



# 2023 APRIL NEWSLETTER

**ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH**  
**10207 Lincoln Trail, Fairview**  
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## **Pastor Rosemary Captain**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Resurrection mean different things to different people. Part of the story is frightening. Part of the story is reassuring. The one thing that is constant and universal is the love of God through the life of Jesus Christ. That love is unconditional and never failing. Henri Nouwen served the emotionally and physically disabled for many years. This service was hands on; bathing and feeding the residents for example. His writings continue to inspire us. I invite you to read his words below:

### ***UNCONDITIONAL LOVE***

When we freely allow fear to dominate and change us, we live in misery far from our home of unconditional love. Meanwhile Jesus, our example, says to the disciples and to us, "Don't be afraid. Perfect love casts out fear." He walked freely, lived freely, and carried on an intimate relationship with the One who sent him into the world.

Throughout the nights or early mornings Jesus spent time communing with the One who loved him. Among his last words he tells us, "As the Father has loved me, so I also love you. . . If you keep my word, the Father and I will come to you and we will make our home in you. . . I will send you my Spirit, who will dwell with you forever, and will remind you of all I have said to you."

Jesus came to convince us that Our Maker's love is pure gift, unearned and free. We are free to relate with the Source of all life or not. A great love embraces all the love that you and I have ever known, from father, mother, spouses, brothers, sisters, children, teachers, friends, partners, or counselors.

Welcoming unconditional love automatically makes us more like the Unconditional Lover. Divine love lasts forever.

*May you find peace, reassurance, and unconditional love every day of your life.*

*Pastor Rosemary*

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

- Palm/Passion Sunday April 2 at 10 am
- Maundy Thursday “Symbolic Foot-washing” and Communion April 6 at 7 pm
- Easter Sunday service of Word and Sacrament April 9 at 10 am



## HELP NEEDED

The first Sunday every month following worship is Fellowship Hour. We need volunteers to host for May, June, July, August, September, etc. In other words any first Sunday of any month beginning in May.



## AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



### APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

4/1 Trisann Underwood  
4/2 Brenna Cohlmeier  
4/11 Madison Brown

4/18 Tom Miller  
4/24 Stacie Pickens  
4/27 Becky Riess

### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES:

4/26 Tiffani & Brad Eisenhauer



**PRAYER LIST:** Urban Baum, David Seneczyn, Theo Mally, Becky Ballard, Rosemary Williams, Jack O’Day, Ronald Bopp, Syd Safriet, Nancy’s friend Mary, Beth Sheldon, Wayne Schlosser, Michael Schlosser

## SHUT – INS:

Yvonne Weber  
200 St. Clair Drive  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208



Becky Ballard  
1211 Moreland, Apt 12  
Belleville, IL 62223

Jeanette Brown  
5904 Perrin Road  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

## APRIL USHERS

Sunday, April 2 - Judy Schmitt, Jackie Canterbury  
Thursday, April 6 – Ginny Ganschinetz, Sue Ganschinetz  
Sunday, April 9 – Sue Williams, Jim Eisenhauer  
Sunday, April 16 – Judy Schmitt, Chuck Kistler  
Sunday, April 23 – Eric Moayer, Chuck Kistler  
Sunday, April 30 – Becky and Larry Riess



## CHOIR

The choir will sing for Easter Sunday, as always. You may notice a change in the order of worship. Come and see! If you want a sneak peek ahead of time, come and sing with the choir. We practice at 9:00 on the Sundays we sing. Nancy Eisenhauer

## EVENING CIRCLE

- The Evening Circle gave money for 10 birthday kits to be made and given to the Fairview Heights food pantry.
- We are postponing our April meeting until May 21st. At that time, we will distribute money from our treasury to different mission projects.
- Carol Bulva wants to "Thank" all the Evening Circle and church ladies that helped at her Prom Event. All the extra hands made the day possible.



Be sure to read next month's article for our last meeting's agenda.  
Easter is coming! May the miracle of this beautiful and sacred day stay with you  
all year! Eileen Gammon Co-Chair

## PENNIES FOR MISSION

Thank you for your donations:

- January – DuBois horses - \$325
- February – Belleville Christian Center - \$79.27
- March – One Great Hour of Sharing - 450.50
- April – Uni-Pres Kindercottage -



As always mission work and your donations are important. Please continue to help and Spread the Love to All.

## PROM DRESS EVENT



The following people/business helped to make Free Prom Dress Event '23 a success: Joseph Bulva, Eileen Gammon, Ginny Ganschinietz, Tom and Jan Miller, Nancy Eisenhauer, Judy Schmitt, Sue Williams, Sharon Banjavcic, Jackie Canterbury, Sue Ganschinietz, Dorothy Ovelgoenner, Rosemary Williams, Russ Hartmann, Vicki Hartmann, Mary Baum, Anne Brown, Jane Cohlmeier, Becky Riess, Chuck and Sharon Kistler, Trisann Underwood, Pastor Rosemary, Doris Stewart, Cindy Blanchette, Beverly Wilson, Wendi Gorney, Marianne Stines, Mike Stidham,

Nancy Hagely Dinges, Laura Bauer, Dama Hamilton, Dani Cox, Pam Haleb, Dianna Hoyle, Frances Benton-(Lasting Impressions), Premium Cleaners, Apple Cleaners, Don's Hardware.

# April

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Service of Word 10 am Fellowship time after worship	3	4	5	6 Maundy Thursday service 7 pm	7 No Service	8
9 Happy Easter Choir rehearsal 9 am Service of Word & Communion 10 am Choir sings at service	10	11	12 Church Council Meeting at 7 pm via Zoom Quilters 8:30-4:30	13 Hearts & Hands daytime Quilters 10-2 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm AA Meeting	14	15
16 Service of Word 10 am Pickens Twins Baptism	17	18	19	20 Bible Study 6:30 pm AA Meeting	21	22
23 Service of Word 10 am	24	25	26	27 Bible Study 6:30 pm AA Meeting	28	29
30 Service of Word 10 am						