

# ST. JOHN'S CHIMES

*Published monthly in the interest of*



**St. John United Church of Christ  
204 Seventh Street  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656**

**June 2024 Newsletter**

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
204 Seventh Street ~ Lincoln, Illinois 62656  
217-732-6957

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*"Letting God's love shine through us to the Community we Serve"*

Rev. David Marquardt

Darlene Begolka

Volume 55, No. 6

Bridge Pastor

Office Manager

June 2024

# SAVE THE DATE...

The Special Events Committee invites  
you to the annual  
4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 30<sup>th</sup>**

following the morning worship service  
The Potluck Celebration will take place  
in the Fellowship Hall.

Meat, drinks and table service  
will be provided.  
Bring a dish to share.





## FROM OUR PASTOR

Grace and Peace.

Some of you know, but for those who haven't heard, I have advised the Church Council that I plan to finish my ministry with St. John over the next 90 to 120 days. At that time we will have worshiped together for 17-18 months when it was my intent to only 'bridge' the gap until an interim was found. It wasn't easy making this decision, but I feel very strongly that it's the right call.

St. John has elected and installed a wonderful group who is working diligently as your Search Committee. I have had a couple of occasions to be with them, and it's a joy to see how hard they're working and how serious they are at answering the churches call. They have recently completed an update to the Church Profile, the Church Council approved it, and it is now posted at the top of the UCC profile page. Please be in prayer for this dedicated group and for the Lord to send just the right person to pastor St. John into the future.

Our family is grateful for the kindness we've been shown, and if distance wasn't an issue, then we'd most likely stay for a while longer. But it's not what we want the matters, it's what's best for the church. I believe strongly, and the head of the UCC Search and Call agrees, that a minister needs to be part of the community. It's important for them to be at both municipal and church functions and we just can't do that from 40 miles away. Further, we are in our retirement years. We like to do things with family, play some golf, and have more quiet time than we presently have.

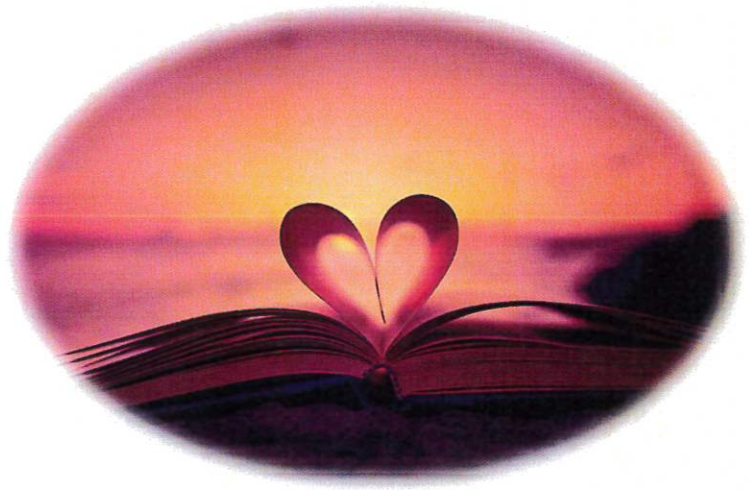
The other thing on my mind are visits to shut-in's and those on our prayer list. While Covid put a halt to these visits for all churches, most have tried, little by little, to renew these important relationships. Distance and time do not allow me to

minister in the way that I'd like and that the church deserves.

I'd be remiss not to mention how much we'll miss everyone once God calls us away. We feel like this is our 'home church' and it will be difficult to say goodbye. But let us not forget, that God is in control and has plans for St. John moving forward. Somewhere there's the right person who will walk into the sanctuary, love you, worship with you, and be present with you. I am excited for St. John and am anxious to see what God has planned.

So for now we'll worship together and pray together. We'll hold your Search Committee in prayer, and pray for God's Holy Spirit to work in the life of that special someone who will answer God's call.

In loving gratitude,  
Pastor David



**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
UNAPPROVED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
Monday, May 20, 2024  
7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Leland Semple, Laura Lee, Randy Pech, Keith Birnbaum, Dan Row, Roger Michalsen, Silas Tockey, Sandy Meinershagen, Kaye Wilmert, Pastor David Marquardt, and Darlene Begolka (Office Manager)

President Leland Semple called the meeting order on Monday, May 20, 2024. Rev. David Marquardt gave the invocation.

It was moved and seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

**PASTOR'S REPORT**

Profile is finished. Bridge Pastor David believes he should leave the church in the next 90-120 days. There are connections to be made in other denominations as well. Hope to start new pastor before advent.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**YMCA:** Summer Camp begins on May 28, 2024 and runs from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Interim Search Team and Pastoral Search Team:** Profile has been finished and we have received 2 pastoral profiles.

**Update to Cry Room:** This has been turned over to the Memorial Committee.

**Church Project as a Whole:** Most committee members not open to fundraising.

**Sound – Mics:** Lapel mic possibilities.

**Communion:** Follow-up after return to serve communion. Some have concerns about children taking communion.

**Third Friday Events:** The June 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Downtown Event theme will be Nashville Nights.

**Pridefest and Juneteenth:** Pridefest booth details. Pridefest is Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to

8:00 p.m. Setup begins at 1:00 p.m. There will be a signup sheet in church on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> to get volunteers to sit with the booth. It was moved and seconded to donate \$250 from general interest to Logan County Pride. Motion carried. We will have stickers and bracelets for the Pridefest booth and a rainbow tablecloth. Awaiting info from the Juneteenth Committee.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**ADJOURNMENT AND BENEDICTION**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Everyone recited The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Silas Tockey  
Church Council Secretary



**APRIL FINANCIALS**

Beginning Balance	\$55,593.91
Income	\$15,401.71
Expenses	\$27,863.82
Ending Balance	\$43,131.80



Articles for the **July 2024** newsletter should be in the Church Office by **June 19<sup>th</sup>**.





**2024 GRADUATES FROM THE  
ST. JOHN UCC CHURCH FAMILY**

**Avery Birnbaum**

from Illinois State University  
Son of Keith and Lori Birnbaum  
Grandson of Loren and Karen Birnbaum

**Laine Brickey**

from Heartland Community College  
Daughter of Jennifer and Doug Brickey  
Granddaughter of Jack and Nancy Leich

**Lilly Bruder**

from Popular Bluffs Junior High School  
Daughter of Richard and Allicent Bruder  
Granddaughter of Randy and Betsy Pech

**Connor Costello**

from Indiana Trail High School  
Son of Kara Costello  
Grandson of Leland and Becky Semple  
Great-Grandson of Alice Paulus

**Katherine Christensen**

from University of Illinois  
Daughter of Rod and Lori Christensen  
Granddaughter of Alice Paulus

**Jake Curry**

from Heartland Community College  
Son of Jeff and Jackie Curry  
Grandson of Jack and Nancy Leich

**Benjamin James Spellman**

from Iowa State University  
Son of Ed and Michelle Spellman  
Grandson of Hank and Lynn Spellman

**ROUTE 66 GARAGE SALE  
at the VFW  
JUNE 14-15, 2024**



The Veterans Ministry will have a spot at the VFW for the Route 66 Garage Sales the weekend of June 14-15, 2024 for a Bake Sale.

Baked goods are welcomed.

Hours on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>  
are from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

and Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>  
are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Watch for more info.



June 2<sup>nd</sup>:

June 9<sup>th</sup>:

Bill Gosda, Jr.

Jack and Nancy Leich

June 16<sup>th</sup>:

June 23<sup>rd</sup>:

June 30<sup>th</sup>:





**St. John Diners  
Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Coney McKane's in Decatur  
11:00 a.m.**



St. John Diners will be going to Coney McKane's in Decatur for their June outing.

Leave the Church Parking Lot at 10:30 a.m.  
A sign-up sheet will be in the back of the sanctuary.

Noted from council minutes noting graduates to notify office/no names available.

Old Business: 100 training cups for WIC are already being used – no report on monies left from some Outreach und to offset this project. Did a critique of the Potato Bar event in preparation for next year – few changes- popular as it is. Health Department was quite pleased.

Report on Culver's treat to Scouts for their work at Christmas that had been delayed due to Scouts busy schedule. Suggested by Scoutmaster, Culver's cheeseburgers, fries and Custard was shared on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and everyone was happy with the change of how we did it. Only downside was there were no St. John supporters.

Hosts and Hostesses for coffee hour past month have been Jack and Nancy Leich, Bob and Sandy Meinershagen, Marlene Wilmert and Toni. A big supply of creamers was given by Gail Marquardt!

Prayer Chain leaders needed stamps – new stamps purchased.

St. John has been given a Co-Ed Tee Ball League team. Shirts will be BLUE. Game details will be posted as soon as coaches meet.

Jack will go with Toni to get plaque for Eagle Scout recognition.

**PATRIOTIC SING** will be the Sunday before July 4<sup>th</sup> (**JUNE 30<sup>th</sup>** to the shut-ins in nursing facilities and/or their homes is being pursued. Sign up to join in this event will be in Narthex beginning in June.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Toni reported that 8 households (card holders) generated \$7.52 to general fund. Article on this will be separate.



**OUTREACH and PUBLICITY NEWS...**

Tonita Reifsteck and  
Jim and Leslie Wilmert, Co-Chairs

Outreach Ministry met on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
Opening thought/prayer read in unison. Present were Jack and Nancy Leich, Jim and Leslie Wilmert, Sandy Wilmert and Tonita Reifsteck.



Thanked Lynn Spellman for doing bio of new members: Dan and Nancy Dexter and Hannah Meece. She also noted that their name tags had arrived.

Meeting closed with reading of the Benediction from Pastor David's May Chimes article.

Outreach Publicity Ministry will not meet in June, July or August unless something comes up that needs their attention.

- NEWSPAPERS are NO LONGER being used by the Humane Society. No new source for their use. Please recycle personally.
- PRESCRIPTION containers with lids (NO LABELS) and over the counter bottles are now being given to Christian Child Care. Humane Society has no need for them.
- Catalogs and calendars are welcome at Logan/Mason Rehab Center.
- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY is gaining support from CULVER'S on 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month for their next build. Dine in, drive thru or carry out on May 20<sup>th</sup> would be appreciated.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024**

from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

at LINCOLN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Trauma-Informed Care Training is being offered.

Limited space. Registration required.

For more information call 217-605-5014.

**LOGAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH** has a new program...

**USED SHARPS COLLECTION PROGRAM**

Stop by the Logan County Health Department located at 109 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

Pick up a FREE sharps disposal container.

When it is full drop it off for a new one

**ALL CONTAINERS NEED TO BE RETURNED NOT LATER THEN JUNE 21, 2024**

**PLAY BALL...**



**BOYS and GIRLS TEE BALL  
ST. JOHN UCC  
COACH: Mitchel Beatty**

Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. State Farm/Bryan Clark

Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. Peasley Funeral Home

Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. Werth Realtors

Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. ME Realty

Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. State Farm/Bryan Clark

Thursday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. Peasley Funeral Home

Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. Werth Realtors

Monday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. ME Realty

Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
St. John UCC vs. State Farm/Bryan Clark





## CELEBRATE LIFE BIRTHDAY GROUP...

by Tonita Reifsteck



Celebrate Life was enjoyed by the 5 who went to Kickapoo Creek Park – warm sun, beauty all around NO Bugs and grass was dry! After signing all the birthday,

get-well and other cards Nancy led us in singing all verses of “Johnny Appleseed”. After which, each enjoyed their lunch and ‘chat time’. Sharing the topic of the day brought forth other stories and lots of laughter as events we were disciplined for or ‘frowned upon’ ‘YOU DID WHAT!!’ stories of dusting the hair of a cousin with louse treatment for chickens like grandmother did – side comment – they were dressed up nice to be going someplace which they had to be cleaned up again for! (they still laugh about it) Another chicken story (NO ONE liked chicken house)–father scolded her for hypnotizing entire brood of hens ~ (85-100 hens- (her technique still works) punishment when she said she learned how from Arky on the WLS Barn Dance show – didn’t get to watch show that week. Ever been told “don’t play ball so close to house – you’ll break a window”? CRASH and ‘wait until your father gets home – him then chasing ‘bad child’ around yard with yardstick given him by mother and then him getting in trouble for not correcting his child! And finally with the siblings getting even for oldest brother not sharing scooter – laying in wait on both sides of road with rope drawn taut= boy and scooter separated!



Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Life will be in Kickapoo Creek Park (in case of rain we will go to the church) Suggested conversation topic – With graduations in the air –“When you were a child - What did you want to be when you grew up?” AND NOW –



### ATTENDANCE

April 28<sup>th</sup>

36 In-Person, 105 on Facebook, 13 bulletins mailed and website = 154+

May 5<sup>th</sup>

38 In-Person, 97 on Facebook, 13 bulletins mailed and website = 148+

May 12<sup>th</sup>

55 In-Person, 48 on Facebook, 13 bulletins mailed and website = 116+

May 19<sup>th</sup>:

41 In-Person, 45 on Facebook, 13 bulletins mailed and website = 99+

May 26<sup>th</sup>:

34 In-Person, 65 on Facebook, 13 bulletins mailed and website = 112+

### SPECIAL MUSIC FOR JUNE



June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Silas Tockey  
June 9<sup>th</sup>: Austin Garriott  
June 16<sup>th</sup>: Godspell Cast  
June 23<sup>rd</sup>: Calob Pluhm  
June 30<sup>th</sup>: Tamera Turner



## MISSION COMMITTEE

by Verdeen Ingram, Co-Chair

**SPECIAL OFFERING SUNDAYS...**The Mission Committee has designated the following Sundays:

- **Second Sunday of each month** a special offering will be taken following church for the **Children of Lincoln** project.
- **Fourth Sunday of each month** a special offering will be taken following church for the **Diaper Project for Head Start at Community Action**.

Thanks to the good folks at St. John's, 8 bags of groceries was collected and delivered to Lincoln/Logan County Food Bank for April, 2024.

## June Food Item Is...



**All non-perishable items are**  
**WELCOME.**



**Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**8:30 a.m.**  
**Imo's Café**

**All Men of the Church are Welcome.**



## LET'S REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND

### ST. CLARA'S REHAB and SENIOR CARE

1450 Castle Manor Drive, Lincoln, IL 62656

Jerry and Mary Berglin

Susan Webb

John Wilmert

### CASTLE MANOR

1550 Castle Manor Drive, Lincoln, IL 62656

Bill Krepps

### COPPER CREEK

203 Stahlhut Drive, Lincoln, IL 62656

Steve Aue

### CEDARHURST OF SPRINGFIELD

3520 Old Jacksonville Road, Springfield, IL 62711

Helen Opperman

### ASHTON PLACE

4151 Ashton Road, Sarasota, FL 34233

Patty McCann

### IN THEIR HOME

Sandy Morgan 931 – 1575<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln

Send mail to: 12 Pheasant Run, Lincoln

## GREETERS

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Jack and Nancy Leich

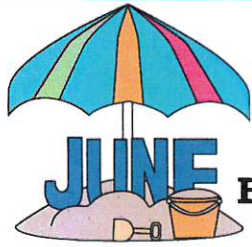
**June 9<sup>th</sup>:** Alice Paulus

**June 16<sup>th</sup>:** Bill Gosda, Jr.

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Sandy Meinershagen

**June 30<sup>th</sup>:** Nancy Gehlbach





## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Barb Reinwald
- 4 Cathy Sanders, Cameron Wilmert
- 5 Edna Mara
- 7 Lindsey Burge
- 8 **Mary Berglin**
- 11 Nancy Leich
- 13 Bob Meinershagen
- 15 Scott Row
- 17 Cameron Kurtz
- 19 Braxton Paulus
- 20 Bob Coombs, Jr.
- 23 Sarah Fuller

Names in **red** are a member of our church who are on the visitation list. Let's fill her mailbox on her birthdays.



**Celebrate Life Birthday Group**  
**Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**11:30 a.m.**

**Kickapoo Creek Park**  
 (weather permitting)  
**Bring your own lunch and drink.**

**June birthdays will be celebrated.**

**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 will have a booth at the

**LOGAN COUNTY PRIDE FEST**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 8**  
**3:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Downtown Lincoln**

**Volunteers are needed to man the booth.**  
**Sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary.**



## ANNIVERSARIES

- 11 Adam and Lindsey Sanders Burge  
Dan and Nancy Dexter
- 12 Greg and Lisa Conrady
- 15 Jonathan and Tami Pagel
- 16 Bob and Sandy Sanders
- 18 Orry Ingram and Becky Rader
- 22 Keith and Lori Birnbaum
- 25 David and Linda Nowack  
Mike and Debbie Turner
- 27 J. D. and Shanda Ryer

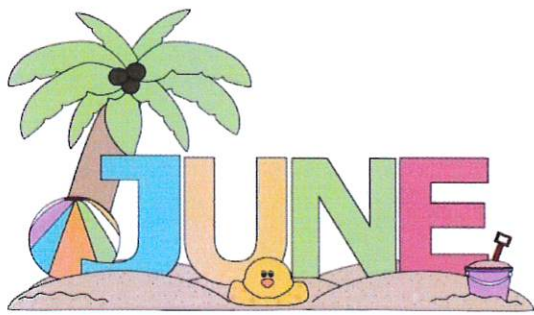
**St. John UCC**  
 will be participating in the  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Downtown Event**  
**on Friday, June 21.**

**This family event runs from**  
**5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

**We will have our PickUp a Duck Game**  
**set up. Sound like fun?**  
**Drop by and see us!**







# NEWSLETTER

## **Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**

Men's Fellowship at 8:30 a.m. at Imo's

## **Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Coffee Hour at 9:15 p.m.

Morning Worship with Communion at 10:00 a.m.

## **Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**

Veterans Ministry meeting at 5:00 p.m.

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**

Pride Fest from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m.

## **Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>**

Coffee Hour at 9:15 p.m.

Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.

## **Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

Special Events Committee meeting at 7:00 p.m.

## **Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**

Bake Sale at VFW for Route 66 Garage Sales

Celebrate Life Birthday Group at 11:30 a.m.

## **Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**

Bake Sale at VFW for Route 66 Garage Sales

## **Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>**

Coffee Hour at 9:15 p.m.

Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.

## **Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

Church Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

## **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Downtown Event 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

## **Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>**

St. John Diners to Coney McKane's in Decatur

## **Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Coffee Hour at 9:15 p.m.

Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.

Memorial Committee meeting after church

## **Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**

Jubilant Feet at 8:00 a.m.

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**

LCT at 6:30 p.m.

## **Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>**

Coffee Hour at 9:15 p.m.

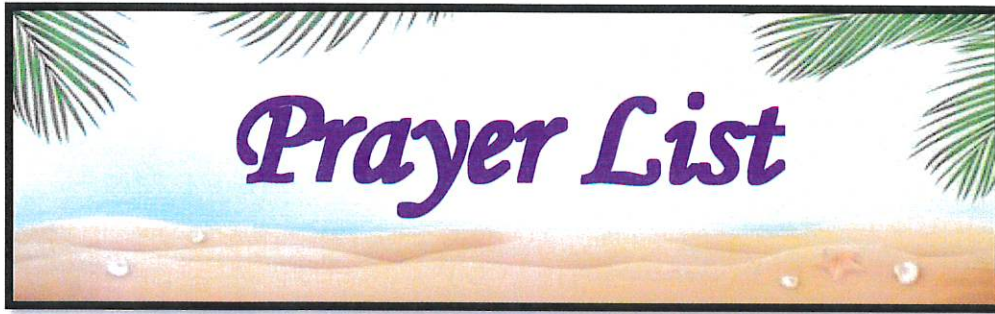
Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.

4th of July Potluck Celebration in Fellowship Hall  
following church

Patriotic Sing at 2:00 p.m.

### **NOTE:**

The YMCA Summer Camp will be here  
Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



Linda Barrow  
Alissa Smith  
Leslie Wilmert  
Cheryl F.  
Katrina Opperman  
Lynn  
David  
Kathy Staten  
Jim Walsh  
Kristen  
Lee Wolfe  
Joyce (Gail Marquardt's mom)  
Lynn (Friend of Donna)  
"Pete" Luckhart  
Zach (Friend of Pastor David, Gail, Joshua)  
Abigail  
Middle East  
Cierra  
Raymond  
Stephanie Opperman  
Janet Dullard  
Jean (C.J.) Sutton  
Amy Tabor  
John Tabor  
Karson  
Ruth Post  
Sharlene  
Alexis and baby Maverick  
Emily Hyde  
Rachelle Riggs  
Jen Steele  
Pat O'Neil

Donnie Kirk  
Ellen Schweizer  
Nancy Dexter's father  
John Hebenstreit  
Beverly  
Bill Dennis  
David Dennis  
Louise Jeffries  
Bob Sanders  
Martha  
Jackie Curry  
Wayne Mara  
Debbie  
Marc Wendt  
Sandy Sanders  
Anita  
Mike  
George Wilmert  
Joe Schaler Family

Illinois Conference/Western Association

**FACILITIES AND HOMEBOUND:**

Steve Aue  
Jerry and Mary Berglin  
Judy Kline  
Bill Krepps  
Patty McCann  
Sandy Morgan  
Helen Opperman  
Susan Webb  
John Wilmert



# Staff of St. John United Church of Christ

## Members and Friends of St. John UCC

Rev. David Marquardt  
Darlene Begolka  
Carolyn Pech  
Dana Denny  
Laura Lee  
Darlene Begolka  
Calob Pluhm

## Ministers

Bridge Pastor  
Office Manager  
Financial Manager  
Custodian  
Organist  
St. John Chimers Director  
St. John Ringers and St. John Singers Director

## Church Council for 2024-2025



Leland Semple, President  
Roger Michalsen (Elder), Vice-President  
Silas Tockey, Secretary  
Keith Birnbaum, Current Fund Treasurer  
Dan Row, Special Funds Treasurer  
Kaye Wilmert (Elder), Financial Secretary  
Laura Lee  
Sandy Meinershagen (Elder)  
Randy Pech

## Contact us:

**Email:** [stjohnucclincoln@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnucclincoln@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [stjohnucclincolnillinois.com](http://stjohnucclincolnillinois.com)

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