



ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

February may be the “month of love”, but this year it is also the month that Lent begins. Ash Wednesday is February 14, Valentine’s Day, and Easter is April 1, April Fool’s Day. How often does that happen?

I must confess that Lent is not my favorite of all the church seasons. I’m more of a Sunday resurrection person rather than a Good Friday person. I have a hard time with words such as redemption, sacrifice, judgment, dust and ashes, suffering, temptation, sin, etc. I prefer words such as love, kindness, faithfulness, etc.

Yet I know I am doing a disservice to my congregation if I avoid the “not so pleasant” aspects of Lent. I made a commitment to myself and my congregation that I will change my view of this Lenten season. I plan to research and study the words and the parts of the passion story that make me “uncomfortable” and to share those thoughts with you.

We cannot enjoy the joy of Easter resurrection without going through Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. We cannot enjoy the fruits of our labor if we don’t do the labor.

Please join me on this Lenten journey at our Lenten Study and Sunday worship services. We need each other. Together we can help each other to fully understand and accept the true meaning of Lent - 40 Days and 40 Nights (not counting Sundays).

Peace and blessings to you all, Pastor Rosemary



Dear all the Good People of St. John,
Thank you for the many fine gifts I received at Christmas time. That was an unexpected pleasure. Just to let you know, if the gift was edible, I ate it and it was delicious. If the gift was something to keep me warm, I’m definitely using it. If it was an ornament, I hung it or I’m wearing it. If it was a gift card, I’m using them little by little. If it was fragrant, I love it. If it was chocolate, YOU KNOW I LOVE IT! If the gift was something to cook with, I’ll do my best to find a way to make use of it.

AGAIN, thank you, thank you! I feel so blessed to be with all of you at St. John: a place where all are welcome and appreciated and I definitely appreciate all of you. Blessings on your new year with God.

Pastor Rosemary

PS to Judy H. Ben says thank you also. He loved his doggie biscuits.

AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



Birth:

Congratulations to Stacie & Tim Pickens on the birth of their son, Trenton Alexander on Sunday, January 28. Congratulations to first time grandparents, Sharon & Steve Banjavcic

Funeral

The service for Sue Sharp, a Charter member, was held here on Monday, January 22. We extend our sympathy and condolences to her family, Sue Anne, Terry and Diane and grandchildren.

Memorials:

For Sue Sharp

Dorothy Ovelgoenner, Ruth Ogles, Carol & Joe Bulva, Cheri Schutzenhofer, Rosemary Williams, Sharon & Steve Banjavcic, Earlene White, Yvonne Weber, Jackie Canterbury, Eileen & Jack Gammon, Denise & Larry Kucavik, Wayne Schlosser, Judy & Rich Schmitt, Ivy Schneider, Frank & Susan Jernigan, Peter & Artie Vallerius, David & Mary Philip, Diane Van Winkle, Judy & Russ Hartmann, Sue Anne Sharp, Pearl Spies, Mary Ellen Bertram, Martha Story, Ellyn Lanz, Roberta Peduzzi, Betty Bolt, Darwin & Mary Lu Bretsch, Mary & Urban Baum, Barbara Draper, Bruce & Ruth Black, Pat & Larry Matysik, Gene & Sue Ganschinietz, Douglas & Katie Hastings, Terry & Charlotte Walther, Edgar & Cassie Myers, Peter Genta, Jan & Tom Miller, Harry & Mary Ann Pollitt, Stuart & Beth Schneider, Ray & Claudia Schneider, Ginny Ganschinietz, Jim & Nancy Eisenhauer, The Baggett Family, Mr. & Mrs. Walt Parrill, Mildred Reichert, Dan Davis, Barbara Molitoris, Women of the Moose Chapter 53, Lynn Koehler, Marie Kozlowski, Roger & Patty Lanz

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 # 54

EVENING CIRCLE

The ladies of the Evening Circle will be busy cooking in January and February so have your appetites ready. On Sunday January 28th we will be cooking for the spaghetti lunch after Worship. In February we will be making sub sandwiches and Turtles. We are planning a movie night in March and dinner out in April.

The Evening Circle meets the third Monday of the month and all ladies of St. John are welcome. Hope to see you February 19!

NOTES AND THANK YOU'S

Thank you to everyone who attended Mom's wake or funeral and offered kind words of comfort. Also, thank you to all who made memorials in her name to the church. No doubt she would have been surprised at all the attention.

From the Family of Sue Sharp

Sunday School

Our Mission Possible project from now until Easter is to help Barb Whitaker collect medicines and health care products to take with her to Peru in April. (See article elsewhere).

Many, many thanks to you for your generous gifts to the homeless in February. Mike Stidham, director of Beacon, and partner of the homeless ministry at Trinity UCC in Belleville, was amazed at what our little congregation could do. God is indeed at work!

As usual, we will have Sunday School each Sunday, except the first Sunday of the month – family communion worship.

Choir

We are blessed! Our lead soprano, Stacie Pickens, will be out of service for a few weeks. (That's not the blessing!) She gave birth to Trenton Alexander last Sunday morning. We will miss her and wish her a speedy recovery. Can't wait to see what part Trenton sings! In the mean time, we may press Pastor Rosemary into service. We are a mighty and small choir, but we need more voices. Now is your chance to step up!

Blessings to the Pickens and Banjavcic families!



2018 LENTEN STUDY

For five Wednesday evenings, beginning February 21, I'm inviting all of you to participate in a Lenten Study **"Embracing Forgiveness"** written by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton. Each session will discuss relevant topics such as "Seventy Times Seven: Really?", "You Have Hear It Said", "Chipping Away", "How to Start", and "Why Forgive?".

Each participant requires their own handbook so please let me know if you plan to participate so I might order the correct number of booklets. The DVD to assist us has been ordered already.

The evening will begin at 6 pm with a light supper. The study will begin at 6:30 pm and end at 8 pm.



Mental Health First Aid Workshops will be presented by Hoyleton Youth & Family Services and is funded in part by Illinois Department of Human Services. Mental Health First Aid USA is a training designed to give people the skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The course uses techniques to demonstrate how to recognize and respond to the warning signs of specific illnesses.

Here are the dates, times and locations:

January 26 & 27 from 11 am-3:15 pm at YMCA in Granite City

February 9 & 10 from 8 am-12:15 pm at YMCA in Maryville

February 16 from 8 am-5:30 pm at YMCA in Belleville

February 24 from 8 am-5:30 pm at SIUE in Edwardsville

March 5 from 8 am-5:30 pm at Regency Conference Center in O'Fallon

March 23 & 24 from 11 am-3:15 pm at YMCA in Granite City

Registration [Link](#).

For more information contact Allison at 618-688-4776.

Continuing Education Units for LSW, LCSW, LPC, & LCPC available upon request.

Belleville Trinity UCC will host its 29th Annual Chicken & Dumplings Dinner on Sun, Feb 25 from 11 am - 3 pm.

Menu includes home-made chicken & dumplings, green beans, corn, home-made cole slaw, applesauce, rolls, tea or coffee and dessert. Adults \$10; Children 5-12 \$4; Children 4 and under Free. Bakery. Boutique. Baskets. Carry outs available.

Barb Whitaker's upcoming Medical Mission trip to Peru

Dear Congregation:

I will be embarking on my first Medical Mission this April to Peru and I am really excited to be able to have the opportunity to serve! Below is a little information about what our mission plans are. We have partnered with Kindness In A Box (kidnessinabox.com) and hope to make several trips a year after our initial set up. I am asking for donations to take to with me. We are seeking Over-the-Counter (OTC) medications and monies to purchase prescription medications there. Below, I have a list of OTC meds

that we need. I will place a box to collect the medication by the front door. Money donations can be given to myself or Janice, If you would like a tax receipt for money donations just let me know. Collection will start now and go through the beginning of April. With deep appreciation for all you do in Christ's name,

Barb

KINDNESS MEDICAL CLINIC PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The goal of the Kindness Medical Project is to provide medical care and services to the impoverished Quechua people in the District of Maras, Peru in the villages of Kacllaraccay and Mullacas (total population: 800) through a cooperative partnership with the Maras District Hospital, the Goldfarb School of Nursing @ BJC – St. Louis, Missouri, and Kindness In A Box. The Kindness In A Box Medical Center located in the village of Kacllaraccay will be used as a medical center for the villages. The Quechua families in both villages must currently walk miles to receive medical care. Through the Kindness Medical Project, medical care will be provided in both villages and in the future to other villages throughout Maras. Also, the medical staff visiting from the USA will work with the medical staff at the Maras Hospital located in Maras (pop: 6,000).

Medical care, services, trainings and classes will be provided to the Quechua families in the villages of Kacllaraccay at the Kindness In A Box Kindness Medical Clinic and in the village of Mullacas at the Kindness In A Box Kindness Center. Doctors and medical staff from the Maras Hospital will come to both villages monthly to provide medical care and first aid. Registered nurses and nurse practitioners along with other medical professionals from the Goldfarb School of Nursing @BJC and registered nurses from BJC in St. Louis will come to Maras in April 2018 to provide medical expertise and training to the medical staff at the Maras Hospital and in both villages will set-up the Kindness Medical Clinic and pharmacy, provide medical care, first aid training, basic medical screenings, baseline health testing, CPR, classes in female hygiene and oral care. Individuals in each village will be trained as providers of basic first aid, CPR and female hygiene.

MEDICAL OUTREACH NEEDS

TABLETS (Brand name or generics)

Antacids: Pepcid / Prilosec / Zantac

Tums / Pepto / Immodium / Colace

PAIN

Tylenol (Acetaminophen) 325 mg

Tylenol (Acetaminophen) 500 mg

Tylenol (Acetaminophen) 80 mg

Tylenol (Acetaminophen) liquid 160mg/5ml

Tylenol infant drops 80 mg/0.8 ml

MEDICATIONS

TOPICALS

Hydrocortisone creams 0.5%

Hydrocortisone creams 1%

Tolnaftate 1% cream (antifungal cream)

*Nystatin/Triamcinolone Cream
(antifungal/corticosteroid)*

Triple Antibiotic Ointment packets

*Lice Shampoo 16 oz, 32 treatments
/bottle*

*Scabies solution 32 oz, 16 treatments
/bottle (Itch B Gone)*

Lice Treatment kits with combs

Ibuprofen 200 mg
Ibuprofen 100 mg/5ml children liquid 4 oz
Ibuprofen infant drops
Aspirin 325 mg
Pain Reliever PM
Acetaminophen/ H/A Relief
Naproxen Sodium-220 mg
Aspirin 81mg

EYE CAR

Saline eye drops (Artificial tears)
Eye wash
Visine

LIQUIDS

Guaifenesin Syrup 100 mg/5ml, 16 oz
Diphenhydramine syrup
Ear drops/Ear wax remover
Flu/Cough meds/Robitussin DM (Expectorants)
Cough drops
Childrens Cough & Cold
Childrens Allergy
Cold Formula (fever, H/A, Sore throat)

Children's Cough and Cold medications (need more!)

Misc.

Ziplocks (snack size for pills-900 per day)
Ziplocks (gallon size for ORS solns, lice and scabies solns)

Vitamin A & D unit dose
Head & Shoulders Shampoo (8oz bottles)
Diaper rash ointments
Benadryl cream
Calamine lotion
Hydrogen Peroxide
Rubbing Alcohol

COUGH AND COLD

Loratidine 20 mg (like Claritin)
Pseudoephedrine Hcl 30 mg

SPRAYS

Nasal Saline decongestant spray 15 ml
(Afrin)

VITAMINS

Ferrous Sulfate 325 mg (Iron)
Folic Acid 800 mcg tabs
Multivitamins: adult
Multivitamins: child
Multivitamins: infant liquid
Prenatal Vitamins

Wound supplies:

Hydrogen Peroxide
Band-aids

Butterfly wound closures

OUR CHURCH WORKERS FOR FEBRUARY

USHERS

2/4 Melinda Stidham and Barb Whitaker
2/11: Carol Bulva and Rich Williams
2/18: Rosemary Williams and Sue Ganschietz
2/25: Lew and Silas Thomasino

LITURGISTS

2/4 Hunter Brink & Tyler Underwood
2/11 Sue Williams
2/18 Jim Turnbull
2/25

February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<u>1</u> ♦ <u>Fellowship Hall in use 6-8pm</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> ♦ <u>9 am Sub Sandwich Making</u> <u>in Fellowship Hall</u>
<u>4</u> ♦ <u>Worship at 10am with Holy</u> <u>Communion</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> ♦ <u>7pm Church Council</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u> ♦ <u>Sunday Worship 10am</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> ♦ <u>Ash Wednesday Service -</u> <u>12:30pm and 7pm</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> ♦ <u>Fellowship Hall in use</u> <u>8:30am - 4pm</u>
<u>18</u> ♦ <u>Sunday Worship 10am</u>	<u>19</u> ♦ <u>7pm Evening Circle</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> ♦ <u>6pm Lenten Study and Soup</u> <u>Supper</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>25</u> ♦ <u>Sunday Worship 10am</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> ♦ <u>6pm Lenten Study and Soup</u> <u>Supper</u>			

LITURGICAL READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2018

FEBRUARY 4, 2018 **5TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**
Isaiah 40:21-31

FEBRUARY 11, 2018 **TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Psalm 50:1-6

FEBRUARY 14, 2018 **ASH WEDNESDAY** 12:30 and 7 pm
Pastor Rosemary will read

FEBRUARY 18, 2018 **FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**
1 Peter 3:18-22

FEBRUARY 25, 2018 **SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**
Romans 4:13-25

MARCH 4, 2018 **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**
1 Corinthians 1:18-25

