

Heartbeat News



It seems nearly every time you turn on the news there is some story relating to environmental justice: ongoing debates over energy production such as the Keystone pipeline and fracking, the increasing frequency and severity of wildfires, oil spills, global warming, etc. As Christians, we are called to view such events through a lens of faith, and respond as dictated by thoughtful contemplation based on Scripture, faith tradition, reason, and personal experience. We refer to these issues as issues of environmental justice, as we consider God’s vision for Creation, and how we can be active participants in the work of that vision.

Issues of environmental justice are also intimately related to other issues of social, racial, and economic justice. It is the most vulnerable of our world, the poor, racial and ethnic minorities, and those with little to no voice in political matters that are the first and most severely affected by environmental problems. The United Church of Christ (and its predecessor denominations) has been a strong and powerful voice on issues of justice from the very beginnings of our country’s formation. On issues of environmental justice it has worked hard to partner with other organizations and denominations to call attention to the need for greater awareness and action in order to conserve and preserve the glory of God’s Creation.

As you read about a few of our new program offerings this summer, you may notice a bit of a “green” theme. The natural beauty of summer gives us a wonderful opportunity to begin contemplating God’s Creation and our role as stewards of it. From infants in our nursery enjoying the beautiful new “Noah & the Ark” and “Garden of Eden” murals to children exploring conservation through our “Caretakers of Creation” Vacation Bible School program, to adults “Gardening with God” there is something “green” for everyone at St. John UCC this summer. I invite you to join in the excitement as we grow green with God.

Periodically throughout the summer we will be exploring various scripture passages in our weekly worship that highlight our responsibility as God’s representatives caring for all of creation. The first of these sermons will be during the first week of our summer schedule when we will explore the story of Creation. As we hear these Scriptures anew I pray that a fresh look may

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inspire us to action so that in our words and in our deeds we may aspire to be disciples in the Way of the One who has given us life and new life in a world that is, in the words of Genesis 1, “very good”.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tara

NEW MID-WEEK WORSHIP SERVICE OFFERED

Let's be honest and admit that sometimes it's hard to make it to church on a Sunday morning, especially in summer...we go on vacation, have family get-togethers, work, sports, etc... As a community of faith we are committed to working together to grow in faith; for this reason beginning June 18th we will be offering a mid-week service on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. The service will feature the same scripture and sermon as the preceding Sunday, with similar worship elements as the Sunday service. We hope this new worship opportunity will give everyone an opportunity to participate in corporate worship at a time that is convenient to them. **REMINDER:** Sunday AND Wednesday services will be held at Our Saviour's June 15 – July 23. Services will be at St. John July 27-Sept. 3rd.

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.

PRAYER LIST

This month please keep these people in your prayers:

The family of Jeanette Leicht who was called to her eternal home May 9th.

Eric Tess and Ashley Skrober who had emergency gall bladder surgery.

CARETAKERS OF CREATION

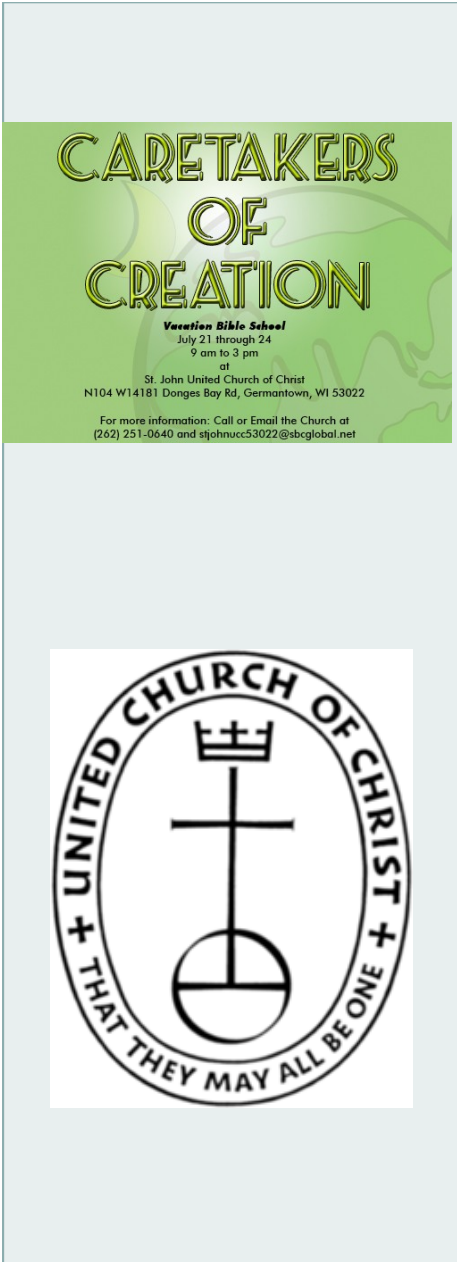
Don't forget the kids! With Sunday School on summer break, it can be tempting for kids and families to take the summer off, but this year we will be offering a fun and exciting Vacation Bible School program that teaches kids ages 3-12 about caring for God's Creation. Look for a full description of this program and registration forms within this newsletter. Adults and youth 13+, we need YOU to sign up ASAP if interested in assisting with VBS---there are spots for a variety of talents: food prep, crafts, games, art, etc. Talk to Pastor Tara, Sue Hillstrom, Mary Johnson, or Caroline Romaine by June 15th if interested. Child registrations are due July 1st so don't delay, sign up today!

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION MEETING

On May 3rd, Annaliesa Kubosch, Pastor Tara, Sloan Letman, and Vanessa Tetzlaff traveled to First Congregational UCC in Elkhorn to attend the annual meeting of the Southeast Association of the Wisconsin UCC Conference. Excellent worship was led by Rev. Bryan Sychio. Highlights of the business meeting include: passing of the budget which included over \$23,000 to be distributed to various mission & outreach initiatives (most notably Guest House of Milwaukee, Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee). Pastor Tara was elected to serve on the Association's Mission Team. After the business meeting we broke into small groups to brainstorm initiatives to do mission and outreach in our association. Eventually we narrowed the ideas down to five and each of those groups that is able to present a completed proposal to the Association by fall will receive \$2,000 to fund their plan. Watch for further information on this initiative as our church may be involved in one or two of the initiatives (Young Adult Outreach and Community Garden).

GARDENING WITH GOD


While adult Bible Study takes the summer off, we are offering a new gathering on Tuesday mornings from 10-noon entitled "Gardening with God". This is an informal drop-in group that will work on maintaining and enhancing our St. John Community Prayer Garden. Light refreshments will be provided and we will also incorporate a short devotional period that gives us an opportunity to contemplate the Word of God while enjoying the glorious Creation of God. This group will begin on June 17th.



**CARETAKERS
OF
CREATION**

Vacation Bible School
July 21 through 24
9 am to 3 pm
at
St. John United Church of Christ
N104 W14181 Donges Bay Rd, Germantown, WI 53022

For more information: Call or Email the Church at
(262) 251-0640 and stjohucc3022@sbcbglobal.net



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Report on Spring Rummage / Bake Sale April 11th and April 12th. The Outreach Committee organized a Spring Rummage and Bake Sale. Thank you to the many members and friends who donated time volunteering to set up or volunteered during the Rummage / Bake Sale. Thank you to members who donated items to sell or donated bakery for our bake sale. Our total profit during Spring Rummage and Bake sale and after church service sale was \$ 2,532.44. The Outreach Committee decided the profit of the Rummage/Bake sale will be designated as follows, 10% of the Rummage Sale / Bake Sale profit will go to Mission Alive, 75% will be earmarked toward the new church road sign, and 15% will go toward future Outreach Committee Events. A special Thank you to Sharon Reeder for organizing the event.

Robert's Frozen Custard – Fundraiser was held on Monday April 21st, 2014 3:00pm – 10:00pm No coupon was needed. Members enjoyed a meal with friends and family. Total profit from the Fundraiser was \$175.00. 10% of the proceeds will go to Mission Alive and toward the Community Prayer Garden. Thank you to all who supported the Fundraiser. Look for more information on our next Robert's Frozen Custard Fundraiser in late Summer or Fall.

Report on Adult Fellowship outing to Menomonee Falls Patio Players – Performance of “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers” May 4th, 2014 at 2:00pm. 19 Members and friends from St. John U.C.C. and Our Saviour U.C.C. attended the performance. The performance was wonderful. Following the play members and friends met back at St. John U.C.C. for a delicious spaghetti dinner, beverages and desserts. Thank you to Bob Lehmann and Jeannie Lehmann for organizing the event.

Thank you to all the members who volunteered to help during the church “Weed, Feed and Seed – church Spring clean – up” on May 3rd, 2014. The weather was wonderful. 10 members were in attendance. We focused our efforts outside in the Community Prayer Garden. The outside flower gardens were cleaned and spruced up, bushes were trimmed. Drivers Bob Lehmann, Rich Bersch, Andy Boneski, and Dick Wallander passed out fliers promoting our church. Lucky winners for the Scrip Raffle were Jeannie Lehmann and Andy Boneski. A light breakfast and lunch was provided by the Outreach Committee.

CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

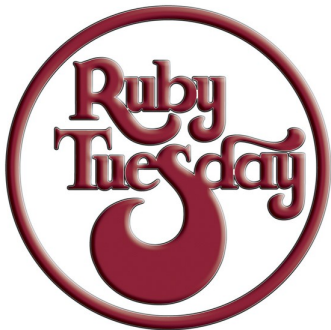
June Birthdays

- 3- Hannah Schaetzel
- 8- Lucas Schaetzel
- 9- Shirley Fraedrich
- 12- Ralph Bronner
- 15- Ken Schaetzel and John Schaetzel
- 17- Todd Dettmering
- 22- Susan Hillstrom and Sarah Hillstrom
- 30- Megan Dettmering

June Anniversaries

- 3-Rich & Cherie Bersch
- 10-Gayle and Dennis Johnson
- 14-David Klemish & Sherry Palmer
- Jim & Jean Koedinger
- 17-Bob & Jeannie Lehmann
- 20-Mike & Corrine Szymik
- 25-Mark & Judy Luckow

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 Sloan Letman at sloanletman@gmail.com and we will put it in the Recipe Corner. This recipe and more can be found on our website under Fellowship/Recipe Corner.

Date Squares

Recipe submitted by Virginia Wendt

Filling ingredients:

¾ lb. cut, pitted dates (about 2 ¼ cup)
½ cup granulated sugar
½ cup water
2 T. lemon juice
1/8 tsp. salt

Step one. Directions for cooking Date filling:

Combine dates, sugar, and water. Cook until dates are soft (about 3 minutes), stirring constantly. Add lemon juice and salt, cool.

Crumb mixture ingredients:

1 ½ cups sifted flour
½ tsp. baking soda
1/8 tsp. salt
1 cup brown sugar
1 ½ cups rolled oats
¾ cup butter

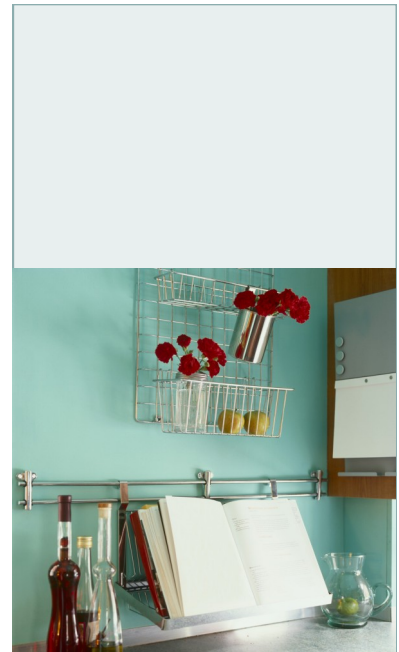
Step two. Directions for Date Squares:

Mix and sift flour, soda, and salt. Add brown sugar and mix. Cut in butter until well blended. Press half of this crumb mixture on bottom of a greased 9 inch square pan. Cover with date mixture and sprinkle remaining crumb mixture on top.

Bake in a preheated 350 degree oven about 30 minutes. Cool and cut into squares. Yields 25.

WOMENS GUILD NEWS

May's meeting was a planning session for next year's Guild meetings. If anyone has a program that they would like present please contact a guild member. Cookie Sale Sunday is December 7th. There will be no meeting in April due to Holy Week. Shady Lane Greenhouse coupons are available. Bingo Bash is Wed August 20th at 12:30 pm. Dessert will be served. Our next meeting is September 3rd at 7:00 pm





29TH ANNUAL FALL ART & CRAFT FAIR

The Craft Fair Committee is busy planning for our 29th anniversary this September.

Postcards and flyers/posters will be 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!

A big thank you to Annaliesa Kubosch for donating a quilt for the Quilt Raffle this year! It will be on display at the church later this summer and then at the Germantown Library during the month of August. Quilt raffle tickets will be available for sale at the church office. Please pick up a few packs of tickets and sell, sell, sell!

Another big draw at the Fair is the theme basket raffle. We ask that you please help us by signing up to make one. Remember, they don't have to be large; small, practical or creative are all appealing!

We also want to thank those of you who have already donated cash or prizes to the Raffle. For those of you still considering it, we need your help! While the cash raffle has been extremely popular, we also gladly accept other raffle items as well. Gift cards for gas, restaurants, fast food, grocery stores and bookstores are popular items but we welcome any donations of new items for this raffle. If you opt for gift cards, remember to order them through Script and the church benefits twice!

If you are interested in donating cash for the youth raffle, there are envelopes on the bulletin board on the landing. We would like to purchase a savings bond or two for the youth raffle. As far as other donations for the youth raffle, gift certificates are always popular. Again, we welcome any item.

Raffle ticket packets will be in the Narthex. 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.

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.

GREETERS, USHERS, AND LITURGISTS

Sunday, June 1, 2014

Communion by Intinction

Greeter– Sharon Reeder

Ushers– Rich and Cherie Bersch

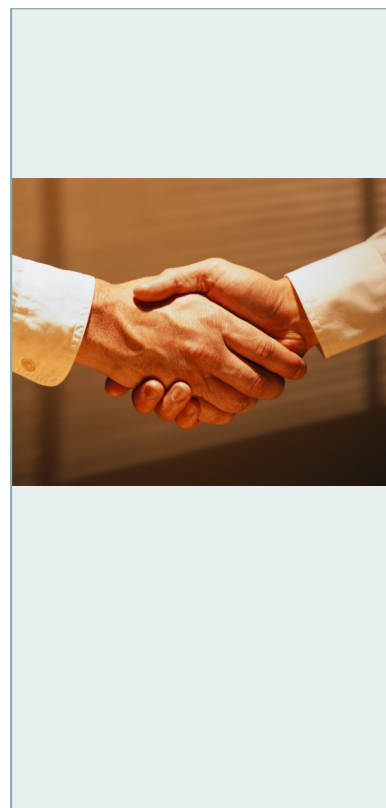
Liturgist– Bryce Thomas

Sunday, June 8, 2014

Greeter– David and Dawn Taylor

Usher– Bob and Jeanie Lehmann

Liturgist– Matt Lison



Please consider signing up for Fellowship following church services in our Fellowship Hall (a clip board with the signup sheet is located near the kitchen). Join us after church. Everyone is welcome. Any questions contact Sharon Reeder at 262-251-5946.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, June 3, 2014

Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting

June 6-8, 2014 in Green Lake, WI

Brat Fry at Menomonee Falls Appleton Ave. Pick n' Save

Saturday, June 7, from 10 am–3 pm. N77 W14435 Appleton Ave.

Summer Worship

Our Saviour's UCC begins Sunday, June 15 at 9:30 am.

Gardening With God

Begins Tuesday June 17 at 10-12 noon in the Prayer Garden.

Midweek Services begin

Wednesday, June 18 at Our Saviour's UCC at 6:30 pm

Noah's Ark Trip

June 20th, Departing at 9 am returning at 7 pm.
\$20 per person

Brat Fry at Menomonee Falls Appleton Ave. Pick n' Save

Saturday, June 26, from 10 am–3 pm. N77 W14435 Appleton Ave.

July

Blood Drive

Thursday, July 10, 1-6 pm at Lutheran Church of the Living Christ (ELCA) W156N10660 Pilgrim Road

Regional Youth Event

July 10-13th at Lakeland College

Brewer's Game

Monday July 21, 4:45 pm (First Pitch at 7:10 pm)

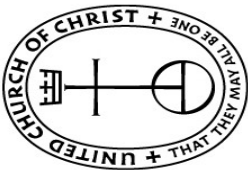


ST. JOHN UCC

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**

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Noah's Ark Trip---June 20th, Leaving church at 9am, returning at approximately 7pm. Cost is \$20 per person. Need a minimum of 5 people registered by June 15th in order to get this special group rate. Please contact Pastor Tara or the church office if interested. Open to all ages (youth under 6th grade must be accompanied by a parent or guardian).

Regional Youth Event July 10-13th—Four days of exciting worship, music, and activities with teens from all over the Midwest. Held at Lakeland College in Sheboygan and open to youth entering grades 6-12. Please contact Pastor Tara if interested. Scholarships available.