of reflection and introspection.

Thursday evenings

Regular rehearsals will continue on Thursday evenings and we welcome ALL, whenever you can come be a part of these music groups. Bells meet at 5:45 pm and Chancel Choir meets at 7pm. (Youth are welcome)

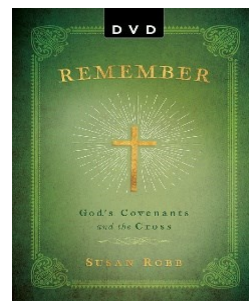
Children's Music

Children's music time is during the Sunday School time on Sunday mornings. When the children sing in worship, this is the time they learn the music. Watch for announcements about that in March.

Lenten Study Series:

Remember the God who remembers us

The six-session DVD features teaching sessions featuring Pastor Susan Robb. The video sessions are approximately 10-12 minutes long.



God's covenants throughout the Old Testament show the character of God's promises to God's people. This study leads participants through the covenants with Noah, Abraham, Moses and Israel, and David, followed by the New Covenant established on Maundy Thursday. The Lenten story culminates with an examination of the cross as another example of God's promise for a new world. This series will add to each person's understanding of God's promises through history and the role of Jesus's passion and crucifixion in the history of the covenants.

Lenten Zoom Study: Wednesdays at 1:00 (Jeff) or 7:00 (Jae)

Start Date: February 21 (it will last 6 weeks)



United
Women
in Faith

Please check your program book for DVAP and supplies for the pregnancy center

SPRING FLING: Mark your calendars on April 7 for the Spring Fling
Hosted by United Women of Faith at 3:00 in Fellowship Hall.

Enjoy delightful hors d'oeuvres and wonderful desserts along with spring music.
Tickets are \$15 and will be on sale at the Perry Street entrance March 17 & 24.
Also available in the Church office during the week and at the door.



Food Pantry Update

ST. JOHN'S FOOD PANTRY @ THE CENTER



by Sharon Imming
and the Mission Team

Thank you to all who contributed to the December canned good tree. We collected 209 cans. We were down but as the saying goes "every can helps". Monetary contributions were \$580.

Total food collected for 2023 was 3312 items; up 451 from 2022. Total monetary contributions for 2023 was \$ 9,740; up \$1,106 from 2022. Again, thank you for a successful year 2023 and making 2024 even better.

I am open for suggestions. Is there anything you would like to see different for our December project or is the can tree or toilet paper tree a go? (simsharon2@aol.com)

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

109 E. 14th St. | Davenport, IA 52803

Church office hours:

9AM-2PM, M-F

Appointments are encouraged

After 2PM by appointment only

Church office phone:

(563) 324-5278

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Associate Pastor

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

5:30PM Saturday Jesus Country in Fellowship Hall

9:00AM Sunday on WOC 1420 AM radio

(previous week's Classic Worship sermon)

9:00AM Sunday Classic Worship in the Sanctuary

(simulcast online on our YouTube channel)

11:00 AM Sunday Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary

(simulcast online on our YouTube channel)

Weather Related Updates: Check these sources

KWQC TV6, St. John's Facebook page, and St. John's website



Welcome new staff

The Staff-Pastor-Parish-Relations Committee is pleased to announce the hiring of Jenny Eckhardt.

She joined the church staff on January 3 and will be learning her new responsibilities over the coming weeks and months. Please welcome her to our church office if you stop in or call.

Jenny is a Quad City native who spends her free time outdoors hiking, roaming the QC for her next hobby photography location and spending time with her family.



Looking for volunteers for decor help, event photography and youth group activities

Please email: officemanager@stjohnsumcdav.org



Financial Update by Karen Weimer, Treasurer

The church's financial position as of December 31, 2023, our year end, has not yet been finalized. But we can say that the year has ended in good position thanks to the generous gifts of our church members.

The budget for 2024 is still being finalized at this time as we are waiting on additional insurance information to be received.