

Heartbeat News



Did you know that 1 in 5 adults lack the basic reading skills beyond a fourth grade level? Or that almost 85% of all young people in the juvenile court system are illiterate? As a complicated and broad social justice issue, literacy is an issue that touches (and addresses) other issues, including economic justice, gender inequality, criminal justice, and public education, racial justice, among others. But it affects very simple aspects of our lives, from being able to complete a job application to reading the instructions on a prescription bottle.

In fact, limited literacy skills are a major contributor to poverty, illiteracy becomes a barrier for those marginalized by race and economic status.

As a child I knew no greater joy than spending my free time reading. My father had to leave school after ninth grade and had only rudimentary reading skills....but I still remember the pride in his voice as he would read Dr. Seuss books to me. For him, those silly books allowed him to connect with me in a special way.

Beginning this fall, the United Church of Christ is asking all of its congregations to participate in a church-wide initiative called Reading Changes Lives. The program acknowledges that literacy is essential to end the cycle of poverty, to close the school-to-prison pipeline, and to create inclusive, healthy communities where all can be active and advocate for themselves.

In our continued fight for equality and justice, our denomination (the United Church of Christ) recognizes that the inability to read is detrimental to a person's basic human rights. The need has never been greater for faith communities to stand up and take action. The time to address the current crisis is NOW, and the need is pressing upon us. Our Christian mandate dictates such.

I hope you will join us in this call to action. Reading Changes Lives will begin the fall of 2014 with the inaugural "One Read," an all-church read with an inspirational book: Hotdogs and Hamburgers: Unlocking Life's Potential by Inspiring Literacy at Any Age. Cost of the book is \$10. A discussion guide will be available and we will gather as a group in late October to discuss.

(Continued on page 2)

St. John UCC

Pastor: Rev. Tara Tetzlaff

262-251-0640

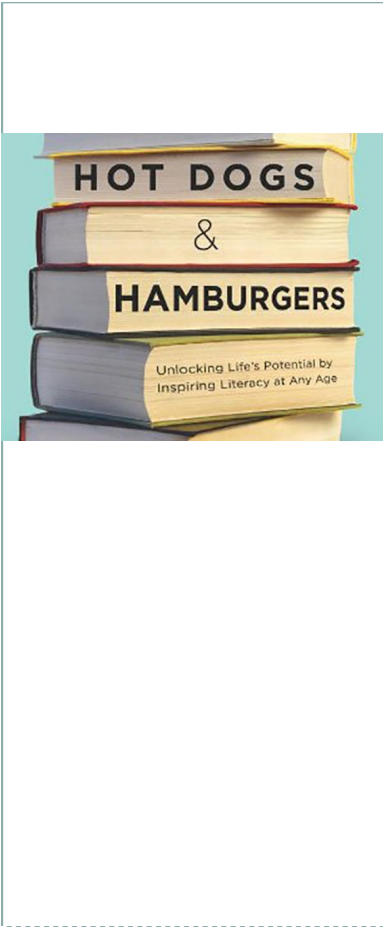
stjohnucc53022@sbcglobal.net

Pastor's Cell:

262-293-6645

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This ongoing literacy initiative will continue into spring 2015 with March Forth for Literacy (beginning on March 4, 2015) with an all-church initiative with goals and hands-on participation similar to past all-church initiatives, Mission 1 and Mission 4/1 Earth.

Also, General Synod 30 being held in Cleveland next summer (the national gathering of the UCC held every two years) will lift-up literacy as a service project focus and ask Synod attendees to participate within the Greater Cleveland community, one of the country's urban centers of illiteracy.

Reading Changes Lives is a great program for us to join with others in our denomination around an important issue affecting millions of Americans. It is also a great way for us to unite as a church to make a difference in our community. I do hope each of you will seriously consider joining us in these efforts. Copies of the book will be available at church beginning mid-August.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Tara

Volunteers are needed to provide rides to church members who do not have transportation to and from church. Please contact the church office or Pastor Tara Tetzlaff if you are interested in volunteering at 262-251-0640.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY

At its monthly meeting held on July 10th, the St. John Church Council:

- Reviewed the Church Renewal Program.
- Discussed attendance of summer services.
- Discussed the Donges Bay Road construction project.
- Discussed design proposals for new outdoor signage.
- Discussed the status of parking lot repair needs.

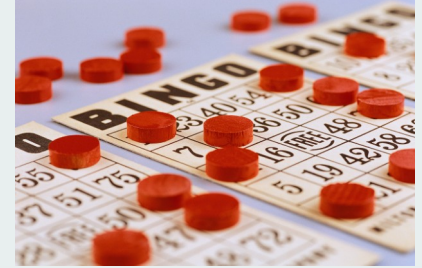
Present: Eric Hillstrom, Mary Johnson, Judy Luckow, Cherie Bersch, Marilyn Boettcher, Sharon Reeder, Pastor Tetzlaff

Absent: Andy Boneski, Mike Szymik, Donna Tess

Next Council meeting: August 14, 2014

BINGO BASH

The summer "Bingo Bash" will be held Wednesday, August 20 at 12:30 pm. with dessert and then onto the games. Hope you can join us for food, fun and fellowship. We will begin with a dessert at 12:30 and then onto the games with prizes. Please sign up on the sheet provided on the landing bulletin board or call the church office. Everyone is welcome!



CEDAR COMMUNITY'S HERITAGE HOUSE HOSTS ICE CREAM SOCIAL

On Sunday, August 17, 2014, Heritage House, Cedar Community's restored turn-of-the-century farmhouse will be hosting an ice cream social from 1 to 3pm. Heritage House is located on the main campus off County Road Z. If you are in the mode for "a la mode" the community will have a bake sale to add to the sugary goodness. Heritage House and Ye Olde School will be open for tours. Ice Cream Sundaes are \$1.

Built in 1865, Heritage House is the former homestead of Cedar Community's original benefactor, William Koehl. There visitors can relive history, by playing an 1884 pump organ in the parlor, learning about pumping cistern water, listen to a crank telephone and work a victrola.

Cedar Community is located at 5595 County Road Z, West Bend, WI. The phone number and website are 262.306.2100 and cedar-community.org.



SENIORITY COUNTS

Our Saviour's and St. John's seniors are going to the zoo! Friday, August 29 is Senior's Day at the zoo . Free admission for all seniors 55 and older (parking is \$12 per vehicle). Receive a free tote bag and see over 30 health and wellness displays. There will be music and dancing, bingo, pickleball demos and more. Or just enjoy strolling about the zoo. Box lunches will be available for \$6.75 or eat at some of the zoo's restaurants or food stands. Sign up in the church lobby or contact Pastor Tara to register. We will be carpooling from Our Saviour's at 9am, picking up at St. John at 9:15 and returning to Germantown by 4:30.





OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Ruby Tuesday Fundraiser was held on May 6th, May 13th, May 20th, and May 27th. The profit from the fundraiser was \$354.82. Proceeds from the profit will be used for future Outreach events and 10% of the proceeds will be given to Mission Alive. Thank you to those who shared a meal with a friend, neighbor, or family member at Ruby Tuesday Restaurant. Thank you to Karen Becker for organizing the event. Our next Ruby Tuesday Fundraiser will be scheduled this fall.

Our first Brat Fry was held June 7th, 2014. Our Brat Fry sale profit was \$ 500.00. Proceeds from the profit will be used for future Outreach events and 10% of the proceeds will be given to Mission Alive. Thank you to those who came out to enjoy a Brat! Thank you to those who volunteered at the Brat Fry Karen Becker, Andy Bone-ski, Rich & Cherie Bersch, Bob & Jeannie Lehmann, and Chris Pickett.

Outreach Meetings: Any members wishing to join the committee are welcome. The next Outreach Committee meeting is Sunday August 24th, 8:15am in the Fraederich Education room.

Contact Caroline Romaine at 262-385-1327 for more information.

CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

August Birthdays

- 4 Isabella Delain
- 5 Jackson Hintz
- 6 ElNor Goeckerman
- 9 Jim Toth
- 12 Carol Vanderlois
- 16 Kevin Andrae
- 18 Kathy Maly
- 19 Jay Schaetzl,
David Reeder, and Mark Biddle
- 20 Corrine Szymik
- 21 Stephanie Toth
- 24 Amy Wallschlaeger
- 25 Julie Poulakos
- 26 Ashley Skrober
- 27 Donna Tess
- 28 Elliot Romaine
- 29 Al Pfeil

August Anniversaries

- 2 Jason & Janelle Lietzau
- 3 Scott & Julie Wolf
- 7 Al & Bonnie Pfeil
- 10 David & Sharon Reeder
- 20 Jeff & Kay Wendt
- 31 Sloan & Tara Letman

If someone's birthday or anniversary is missing or if the date is incorrect, please email the church at stjohnucc53022@sbcglobal.net



RECIPE CORNER

St. John U.C.C. has some wonderful cooks and bakers and during Fellowship or Potluck Dinners we have had requests for some of the recipes. Each month in the Heart Beat Newsletter the Outreach Committee will enter a new recipe. If you have one you would like to submit, please send it to the church at stjohn53022@sbcglobal.net and we will put it in the Recipe Corner. This recipe and more can be found on our website under Fellowship/Recipe Corner.

TIRAMISU TOFFEE DESSERT

Recipe submitted by Donna Tess

1 pkg (10.75oz) frozen pound cake, thawed and cut into 9 slices

(I cut it into 10)

3/4 cup strong coffee

1 cup sugar

1/2 cup chocolate flavored syrup

1 pkg (8oz) cream cheese, softened

2 cups heavy whipping cream

Heath Toffee Bits

Arrange cake slices on bottom of rectangular baking dish (11 x 7 x 1 1/2 inches), cutting cake slices if necessary to cover bottom of dish. Drizzle coffee over cake.

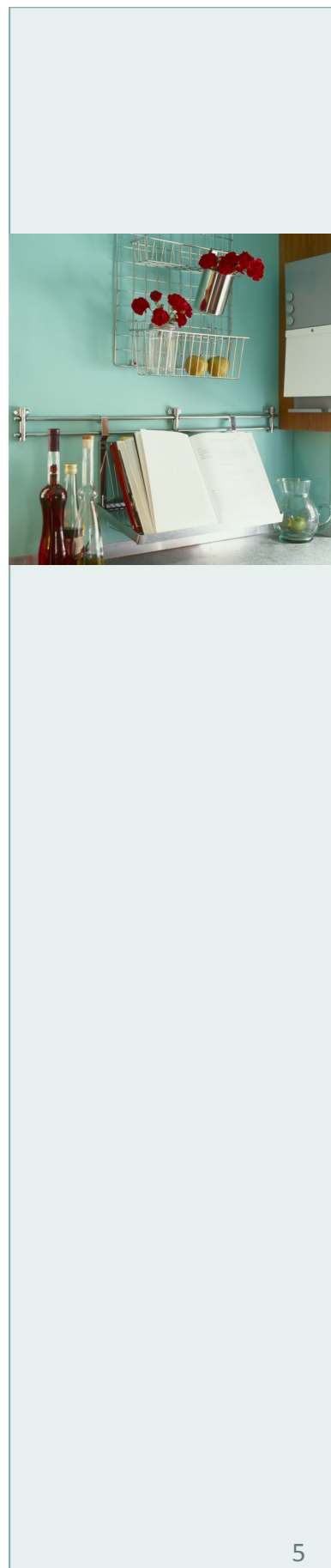
Beat sugar, chocolate syrup and cream cheese with an electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. Add whipping cream. Beat on medium speed until light and fluffy. Spread over cake. Sprinkle with Heath Toffee Bits.

Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour, but not longer than 24 hours, to set dessert and blend flavors.

Serve and ENJOY!!!!!!

ERIC TESS UPDATE

Eric Tess has been at home for awhile. He is doing very well. To add Eric is now cancer and diabetes free! He has been spending time getting his strength back and fishing. Next month, Eric begins a four week long chemotherapy session (one week per month for four months). He will also be going back to work next month. Thank you for all the cards and prayers Eric has received.





CRAFT FAIR UPDATE

The Craft Fair Committee is busy planning for September.

There are flyers/posters available to promote the fair with potential exhibitors or to post at your favorite businesses or at your place of work. Stop by the office and pick up whatever size works best for you!

Quilt raffle tickets are available for sale at the church office. Please pick up a few packs of tickets and sell, sell, sell! If you'd like a color photo of the quilts to help promote ticket sales, please let Merry Lison know.

Another one of our big draws at the Fair is the theme basket raffle. We ask that you please help us by signing up to make one. (The sign up sheet is in the Narthex.) It's a fun activity to do as a family or with friends.

Thanks to those of you who have already donated cash or prizes to the Raffle. For those of you still considering it, we need your help! We can use items/cash for both the adult and youth raffles. If you are interested in making a donation, please let one of the craft fair committee members know.

You will be able to pick up your raffle tickets for selling after church or during office hours. Please pick your packets of tickets up in person and save us the cost of postage we'd have to pay if we mail them. Remember, the more tickets that are sold, the more St. John benefits! So please go out and sell as many tickets for both the Quilt and the regular raffle as you can!

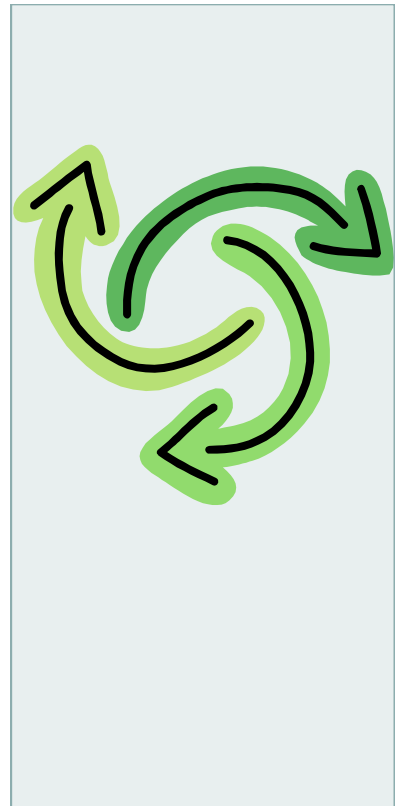
If you are attending other craft fairs or know someone who would like to exhibit at our fair, please help spread the word to these crafters. Applications can be picked up or e-mailed from the church office or even downloaded from the St. John web site! Don't forget flyers and post cards advertising our fair to vendors are also available.

Since the big day of the Fair is not that far away, enclosed is a questionnaire so you can volunteer to help. We could especially use help manning the St. John Craft Booth and the assistance of a few more men with putting out the large wooden signs the evening before the Fair. If you aren't available the day of the Fair, perhaps you can help put out posters the two weeks before the Fair. There are lots of ways to help! You can turn in your completed form to the church office or give it to Merry Lison.

TRANSITIONS

If you have been around the church office lately you would notice that there have been a few changes. We have a new secretary Barb Wudi, a new computer, and a new Church Management Software PowerChurch. With PowerChurch we will have our membership, accounting, contributions, and event planning all in one place. Remember those contact sheets? That's partly what they were for.

As we continue with our church renewal efforts we are trying new things. On the welcome table you will see signup sheets for liturgist and ushers. The list will be collected by Barb and she will contact people accordingly. Later this month we will begin training/orientation sessions for ushers and liturgists. Another change is the way we take attendance. Previously ushers would just count the heads in church but now with the new software we will count using the pew pads. This will lead us to have accurate numbers, provide better pastoral care, and track trends over the year. All of these efforts are with the intention of providing a more extravagant welcome and passionate worship experience.



Summer church service at St. John U.C.C. Sundays at 9:30am July 27th - August 31st, 2014

Wed. night services at St. John U.C.C. 6:30 pm July 30th – September

UPCOMING EVENTS

August

August 5, 2014

Gardening with God

August 12, 2014

Gardening with God

August 19, 2014

Gardening with God

August 20, 2014

Bingo Bash at 12:30pm

August 26, 2014

Gardening with God

August 29, 2014

Senior Day at the Zoo

August 30, 2014

Craft Fair Clean Up

September

September 7, 2014 Rally Day

Please join us for Fellowship following Rally Day service celebration.

September 22, 2014

Robert's Frozen Custard Fundraiser.

October 5, 2014

World Communion Sunday

“Neighbors in Need” Potluck



ST. JOHN UCC

N104W14181 Donges Bay Rd.

Germantown, WI 53022

Our Mission is to Celebrate, Reach
Out, Enrich, and Welcome in the
name of Jesus Christ.

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

SUMMER SCHEDULE REMINDER

Summer church service at St. John U.C.C.

July 27th -August 31st, 2014

Wed. night services at St. John U.C.C. 6:30 pm

July 30th – September 3rd , 2014