

Tidings

Monthly Newsletter



March 2024
St. John's United Methodist Church

Pastor's Page – March 2024 Old Testament Heroes



During Lent we are learning the stories of 5 Old Testament names that stand out in many ways as heroes of the faith. Hebrews chapter 11 includes these 5 names in a list that stands out like a biblical “hall of fame.” They are: Noah, Abraham, Moses, David and Jeremiah.

The Old Testament has been characterized by some as dusty, boring, and obscure history. But when you actually read the Bible, you find it more of interest than one might expect. These important Bible leaders were not included in the Bible because they were perfect, nor were they included because they were better than everyone else. I’m finding that they are in the Bible because they were chosen by God, and they said “yes.” As we read Genesis chapters 6-10 we meet the man called Noah. Then in Genesis 12 we meet Abraham & Sarah. As their stories unfold, we do see people of faith but they also stumble and fall. We see how they trust God and we see them in all their human frailties. The heroes of the Old Testament have doubts about God’s plan and fears for the future. Yet God still chooses to work with these fallible individuals, just as God chooses to work with us.

I hope you come along for the rest of our Sunday series: Remembering God’s Covenants. The midweek Bible study with the pastors have been reading the larger story along with each of our Sunday “heroes” that are featured in the sermon each week. Each of these leaders lived a life that was a mixture of faithfulness and struggle. There is drama and intrigue, times of testing and seasons of celebration. The Bible includes the stories of real people, with real flaws. People like you and people like me. They also had a hunger for something more than this world can satisfy. Maybe you feel that hunger too. Hope to see you in worship this weekend.

I love being one of your pastors,

Pastor Jeff

Rev. Jeff Dadisman

SJUMC Family Ministries Easter Morning Breakfast & Egg Hunt

JOIN US for breakfast between 8:30am and 10:30am in Fellowship Hall.

Join US for an Easter Egg Hunt in the church lawn at 10:30am.

There will be no Children and Youth Sunday School on Easter Morning.

Financial Update by Karen Weimer

The church finished 2023 in the positive thanks to members who made extra donations in December. Following is a summary of the 2023 financial information:

	Actual 2023	Budget 2023
Cash Receipts	781,634	783,776
Cash Disbursements	737,207	788,812
Receipts in Excess of Disbursements	44,427	(5,036)

And now we move on to 2024. The final Estimate of Giving for 2024 is \$709,386 from 128 people who completed pledge cards. This is approximately the same as in 2023. And as always, people can donate to the church even if they didn’t make a pledge.

The full year budget for 2024 is as follows:

	2024 Budget
Cash Receipts	803,236
Cash Disbursements	801,007
Receipts in Excess of Disbursements	2,229

We’ve now completed the month of January 2024 and following are the results:

	Actual Year-To-Date
Cash Receipts	121,935
Cash Disbursements	64,898
Receipts in Excess of Disbursements	57,037

The cash receipts for January include pledges paid in December 2023 that are for 2024 plus some people pay their entire 2024 pledge in January.



Be the change and pass it on!

St. John's Christian Education and Youth Programs

March 2024



Save the date:
Vacation Bible School June 23rd-27th
5:30pm-7:30pm (Dinner Included)

We Welcome YOU!

2023-2024 Learning Hour (Sundays @ 10am) and 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!



Family Fun Day Success!

Amazingly enough, we were able to enjoy a fun day at Snowstar with our church family. It was a beautiful day on the slopes and great connections were made.

Easter for the Kids and Youth!

Palm Sunday (March 24th) - Campership Bakesale. Help send kids to camp and enjoy some yummy goodies while doing so.

Both bakers and partakers are needed :) Contact Megan Keller if you plan to provide items. Thank you in advance!

Easter Morning (March 31st) - Easter Breakfast provided in Fellowship Hall 8:30am-10:30am followed by an Easter egg hunt for the kids on the lawn (weather depending).

Are you a High School 2024 Graduate?

Consider applying for our St. John's Scholarship!

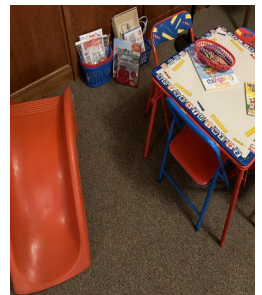
If you are planning to go to college or a trade school, St. John's would like to express our love and support for you. For more information, contact Megan Keller, Director of Christian Education and Youth Programs. The application, essay, and letters of recommendation are due in the church office by March 31, 2024. Awardees will be announced at all three services on Mother's Day weekend, 2024.

M. Keller-Director of Christian Education & Youth Programs

Check it out!

We love having kids in worship and we want to help them love to come to worship. Come check out the new "Pray-ground" located just inside the Narthex doors. This is also a way that parents can stay and play while still hearing the message.

Also new, we have adjusted our contemporary worship service and you will notice that we do not have a specific Children's moment in the line up. This is not intended to feel as though the kids are left out but gives more time for family fellowship from learning hour, as well as around the "Pray-ground."



March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Communion 5:30pm Jesus Country
3 COMMUNION 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	4 6:30pm Missions	5 1:00pm Club of 89	6 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 7:00pm Lenten Study	7 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal	8	9 5:30pm Jesus Country
10 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship 2:00pm Cafe on Vine Meal Preparation	11 6:00pm PEO 7:00pm SPPRC	12 6:30pm Davenport Horticulture Board	13 9:00am Men's Bible study 10:00am UWF Board 1:00pm Lenten Study 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Study	14 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal	15 Tidings deadline	16 5:30pm Jesus Country
17 Food Pantry Sunday 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	18 5:00pm Trustees 6:30pm Steering Committee 7:30pm Church Council	19 9:00am Staff Retreat 2:00pm Deborah Circle 5:30pm The Center Board 6:00pm Dorcas Circle	20 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 Jane Lange Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Study	21 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal	22	23 9:00am Dress Rehearsal for Tenebrae 5:30pm Jesus Country
24 9:00am Classic Worship 9:00am Youth Bake Sale 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	25	26	27 9:00am Men's Bible study 1:00pm Lenten Study 4:30pm Kids Club 5:30pm Family Meal 5:30pm Youth Group 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Study	28 5:00pm Seder Meal 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship w/ Communion	29 6:30pm Good Friday Worship w/ Choir Special	30 11:00am PUNCH Easter Egg Hunt - Cork Hill Park 5:30pm Jesus Country
31 8:30am Easter Breakfast 9:00am Classic Worship 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt 11:00am Contemporary Worship						



Missions Report, March, 2024

Mission Offering Report

Human Relations \$55, Blankets \$50, Kids Against Hunger \$875, Christmas offering for Kenya, Water Project \$5,630.81, Christmas offering for The Center, Neighborhood assistance \$4,825.81. Thanks for your generous donations!

Upcoming Mission Offerings

March 2-3 Kids Against Hunger

St. John's can reach a higher goal this year. Let's do \$2,000 this year and send more meals to our hungry families around the world. Please, give now and come to Change the World Sunday to pack the actual meals we send out. Thanks for your generous hearts!

March 17-18 UMCOR Sunday

UMCOR equips local churches, annual conferences, and nonprofit organizations to be on a mission with their communities and to respond to those left most vulnerable during challenging times. UMCOR responds to U.S. and international disasters, addresses diseases and poverty, assists refugees and immigrants, provides clean water, and works to reduce hunger. UMCOR would be unable to do this work without your support. The UMCOR Sunday special offering equips the organization to respond quickly.

Café On Vine

We had several people on the second Sunday, Feb.11, 2024. There were four Youth group members with Megan. They enjoyed cooking with adults (Mike, Matt and Annie, Scoot and Jan). Thank you all for your loving hearts for our neighbors in our community !!! If you are interested in supporting Café on Vine, please call the church office. (St. John's prepares meals only on the Second Sunday, from 2pm to 4pm)

BLESSING BOX DRIVE (P.U.N.C.H) Monday, February 19 was the rescheduled Blessing Box Drive. St. John's family was able to help get items out of the vehicles and greet people with smiles and blessings. It was a meaningful time to meet various people and support our community. Thanks again to those who brought items to the church and to Channel 6, and to volunteers who came and served there at the site.



Church History shared by the History Committee

Patriotism has been a strong theme in our church's history. Our earliest existing membership records date from a few years before the Civil War. During that war period there were a number of church members listed in the early records as soldiers or as "gone to war". No doubt there were St. John's members who served in the Spanish American conflict and in World War One.

We have a number of records from the World War Two era. There were 190 St. John's men and women who served in the various branches of the U.S. military during WW II. A church group called W.A.Y.S. met during that time to send gifts and letters to service people to support their effort. The History Room has a large shadow box filled with military shoulder patches. These were donated by St. John's members and they represent many of the service units from WW II. We also have a pocket sized New Testament printed in 1941 by the U.S. Army. These were given to servicemen. This one belonged to Dennis Hansen, who may have been a relative of a former member.

Did you notice the large board formerly in the basement opposite the Wheel and more recently on the south wall of the Perry St. lobby? It is filled with plaques bearing the names of some of our members who served in the military. Most of these people served during WW II. The board was started about 1942. Even that long list of proud veterans is not a complete list of all the current and former St. John's members who have served our country over the years since then.

Dear Friends,

The St. John's Foundation was established to provide opportunities for people to make permanent gifts for the financial support of our church. The Foundation receives gifts through insurance, wills, and other forms of charitable giving that are invested to provide income which is then available for funding special projects for St. John's Church and The Center.



The Foundation received multiple grants this past December totaling more than \$110,000 and granted the following on January 31st, 2024: A Parlor A/C and Heating Unit: \$9,779, Sunday School Classroom A/C and Heating Units: \$7,918, A Chapel Sequencer: \$877.86, Microphone Replacements for the Choir: \$4,002.00, Tender Loving Care Supplies for Outreach: \$400, Office Computer Upgrades: \$5013.70, Power Supply Backup: \$1,944.87, The Center Square Project: Parking Lot \$40,000. The Oasis Project: The Foundation Committee has held back funds to continue supporting this project.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the St. John's Foundation and thank you to the committee members of this group for your time and efforts in support of our church. Blessings to all as we venture through 2024. -Molly Giese

Music Ministry

March is a special music month. We hope you can join us in person.

Nothing says Holy Week & Easter Morning like "being in worship".

March 3rd, Figaro/Rice family will play special music.

Holy Week begins with March 24th

Palm Sunday, March 24: The Children joining the Chancel Choir in singing and processing with palms, accompanied by piano and Connor Buchanan on flute.

Maundy Thursday, March 28th, our Chancel Bells will play AND the First Baptist choir will join our Chancel Choir for this special service.

Good Friday, March 29th: The Chancel Choir will present "Tenebrae" by Heather Sorenson, accompanied by Scott Sund on Cello and Gail McRill on piano. Kristin Meyer is helping with speaking parts to make this a very meaningful service. You will not want to miss it! **-Mitzi Harris**



United Women in Faith

If you haven't marked your calendars for the spring fling please do. It is April 7th at 3pm. You won't want to miss the great hors d'oeuvres, delicious desserts and wonderful music presented by Ray and Scott Wierson.

Tickets are \$15 and will be on sale at the Perry St entrance March 17 and 24th, in the church office during the week and at the door.



United
Women
in Faith

SAVE THE DATE
April 7th

SPRING FLING will be on April 7th at 3pm in Fellowship Hall

Come for wonderful music, desserts and hors d'oeuvres

Tickets are \$15 and will be on sale March 17 and 24th

Circles: Please check your yearbook for meeting place and time for March. Dorcas has DNAP and Debra has diapers. **—Linda Jantz**

Food Pantry Update: Sadly, we only collected 83 items for February. We must eat and so do our church neighbors. Next time you are at the store pickup a can of tomato sauce, canned pasta, canned meat, canned tomatoes, dry pasta for spaghetti and snack items for lunch boxes. Bring it to the church any time during the week or the third Sunday is food pantry day. Donations for January were \$270. Thank you for helping the food pantry. Happy St. Patrick's Day and Happy Easter. **—Sharon Imming**

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:

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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

Upcoming Events

HOLY WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

March 23

5:30pm Jesus Country Worship Service

Palm Sunday, March 24

Sunday Services at 9am and 11am

Youth Bake Sale 9am-12pm

Maundy Thursday, March 28

5:00pm Seder Meal served by Harold Cover

6:30pm Worship Service with communion

Good Friday, March 29

6:30pm St. John's Tenebrae Service

Saturday, March 30th

P.U.N.C.H. Easter Egg Hunt 11am (Cork Hill Park)

Jesus Country Worship Service @ 5:30pm

Easter Sunday, March 31

Breakfast in 8:30-10:30am

Easter Egg Hunt 10:30am

Sunday Services at 9am and 11am



Maundy Thursday Seder Meal at St. John's

Thursday, March 28, 2024

5-6:00 PM

Fellowship Hall

\$5 donation at the door

**RSVP on our Attendance link
or website starting March 1
RSVP deadline by March 18**

Easter Lilies & Spring Flowers

St. John's continues the tradition of decorating the sanctuary with lilies and spring flowers for Easter. If you would like to sponsor a flower or contribute to our Pastors' Emergency Fund, please contact the church office, sign up on website or worship attendance links.

