

St. John's United Church of Christ

P.O. Box 794, 401 N Main Street, Belvidere, IL
61008stjohns401.org stjohsucc401@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Muriel Morley Jahn 815-544-2977
murielmorley@gmail.com
Pastoral Associate: Beth Carson 815-979-0473
Minister of Music: Mary Albrecht 815-547-7503
Choir Director: Jeanne Anderson 815-985-2652

WELCOME VISITORS! Thank you for coming! Please sign a pew card to place in the offering plate.

WORSHIP: When reading this bulletin Leader Speaks Plain Font, Everyone Speak Bold Font

Announcements

Nursery: Children are welcome in all aspects of worship. The nursery provides an alternative space so kids and parents can both get what they need from worship. Children are encouraged to check in with their adult before going downstairs with the nursery attendant.

The Belvidere Group (AA) meets at everyday at 7pm.



Delicious Fundraiser



Amazon List



T-Shirts

Announcements

- ✚ **Fellowship Meal** November 9th after worship. Sign up to bring a dish in the Narthex.
- ✚ **Chair and Mat Yoga** with Katherine Ray November 1st. Chair yoga at 10 AM and mat yoga at 11:30 AM. No RSVP required, classes are \$5 a piece per person.
- ✚ **Holiday Bazaar Set up** begins after worship on October 19th. Other set up worship hours include Monday the 20th Thursday the 23rd 10am-4pm.
- ✚ **Holiday Bazaar** Friday, October 24th, 9am-3pm & Saturday, October 25th, 9am-1pm We are looking for holiday decor, baked goods, handmade crafts, and more. Donations are being accepted now through October 22nd at noon. If you would like to help make wreaths with a group of creative folk, learn more or volunteer, please, contacting Bonnie Stevens 815-979-6941.
- ✚ **October 26th Trunk or Treat** 3-4pm sign up for a parking spot today and invite your friends!
- ✚ **Totenfest** November 2nd 10:30am during Sunday worship. Please give names of loved ones and information to Vicki Cummings TEXT ONLY PLEASE 815-566-1249. this is the corrected number. We are so sorry for printing the wrong number in the past.
- ✚ **November 23rd Decorate for Advent** we are looking for a creative contact person to plan the decor and organize the volunteers after worship.
- ✚ **Coffee Hour** November 2nd, we will be gathering every first Sunday at 9:30am for this fellowship. You can sign up to host in the Narthex.
- ✚ **Community Meal** every third Wednesday of the month from 5p-6pm.
- ✚ **Blessing Box** non-perishable are welcome. Make sure any items in cardboard have an inner layer of protection to prevent creatures from contaminating the food.
- ✚ **Share Table** please place perishable items here.
- ✚ **Paper Angel Closet** needs toilet paper, paper towels, women's deodorant, bleach, shampoo, and dish soap.
- ✚ **Menards Ministry:** If you have unused Menards rebates, or even receipts. We use these rebates for projects around the church.

**share our time, talents, and treasures as we seek
to never lose hope and heart. Amen.**

Hymn #460 "God Will Take Care of You"

Benediction

***Not to Lose Heart: Service Prayers for the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost** was written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian, an ordained UCC minister in Belleville, Illinois.*

Prelude

Announcements

Choral Introit "Lord, Listen to your Children Praying"

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send Your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

Responsive Welcome Statement

At St. John's United Church of Christ, we are Living Outwardly & Valuing Everyone!

We live and work amid God's love!

In that spirit, we extend love to all who come into our midst, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, nationality, skin color, culture, differing abilities, age or political affiliations, to participate fully in all aspects of church.

Our ministry is to bring the Good News of Christ's love to all.

We work in God's name to tear down walls and build community,

to walk with each other through all of life's circumstances,

to provide for those in need,

to offer comfort to the hurting and the sick,
and to uplift the brokenhearted.

Where we fail, we ask for God's forgiveness.

May the Holy Spirit and our siblings continue to challenge us to do better.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 121)

As the sun sets behind the hills,
We celebrate hope in our Creator.
 Even as the sun strikes the earth in daytime
We celebrate peace in our Creator.
 As we move about this earth from day to day
We celebrate the love of our Creator.

Invocation

Holy One, Holder of our Hearts,
From time to time, we notice our souls are heavy
from injustices. From the ways our community
members are treated to the lack of compassion
towards folks in faraway places, we attempt to
embrace hope and often feel defeated. Yet you
continue to be the bearer of dreams, God of
Love. May we feel your Spirit's peace even when
struggles accumulate. May we be baptized by
your glimmers even as we journey through a
world filled with ashes. Amen.

Hymn #21 "God Reigns o'er all the Earth"

Apostles' Creed #881

Children's Time "Getting Attention"

Pastoral Prayer~ The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #492 "I Would be True"

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Beloved God of All,
We often feel deserted by Divine Justice and
Peace, especially after absorbing the news each
day. We allow ourselves to fully walk away from
spreading Good News of your love and grace af-
ter feeling the lack of mercy in our world. We
would rather be silent in places of comfort in-
stead of shining your light in our pain-present

reality. Our hearts can not bear knowing of any
further wrongdoings. Open our souls to your
healing. Embolden us to be persistent in our
quest to do justice and love kindness. May we
follow your light when the shadows attempt to
swallow our resolve. Amen.

Words of Grace

Our souls continue to open to the healing and hope
 of God. May we embrace the glow of God's grace as
 we seek ways to care for our neighbors.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall
be, world without end. Amen.

Scripture Luke 18:1-8

Sermon "Pray for Justice"

Moment for Mission Neighbors in Need

Time for Tithe and Offering

Doxology

Praise God, through whom all bless-
ings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Divine Connector of our Souls,
With much gratitude, we share our gifts with you
today. We continue to search for your dreams
and fulfill your visions as we create your Realm
here on earth. Energize us to utilize our gifts for
the strength of all humanity. Empower us to



General Giving