

St. John United Church of Christ

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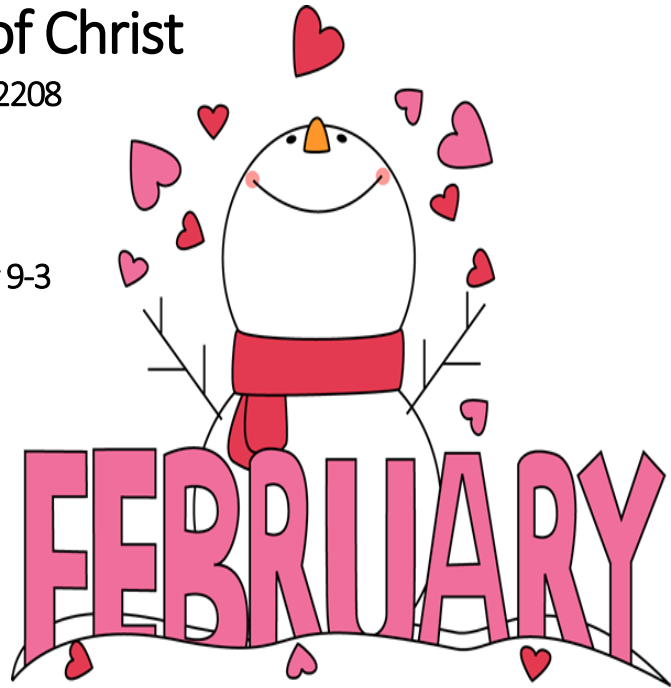
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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9-3

Rev. Rosemary Captain

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER



DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN CHRIST,

Personally, when I think of February, I think of Groundhog's Day and Valentine's Day. So I did a little research in my Bible. Guess how many times "groundhog" is in the Bible. You are correct: nada, never, nothing, not once. Surprised?

Then I looked up the word "love." Want to guess again? 792 times!!!

423 times in the First Testament and 265 times in the New Testament.

THAT'S A LOT OF LOVE!!



The Psalms alone use the word "love" 169 times. Psalm 36:7 "Your faithful love is priceless, God!" In other words, love has been around for thousands of years. What does that teach us? Love is important in God's kingdom. Not only does Jesus teach us to love each other, that love is returned to us by God.

Who started this "love-fest"? God. 1 John 4:10 "We love because God first loved us." Isn't it reassuring to know that we are loved: unconditionally, always, forever? I think that's the best Valentine anyone could ever ask for.

Peace and love to you this Valentine's Day and every day of your life. Pastor R.

AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

2/4 Tyler Underwood

2/10 Conner Brink

2/11 Ivy Schneider



2/14 Dylan Turnbull

2/23 Sue Ganschinietz

2/27 Aaron Eisenhauer

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES:

2/21 Russ & Judy Hartmann # 55



EVENING CIRCLE

The Evening Circle met January 21st. The ladies signed Valentines to be sent to Veterans and made plans to meet to make the sub sandwiches which will be sold for Super Bowl Sunday. Once again, we will be making Turtles which will be sold the first 2 Sundays in February. At our next meeting will be having a movie night. Ruth Ogles will be bringing snacks and asks that everyone bring their own choice of drink.

The Evening Circle meets the third Monday of the month and all ladies of St. John are welcome. Hope to see you all there!

NOTES AND THANK YOU'S

Dear St. John members,

I want to thank everyone for helping my daughter, Christa, complete a special 70th birthday album for me. I appreciate all the birthday thoughts and well wishes. They indeed made my 70th extra-special.

Sincerely Grateful, Eileen Gammon

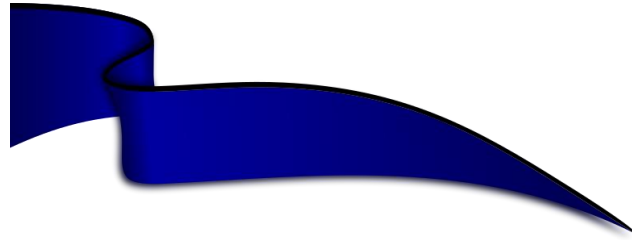
ONE LAST WORKDAY!

Peru Project – Feminine Hygiene Kits – Tuesday, February 5.

We are almost finished with this large project.

We will start at 10:00 a.m. Stay as long as you like. Come later in the day as you like or are able. The church will be open until 4:00 p.m. Here are jobs that need to be done:

- sewing/serging
- turning/pressing
- installing snaps
- installing ribbon
- counting and packing



Hopefully you can spare some time on February 5.

Thank you so much for your support so far!

CHOIR NOTES



Our Sunday to sing in February will be on the 24th. We are looking forward to providing music for the Lent and Easter seasons.

Come and sing with us! Contact Nancy about the next opportunity to sing! 233-5894

USHERS

February 3 – Barb Whitaker & Janice Petroff

February 10 – Wayne Schlosser & Chuck Kistler

February 17 – Lew Thomasino & Jackie Canterbury

February 24 – Ginny Ganschinietz & Tyler Underwood



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School meets every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month. The children stay in worship until Children's Time, after which they have a lesson in the educational wing. The first Sunday of the month is family communion worship. The children come to a table in front of the sanctuary for quiet activities. Our team of Sunday School teachers is ready each Sunday to provide a lesson with substance and fun!



AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL!!!

Every Sunday at 8:30 am. Bring your hot coffee or tea and join the discussion.

Illinois South Conference, Region 9 Youth Mission Event

Region 9 of the Illinois South Conference is committed to keeping youth active and interested in our area churches.

Our next event is a couple of mission projects. **On Sunday, February 10, 1:00, at O'Fallon UCC, 206 West Adams, O'Fallon**, the kids will be making 50 Valentine boxes for Kindercottage. They will also be preparing colored, plastic bags for use in making mats for the homeless.

Here is how you can help!

The kids need some supplies: wrapped Valentine candy.

The kids will be using the plastic bags to make "plarn", or plastic yarn. If you crochet and would like to take some of the plastic yarn and crochet a mat or two, we will get the instructions along with materials to you.

Talk to Sharon B. or Nancy E. – Co-Conveners of Region 9



SAVE THE DATE

The 39th Annual Women's Interfaith Conference.

Women of Faith: Generation to Generation.

Thursday, March 28, 2019 9am - 2pm

St. Stanislaus Polish Heritage Center

1413 North 20th St.

St. Louis, Missouri 63106*

Paper brochures will be mailed in early February &

Online registration will open in February

* Monitored Parking Provided in Church Parking Lot

I have been to this conference several times. It's a wonderful way to get to know your "sisters" of different faiths. The conference is an experience you won't soon forget. Talk to Pastor R. if you're interested in going. We can car-pool.

THE SEASON OF LENT BEGINS MARCH 6

Ash Wednesday is March 6 and as is the custom at St. John, there will be two services on that day and two opportunities to receive ashes. Mid-day and Eve.

On the five Wednesdays beginning March 13, we will have a study called "Making Sense of the Cross" based on the book of the same name written by Rev. David Lose. We will have books, dialogue, and a DVD to assist our learning.

These studies will begin at 6:30 pm with a light supper. The study begins at 7 and runs until 8:30 pm. **The light supper is optional, so come at 7 if you would rather eat at home.** If you cannot attend the study but would like to read the book, copies of the book are available for \$10 each, or we also have them to lend out.





5110 West Main Street, Belleville, IL 62226
(618) 277-1800

I recommend this group to any one dealing with grief. They can help.

What is Grief? #This is Grief

What is Grief? Ask 20 people and you will get 20 different answers. Grief is unique to each person and each different loss. For brevity this month I am going to share our starting point for teaching about grief when we do outreach with kids. We say that grief is “that mad, bad, sad feeling you get when someone or something you love dies”. While I realize that is simplistic, it is a starting place for conversation and connection. And you know what else? When I go back to an Outreach Site where we have used that definition, kids remember it! “Hey!” they say, “You are that mad, sad, bad lady!” If you are dealing with grief, we have lots of opportunities for dealing with mad, sad, bad and a whole lot more here at Heartlinks!

~Blessings~ Diana

Partner Loss Workshop

When: February 9th
Where: Family Hospice, 5110 W Main St
Time: 10 am to 2 pm
(618) 277-1800

LITURGISTS

2/3 Jan Miller	Jeremiah 1:4-10
2/10 Wayne Schlosser	Isaiah 6:1-13
2/17 Judy Schmitt	Jeremiah 17:5-10
2/24 Jackie Canterbury	Genesis 45:3-11, 15



February

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Service of Word and Sacrament 10 am Sunday School 8:30	4	5 Sewing day for Peru Project 10 – 4 Boy Scout Meeting	6	7 AA Meeting 7 pm	8	9
10 Installation of Church Council and Officers during worship 10 am Sunday School 8:30	11	12 Boy Scout Meeting	13 Church Council 7 pm	14 AA Meeting 7 pm	15	16
17 Worship 10 am Sunday School 8:30	18 Evening Circle 7 pm	19 Boy Scout Meeting	20	21 AA Meeting 7 pm	22	23 Illinois South Conference Day of Discipleship at St. Paul UCC, Belleville 9:30 - 2
24 Worship 10 am Sunday School 8:30 Choir Practice 9 am	25	26 Boy Scout Meeting	27	28 AA Meeting 7 pm		

