



General Giving

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



Delicious

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



Amazon List

**Pentecost
& Mental
Health
Sunday**

**May 19,
2024**



T-Shirts

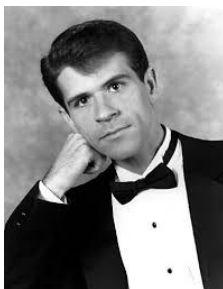
**Worship
10:30 A.M.**

WELCOME VISITORS! Thank you for coming! Please sign a pew card to place in the offering plate. The nursery is open. Please check downstairs and meet with the nursery attendant before leaving your child.

Office Hours: Tues – Thurs, 9am-Noon stjohns401.org
(815)544-3773 stjohnsucc401@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Muriel Morley Jahn 815-544-2977
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

- **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.*
- **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.
- **Today and Every 3rd Sunday of the month,** 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 June 13, 12pm all ladies are invited to Coach's Corner. Please RSVP to Jeanne Anderson.
- **The Belvidere Group (AA)** meets at everyday at everyday at 7pm. Women's Group meets Mondays 5:30pm
- **T.O.P.S.** Mondays 11am



understood to be physical health and cared for without stigma or judgement. Until that day comes, bless our small contributions of time, talent and treasures and may it work towards the building of your new world. Amen.

Hymn "Faithful God, You Sent Your Spirit" *(tune of Holy Manna)*

**Faithful God, you sent your Spirit
Long ago at Pentecost.
You gave life and said to share it,
All as one, beneath your cross.
May we see your wondrous blessing
When your people everywhere
Work together, all confessing
Faith that binds us, faith to share.**

**God of hope, you daily nurture
Those who seek to follow you.
You're not bound by any culture;
You love rich and poor ones, too.
In an ever-changing nation,
May your churches welcome in
Every child of your creation,
Giving hope to all again.**

**God of love, may we in worship
Welcome our diversity.
May we reach in trust and friendship
To the poor and refugee.
May we see Christ in the stranger,
Breaking bonds of hate and fear.
By your Spirit, may we offer
Glimpses of your kingdom here.**

Benediction & Postlude

In the World: Service Prayers for the Day of Pentecost Year B was written by Rev. Jacob Nault, Pastor of Union-Congregational Church in Waupun, WI. He also works alongside the UCC's Disabilities Ministries Board to provide music, liturgy, and other resources on issues of disability justice.

Mental Health and Wellness Resource for All www.ucc.org

ther. We are sanctified in God's truth. Christ prays for us and guides our words and actions. We always have opportunities to grow in our discipleship, as long as we trust in Christ to lead us.

By the grace of God, we are forgiven. 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 John 16:5-15
 Romans 8:22-27**

Sermon "Waiting on the Spirit"

Moment for Mission Strengthen the Church

Invitation to Generosity

In our offering we share not only measurable treasures of time, talents and resources, we also radically commit to sharing immeasurable gifts of forgiveness, grace, compassion, acceptance and loving concern with each other and with ourselves.

Musical Offering

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

**Loving God, open us to a new world.
Where there is no longer least and greatest,
rich and poor, haves and have nots. A world
where all are treated as beloved precious
children. A world where mental health is**

Prelude

Announcements

Choral Introit "Rain Down"

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 (by: Rev. Amy Petré Hill)

We gather in the presence of the One who abandons no one.

Come Holy Spirit, our advocate and comforter.

All are welcome in this sacred place, made holy through your presence with us.

Open our hearts and minds this day, guide us into a loving relationship with all your children.

We gather as God's beloved people, leaving no one outside.

**Spark us with a word of life and radical belonging—a message that
we share with others as we seek to live out Christ's love.**

We call on the name of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us.

Amen.

Invocation

Jesus, our sibling and friend, we thank you for your example, which

guides us as we share the good news of God's love with a hurting world. Thank you for protecting us, teaching us, and equipping us to partner with you to work for love and justice. Help us share the joy we've found in our relationship with you. Empower us with the Holy Spirit, that we might testify to God's goodness. Amen.

Hymn #261 "Let Every Christian Pray"

Litany of Naming *(by Rev. Alan Johnson)*

On this Mental Health Sunday, we join in this Litany of Naming.

As a congregation we are glad to lift up our voices and our spirits to break the silence that often happens when we are confronted with mental illness.

As a faith community, we name the gifts and the often unnamed experiences which come to those who live with a mental illness such as major depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorder, schizophrenia, substance use, addiction, historic and generational trauma, racial trauma, grief and eating disorder. We name:

The Hope which upholds our spirit through honest sharing;

The Pain when people turn away because of fear;

The Courage to speak in a safe place the way that Jesus spoke truth with love;

L: The Strength from being with others who listen compassionately;

The Isolation that comes when no one knows what to say;

The Realization that mental illnesses and brain disorders can be managed;

The Exhaustion that comes with living with a mental illness as well as for those who are caregivers;

The Welcome of mental health as part of our church's ministry and outreach;

The Wisdom that comes when we become educated about mental health;

The Spirituality that comes when we walk alongside those who show both resilience and vulnerability in their lives affected by mental illness;

All: We receive these gifts that we have named, those which are welcomed and those that are challenges. We come before you, our God, knowing we are not alone and that You will show us a way to be and live. In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

Childrens Time "When God Cries" *(prayer & theme by Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund)*

Thank you God for tears that express how we are feeling. Thank you, God, for our brains that help us know your love. Thank you, God, for mental health and for people who help us feel better when we are sick. We love you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer – The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #292 "Breath on Me"

A New Creed #887

Prayer of Transformation and New Life

Gracious God, Jesus prayed that his disciples would be protected from deceit. Sometimes, it's not easy to be bold in sharing how God's love has impacted our lives. We ask forgiveness for the times we have not been strong enough in sharing our truth, for fear of how others would respond. Help us find strength in Your promises to us. Help us share our joy with abundance. Amen.

Words of Grace

Friends, take comfort. None of Jesus' disciples found this work to be easy, and sometimes they faltered. We aren't expected to be perfect ei-