

St. John's United Methodist Church
Monthly Newsletter

TIDINGS
OCTOBER
2023



Finding your S.W.E.E.T. Spot

A word from the Pastor One of my favorite Bible verses is Psalm 34:8 "O taste and see that the Lord is good." I believe in the goodness of God even though life is difficult and challenging at times. For me, the struggles of life do not take away from this characterization of what God is like. I recently discovered the word "honey" occurs quite often in Scripture. Honey is mentioned 61 times in the Bible. The words of scripture are described as sweeter than honey and the laws of God are compared with the flavor of honey. In the third chapter of Exodus, when God called Moses to lead the slaves out of Egypt, he called him to lead them to a land of promise...flowing with milk and honey.



God created the small honeybees that find nectar and refine it into honey and then store it in their hives. We share our love for the flavor of honey with bears, raccoons, skunks, badgers and Winnie the Pooh. And God is the One who originally thought up honey. But understand this. A God with no stomach or taste buds, with no sweet tooth and no need for calories invented the recipe for honey just to be enjoyed by the rest of creation. God devised its texture, spread ability, longevity, and medicinal properties. He choreographed the elaborate dance of the bees that would be followed to make this delight, and God smiled. Then God spoke it all into being, and behold, it was good!

In October our sermon themes will explore in greater detail how we might "find our sweet spot" when it comes to serving God and neighbor. This is the title of our Stewardship Campaign coming the last part of October and I pray you will join me in making a financial promise in support of St. John's and the ministry of The Center for 2024.

Commitment Sunday is the weekend of October 29-30. Please consider your "estimate of giving" for 2024 to St. John's and The Center. We will be mailing a card to each household in preparation for this day together.

I love being one of your pastors,

Rev. Jeff Dadisman



The Staff-Pastor-Parish Relations Committee would like to introduce our newest staff member at St. John's. Please welcome *Jessica Silvernail*. She will be taking over the staff position of Lynda Notter and will be our new Communications Director and Office Manager. She moved here from Spokane, WA, her husband's name is Jeff, and she has three beautiful daughters, "I can't wait to meet all of you in person! I am so blessed to be a part of your church!" -**Jess Silvernail**



Be the change and pass it on!

St. John's Christian Education and Youth Programs

October 2023

save the date

Thanksgiving and Christmas are coming... Here are the special activities for our Kid's and Youth.

November 26...No Sunday School (Happy Thanksgiving)

December 2nd...Children's Bazaar @ 9am-1pm

December 10th...Christmas Cantata @ 4:30pm

December 13th...Family Christmas Dinner @ 5:30pm

December 17th...Kid's Nativity Musical Narrative @ 9am Worship (with distribution of nativity pieces)

December 24th...No Sunday School Join us for Christmas Eve Worship @ 9am, 11am, 7pm, & 11pm

December 31st...No Sunday School

For questions, needs, or inquiry of ways to get involved...

*Please contact **Megan Keller**, Director of Christian Education and Youth Programs*

megank@stjohnsumcdav.org

Come Join Us!

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) are kicked-off and ready to go strong. If you have wondered about ways to get involved or even how to be a part of all the fun that is happening, wonder no more!

It's going to be a great year full of learning, growing, and proclaiming the message of God's grace, hope, and love.



A safe place to go trick-or-treating

October 31, 4:30 to 6:30 PM

Hey Kids! Come trick-or-treat at St. John's UMC Perry Street Parking Lot.

**Decorated trunks with candy also needed.*



Mission Report October 2023

Offering report

Self-International – \$327, Teach Beyond \$695, Change the World Sunday \$100

The World Communion Sunday offering 9/30-10/1

Our donations support racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals and transforming communities. In 2021, World Communion Sunday offerings awarded 242 scholarships and grants. Your generosity continues to provide scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development. The needs exceed what we can fund, and your gifts can further our growth and success.

11/4&11/5 Reverse Offering for The Thanksgiving Food Pantry St. John's will start collecting Thanksgiving food items at the end of October. If everyone brings one food item we would have hundreds of items for our neighbors! We will send them to the Food Pantry at the Center before Thanksgiving weekend so that everybody will have Thanksgiving Dinner with their family members. Thank you!

Café On Vine Volunteers are needed to prepare meals every second Sunday of the month. It only takes 2 hours to prepare (2 pm to 4 pm). If you are interested, please call the Church office or contact Jan Johnson (hawkeyejan@mchsi.com).

A Letter from Jason Otten



Hello, my name is Jason Otten. I am one of the missionaries here at St. John's. Six years ago, when I felt my calling into ministry, I struggled to identify what it was that God was calling me to do. I found that when I stopped trying to control His decision, He led me right to where I needed to be. God took my passion for youth, education and marketing and brought them all into one, by leading me to TeachBeyond. TeachBeyond is a global ministry that provides transformational Christian education to youth all around the world. Our organization sends hundreds of missionaries throughout the world to be educators and/or administrators to schools in need. During the day, I work full-time in the Prevention Department at the Center for Alcohol & Drug Services. Our team operates under various grants provided through Iowa Health and Human Services, to provide services to youth, families, first responders, health care workers, and many more. I recently just celebrated 7 years with CADS and truly enjoy the work that I get to do there. I have had the opportunity to work with individuals across the lifespan, informing and educating them on the dangers and consequences related to substance use. I am passionate about the work I do and am happy to play a part in making our community a better place.

"Sock-tober" Sock drive for The Center The churches of P.U.N.C.H. are working together in support of The Center this month and invite you to bring socks of any size or color for this project. Let us outdo one another in deeds of charity on behalf of those who have need in this community. First Baptist collected over 1,500 pairs of socks last year all by themselves. Think what we might offer if all 7 churches from the Hilltop area work together on this challenge?!

The Children's Bazaar Pumpkins are out, pumpkin spice latte is the flavor at Starbucks, the Children's Bazaar will be coming to St. John's on December 2, 2023. We are continuing to look for donated items that might be suitable for men and boys. We will also look for volunteers to help at our Children's Bazaar. Sign up sheets will be at Sunday school classes and services early in November.



October brings a month of great music. October 8th, welcomes **Gloria Grilk** and her daughter **Karen** sharing their keyboard and violin talents and love of St. John's. October 15th, **Victoria Rice** will share part of a French Horn Concerto with us and the **Chancel Bells** will be playing October 23. Commitment Sunday is October 30th, so expect great music that week too! Thank you for continuing to support the music program here at St. John's. If you would like to join the choir for the Advent program, we will be reading through the music, **Saturday morning, Sept 30th, from 9am-10am.** Regular rehearsals are Thursday evening at 7:00pm, where we will be working on our Advent and Christmas music starting October 4th. The **"Promises of Advent"** will be shared on December 10th at 4:00pm. We would love to have you be part of this experience. **Mitzi**



The St. John's Foundation wishes to thank the following members of St. John's for their contributions to the Foundation Birthday Fund: Mark Clingman, Donald Buser, Ruth Lounsberry, Jan Thompson, Marilyn Hartman, Ruth McGinnis, Rob Ward, Joan Waggoner, Jackie Matthews, Ron Bear and Jean Anderson.



WELCOME TO FALL! FOOD PANTRY NEWS!

Our schools are in session, we're seeing cool nights and the leaves are turning. The Food Pantry collected 151 items for September. Monetary donations for August was \$370.00! Items needed are peanut butter, canned fruit, and canned ravioli. Drive By Food Drop-off will continue October 12th, between the hours of 9:30am -10:30am and 3:00pm - 4:00pm. You may drop your food items off during these times or bring them Sunday, October 15th. I will be at the Perry street entrance and would like to say "Hello!" Below is the scheduled **Food Pantry for the balance of the year:** November Thanksgiving; Reverse offering weekends, **November 4th & 5th and November 11th & 12th.** December - Canned goods Christmas Tree, located at the Perry Street entrance. Bring YOUR canned goods and place them in the crates! Thank you so much!

Our Church History

At over 100 years old, St. John's has accumulated a number of artifacts which help us remember its past. These items can be found in various locations around the building. Here are a few of these objects and a suggestion of what they might remind us of.

In the parlor you can find: A pair of walnut pastor's chairs, probably either from the 9th and Brady church or the 14th St. Church, remind us of past locations of our Methodist congregation before 1902.

A framed brochure with original church layout from 1903 points to the hopes and plans of our predecessors for a beautiful and vibrant church.

In the History Committee Room, we have:

A newel post lamp and a hymn number board are also reminders of a remodel of the sanctuary. Several Sunday school chairs, dating from before 1930 up to 1980, speak of the many generations of children who have been taught here. Old bibles bearing publication dates such as: 1829, 1849, 1874- the earliest one pre-dates the first Methodist building in Davenport.

Two books which belonged to Fayette Thompson, first pastor of St. John's, include a 1905 Methodist hymnal and Holy Bible. Many pastors have served our church over the years since Dr Thompson.

On display in the Conference Room:

Lawyer-style bookcases hold a copy of Phebe Sudlow's manuscript of our church history. An engraved spoon in the tall display case points to the name change of this building in 1903 from Central Methodist Church to St. John's.

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion World Communion Offering 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	2 6:30pm Missions (Conference Room)	3 1:00pm Club of 89 (Parlor, Parlor Kitchen)	4 9:30am Men's Bible Study 1:00pm Pastors' Study - The Power of Jesus' Names (ZOOM) 4:30pm Kids Club (Lower Level) 5:30pm Family Meal (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen - Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Youth Group (The Wheel) 6:30pm Praise Team rehearsal 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study (Parlor) 7:00pm Pastors' Study - The Power of Jesus' Names (ZOOM)	5 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal (Choir Room, Sanctuary) 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal (Choir Room)	6 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	7 Communion 2:00pm Wedding (Brittany Camp & Brad) (Sanctuary) 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Jesus Country (Fellowship Hall)
8 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship 2:00pm Cafe on Vine Meal Preparation (Kitchen - Fellowship Hall)	9 12:30pm Etude Music Club (Parlor) 7:00pm SPPRC (Conference Room)	10 6:30pm Davenport Horticulture Board (Conference Room)	11 9:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am UWF Board (Parlor) 1:00pm Pastors' Study - The Power of Jesus' Names (ZOOM) 4:30pm Kids Club (Lower Level) 5:30pm Youth Group (The Wheel) 5:30pm Family Meal (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen - Fellowship Hall) 6:30pm Praise Team rehearsal 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study (Parlor) 7:00pm Pastors' Study - The Power of Jesus' Names (ZOOM)	12 9:30am Drive By Food Pantry 3:00pm Drive By Food Pantry 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal (Choir Room, Sanctuary) 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal (Choir Room)	13	14 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Jesus Country (Fellowship Hall)
15 Food Pantry Sunday 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	16 5:00pm Trustees (Wesley Room) 6:30pm Steering Committee (Conference Room) 7:30pm Church Council (Parlor)	17 2:00pm Deborah Circle (Parlor) 5:30pm The Center Board 6:00pm Dorcas Circle (Parlor)	18 12:00am Priscilla Circle (Parlor) 9:30am Men's Bible Study 1:00pm Pastors' Study - The Power of Jesus' Names (ZOOM) 4:30pm Kids Club (Lower Level) 5:30pm Family Meal (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen - Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Youth Group (The Wheel) 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:00pm Pastors' Study - The Power of Jesus' Names (ZOOM)	19 9:00am District Pastors Gathering (Parlor, Parlor Kitchen) 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal (Choir Room, Sanctuary) 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal (Choir Room)	20 Tidings Deadline	21 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Jesus Country (Fellowship Hall)
22 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	23 11:30am Ridgecrest Lunch	24	25 9:30am Men's Bible Study 4:30pm Kids Club (Lower Level) 5:30pm Family Meal (Fellowship Hall, Kitchen - Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Youth Group (The Wheel) 6:30pm Jane Lange Bible Study (Parlor) 6:30pm Praise Team rehearsal	26 8:30am Tidings Assembly 5:45pm Bell Choir rehearsal (Choir Room, Sanctuary) 7:00pm Chancel choir rehearsal (Choir Room)	27	28 12:00am Reverse Offering 4:00pm Jesus Country Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 5:30pm Jesus Country (Fellowship Hall)
29 Commitment Sunday 9:00am Classic Worship 10:00am Learning Hour 11:00am Contemporary Worship	30	31 4:30pm Trunk or Treat				

Jesus Country Service 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

St. John's members who attend the Jesus Country Service are looking forward to resuming the Fellowship that was such a wonderful part of this service. In August we did a trial run and the worshippers attended the Bettendorf Pizza Ranch after the service. We are going to do that again in September on the 30th. Looking further into the year we will be starting the potlucks in October.

The Eager Beavers

We gather weekly on Monday or Thursday morning. Our current helpers have committed to come on one of these days. These faithful volunteers come at 9:00am each week to assist in cleaning the church. If you would like to lend a hand once a week, that would really help our maintenance crew. Reach out to **Bill Otten** or **Brian Jenkins** if interested, bldgsupt@stjohnsumcdav.org

Drama Team

Sign up Now!
for Advent

Would you like to be a part of a Drama for our Worship the four Sundays in December? We will be needing 3-4 people to cover the parts in telling the stories of what God did leading up to the First Christmas, Jesus' Birthday!

Wellness Initiative for Senior Education (WISE) Program



As more Americans enter their senior years and life expectancies reach record highs, it is more important than ever for seniors to focus on their health and wellbeing.

Recognizing the unique needs and perspective of seniors, the New Jersey Prevention Network developed the Wellness Initiative for Senior Education (WISE) Program, an evidenced-based substance abuse prevention and wellness program. In covering a range of topics from stress management and strategies for healthy living, to medication management and prescription drug abuse. WISE uses an interactive approach to help seniors celebrate aging, make positive lifestyle choices, and feel more confident and in control of their lives.

learn more, please reach out to Pastor Jae, or Jason Otten at jason.otten@unitypoint.org