

PARTNERSHIP PRESS



@Partnership Place



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



St. John's
United Church of Christ

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

SEP 1—LABOR DAY, OFFICE CLOSED

SEP 7—JUDAISM CLASS FOLLOWING WORSHIP

SEP 10 – PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING 5:30 PM FOLLOWED BY
COUNCIL AND SESSION MEETINGS

SEP 12—WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN COMEDY NIGHT “THE UNKNOWN TOUR”
AT VILLAGE HOPE CHURCH 7-9:30 PM

SEP 12—JOHN LETSON MEMORIAL SERVICE AT
FAIRGROVE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH, 5116 W. CENTER,
FAIRGROVE MICHIGAN AT 4 PM

SEP 14—BIBLE STUDY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

SEP 18—PERSONAL CARE PANTRY 4:30 PM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

SEP 18—THOUGHT PARTNER WRAP-UP MEETING 6 PM ZOOM

SEP 19—FOOD PANTRY AND BABY SPRINKLES 10 AM – 12 NOON

SEP 21—MOVIE AT JACKSON 10 AT 3:30 PM; DINNER AT ONE NORTH

SEP 21—A JOYRIDE IN MEMORY CARE PERFORMANCE AT ELLA SHARP

SEP 23—COMMUNITY DINNER 6 PM

SEP 24—JACKSON INTERFAITH SHELTER DINNER CHURCH 4:15 PM

SEP 27—COMMUNITY DANCE 7-9 PM

SEP 30—WORSHIP MEETING 4 PM



September 2025

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a just
world
for all
ucc.org

Mission Updates

Our **August Food Pantry** served 97 people, representing 242 family members. 2200 pounds of food were distributed.

- Contributed by Carl Robinson

Our **Baby Sprinkle** continues to serve young families, providing diapers, wipes, and clothing from newborn to size 6. For the month of August we served 40 families and 63 children. Thanks to all who donated and volunteered! We continue to need children's clothing size 2 through 6 and diapers size 4 through 6 as well as pull ups. We continue to get some diapers through TANF (a state program) but after 4 months on that program, families have to go back to diapers provided by the church.

- Contributed by Donna Benedict

The **Samaritan Fund** has funds available for those with eviction and utility shut-off notices. We are currently looking for a volunteer to administer this fund. Eleven individuals received emergency food, and 23 unhoused people used our church showers in August.

- Contributed by the Church Office

At the **Jackson Interfaith Shelter**, on August 6 and 20, we did crafts and provided snacks for 12 children. If you would like to help out, contact Michele Wilson or Cindy Osborne. Volunteers are always welcome and needed.

- Submitted by Cindy Osborne

The **Jackson Personal Care Ministry** served 277 guests during the month of August. If you would like to help with this worthwhile ministry, please sign up in the Community Room.

- Contributed by Margo and John Fenstermaker

Our **Clothesline Ministry** provides clothing items throughout the year. Many thanks to Bob Neustifter and Gloria Frederickson for this ministry. Socks and rain ponchos are always needed.

At the **Interfaith Shelter Dinner Church** volunteers from Partnership Place will serve the meal and provide a worship service on September 24. Led by Dawn Depner and Polly Wild, this ministry occurs on the fourth Wednesday, every other month.

Community Dances begin again here at Partnership Place on September 27, 7-9 PM. Free food, music, and fun for everyone!

Contact Information

To receive the Zoom link for Sunday services, please visit partnership.place and click "Subscribe". You will receive the Partnership Place Weekly Digest with the Zoom link.



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Remember When?



Remember When is a new series – submit your memories for publication as space permits. What do you remember? – Judy

Sometime in 2003 several people from the Jackson area met at St. John's United Church of Christ. They were interested in stopping an armed conflict in the middle east and encouraging the United States to stay out of it. We became known as the Jackson Interfaith Peacekeepers.

There were probably 50 or so initially. That number shrank rather quickly, and after 2 or 3 years there were less than 10 still meeting on a regular basis. We eventually disbanded as the U.S. was no longer active in military action. We donated what remained in our fundraising account to St. John's.

I do remember a Buddhist named Ted, a Catholic named Harvey (recently deceased) a UU minister named Cindy (and some members of her church including Ed and Christine.)

The Peacekeepers did do some public activity such as bringing Arun Gandhi (grandson of Mahatma) to Jackson Community College for a community speaking event. We also staged marches in downtown Jackson opposing war action by the U.S. We planted a Peace Pole in downtown Jackson that still stands between First Congregational and Michigan Avenue.

Contributed by Jim Benedict



Simply Give

Thank you to everyone who purchased a Meijer Simply Give card. Our food pantry here at Partnership Place will receive \$6,590 in gift cards! The cards will be used to purchase food items to stock our monthly food pantry.

A Joyride in Memory Care September 21

This one-person play explores dementia and the healing power of community. Actor Rick Sperling's dynamic mother loses her once powerful voice to dementia. In the midst of this trauma, he discovers deep beauty, dignity, and humor.

We thank Erick and Delia Johnson for bringing this free performance to Jackson. The performance will be at Ella Sharp Museum at 2 PM on Sept. 21. Donations are accepted. Registration is required at www.dfsaline.com/events.

I will call to mind the deeds
of the Lord;
I will remember your
wonders of old.
I will meditate
on all your work,
and muse on
your mighty deeds.

Psalm 77:11-12 NRSV



BE THE BLESSING

SOMETHING FOR
EVERYONE!

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO
TO BE A BLESSING:

INVITE FRIENDS TO CHURCH

OFFER YOUR MUSICAL GIFTS

DONATE CHILDREN'S
CLOTHES & PULLUPS

PULL WEEDS IN THE
COURTYARD AND ORCHARD

SIGN BIRTHDAY CARDS

VISIT THE HOSPITALIZED

HELP WITH COFFEE HOUR

PRAY

NOTICE WHO'S MISSING,
AND REACH OUT WITH LOVE!

Fellowship Fun

September 12 - Join us for a Women's Christian comedy event called "The Unknown Tour" on Friday, September 12, beginning at 7 PM. This event is at Village Hope Church, 123 W. Porter Street in Jackson. We may meet at 4:30 PM for dinner. Tickets are available online at Event Brite for \$29.40.

September 21 - All are welcome to attend the "Noah" Movie at Jackson 10 at 3:30 PM. The film is a recording of a live performance (including animals!) by Sight & Sound Theater. Dinner at One North following. Go to noahevent.com to purchase tickets online. Tickets are \$12.50.

September begins a new year for the Jackson Recreation Department's Active Living Program. For only \$10.00 annually you too can participate in their many day trips, exercise programs, luncheons and more. This past year several Partnership Place members went on day trips to a Detroit Tigers baseball game, Hollands Tulip Festival and Put In Bay, Ohio. Contact Kathy Johns for any further information or help with getting signed up for another active year of living!

Contributed by Kathy Johns and the Fellowship Committee



Pictures are from the Tigers game on June 26



Prayer Invitation

Beginning on Sunday, September 7, a person from the Nurture Committee or Prayer Team will be available to pray with you (or for you) about any cares or concerns.

After worship a prayer partner will be seated in a front pew of the sanctuary. Please come forward, sit with your prayer partner, and let the conversation begin.

Contributed by Jan Janke

Classes and Education

The **Judaism class** will conclude on September 7. The class was very well attended, and everyone learned something new. Many thanks to Evelyn for the information and insights she shared with us.

On September 14, Pastor Judy will offer a class entitled "**What Many Christians Misunderstand About the Bible.**" This class features a video by Tim Mackie, PhD, from the bibleproject.com. Mackie holds a PhD in Hebrew Bible and presents a refreshing look at the gospel message. Plan to join us in the Prayer Room following worship on Sept. 14 for this discussion.

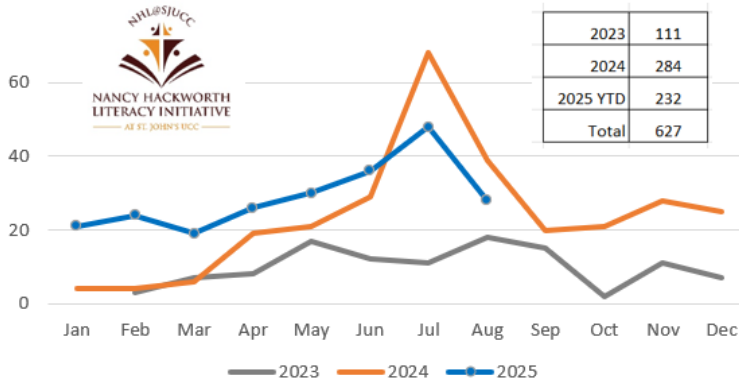
Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4: 6 & 7

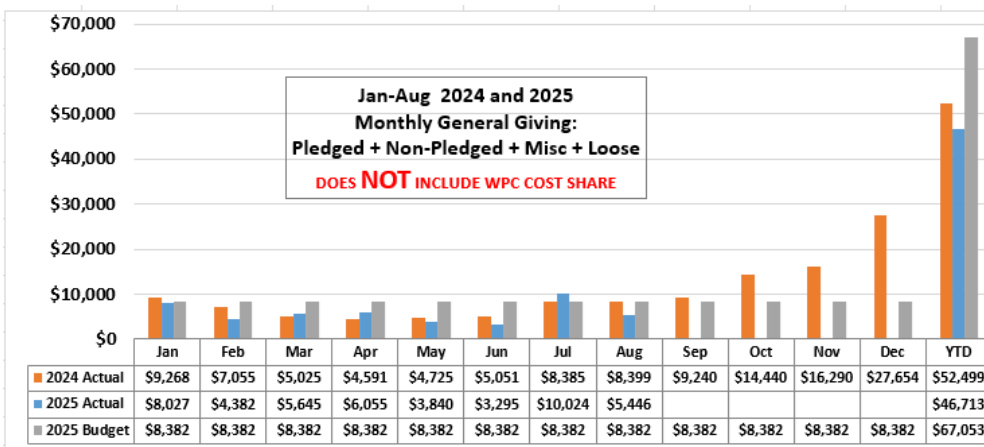
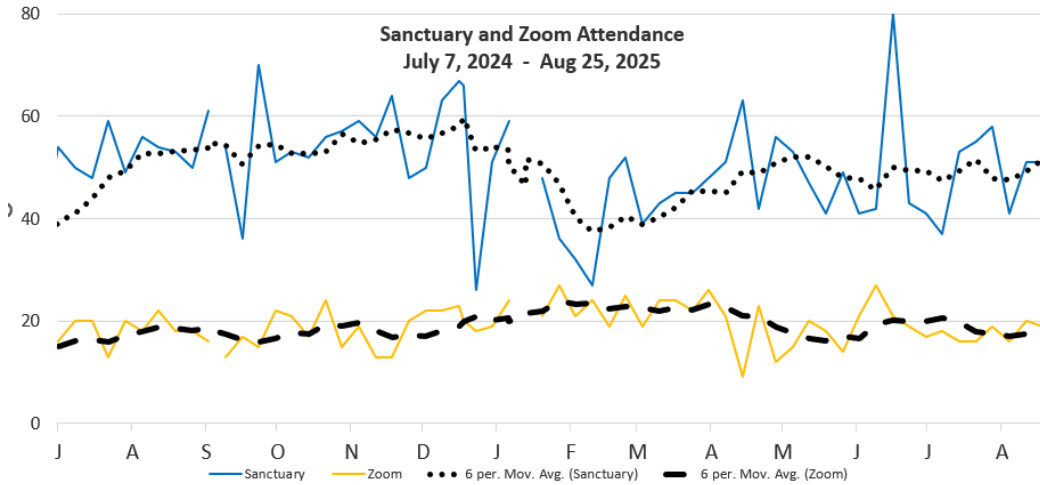
NHL Update

Our NHL summer program has been going strong. The total number of tutoring sessions since the program began has now reached over 600!

Literacy Coaching Sessions Provided Thru Aug 2025



In addition, each of our summer students will again receive free shoes! The NHL has received a gift from a member of the church community to provide "Back to School" shoes in partnership with Miller's Shoe Parlor, located at 103 W. Michigan Avenue, which offers shoes for NHL students at a discounted rate. Last year, 14 students received new shoes. This year, 16 enrolled students received a voucher for a pair of shoes up to \$80 in value.



Charts contributed by Bert Steck

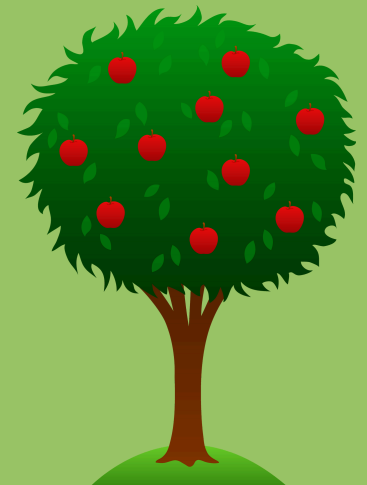
Partnership Board

The Partnership Board is made up of the WPC Session and the SJUCC Council.

Westminster Session members: Sandy Clark, Kathy Johns, Andy Rieman, Pat Baumgartner, Dennis Johns, Gary Kenworthy and Bette Watkins. Rev. Ben Rumbaugh serves as the Moderator.

St. John's Council members: Gary Reasoner, Eric Canter, Eugene Johnson, Michele Wilson, Bert Steck, Cindy Osborne, and Jeannine Havens.

The Partnership Board held a special meeting on July 30 and decided not to pursue a rental or consolidation agreement with First Baptist Church at this time. The board felt our priority is to continue solidifying the partnership of WPC and SJUCC. The Board, Session, and Council will meet on September 10.



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