

Joy of ST. JOHN'S UCC



Enneagram

DISCUSSION BEGINS NOVEMBER 7

A new discussion group about the Enneagram will begin Tuesday, November 7. The Enneagram is an ancient personality typing system. According to author Ian Morgan Cron, some people trace its beginning to Sufism, Judaism, or the desert fathers and mothers of the 4th century.

The Enneagram is another tool for our toolbox -- a gift that explains our strengths and weakness, while encouraging compassion for others.

Are you type one? You're a perfectionist. Type two is the helper. Sixes are loyal and committed. Each number has a strength and a shadow side, which emerges under stress. Nines are peacemakers -- but when challenged, they will avoid conflict at all cost.

Join us for an interesting conversation on the first Tuesday of each month at 4 PM in the Fellowship Room. No book required, but if you have one, bring it!

Myrrh Project Continues

COMBINED MISSION PROJECT

St. John's UCC and Westminster Presbyterian Church continue to work together on the Myrrh Project, providing Thanksgiving dinners to less fortunate families in Jackson. Everyone is invited to bring one specific food item to church each week:

- NOV 5 - CAN OF SWEET POTATOES
- NOV 12 - COST OF ROLLS & PIE
- NOV 19 - COST OF MEAT

On Monday, November 20, we will pack the dinner boxes, and on Tuesday, November 21, we will distribute the dinners. Please contact the church office if you would like to help pack and distribute the boxes. Thank you for helping our community families enjoy the holiday!



Filling plates at another successful Sauerkraut Supper!



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From the Pastor's Screen

OUT OF INSPIRATION

Following an action-packed October, Pastor Judy ran out of steam. The Pastor's Screen will be re-inspired in December. Thanks for understanding.

Music with the Middlebrooks

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 2 PM

Need a pick-me-up? Come sing along with Ron and Janet Middlebrook in our sanctuary for an hour of music every Wednesday. Ron and Jan will lead us and entertain us -- and lift our spirits!



Special Needs Community Dance

LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

Every month our Community Room is filled with music, lights, snacks, dancers, and FUN! The October costume dance is always a favorite.

Many thanks to Linda Miller, Carl Robinson, Art Bonner, Barb Parks, Linda Canter, Louis Cubille, and all those who make this event possible.



The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down
in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside
the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for
his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk
through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff
they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table
before me in the
presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head
with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me
all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house
of the Lord for ever...

Psalm 23 KJV



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November Birthdays

TIME TO CELEBRATE

- 11. St. John's UCC (140 Years!)
- 18. Sandra Harkness
- 28. R'yanna Shannon
- 30. Laura Hayes

If your birthday does not appear on our list, please contact the church office at 517-784-7580.



Feed Me!

SHARING BOOKS

Everyday neighborhood friends stop by our Little Book House. Thanks to Francis Street Primary School, we have lots of children's books, but we need more adult book donations. Please bring your gently used books and keep our Little Book House stocked!



Sauerkraut Supper

ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS!

Family and friends filled our Community Room on November 2 for our annual Sauerkraut Supper. A record-breaking number of dinners were served and enjoyed: 93! Seventy-two persons dined to the music of the Calvary Brass, while twenty-one meals were delivered or picked up.

The proceeds of this dinner amounted to \$1062 which will be used for our Building Improvement Fund -- so that SJUCC can continue to serve our community through our missions.

Many thanks to Bert Steck and his team of 33 volunteers who cooked, set up, served, and cleaned. Bert said, "It takes a congregation!" Thank you to everyone who helped, ate, and enjoyed!

Centering Prayer

FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Need some stillness? Join us for Centering Prayer on the first Tuesday of each month at 5 PM in our sanctuary. After a brief discussion, we quiet our hearts and minds, allowing the Holy Spirit to speak. Come be refreshed!

November Calendar

NOV 1 - COMBINED PARTNERSHIP MEETING AT SJUCC

NOV 2 - SAUERKRAUT SUPPER 5:30 PM

NOV 5 - WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION 10:30 AM
ALL SAINTS DAY OBSERVED

NOV 7 - ENNEAGRAM DISCUSSION 4 PM;
CENTERING PRAYER 5 PM

NOV 8- VISION MEETING 1:30 PM;
COUNCIL MEETING 3 PM

NOV 12 - WORSHIP 10:30 AM

NOV 14 - UNITED CENTER MEETING - TIME TBD

NOV 17 - FOOD PANTRY AND BABY SPRINKLES
10 AM-NOON

NOV 19 - WORSHIP 10:30 AM

NOV 20 - PACK MYRRH BOXES

NOV 21- COMMUNITY DINNER
6 PM

NOV 23-24 OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING

NOV 25 - SPECIAL NEEDS DANCE 7 PM TO 9 PM

NOV 26 - WORSHIP 10:30 AM



Samaritan Fund

BEING GOOD SAMARITANS

In October our Samaritan Fund received 20 requests for assistance. We had 4 requests for help with rent; two payments were issued. We had 15 requests for help with Consumers bills; eleven payments were issued. We had 1 request for water bill assistance; one payment was issued. Requests for help with motel stays and gas money were referred to other agencies. Twelve people received emergency food. Showers were used 40 times last month. Donations are welcome!

Food Pantry & Baby Sprinkle

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our Food Pantry & Baby Sprinkle was held on October 20 . We provided 1800 pounds of food and served 148 individuals, representing 371 family members. Baby Sprinkles and Kids' Closet provide clothing for infants and children up to size 8, baby items, and diapers. Last month 42 families received items; 75 children were served. The next Food Pantry and Baby Sprinkle will be October 20 from 10 AM to 12 noon.

Parking Lots

LOTS ARE LOOKING GOOD!

Our church parking lots were repaired, sealed and painted in October. Many thanks to our Building & Grounds team and everyone who made it happen.

Meijer Simply Give Program

PROGRAM CONTINUES

We can all help fund our food pantry by purchasing \$10 Meijer Simply Give gift cards now through December 30, 2023. The cards will be available at the church. Simply pick up a card and “purchase” it at our local Meijer store on East Michigan Avenue. Cards can be purchased in increments of \$10. Meijer matches your \$10 with another \$10 -- and it all goes to our food pantry. Meijer will double their gift for all cards purchased on December 16. Pick up a card soon and help fund our pantry!



Community Dinner

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

In October our Community Dinner was cancelled due to the repairs on our parking lots. This month our dinner will be the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, and we're serving breakfast ... for dinner!

Thank you to everyone who provides desserts -- and thank you to our cooks, servers, and cleanup crew! If you want to join the fun, and enjoy some great food, plan to join us!



Be the Blessing

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Here's what you can do to be a blessing:

- Invite friends to church!
- Visit the Little Book House
- Support MyBakery
- Complete your pledge card
- Attend the Community Dinner
- Help with the NHL library
- Pray for our church
- Donate time or money to the Samaritan Fund or Food Pantry
- Bring donations for the Baby Sprinkles and Kids' Closet
- Volunteer to be an Usher
- Sign up for Coffee Hour
- Offer your musical gifts
- Notice who's missing from worship ... and reach out with love!



Rev. Judy Goodrow

260-668-9173

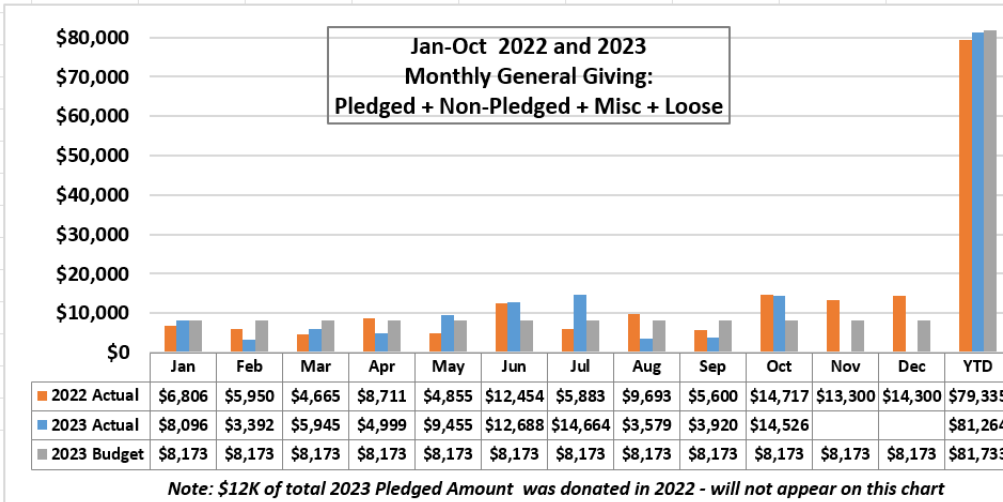
pastor@stjohnsjx.com

kjgoodrow3kids@gmail.com

Partnership Update

MAKING PROGRESS

Our Partnership Team met with the Discernment group from Westminster Presbyterian Church on November 1. The WPC's straw vote last month was overwhelmingly positive to continue exploring partnership with SJUCC. WPC plans to sell their property, and both teams are considering best next steps moving forward.

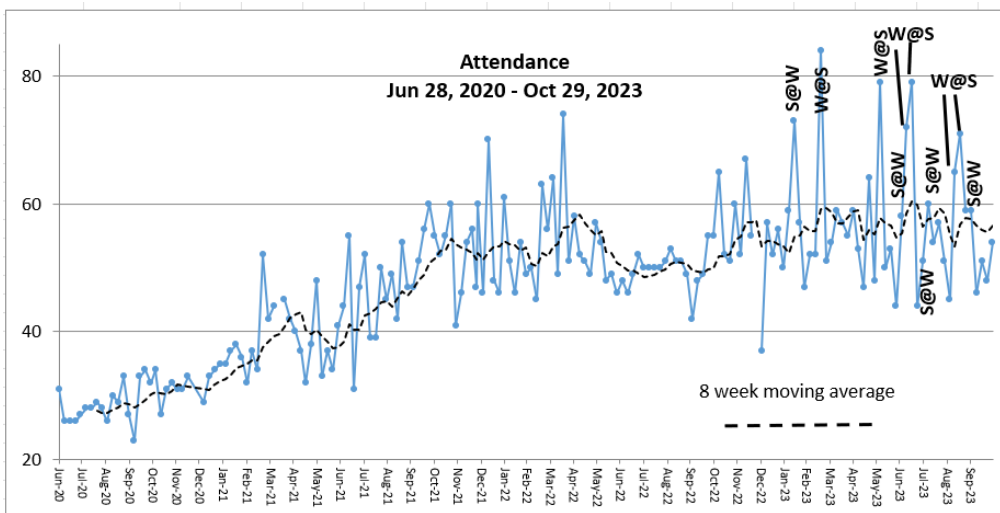
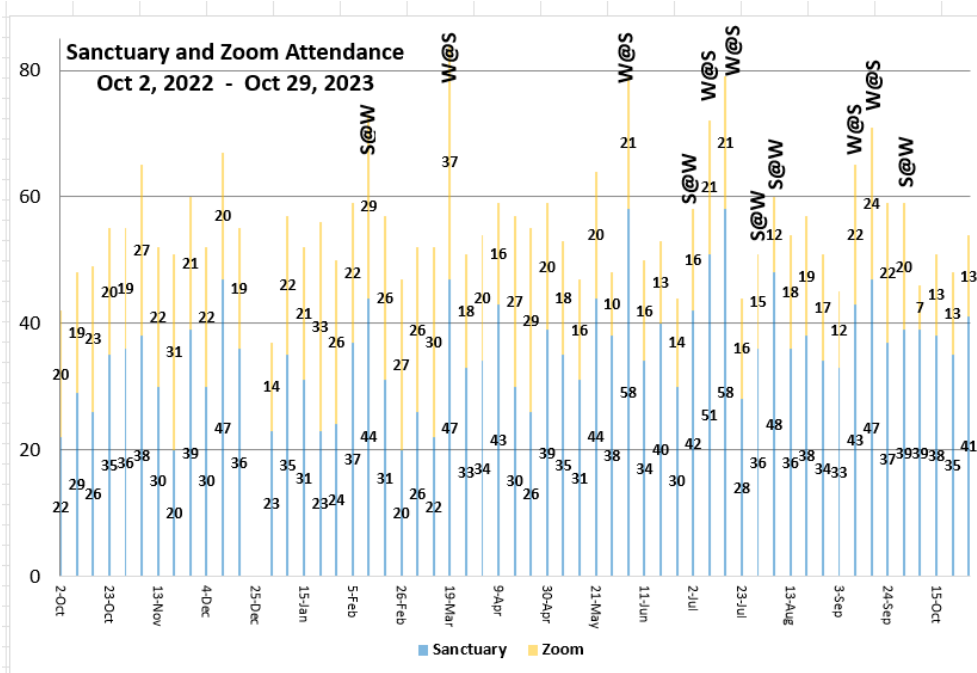


Council Update

The Church Council met on October 11, and the following items were discussed:

- Attendance for September was 45, 65, 71, 59. The second and third Sundays Westminster Presbyterian Church was in attendance.
- The Social Justice team is looking for people who can crochet mats from plastic bags for the homeless.
- The Nominating Committee is Duane Leece, Jan Janke, and Judy Goodrow.
- A contract with Cusack Masonry will be accepted for repair of the building.
- Parking lot asphalt repair bid was accepted.

Meeting minutes for past meetings are available in the church office. Our next Council Meeting will be November 8 at 3 PM in person and via Zoom.



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Affix Address
Label Here

Encouraging people to

reach up to worship God,



reach in to strengthen faith, and

reach out in service to others.

St. John's

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Love God ♥ Love People ♥ Serve Both

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