

The Messenger

Volume 8, Issue 4

Autumn 2018

Dear Friends,

“I’m getting older, it is hard for me to do that anymore.” This phrase was very much on my mind when a buddy and I went to the farm to cut up some limbs that had fallen in a storm. I needed help getting them cut up and he wanted the firewood. It all seemed to work – until the day that we had designated turned out to be very hot. We overestimated the job. Neither one of us wanted to admit that we were wearing down fast. Finally, one of us said – “let’s take a little break”. The discussion quickly turned to, ‘boy, we can tell that we are not 30 anymore’ and “if this is what 52 feels like – I’m not sure I want to feel 62”!

Sometimes we just don’t want to admit that we can’t quite work as hard as we once did. This concept came to mind as I was climbing in and out of the refrigerated trailer moving meat around on the day of the sausage supper. Things were going fine until I stepped wrong and twisted my hip. I had fallen off a ladder a few weeks earlier and landed on the same hip. I didn’t want to admit that it became a problem and that it made my back hurt as well. (Some Ibuprofen and a couple of days rest – helped tremendously.)

As the day went on – I looked around. The congregation at St. John’s has changed a lot in the last five years. We have a pretty large group in their “older years” and a pretty large group in their “younger years”. But not a huge group in their “middle years”. It made me think. First, how lucky we were to have both groups, and secondly – how do we begin to include other people into our congregation so that they will feel vital and needed.

An old friend of mine is the pastor of the largest Methodist church in Missouri. He and another man wrote the book *Stride: Schreiner & Willard, Abingdon Press, 2017*. I had purchased this book over the summer and had liked the ideas that it mentioned. Over the next year or more – I hope to implement some of these ideas.

However, on the day of the sausage supper one specific piece came to my mind. The idea was in the book – but was borrowed from Community Christian Church in Naperville, Illinois. The idea centers on how to mentor others:

I Do – You Watch- We Talk

I Do- You Help- We Talk

You Do – I Help- We Talk

You Do – I Watch- We Talk

You Do – Someone New Watches – We Talk

What a great way to look at many of the jobs, tasks, offices, etc of the church. If you hear yourself thinking or saying, “I’m getting older, it is hard for me to do that anymore.” Maybe it is time to start thinking of who you could mentor. It doesn’t have to be a “young” person – anyone that is able bodied or spirited would be fine. *Cherishing our past, Embracing our future.*

Rodney

Sermon Topics for 2018-19

11/4 - Getting Comfortable
11/11 - Veteran's Day
11/18 - Spiritual Growth
11/25 - Gratitude
12/2 - Advent 1
12/9 - Advent 2
12/16 - Advent 3
12/23 - Advent 4
12/30 - Christmas
1/6 - Epiphany
1/13-Following Hard After God
1/20- Possessing Nothing
1/27- Removing the Veil
2/3- Apprehending God
2/10- The Universal Presence
2/17-The Speaking Voice
2/24 - Gaze of the Soul
3/3-Creator and Creature
3/10- Lent
3/17- Lent
3/24- Lent
3/31 - Lent
4/7 - Lent
4/14 - Lent
4/21- Easter Sunday
4/28 - Meekness and Rest
5/5 - Sacrament of Living
5/12- Idolatry
5/19-Battleground of gods
5/26 - Vacation
6/2- Jealous gods
6/9- Calling of gods
6/16- God of food
6/23- Vacation
6/3 - God of Entertainment
7/7- God of Success
7/14- God of Money
7/21 - God of Achievement
7/28 - God of Family
8/4-God of Me
8/11 - Precious Promises
8/18 -God's Image
8/25 - Days are Numbered
9/1-Heir of God
9/8-Prayers Have Power
9/15-Grace for the Humble
9/22-God Gets You
9/29-Christ is Paying for You
10/6-No Condemnation
10/13-Temporary Tomb
10/20-Joy is Soon Coming
10/27-You Will Have Power
11/3-Justice Will Prevail
11/10-Unshakable Hope
11/17-TBA
11/24-TBA
Advent

Church Calendar

October *Travis Clifton

7th Worship – Communion - Blessing of the Pets TBA

14th - Worship - Council Meeting

21st - Worship

25th - Prep for Supper 1:30 pm

27th - Chili/Stew Supper

28th - Worship

30th - Council Meets - 6:30 pm

November *George Cozby

**4th - Worship – Communion - Congregational Meeting
– immediately following worship**

10th - Parent's Night Out 6-9 pm

11th - Worship - Veteran's Day

18th - Worship

TBA- Joint Thanksgiving Service

**25th- Worship - Council Meets for Reorganization
– immediately following worship**

28th – Decorate Church – 5 pm

**Each Sunday of Advent Christmas Program Practice
will be held at 9:00 am**

December *Katherine Myer

3th- Worship -Advent 1 - Communion

Advent Sing - Emanuel UCC

9th- Worship - Advent 2

13th and 14th -Church Tour

16th - Worship - Advent 3

20th - Christmas Program/Cantata- 7:00 pm

23th - Worship - Advent 4

– Christmas Program/Cantata

24th - Christmas Eve -10:00 pm

30th – Worship/ Meal after worship and Family Day

January 2019

6- Epiphany Sunday - Remove Decorations

The United Church of Christ has begun a campaign over the next two years entitled the 3 Great Loves.

- Love of Neighbor
- Love of Creation
- Love of Children

How will we respond?

Take part in a collection for the local food pantry?

Expand our children's programs?

Recycle more things from our wastebaskets?

What can we do?



Sympathy is extended to the family of Travis Clifton in the loss of his sister Melissa Clifton.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Kelly Crites in the loss of his wife Wilma Crites.



Thank you to all who assisted with:

- The issues with the water line and the repair process
- The repair of the siding on the south side of the fellowship hall
- Washing the siding of the fellowship hall and annex
- Replacing the blinds in the fellowship hall
- Planning, donating, cooking, serving, cleaning, or anything else associated with the Sausage Supper
- Teaching a Sunday School Class
- Directing or Singing in the Choir
- Providing Special Music
- Assisting on clean-up day
- Assisting with the bereavement meal
- Donating couch and table for Teen Sunday School Room
- Serving in any way that builds the potential of St. John's UCC

And I am sure there are things that have been missed!

Special Music 2019

1/6 - George Cozby
 1/13 - Men's Quartet
 1/20 - Don and Anna Lee Hahs
 1/27 - Aspen Welker
 2/3 - Children
 2/10 - Choir
 2/17 - Cliftons
 2/24 - Pense's
 3/3 - Bud and Maxine Fellows
 3/10 - Choir
 3/17 - Don and Anna Lee Hahs
 3/24 - Men's Quartet
 3/31 - George Cozby
 4/7 - Larry and Bev Koehler
 4/14 - Lohmann's
 4/21 - Choir
 4/28 - Pense's
 5/5 - Aspen Welker
 5/12 - Choir
 5/19 - Bud and Maxine Fellows
 5/26 - Lohmann's
 6/2 - Men's Quartet
 6/9 - Choir
 6/16 - Ladies Ensemble
 6/23 - Don and Anna Lee Hahs
 6/30 - Pense's
 7/7 - George Cozby
 7/14 - Choir
 7/21 - Children
 7/28 - Bud and Maxine Fellows
 8/11 - Choir
 8/18 - Clifton's
 8/25 - Ladies Ensemble
 9/1 - George Cozby
 9/8 - Choir
 9/15 - Men's Quartet
 9/22 - Larry and Bev Koehler
 9/29 - Pense's
 10/6 - Lohmann's
 10/16 - Choir
 10/20 - Ladies Ensemble
 10/27 - Don and Anna Lee Hahs
 11/3 - George Cozby
 11/10 - Choir
 11/17 - Congregational
 11/24 - Men's Quartet
 12/2 - George Cozby
 12/9 - Pense's
 12/16 - Congregational
 12/23 - Choir
 12/30 - Larry and Bev Koehler

This is NOT an exhaustive list. We have many people with great talent. - If you wish to share with us - please let us know. Also - anyone may switch at anytime.

Advent Sing

The annual Advent Sing will be held on 12/2/18 at Emanuel United Church of Christ time to be announced.

Choirs from St. John's, 1st Presbyterian Jackson, 1st Presbyterian Perryville, Emanuel and Westminster Presbyterian will participate

Cemetery Association Announcement

The official plat of the cemetery has numerous reserved spots marked on it. However, they are simply marked reserved without any names for whom the grave is reserved.

If you have reserved a plot - please contact Cheri Sander 573-579-6048 in order to assist with the identification.

2018 SAUSGE SUPPER

INCOME

Monetary Donations	\$3,883.00
Country Store	\$127.11
Meal Tickets	\$3,122.00
Meat Sales	\$2,494.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$9,626.11

EXPENSES

7 HOGS (1991 @.60)	\$1,194.60
PROCESSING (1008 LBS Sausage)	\$1,916.80
FOOD AND KITCHEN SUPPLIES	\$817.74
ADVERTISING AND MAILINGS	\$146.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,075.14
NET GAIN	\$5,550.97

AUGUST TREASURER'S REPORT

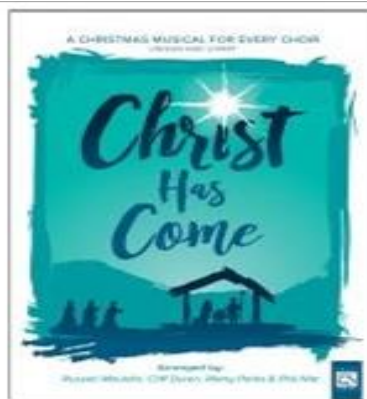
August 1 Balance	\$9,440.88
August Income	\$8,390.00
August Expenses	\$4,074.16
September 1 Balance	\$13,756.72

join us!

**DEC 13 & 14, 2018
2:00 - 9:00 P.M.**

Christmas Country CHURCH TOUR

Bollinger, Cape Girardeau & Perry Counties // visitperrycounty.com



St. John's United Church of Christ Choir
And Children's Department will present a
program and Cantata

December 20th at 7:00 pm
December 23rd at 10:00 am

[Check out the church facebook page](#)

[St. John's United Church of Christ \(look for familiar picture\)](#)

Or the NEW Website

www.stjohnsfruitland.com

THE *Wonder* OF CHRISTMAS

A Sermon Series for the Season of Advent
December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

It is closer than you think!
Choir Practice for
Christmas begins on 10/21
immediately following
worship



Important Dates

- Oct. 27 – Chili and Stew Supper
- Nov. 4th – Congregational Meeting
- November 28th – Decorate Church 5 pm
- Dec. 2nd – Advent Begins
- Dec. 13th and 14th – Country Church Christmas Tour
- Dec. 20th – Program and Cantata 7 pm
- Dec. 23rd – Program and Cantata 10 am
- Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve Service 10 pm
- Dec. 25th – Christmas Day – No Services
- Dec. 30th – Christmas Party/Family Day
- Jan. 6 – Epiphany Sunday

St. John's United Church of Christ
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED