



General Giving

**St.  
John's  
United  
Church  
of Christ**



**Delicious**

401 N. Main St.  
P. O. Box 794  
Belvidere, IL  
61008



Amazon List

**Mother's  
Day  
May 12,  
2024**



T-Shirts

**Worship  
10:30 A.M.**

# St. John's United Church of Christ

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

**Office Hours:** Tues – Thurs, 9am-Noon [stjohns401.org](http://stjohns401.org)  
(815)544-3773 [stjohnsucc401@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsucc401@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Muriel Morley Jahn 815-544-2977  
[murielmorley@gmail.com](mailto:murielmorley@gmail.com)

**Pastoral Associate:** Beth Carson 815-544-6834

**Minister of Music:** Mary Albrecht 815-547-7503

**Choir Director:** Jeanne Anderson 815-985-2652

**Nursery:** The nursery is open! Please check downstairs and meet with the nursery attendant before leaving your child.

## You Are Not Alone

The following support groups meet regularly at St. John's

- The Belvidere Group (AA) meets at everyday at Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 1pm & everyday at 7pm. Women's Group meets Mondays 5:30pm
- T.O.P.S. Mondays 11am

## Community Ministries

**Community Meal:** Every 3rd Wednesday from 5p-6p! May 15th Menu: ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, dessert.

**Blessing Box:** Outside by the Main Street entrance open to all who are hungry 24/7.

**Paper Angel Closet:** Provides supplies to households in need.

**Every 3rd Sunday,** St. John's Leads services at **Heritage Woods** at 3 pm. Join after their service for time to talk to socialize with their residents and meet some great people.

**Fellowship Circle** every second Thursday at 1pm. Next gatherings May 9th.

Special Events on Page 7

## Mark Your Calendar

✚ **Meals on Wheels** May 20-24

✚ **May 26th Patriotic Concert with Jim Hendricks** Everyone is invited to enjoy this musical celebration. Free will donation will be collected.

*Pianist Jim performed has performed with such legends as Dave Brubeck (piano duets), Della Reese, Rita Moreno, The Glenn Miller Orchestra, Tito Puente, Maynard Ferguson, Jack Jones, Louie Bellson, Clark Terry, John Davidson, and many others. Jim has been a featured orchestral soloist performing the piano music of Rachmaninoff, and was granted a music professorship by the age of twenty-five. Hendricks is currently the head of the Piano Division in the Music Department of Chicago State University, and he has performed approximately 1,400 solo piano concerts across the world since 1994.*



**Doxology**

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

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Faithful God, we thank you for every gift. We delight in returning a portion of what we have been given back to Christ's church. Your generous love and care for all creation knows no bounds. Like Christ who offered himself, let these offerings symbolize the fulfillment of your love by bringing a healing balm of hope, peace, and justice to everyone, everywhere. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

**Hymn #49 "Ask me what Great Things I Know"****Benediction****Postlude**

**Fulfilled: Service Prayers for the Seventh Sunday of Easter** was written by The Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey, Pastor of Union Congregational United Church of Christ.

**Prelude****Announcements****Choral Introit "Lord, I Offer My Life"**

Lord, I offer my life to You  
 Everything I've been through  
 Use it for Your glory  
 Lord I offer my days to You  
 Lifting my praise to You  
 As a pleasing sacrifice  
 Lord I offer you my life

**Responsive Welcome Statement** (Leader Speaks Plain Font, **All Speak Bold Font**)

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

One: Let us praise God for sending Jesus Christ to offer his saving love to us all.

**All: We give God all our praises.**

One: Let our hearts be filled with joyful celebration for the fulfillment of God’s promises.

**All: We open our hearts to receive the joy of Christ.**

One: Let us move forward with Jesus Christ as our guiding light.

**All: The light of Jesus Christ is shining in each of us.**

One: Come, let us worship our Risen Christ, whose love and light guide us still.

Invocation

Ever present God, we are grateful that you meet us right where we are. Speaking our language and giving us the blessed assurance that you are with us. We look forward to the glory that awaits us, trusting that Christ will guide us to our heavenly home. In his name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn #383            “Come, Let us Join”

Childrens Time      Gift Exchange

Pastoral Prayer – The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn #433        “In the Bulb”

UCC Statement of Faith   #885

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

Life-giving God, we find joy in your newness of life through Jesus Christ. Help us to feel the joy of inhaling and exhaling the breath of life in every season. Transform us when we come together as your beloved and diverse creation. Guide us in our praise as we seek your saving love toward a world where there is peace and justice for all. Amen.

Words of Grace

Loving God, in Christ we see the fulfillment of your promise to be with us always. Forgive us when we lose faith in your compassion for all creation. Help us to see the great sacrifice of the Risen Christ as an example of your undying love for us all. Strengthen us to do better and to become better together in our relationship with you and all of creation. Hear our prayer, O God. Amen.

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        Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
                      John 17:6-19

Sermon           “Family Prayer”

Moment for Mission                      Strengthen the Church

Invitation to Generosity

One: From the abundance of God’s generosity, all are invited to offer a portion of our gifts.

**All: We offer these offerings to Christ’s church.**

One: Remembering the great love that Christ has for all people,

**All: We give these gifts to further spread the love of Christ in the world.**

One: Blessing those who gave, and those unable to give.

**All: We receive joy in this moment of giving.**

One: May these offerings help fulfill our hope to be Christ’s love and light in the world.

Musical Offering