

Heartbeat News



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Happy Easter!

No matter when in April you read this newsletter, this greeting is still relevant. If you are like me then you probably grew up understanding Easter as one day—specifically the Sunday at the end of Holy Week. As a kid, I thought of Easter as being a bit like Halloween. You got lots of candy, and dressed up in clothes you never wore any other time of the year. (ok, maybe that last part is more relevant for females---I doubt many boys wore special white gloves and hats for Easter). And even though Easter was when we celebrated the resurrection of Christ, it didn't seem to be nearly as big of a deal as Christmas. Easter was easily contained within a single day: church, Easter baskets, ham dinner with family, and an Easter egg hunt. Christmas seemed much more important with all of the parties and gifts and seeing family and friends for days or weeks.

But Easter is more than a single day. In fact, Easter is actually a season of the church year that is begun with the Resurrection and lasts seven weeks until the day of Pentecost. Fifty days to celebrate this formative event of our faith. You see, while the birth of Jesus is important, it is the Resurrection of Christ that truly transforms the narrative. Death has lost its power, and with it all that is death-dealing and fear-inducing in the world. The love that ended death's reign is what empowers us to stand up against all of the death-dealing forces in our own lives. The power that raised Jesus from the dead, is a power that is available and active in our own lives.

(Continued on page 2)



St. John UCC

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262-293-6645

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COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH

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

- Accepted the resignation of Eric Hillstrom as Council Elder.
- Council President Mary Johnson appointed Eric Hillstrom to the vacant Trustee term.
- Appointed church officers for 2016. They are:

President Mary Johnson

Vice-President Donna Tess

Treasurer Eric Hillstrom

Financial Secretary Cherie Bersch

Recording Secretary Sharon Reeder

Corresponding Secretary Andy Boneski

Elder Vacant

Trustee Judy Luckow

Deacon Greg Schwartz

- Discussed dates for the Southeast Association and Wisconsin Conference annual meetings.

Present: Mary Johnson, Donna Tess, Eric Hillstrom, Cherie Bersch, Judy Luckow, Sharon Reeder, Andy Boneski, Greg Schwartz, Pastor Tetzlaff

Absent: None

**Next Council meeting:
April 14, 2016**

So perhaps for once, all the consumerism has done something right in focusing its Easter emphasis on eternal signs of spring, of rebirth and new life. When I walked down the aisles of Easter supplies I see an abundance of signs of new life and rebirth: baby animals, flowers, butterflies. A welcome sight after all the dreariness and deadness of winter!

Too often we tend to focus on the negative, on the suffering. It is right to take the season of Lent seriously with its focus on repentance, mortality, and self-denial. But our faith is not just about the death---its foundation is the power of new life. If we celebrated the birth of Jesus with gifts and parties and fine food how much more then should we celebrate the resurrection of Christ! As Christians, we are called to celebrate the season of Easter with at least as much (if not more) energy than we observed the season of Lent and with as much (if not more) joy and excitement as we celebrated Christmas.

But how? How can we observe Easter for not one day, but fifty days? This will be the theme of the services from now through Pentecost as we celebrate the joy of life, and ponder the audacious promise of new life in Christ. This is a time of living, of celebration, of delight, of appreciation for all that life is and all that God does and gives.

Be on the lookout (Facebook, Pulse, and bulletin announcements) for ways to continue this celebration throughout the Easter season and to rejoice in the resurrection.

Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!

Pastor Tara

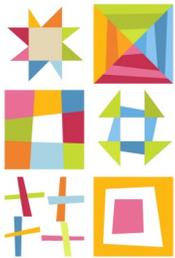
2016 Annual Meeting— Southwest Assoc., WI Chapter will meet on **Sat., April 23** at Greendale Community Center, 6015 Clover La., Greendale, WI, at 9am. The theme this year is “Shift: From Maintenance to Mission”. Registration begins at 8am, the mtg. concludes at 3pm. We need 2 people (in addition to the Pastor) to serve as delegates. Lunch is included. Talk to Pastor Tara if interested.

EDUCATIONAL & SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES



Monday Morning Bible Study: Continuing our 13 week study of Acts. **Meets at Our Saviour's UCC, W172 N12533 Division Rd., Germantown, WI, on Monday's, from 10-11:30am.**

GARDENERS WANTED: Anyone interested in helping to maintain our prayer garden and other grounds work please sign up in the lobby with preferred day of week and time of day. Our Gardening With God group will be restarting soon and we would like to set up a day/time to gather



ENJOY QUILTING OR WANT TO LEARN HOW: Plans are being made to start a joint quilting group between St. John and Our Saviour's. If interested, please contact office so we can determine interest and when/where to meet.



COLLECTION IS EASY!!!

We are collecting UPC's and Boxtops for Crossroad Child & Family Services, Inc., Fort Wayne, Indiana, which is a member of CHHSM—the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries of the United Church of Christ. We have a mission relationship through our church. The mission is to help troubled children and families.

It's easy to find Box Tops. Clip box tops from your favorite products, such as GM Cereals, Betty Crocker Mixes, Ziploc Bags, etc. Box tops are each worth 10 cents and they add up fast.

Campbell's UPC codes are also needed. There will be a collection box in the lobby.



PEW BIBLES

"Your word is a lamp before my feet and a light for my journey." (psalm 119:105. Help light the way in our sanctuary by sponsoring a Pew Bible today! We have recently purchased new CEB (Common English Bible) Pew Bibles for the sanctuary. This is the translation that is typically read from during worship. To defray the cost of the Bibles, we are asking for a donation of \$10 per Bible. There are forms in the lobby if you are interested in sponsoring a Bible, or call the office and we can help you out.

BOOK CLUB

We will resume **Monday, April 11th** with a discussion of *When Bad*



Things Happen to Good People by Rabbi Harold Kushner. The book for May will be *Girl Meets God* by Lauren Winner. If you would like a copy of either of these books please contact Pastor Tara.

Rev. John Shelby Spong, author of *Biblical Literalism: A Gentile Heresy* is returning to Trinity UCC, 4435 N. Calhoun Rd., Brookfield on **April 17th at 10am**. This book will be discussed at a future Starbucks Book Club gathering. There will also be a 25% discount on this book. For more info.....**Jan Doleschal at 414-708-7024.**

LITURGISTS NEEDED!!!!

The Worship Committee is looking for a few more people to join our group of Liturgists. If you are interested and wish to learn more about serving your church in this capacity, please see Pastor Tara or Joan-Schaetzl. Thanks for your consideration!



Please consider signing up for Fellowship following church services in our Fellowship Hall (a clip board with the sign-up sheet is located near the kitchen). Join us after church. All members and friends are welcome. Any question contact Sharon Reeder at 262-251-5946.

Dates Committees are serving Fellowship:

April 3rd, 2016 - Constitution, Maintenance, & Mission Alive Committee's

May 1st, 2016 – Council

June 5th, 2016 – Outreach Committee

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

Outreach Meetings: Any members wishing to join the committee are welcome. The next Outreach Committee meeting TBA. We meet in the Fraederich Education room. Contact Caroline Romaine at 262-385-1327 for more information.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

St. John U.C.C.

Heart Beat Newsletter April 2016

Outreach Committee

Report on 10th Annual Dart Ball Game night – February 20th, 2016 – The 10th Annual Dart Ball night was held on Saturday February 20th, 2016 at 6:00pm. Sloppy Joes, hot dogs, vegetable tray, desserts, snacks, milk, coffee, and soda were served. There were three teams that played darts. We had members and friends from St. John U.C.C. and members from Our Saviour U.C.C. There were 40 members & friends in attendance. Fun was had by all.

Mark your calendars - *Up Coming Events:*

April 2016

Rummage / Bake Sale - Friday April 15th and Saturday April 16th, 2016

Spread the News!!!!!!

Reminder of our Huge Spring Rummage and Bake Sale which will be held Friday April 15th and Saturday April 16th, 2016.

******Finalizing rummage sale collecting.****** Please have items to the church by April 10th. The church basement will be open when the secretary is there (T/W 9-12) or when Pastor Tara is there during the week. Other times can be arranged. If you have question contact Sharon Reeder 262- 251-5946 or Caroline Romaine 262-385-1327. ******** (tax donation slips available for items you donate).***

Starting the week of April 11th, 2016; Volunteers will be needed for set – up and during Rummage Sale and Bake Sale. See sign – up sheet on bulletin board.

Bakery!! Please package your goodies and list the ingredients (especially nuts). Try to have items at the church by Thursday April 14th, 2016 in the afternoon or call Caroline Romaine to drop off at a different time 262-385-1327.

May 2016

Adult Fellowship is planning an outing to the Menomonee Falls Patio Players production of the Musical “**My Fair Lady**” **Sunday May 1st, 2016 at 2:00pm.**

Following the play we will meet back at St. John U.C.C. for a meal.

Ticket prices: \$ 15.00 for the ticket and \$ 20.00 for meal, including beverages.

A sign-up sheet will be posted. **Pay in advance by April 10, 2016.** For more information contact Jeannie Lehmann at 262-251-1756.



Recipe Corner

St. John U.C.C. has some wonderful cooks and bakers and during Fellowship, Potluck Dinners or Vacation Bible School 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 drop it off in the church office, clearly labeled and we will put it in the Recipe Corner.

Bingo Balls

Recipe donated in Loving Memory of Matt Lison

BINGO BALLS

Made Famous by: Matt Lison

Servings: As Many as you Like

Required: 16oz. Yellow Solo Cup

Healthy Shot of Southern Comfort

½ shot of Brandy

1/3 shot of Amaretto

Top off with 50/50

Mix and Enjoy!!!!

CALL YOUR PASTOR!!!



Just a reminder that to protect your privacy federal HIPAA laws prevent doctors, hospitals, and nursing homes from contacting or sharing information with anyone (including your church or pastor!) when you are a patient. If you or a loved one is hospitalized or needs pastoral care PLEASE call the church office or Pastor Tara directly (or request the hospital to do so). If you don't call, we have no way of knowing of your situation. By informing us of these events, you are helping us to provide you with the spiritual care needed in these often difficult times. Business cards with Pastor Tara's contact information are available in the church lobby or can be obtained from the church office, a handy way for you to have the numbers you need in an emergency.

APRIL

USHERS

3 S. Reeder & C. Romaine
10 Jean Koedinger & Ashley Skrober
17 G & M Johnson
24 M. Lison & A. Boneski

GREETERS

3 Andy Boneski
10 Donna Tess
17 Andy Boneski
24 Gayle Johnson

LITURGISTS

3 Vanessa Tetzlaff
10 Mary Johnson
17 Joan Schaezel
24 Mary Johnson

We are in need of Liturgists and Greeters. If you are interested in either of these, or both, please contact Pastor Tara for more information.

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP WITH CRAFT FAIR PLANNING

Some of the committee members are interested in changing roles so we're looking for people who would be interested in the following areas:

Committee Chair (or Co-Chair if you'd like to share the role)

Advertising (Requires reviewing ad proofs and sending documents as email attachments)

Booth Coordinator (Requires sending documents as email attachments)

Treasurer

If interested in volunteering or nominating someone else for any of these roles, please contact Merry Lison at: merrymatt@sbcglobal.net

VBS SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Vacation Bible School will be July 18-21.

The theme this year is "Journey to Egypt" and will incorporate stories of Joseph and/or Moses. There will be a field trip on the final day to Milwaukee Public Museum to see the Ancient Egypt exhibit. We will need volunteers beginning in February to begin working on plans/

preparations in the following areas: set design (to make different areas and rooms reflect Ancient Egyptian themes), arts and crafts, games, music, etc. Please contact the office by Feb. 1st if you are able to help in any of these areas.



WOMEN'S GUILD

For our March meeting, Caroline Romaine served a refreshing Mandarin Orange cake and shared a devotion "God working on me". Communion bread is assigned through May. Sign up for Easter breakfast.

\$10.00 Scholarships are available for St. John kids for Vacation Bible School.

Shady Lane Coupons are also available.

No business meeting for April as we are setting up for the rummage sale on Wed. April 13th.

NOAH'S ARK

Our 2nd annual Noah's Ark trip is scheduled for **Monday June 13th** (exact times TBD). Cost is \$18 per person which includes your admission and a hot dog lunch (hot dog, chips, pickle & soda). Open to all ages. Youth under 6th grade must have a parent or other adult accompany them.

CELEBRATIONS: BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 5 Scott Passineau | 17 Erik Johnson |
| 6 Walter Krueger, Jr. | 19 Jason Lietzau |
| 7 Melissa Luckow | 23 Jodi Schneider |
| 8 Kay Wendt | 25 Mark Luckow |
| 9 Meadow Lietzau | 28 Jeff Lehmann |
| 11 Jill Lemke | Pastor Tara |
| 14 Janet Robinson | Genny Vriesen |
| Joe Toth | 29 Stacie Delain |



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

| |
|----------------------------|
| 3 Brian & Connie Ellingson |
| 5 Rollie & Suzanne Pieper |
| 23 Jay & Carrie Schaetzel |

APRIL EVENTS

4th—10-11:30pm Bible Study (OSC)

9th—10am-3pm Crafter's Day (OSC)

10th—4-6pm Slowing With the Spirit

11th—6pm Book Club at Starbucks

14th—6:30pm Church Council

15th & 16th RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

18th—10-11:30am Bible Study (OSC)

20th—3-10pm Fundraiser at Robert's

24th—4-6pm Slowing With the Spirit

25th—10-11:30pm Bible Study (OSC)

PRAYER REQUEST FORMS can be found in the lobby of the church. Please fill out the form if you would like to include someone on the Prayer List.



PRAYER LIST

- ◇ Prayers for Mike Szymik
- ◇ Prayer for our church that it may grow
- ◇ Prayers for Mary Ann Toth
- ◇ Prayers for Sherry Palmer
- ◇ Prayers for Nola Witzlib
- ◇ Prayers for Kirk (Lois Cozzuli's son) and Nicole (Lois Cozzuli's daughter)
- ◇ Prayers for Laura W., as she battles cancer
- ◇ Prayers for James, friend of Donna Tess

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE:

Virginia Wendt
5555 Cedar Bay Dr., Apt. 1168
West Bend, WI 53095
262-353-7719

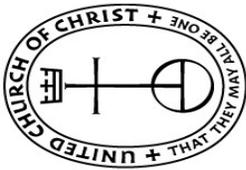
ST. JOHN UCC

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**

WORSHIP SERVICES

*Sunday Worship Service at St. John UCC—
10:30am*

Sunday School at 11:15-Noon at St. John UCC

*Sunday Worship Service at Our Saviour's UCC—
8:30am*