**St. John United Church of Christ**

***“In Christ We Live, Celebrate, & Serve”***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| November 14, 2021 | 25th Sunday after Pentecost |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor | Ritch Alexander, Organist |
| 9:30 Zoom & In-Person Worship | 9:30 Sunday School for Children |
| 2901 Nameoki Road | Granite City, IL 62040 |
| E-stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com | (618) 877-6060 |

Web-stjohnuccgranitecity.com

**Currently face masks are REQUIRED for all.**

Large print bulletins are available from the Ushers.

***Bold italic denotes congregation reads or sings.***

\*Denotes all who are able, please stand.

**WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

A STORY FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN Mark 13:1-8

Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray.” (Mark 13:5)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*Festal Piece* G. F. Handel

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER

O come, let us worship and bow down,

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

***For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.***

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

***The heavens are telling the glory of God;***

***and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.***

Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.

Humble yourselves before the Lord and he will exalt you.

Let us pray.

***Holy One, we come before you as good stewards of your gifts to us—your gifts of creation and neighbors—and your gifts of love and mercy. We praise and thank you for showing us the good path of life, and for saving us from***

-2-

***sin and despair. You call us to joyful faithfulness and service. Grant us your Spirit to give direction to our labors, in Jesus’ name. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“You Call Us, Lord”*** #583

\*RESPONSIVE PSALTER READING Verses from Psalm 16

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

***I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord;***

***I have no good apart from you.”***

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

***The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.***

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;

in the night also my heart instructs me.

***I keep the Lord always before me;***

***because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.***

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;

my body also rests secure.

***For you do not give me up to Sheol,***

***or let your faithful one see the Pit.***

You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy;

***In your right hand are pleasures forevermore.***

**NEW MEMBER COVENANT (PGS. 9 & 10)**

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

FIRST EPISTLE LESSON 1 Peter 4:8-11 pg. 220

SOLO *“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”* Chris McMillan

SECOND EPISTLE LESSON 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 pg. 173

REFLECTION *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins, ©1986

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN ***“For the Fruit of All Creation”*** #723

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & UNISON LORD’S PRAYER

-3-

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

STEWARDSHIP INVITATION

OFFERTORY *“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”* arr.John Duro

\*RESPONSE ***“We Praise You, O God”*** Vss. 1 & 3 #726

***We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;***

***in grateful devotion our tribute we bring;***

***we lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;***

***we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.***

***With voices united our praises we offer,***

***our songs of thanksgiving to you we now raise;***

***your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us,***

***to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***With grateful and generous hearts and hands, we bring our offerings, O God. We are glad to share with others, and to work together as stewards of your gifts. Bless our ministries, we pray, as we pledge to sow the seeds of your love everywhere, in Jesus’ name. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“We Give Thee but Thine Own”***  #688

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”* Joseph Prentiss

Welcome to St. John Church as we worship in the name of the Creator, the Savior and the life-giving Spirit. Amen.

The bulletin is given in memory of Myrna Bischoff Rich by Herb and Jeanie Bischoff.

The bulletin is given in memory of the November 18th birthday of Dick Oliver by Doris Oliver.

-4-

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up Monday, please call **Patty Bade** at 618-610-0350. The next available dates to order flowers are November 21, and 28. If you would like to

sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at 877-6060. The next available date to sponsor bulletins is December 26.

**Thank you** to Linda Mizell for serving as liturgist today and to Chris McMillan for serving as guest organist.

**THIS WEEK**

Today: In-person and Zoom Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School for Children, 9:30 a.m.

New Member Covenant

Fellowship Hour Sponsored by Evangelism

Annual Meeting Books Distributed

Monday: Al-Anon, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Tuesday: Quilters, 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday: TOPS, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Bell Choir, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday: Church Women United, 9:30 a.m.

Granite City Community Band Rehearsal, 6:45-9:30 p.m.

Next Sunday: In-person and Zoom Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School for Children, 9:30 a.m.

Totenfest

Harvest Home

Annual Meeting

Fellowship Hour Sponsored by Youth

**Herald Deadline (For Combined December 2021/January 2022 Herald)**

**SCRIP (GIFT CARDS)**

Purchasing gift cards through the scrip program is so easy. (1) Give your order form or a note to Betty Meszaros or send it to the church office. Please include your check payable to St. John UCC. (2) Pick up your gift cards after worship or arrange a delivery with Betty. Orders will be submitted November 21st, December 5th and 12th. Taking a break in January so consider stocking up. Revised “favorites” order forms are on the table in the narthex. There is also an updated list of ALL vendors for you review. Take an order form home with you and do your Christmas shopping from the comfort of your living room. No driving around from store to store and no lines. Not attending worship in person? No problem as you can still order cards. Just send a note with your payment to the church office. Cost is face amount of gift card. No

-5-

tax or activation fee. Rebate is automatically sent to the church. Please contact Melissa Lane 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros 618-451-1968

with questions Betty’s cell is 617-670-5267 and email blmesz@yahoo.com.

A picture containing candelabrum

Description automatically generated

**TOTENFEST**

Totenfest, when we remember loved ones who died during the past liturgical year, will be held on Sunday, November 21, during our 9:30 a.m. worship service.

A picture containing diagram

Description automatically generated

**HARVEST HOME**

Harvest Home will be celebrated on Sunday November 21, with decorations and special liturgy, scripture and music.

A group of colorful candles

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**ADVENT BEGINS**

On Sunday, November 28 we will begin the new liturgical year with the first Sunday in Advent. Therefore, Saturday, November 27, will be the day for preparations. Everyone is invited to come and help all the Altar Guild members decorate throughout our buildings and grounds beginning at 9:00 a.m. Bring a mask and come and work off the extra Thanksgiving turkey and pie from November 25, and help to quickly change the seasons from Thanksgiving to Advent.

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

The November Mission of the Month has been designated for Granite City’s Community Care Center. As the cold weather sets in and with the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, this organization can use all the help and support that our church can offer. We have been blessed as a church and as individuals, so let’s do what we can to pass on these blessings.

And our Thanksgiving offering has been designated to Got Your Six Support Dogs. Located in Maryville, this organization trains dogs to be support animals for veterans and first-responders. Please give as much as you are able. Let’s make St. John UCC proud of what we are able to contribute.

-6-

**CEMETERY CHRISTMAS DECORATING**

The cemetery needs help on Monday, November 29, 2021 around 10:00 a.m. (time is subject to change) to begin decorating for Christmas. If you are able to help, it is greatly appreciated.

**POINSETTIA ORDERS**

It’s time to place orders for poinsettias! Plants cost $12.00 and are available in **red only**. Fill out the included order form exactly as you wish it to appear in the bulletin; (i.e., Mr., or Mrs., or Miss, etc.) The deadline to order poinsettias is **Monday, November 29, 2021**. When filling out order forms, please print clearly

**EVENING GUILD**

Want to join the TOW Club? Not another roadside assistance plan, but Together On Wheels for members or guests wanting to attend an Evening Guild meeting the first Monday of a month at 6:30 PM. If you are no longer comfortable driving at night or if you would be willing to give someone else a ride, please contact Evening Guild member Betty Meszaros @ 618-670-5267. Matchups will be arranged if possible. The December 6th meeting is a potluck Christmas party. Great food and a fun evening! No meeting in January.

**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing & Assisted Living**

**Cedarhurst of Edwardsville**, 7108 Marine Road, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Carol Hildebrand, Room B18

**Cedarhurst of Granite City, Memory Care**, 3432 Village Lane, Granite City, IL 62040

JoAnn King, #215,

**The Fountains of West County**, 15826 Clayton Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011

Ruth Buer, #215

**Granite Nursing & Rehab**, 3500 Century Dr, Granite City, IL 62040

Karen Luddeke

**Meridian Village**, 27 Auerbach Pl., Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Mary Lee Krohne, #611 (Call Linda Nitchman for updates)

**River Crossing of Edwardsville *(Riverside)***, 6277 Center Grove Rd., Edwardsville, IL 62025

Loretta Cook, #502

**Villas of Holly Brook**, 121 S. Bluff Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234

Hilde Few, #208

**At Home**

Ritch Alexander, 2243 Cleveland, G.C., IL 62040

-7-

Isabella Boyer, 4722 S. Hazel, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Marlene Brokaw, 112 Summit Rdg., Maryville, IL 62062

Myra Cook, 4034 Stearns Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Randy Fischer, 2517 Edison Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Bonnie Fornaszewski, 200 Carlson Ave., Apt. 17D, Washington, IL 62040

Mary Franz, 3117 Willow Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Norman Hente, 3708 Joyce St., G.C., IL 62040

Gayle Lindsay, 431 Arlington Dr., G.C., IL 62040

Bill McAmish, 3320 Colgate Pl., G.C., IL 62040

Sandy Mueller, 308 Warson Ln., G.C., IL 62040

David Oliver Jr., 2716 Dale Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Cliff Robertson, 2336 O’Hare Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Merle Rose, 2447 Waterman Ave., G.C., IL 62040

Marge Schmidt, 4857 Danielle Court, G.C., IL 62040

June Stille, 49 Riviera, G.C., IL 62040

Trish Stromlund, 1359 Kyle Dr., Apt. B, St. Charles, MO 63304

Janice Weeks, 2650 Iowa, G.C., IL 62040

Don Young, 112 Summit Rdg., Maryville, IL 62062

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 Peter 4:8-11**

**8**Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. **9**Be hospitable to one another without complaining. **10**Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. **11**Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

**2 Corinthians 9:6-10**

**6**The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7**Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **8**And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. **9**As it is written, “He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” **10**He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

-8-

**CALL FOR INFORMATION**

Bell Choir – Talk to Kathy Morris, 618-210-6095

Cemetery - Talk to Kathy Montgomery, 618-876-5811

Chancel Choir – Talk to Ritch Alexander, 618-451-5092

Council – Talk to Karen Orr, President, 618-558-4192

Caslyn Brandes, Vice-President, 618-802-1152

Dine to Donate – Talk to Bev Meyer, 618-451-6849

Evening Guild – Talk to Christie Roth, 618-931-6194

Financial Reports – Talk to Mike Seibold, Treasurer, 618-792-4301

Angela Potter, 618-877-6060 church office

Heavenly Stars – Talk to Betty Meszaros, 618-451-1968

Karen Gaines, 618-288-0845

Herald – Talk to Angela Potter 618-877-6060 church office

Hilltoppers – Talk to Dee Roethemeyer, 618-876-6860

Historian – Talk to Sandy Dawson, 618-931-3467

Men’s Brotherhood – Talk to Chuck Hasse, 618-876-0936,

Dave Douglas, 618-452-3336

Quilters – Talk to Sandy Dawson 618-931-3467

Doris Peterson 618-877-1606

Sausage Dinner – Talk to Donna Brandes, 618-802-1072

Nancy Jacobs, 618-931-0673

Scrip Orders – Talk to Melissa Lane, 314-575-7627 or Betty Meszaros 618-451-1968

Sunday School – Talk to Donna Brandes, 618-802-1072

Youth Fellowship – Talk to Sharon O’Toole, 618-797-1802

-9-

**THE COVENANT OF MEMBERSHIP**

INVITATION AND QUESTIONS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The U.C.C. Doxology of Faith)

Let us unite with the church in all times and places

in confessing our faith in the triune God.

***We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,***

***God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,***

***and to your deeds we testify:***

***You call the worlds into being,***

***create persons in your own image,***

***and set before each one***

***the ways of life and death.***

***You seek in holy love***

***to save all people from aimlessness and sin.***

***You judge people and nations***

***by your righteous will***

***declared through prophets and apostles.***

***In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth,***

***our crucified and risen Savior,***

***You have come to us and shared our common lot,***

***conquering sin and death***

***and reconciling the world to yourself.***

***You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,***

***creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,***

***binding in covenant faithful people***

***of all ages, tongues, and races.***

***You call us into your church***

***to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,***

***to be your servants in the service of others,***

***to proclaim the gospel to all the world***

***and resist the powers of evil,***

***to share in Christ’s baptism and eat at his table,***

***to join him in his passion and victory.***

***You promise to all who trust you***

***forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,***

***courage in the struggle for justice and peace,***

***your presence in trial and rejoicing,***

-10-

***and eternal life in your realm which has no end.***

***Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.***

QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION AND WELCOME

Let us, the members of St. John United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

***We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.***

PRAYER AND PRESENTATIONS

RESPONSE ***“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”***

Verse 1 #581

MC900343897[1]

Rae Ellen Vogeler

2208 Amos Ave.

Granite City, IL 62040

618-373-8804

***“You Call Us, Lord”***

Words: Jane Marshall © 1992 Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted by permission, CCLI License #1334401

***You call us, Lord, to be***

***A people set apart,***

***To feel with thoughtful mind***

***And think with tender heart.***

***Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask***

***For faith in your unfailing grace***

***To make us equal to the task.***

***You call us, Lord to care***

***For self and neighbor too,***

***To take the risk, and dare***

***To show what love can do.***

***Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask***

***For faith in your unfailing grace***

***To make us equal to the task.***

***You call us, Lord to be***

***Good stewards of the earth;***

***To tend it as a place***

***Of blessedness and worth.***

***Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask***

***For faith in your unfailing grace***

***To make us equal to the task.***

***You call us, Lord, to serve:***

***To die that we may live,***

***To know we best receive***

***When joyfully we give.***

***Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask***

***For faith in your unfailing grace***

***To make us equal to the task.***

***“For the Fruit of All Creation”***

Words: Fred Pratt Green © 1970 Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted by permission, CCLI License #1334401

***For the fruit of all creation,***

***Thanks be to God.***

***For his gifts to every nation,***

***Thanks be to God.***

***For the plowing, sowing, reaping,***

***Silent growth while we are sleeping,***

***Future needs in earth’s safe keeping,***

***Thanks be to God.***

***In the just reward of labor,***

***God’s will is done.***

***In the help we give our neighbor,***

***God’s will is done.***

***In our world-wide task of caring***

***For the hungry and despairing,***

***In the harvests we are sharing,***

***God’s will is done.***

***For the harvests of the Spirit,***

***Thanks be to God.***

***For the good we all inherit,***

***Thanks be to God.***

***For the wonders that astound us,***

***For the truths that still confound us,***

***Most of all, that love has found us,***

***Thanks be to God.***

***“We Give Thee but Thine Own”***

***We give thee but thine own,***

***Whate’er the gift may be:***

***All that we have is thine alone,***

***A trust, O Lord from thee.***

***May we thy bounties thus***

***As stewards true receive,***

***And gladly, as thou blessest us,***

***To thee our first-fruits give.***

***To comfort and to bless,***

***To find a balm for woe,***

***To tend the lone and fatherless***

***Is angels’ work below.***

***The captive to relieve,***

***To God the lost to bring,***

***To teach the way of life and peace –***

***It is a Christ-like thing.***

***And we believe thy word,***

***Though dim our faith may be:***

***Whate’er for thine we do, O Lord,***

***We do it unto thee.***

***“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”***

Words: Jane Parker Huber © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (Admin. Westminster John Knox Press. Reprinted by permission, CCLI License #1334401

***Called as partners in Christ’s service,***

***Called to ministries of grace,***

***We respond with deep commitment***

***Fresh new lines of faith to trace.***

***May we learn the art of sharing,***

***Side by side and friend with friend,***

***Equal partners in our caring***

***To fulfill God’s chosen end.***

A black and white drawing of a plant

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

A black and white drawing of a plant

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

POINSETTIA

### ORDER FORM

Plants will cost **$12.00** each and are **available in RED ONLY.**  Fill in the lines below exactly as you wish it to appear in the bulletin; (i.e., Mr., or Mrs., or Miss, etc.) DEADLINE to order poinsettias is **November 29, 2021** (Please attach payments to this form and either place in the offering plate or bring/mail to the church office.) PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!!!!

IN LOVING MEMORY OF\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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OR

IN HONOR OF\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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OR

IN GRATITUDE FOR\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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BY

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# OF POINSETTIAS ORDERED

TOTAL ENCLOSED

(Make checks payable to: St. John United Church of Christ)

POINSETTIA

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OR

IN HONOR OF\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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OR

IN GRATITUDE FOR\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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BY

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# OF POINSETTIAS ORDERED

TOTAL ENCLOSED

(Make checks payable to: St. John United Church of Christ)

**ONLINE GIVING**

Our online giving platform, Vanco, now has the option to send memorials and order poinsettias through their site.

Now, when you select “contribute” to either of these, you’ll have the ability to enter a designation.

These designations are **required** in order to complete your order.

Below, you’ll find instructions on how to make quick and convenient offerings online.

**GIVEPLUS**

Powered by Vanco Payment Solutions.

To make electronic offerings, simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit the church website at stjohnuccgranitecity.com
2. Click the “Donate” button in the upper right-hand corner (if you’re on a mobile phone, you’ll click the three bars for the dropdown menu and then click “Donate”). You will be redirected to Vanco’s secure site.
3. Multiple tiles will appear. Click the “Sign Up” button in the upper right-hand corner.
4. Follow the onscreen instructions tile to create an online profile and to schedule your contributions.
5. Select the fund or organization you would like to contribute to, click “Contribute” and you will be prompted to fill in the amount and complete the transaction (if you selected “memorial” or “poinsettias”, you must enter the designation). Multiple funds can be contributed to with one transaction. The “basket” will keep track.
6. Credit cards, debit cards, and check drafts are accepted.
7. A receipt will be sent to the email address given in the profile.

This site is secured through Vanco. The transaction fee is less than those charged by major banking institutions. There is a button to click before the final transaction is completed if the donor would like to cover the transaction fee. The amount is 2-4%, depending on the form of payment.

No personal information is shared or sold to third parties. Profiles are saved and used for each subsequent login.

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