



NOVEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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Pastor Rosemary Captain gcaptain@charter.net

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I thought I would share with you a recent notice we received from our President and General Minister, Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer. This gives you an idea of what your denomination is doing in the world and especially at this time of the pandemic.

United in Christ's Love, A Just World for All

Your gifts make a difference. Together we can accomplish far more than we can as individuals. We are the United Church of Christ and together in the spirit of unity we are partnering with others to build the just world for all that we believe God imagines. With a gift to the [Annual Fund](#) in this critical moment, you will create hope together with our nearly 5,000 churches and over 800,000 members.

We are at a time like no other. The pandemics of COVID19 and Racism have impacted us in ways we could never imagine. The effects of climate change are manifested in hurricanes and wildfires taking their toll on human lives and the environment.

Our local churches, the vital place where our values are incarnated, have had to make dramatic changes to their worship and congregational life. Amid these challenges, the church is discovering anew its "why" and how we can best serve our members and the community.

We invite you to make a gift at this time to the UCC [Annual Fund](#). With a gift now, you will make a difference through "Holy Multiplication," a season where together we can accomplish more than we can as individuals. The national setting carries out a wide variety of ministries of care,

compassion, and justice, including:

- Planting new churches
- Assisting local churches as they seek new leadership
- Providing resource materials like the Still Speaking Daily Devotionals
- Advocating for justice in Washington D.C.
- Working globally with our partners around the world

With a donation today, you will be working to dismantle racism. During the pandemic, we have sent grants to congregations of color and ethnic minorities. In 2003 at General Synod, we adopted a resolution calling for the UCC to be an anti-racist church. One program that has made a difference is Sacred Conversations to End Racism (SC2ER). Participants in the seven-week institute note the impact the program has made in their lives:

- “Grappling with the awareness of white privilege is formative. My life is changing!”
- “The journey made me feel committed to continue my education and to become a stronger ally in the fight to end systemic racism.”
- “This is a groundbreaking resource connected to a strategy and plan of action to end racism throughout our relationships and communities. It’s more than another call to action. It’s a demand to transform into the reality of who God calls us to be. If you consider yourself to be a person of justice, you must take the journey.”

Now more than ever, our witness as the United Church of Christ is needed in the world. By making a year-end gift to the [Annual Fund](#), you will witness and minister as we seek a just world for all. As you prayerfully consider your Annual Fund gift, we invite you to give generously to build the Kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.

Yours in faith,

Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer, UCC General Minister & President

P.S. If you have already made a gift, thank you for joining this “Holy Multiplication” of impacting our world with the good news



St. John has been a 5 for 5 Congregation for several years and the most recent certificate (left) acknowledging that arrived recently.

What does it mean to be a 5 for 5

Congregation? It means St. John participates in all 4 special mission offerings of the UCC—Neighbors in Need, One Great Hour of Sharing, The Christmas Fund and Strengthen the Church—as well as provides support to

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM). Thank you to all who continue to support these special offerings! Go to www.ucc.org for more information about each of offering and how your gifts are used.

BIRTH:



Congratulations to Seth and Susan Gammon on the birth of Elias Thomas Gammon on October 24, 2020 in Houston, Texas and happy to be a big sister is Ayla, who is 3 years old. Proud grandparents are Jack and Eileen Gammon.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

11/11	Darleen Bax	11/17	Jessica (Riess) Kilian
11/11	Jackie Canterbury	11/22	Ellen Taylor
11/12	Cassie Myers	11/27	Steve Banjavcic
11/12	Edgar Myers	11/27	Chris Brown
11/15	Jim Eisenhauer	11/29	Chris Arbeiter

(no anniversaries)



PRAYER LIST: Rich Schmitt, Nelson Libell, Dave Seneczyn, Eric White, Lori Riess, Donna Isselhard, Mitch Nallie, Candy Peace, Greg Talley, Carol Meyer, Leah Williams, Pat Holtgrave, Jane Riess, Shari Hamilton, Charlotte Watson, Becky Ballard, Amy Annis.

(If you know of someone's name which can be removed from this list, please let the secretary know.)

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS:

Ardella Morris

1201 Hartman Lane Apt. 235

Belleville, IL 62221



Darlene Bax

220 Fieldcrossing Drive Apt. 40

Highland, IL 62249

Terry Kissel

429 South Main Street Room 228

Shiloh, IL 62269

Jeanette Brown

5904 Perrin Road

Fairview Heights, IL 62208

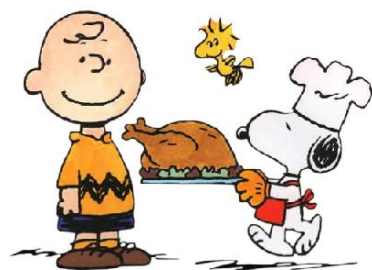
TOTENFEST:



Sunday, November 22, 2020 is the last Sunday of the Church Year and, in the old German tradition, is the day for remembering those who have passed and whose funeral service was held during the last Church Year. Totenfest, literally, the festival of the Dead, is the time set aside in the service to name our sisters and brothers who no longer

answer the call in this life, to commemorate their passing with a rose and a candle, and to offer special prayers of thanksgiving for their journey with us on this earth.

This year we will remember Barbara Moran, Roger Fox, Robert Feldman (Darlene Bax's son) and Tom Petroff (the father of Janice Petroff, Council Member).



SNOOPY WANTS YOU TO HAVE A WONDERFUL THANKSGIVING.

However, he also wants you to stay safe. Celebrate **ONLY** with the people who live in your house. Snoopy is sure your neighbors are very nice, but they may be carriers of COVID. Plan on partying twice as much next year. This year use face-time, skype, or zoom to see the ones you love.

November

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Service of Word & Sacrament 10 am	2	3 Bible Study at 7 pm	4	5 AA Meeting	6	7
8 Worship at 10 am Evening Circle will meet after worship	9	10 Bible Study at 7 pm	11 Church Council 7 pm Via Zoom	12 AA Meeting	13	14
15 Worship at 10 am	16	17 Bible Study at 7 pm	18	19 AA Meeting	20	21
22 Totenfest Sunday Worship at 10 am	23	24 Bible Study at 7 pm	25	26 AA Meeting	27	28
29 1 st Sunday in Advent Worship at 10 am	30					

EVENING CIRCLE

Our next meeting will be Sunday November 8th after church service. Please check your packet for your November “Thank Offering” envelope. There will be a container in the narthex for your offering on November 8th and 15th. Also be sure to send out your “Thank you” cards to anyone that has done something special for you.

We have received information on a Kindercottage Child to sponsor for Christmas. Following is her information:

Her name – Athena Hamad

Age – 6 years old

Clothes size – 7 – 8, shoe size – 2, & underwear –7—8

This year presents are to be wrapped before delivery. Also place a sticky note on the wrapped present with her name what is inside, and if clothes the size bought. Turn presents in by December 6, 2020.

Answer to Halloween Riddle: **A Living Room**

During this unusual year, I want to **THANK** all the ladies for supporting the Evening Circle. See you November 8th.

Eileen Gammon, Co-Chairman