**St. John United Church of Christ**

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

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| January 22, 2023 | 3rd Sunday after Epiphany (A) |
| Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor | Tom Docter, Guest 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 RECOMMENDED.**

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

Brotherhood Introduction Chuck Hasse

BELLS CALLING TO WORSHIP

A STORY FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN Isaiah 9:1-4

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. (Isaiah 9:2)

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER1

Where there is darkness, there is also light. Look for the light—places of love, joy, grace, and hope.

We come seeking God,

***The one who guides us and protects us.***

People of God, there is nothing to fear,

***For God dwells in our hearts.***

Let us shout with joy, for God is here!

***Let us sing praises to the Holy One!***

Let us pray together:

***God of light, we come tired and weary, carrying many burdens. We come seeking your face, seeking your love. In this moment, Holy One, open our hearts to the mystery***

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***of your love. Remind us that you are always with us and that you never leave us. Reassure us that you love us, as***

***you invite us to love one another. In this time and space, may we say “Yes” to you. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.***

\*HYMN ***“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”*** #345

\*PRAYER LITANY OF CONFESSION1

Merciful God, as we seek your love and light,

there are times when darkness invades our lives.

***Forgive us when we hide our true selves from you.***

Forgive us when we quarrel with one another,

allowing our pride to overcome our commitment to the community.

***Forgive us when we give life’s activities priority***

***over following the ways of Christ.***

O God open our hearts to your grace,

as you once again fill us with your love and light.

***Amen.***

People of God, hear the good news of the gospel and rejoice! You and I are forgiven, and God’s grace sets us free to love again!

***Amen!***

**WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 pg. 155

ANTHEM  Chancel Choir

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 4:12-23 pg. 3

REFLECTION

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*HYMN  ***“The Summons”*** #350

PASTORAL PRAYER & UNISON LORD’S PRAYER

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in***

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***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

\*RESPONSE ***“Take My Life and Let It Be”***

Vss. 1, 3 & 4 #466

***Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;***

***take my hands and let them move***

***at the impulse of thy love, at the impulse of thy love.***

***Take my lips and let them be filled with messages for thee; take my silver and my gold,***

***not a mite would I withhold, not a mite would I withhold.***

***Take my love, my God, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever,***

***only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.***

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***Lord, we choose to follow you and to live in the light of your love. United as faithful disciples, we gladly give these offerings to shine your light and proclaim the good news of your kin-dom, on earth and forever. Amen.***

\*HYMN  ***“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”***  #470

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

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Family of God, welcome to worship, Christian education and fellowship at St. John Church! Please extend a word of friendship to those sitting near you.

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The **bulletin** is given in celebration of the joint wedding anniversaries of Ruth & Larry Hubbard (67 years) and Justin & Samantha Hubbard (11 years).

The **altar vases** are given in loving memory of Bud, Emma, and Janet Relleke by the Relleke family.

If you would like to place **flowers on the altar**, and pick them up after church or on Monday, please call **Veronica Douglas** at (618) 806-4899. If you would like to sponsor the **bulletins**, please call the **church office** at (618) 877-6060. The next available dates to sponsor bulletins are January 29th and February 5th.

Thank you to **Veronica Douglas** for serving as liturgist, to **Conyr Fischer** for serving as acolyte, to **Beverly Meyer** for greeting and to **Tom Docter** for serving as guest organist today.

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**THIS WEEK**

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

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

Confirmation, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hour by Brotherhood

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 a.m.

Bell Choir, 5:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir, 6:30 p.m.

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

Friday: Youth Fellowship Lock-In Begins, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: Youth Fellowship Lock-In Ends, 7:00 a.m.

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

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

Confirmation, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

5th Sunday Cash Plate for Got Your Six Support

Dogs

Game Night, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

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**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

Our January Mission of the Month is designated for the TWIGS Building Fund. The TWIGS program is in the process of building a facility to hold their supplies that enable them to make an important impact with children in our community.

**FIRST QUARTER NOISY OFFERING**

Our first quarter Noisy Offering is designated for the Kielce Polish church in Ukraine.

**5TH SUNDAY CASH PLATE**

Our 5th Sunday Cash Plate is designated for Got your Six Support Dogs. Their organization is committed to providing specialized service dogs to veterans and first-responders suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and other traumas. Their mission is to help people regain their lives through the healing power of dogs.

**EVENING GUILD**

Our next meeting is February 6th. The program will be a presentation by Carolyn Graham from Savers, a thrift store where we take leftover items from our Rummage Sale. She will speak about the various items they accept at Savers, as well as the organizations they work with to do good in our community.

**BROTHERHOOD**

The men’s Brotherhood has two events coming up, the first being a Valentine’s Dinner on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are required, so please reserve your spots no later than Wednesday, February 8, 2023. The following month will be a St. Patrick’s Day Dinner on March 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker, Barb Kay, will be giving a presentation on The Unsinkable Molly Brown. Reservations are also required for this event and should be made no later than Wednesday, March 8, 2023. You can call the church office (618-877-6060) or send an email to stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com to make your reservations.

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**BOWLS OF GOODNESS**

Do you have a great soup or chili recipe that you love? Well you have an opportunity to let your culinary masterpiece shine in our First Annual Bowls of Goodness Soup & Chili Cookoff! Your recipe will join the ranks alongside local “Celebrity Chefs” from Ravenelli’s, Garden Gate, Original Bindy’s, and Jerry’s, as well as some of our own soup and chili cooks. Attendees will be able to sample everyone’s entries and vote for their favorites! To sign up, you’ll need to do the following:

1. Sign up with our church office to participate (618-877-6060)
2. Submit your recipe to the church office by February 1, 2023 (recipes will be printed in a soup cookbook that will be sold at this event).
3. Bring a roaster full of your soup or chili entry to the church by 2:00 p.m. on February 18th.

Don’t make soup or chili? We need yummy desserts to sell at this event. Donate a pie, cake, brownies, or cookies!

If you have any questions, please call the event chairperson, Kiki Cochran, at 618-503-3608 or the church office at 618-877-6060.

**SAUSAGE DINNER 2022 UPDATE**

973 Total tickets were sold (328 pre-sold and 645 on day of dinner).

$8,386.54 in total profit, divided as follows:

$4,193.27 to the General Fund

$1,677.31 to the Building Fund

$1,677.31 to the Cemetery

$838.65 to OCWM (Our Church’s Wider Mission)

Thank you to our entire St. John Church family for making this a very successful fundraiser once again. A special SHOUT-OUT to Donna Brandes and Nancy Jacobs for chairing this annual, enormous event!

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**OUR PRAYERS**

**Nursing, Assisted, & Independent Living**

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

JoAnn King, #113,

**Eden Village**, 200 S. Station Rd., Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Earl & Marcia Buenger, Apt 9219

**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)

Leonard Schaefer, #475

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

Hilde Few, #208

**At Home**

Karen Anders, 5153 Buena St., G.C., IL 62040

Chloe Affolter, 577 Newhart Dr., G.C., IL 62040

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

Carol Braundmeier, 2228 Nevada, G.C., IL 62040

Christopher Clark, 2223 Lincoln Ave., G.C., IL 62040

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

Bonnie Fornaszewski, 200 Carlson Ave., Apt. 17D, Washington, IL 61571

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

Luitgard Fries, 4117 Old Alton Rd., G.C., IL 62040

Lou Hasse, 2689 Westmoreland Dr. Unit 2, G.C., IL 62040

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

Chuck King, 3258 Kilarney Dr., G.C., IL 62040

Cindy Meyer, 2206 Lynch Ave., G.C. IL 62040

Sandy Mueller, 308 Warson Ln., 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

Nancy Wilson, 4062 Sarah St. Apt 81, G.C., IL 62040

Debbie Winkle, 4732 Benning St., G.C., IL 62040

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**Illinois South Conference**

Jamestown St. Paul UCC. Jerseyville Peace UCC, Rev. Debbie Lawson. Retired Pastor, Rev. Hugh and Bo Fitz, Mascoutah, IL. Rev. Shana Johnson, Conference Minister.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. **11**For it has been made clear to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. **12**What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” **13**Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? **14**I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, **15**so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. **16**I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. **17**For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. **18**For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**Matthew 4:12-23**

**12**Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. **13**He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, **14**so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: **15**“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles— **16**the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” **17**From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for

the kingdom of heaven has come near.” **18**As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. **19**And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” **20**Immediately they left their nets and followed

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him. **21**As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. **22**Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. **23**Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

**Try our QR code! This little square will take you directly to our secure MyVanco website where you can contribute to any of our various funds. Just follow three simple steps:**

1. **Open your smart phone’s camera app**
2. **Qr code

   Description automatically generatedAim the camera at the black and white square below and a link will appear on your screen.**
3. **Click the link and you’ll be directed to our donations website. From there, you can select a fund to which you’d like to make a contribution.**

**Thank you!**

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**CALL FOR INFORMATION**

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

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

Chancel Choir – Talk to John Nitchman, President, 618-288-5297

Council – Talk to Kiki Cochran, President, 618-797-2511 or Donna Brandes, Vice President, 618-802-1072

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

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| **WHERE**  St. John UCC  2901 Nameoki Rd.  Granite City, IL 62040 | **WHEN**  Saturday,  February 18th, 2023  4:00-7:00 p.m. |

Ticket prices are as follows – Ages 13+: $10.00, $6 for children 5-12, and children 4 and under are free!

That buys you UNLIMITED soup and chili tasting, crackers, and 2 ballots to vote for your favorite entries!

Drinks and desserts will be available for an additional cost.

Local chefs and some of our own church chefs will be providing their specialty soups and chili!

Plan to make this an evening of fun! A 50/50 drawing and soup recipes will make this a great time for all!

Questions? Give us a call at 618-877-6060 or email us at [stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnucc2901gc@yahoo.com)

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***“Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”***

***Jesus calls us o’er the tumult***

***Of our life’s wild, restless sea;***

***Day by day his sweet voice soundeth,***

***Saying, “Christian, follow me”.***

***Jesus calls us from the worship***

***Of the vain world’s golden store,***

***From each idol that would keep us,***

***Saying “Christian, love me more.”***

***In our joys and in our sorrows,***

***Days of toil and hours of ease,***

***Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,***

***“Christian, love me more than these.”***

***Jesus calls us – by thy mercies,***

***Savior, may we hear thy call,***

***Give our hearts to thine obedience,***

***Serve and love thee best of all.***

***“The Summons”***

Words: John L. Bell. Music: Scottish melody; arr. John L. Bell. Words & Music © 1987 WGRG The Iona Community (Admin. GIA Publications). Reprinted by permission, CCLI License #1334401.

***Will you come and follow me***

***If I but call your name?***

***Will you go where you don’t know***

***And never be the same?***

***Will you let my love be shown,***

***Will you let my name be known,***

***Will you let my life be grown***

***In you and you in me?***

***Will you leave yourself behind***

***If I but call your name?***

***Will you care for cruel and kind***

***And never be the same?***

***Will you risk the hostile stare***

***Should your life attract or scare?***

***Will you let me answer prayer***

***In you and you in me?***

***Will you let the blinded see***

***If I but call your name?***

***Will you set the prisoners free***

***And never be the same?***

***Will you kiss the leper clean,***

***And do such as this unseen,***

***And admit to what I mean***

***In you and you in me?***

***Lord, your summons echoes true***

***When you but call my name.***

***Let me turn and follow you***

***And never be the same.***

***In your company I’ll go***

***Where your love and footsteps show.***

***Thus I’ll move and live and grow***

***In you and you in me.***

***“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”***

***Dear Lord and Father of mankind,***

***Forgive our foolish ways!***

***Reclothe us in our rightful mind;***

***In purer lives thy service find,***

***In deeper reverence, praise.***

***In simple trust like theirs who heard,***

***Beside the Syrian Sea,***

***The gracious calling of the Lord,***

***Let us, like them, without a word,***

***Rise up and follow thee.***

***O sabbath rest by Galilee!***

***O calm of hills above,***

***Where Jesus knelt to share with thee***

***The silence of eternity,***

***Interpreted by love!***

***Drop thy still dews of quietness,***

***Till all our strivings cease;***

***Take from our souls the strain and stress,***

***And let our ordered lives confess***

***The beauty of thy peace.***

***Breathe through the heats of our desire***

***Thy coolness and thy balm;***

***Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;***

***Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,***

***O still small voice of calm!***