

St. John's Spirit

www.stjohnsburton.org
stjohnsburton@gmail.com

March, 2020

979-289-2485

979-255-0256

Seeing the World in a Different Way

When I was young, there was a man in the town where I grew up named Willie. I won't tell you his last name just in case someone reading this is related to him. If Willie had been a wealthy man, then folks would have said that he's eccentric. Since Willie wasn't rich ... most people just called him a "nut". I knew Willie and I certainly don't think he was crazy; he just looked at the world in a different way from how most people viewed it. He would see a problem and try to fix it by whatever means was available to him.

Willie drove an old station wagon with a couple of lawnmowers, weed eaters and hedge trimmers jammed in the back. He gave me a ride to school one morning, and I smelled like gasoline and motor oil for the rest of the day. Willie kept that lawn equipment with him because he often mowed elderly people's lawns and trimmed their hedges, never charging them a dime for his services. He was also the guy who would randomly leave fresh vegetables on your porch, bring your milk inside on a hot summer day (that should tell you how long ago this was), and a host of other things.

Willie was a kind and generous man and just because he wore glasses that were held together with duct tape and never combed his hair a single day in his life, that certainly didn't classify him as "some kind of nut" as he was often referred to by some people.

Willie has since gone to his reward but the memory of him is still clear to a lot of us, and his legacy can still be seen around the town where he once lived. I can remember the day that the city made him stop filling in potholes on the streets; not because he was making a mess or causing a disturbance but rather because he was doing such a good job that it made them look bad.

When I think back to those days, it reminds me that some folks also thought Jesus was a nut. He also looked at the world in a way that was different from the way most people saw it. He went out of His way to help people and didn't expect or accept any payment for His work. Jesus didn't look or act like any other religious leader, and when those who were officially in charge found out that He was doing such a good job among the people, that He made them look bad in comparison ... they did their best to stop Him but of course, Jesus could not be stopped and not only does His legacy live on here in our church and within the souls of all of us who gather here, but His real presence is also here among us and within us as well.

There is an empty space in everyone's soul that can only be filled by Jesus. Some folks called Him a "nut", others a "trouble maker"; a few only saw Him as another prophet and religious teacher, but we know Him as our Lord and Savior. During this Lenten Season and in every season of our lives, let's continue to share in the good news of Christ's presence among us. Let's continue to perform random acts of kindness without judging whether someone is worthy of a blessing or not. Let's continue to help in the feeding of the hungry – both spiritually as well as physically and let's always remember the great sacrifice Christ made for us in order for us to live with Him forever.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Darrin

Heart of Texas Association News

Our Heart of Texas Association Spring Meeting will be on Saturday, April 4th, at Weimar UCC. Registration starts at 10:30 am with the meeting **beginning at 11.** We will start with worship in the sanctuary and then move to lunch and our meeting in the Weimar church's fellowship hall. We anticipate having people go through the lunch line right after worship, so we can eat and meet at the same time. Our offering will go to donate to provide supplies to those living outdoors at the border in Matamoros awaiting asylum. We will be accepting money and supplies (list of items needed to be distributed later) to be sent down on a trip that United Christian is making later this spring. Those who wish to stay a bit after the meeting are welcome to help sort donated supplies. All paperwork (agendas, reports, and other paperwork we have handed out in the past) will be posted on the Heart of Texas Association website, <http://hotaucc.org/>, the week before the meeting. In order to save paper, we ask that people download these from the website, as we will have only a few copies.

At our meeting, we anticipate discussion and a vote on whether to support the formation of a conference-wide fitness review committee. A fitness review, in the United Church of Christ, is a serious and demanding process that takes place when the fitness of a minister for ministry is brought into question, usually due to a serious accusation. At this time, fitness reviews are held at the Association level by our Committee on Ministry, which has the general task of oversight of ministers in the UCC. When a fitness review occurs, Committee on Ministry members have to be trained in the process, members must recuse themselves if they are close to the person who is the subject of the review, a trained team must be sent to interview people close to the situation, and there are other demanding aspects of the process. During the time of the fitness review, the other tasks of the Committee on Ministry need to continue and, as in any situation where there is a problem of this sort, it is difficult to get work done. Some other Conferences have moved fitness reviews to a Conference level committee, which allows a group to be "on call" with ongoing training and without other ministry oversight tasks to handle. At our Association Meeting, we will be deciding whether to support this initiative, and our meeting is scheduled in time to give our answer to the Conference Board at its April meeting as they prepare for a possible decision at the South Central Conference Annual Meeting in June. In addition, we anticipate discussion on a few proposed changes to the Conference bylaws.

We also anticipate having either one or two Ecclesiastical Councils, following ordination interviews for one or more candidates to be held at the Committee on Ministry's meeting on Tuesday, March 31st. I will be sending out the information on Ecclesiastical Councils to our churches and ministers as soon as we can on March 31st, and we will be posting the relevant ordination papers on our website as soon as possible.

Finally, on Sunday, February 16th, the Friends Congregational Church Choir sang the Requiem by John Rutter in Carnegie Hall in New York City as part of the Distinguished Concerts Orchestra and Singers Series. I had the privilege of hearing this inspiring and beautiful concert, along with several folks from Friends. **Congratulations, Friends choir!**

Blessings in Christ,
Liz Nash, Association Minister

What's Happening in our neighborhood.....

Lenten services are being held **every Wednesday during Lent at 7 p.m.** in the sanctuary.

Children's Church is starting March 1. The children will leave after the children's sermon, and coordinators will bring them back to church at the end of the service. This is for K-6 grades.

The **Sons of the Legion** are having a drive thru meal on Sunday, April 5. Plates are \$12 and contain ½ chicken, ½ link of sausage, potatoes and green beans. Get your tickets now from members.

The Blood Drive is March 29 from 9-1 in Room 110. Please contact Karen Harmel to sign up for donating. Thank you Karen Harmel for always promoting this Blood Drive.

Linda and Ray Thaler are grandparents again. **Nolan Ryan Thaler** was born February 4 to Matt and Patricia Thaler. Nolan weighed 7lbs. 5 oz and was 21 inches. Congratulations on the new arrival.

On March 29, we will have special music from the **Brazos Valley Adult & Teen Challenge**. This group is a recipient of our Charity Reserve grant, and they are a Christian faith-based, residential care to young people and adults who struggle with life-controlling problems. The program is very effective and has a very high success rate.

Hey! Are you interested in having a float in the Cotton Gin parade? The thought ran across Pastor Darrin's mind. Let the office know if you would like to see this happen April 18.

Lori Krolczyk is starting a **Ladies Bible Study** at 6 p.m. on **March 12 and 26** in the library. The group will meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. Contact Lori for more information (979-421-3251).

Thank You

Thank you to the nice person who puts inspirational messages on sticky notes on my computer screen. They make me smile!

Thank You

We are very blessed with a supportive church family. We thank the members for preparing a meal after Larry's service. It was very comforting to gather together at our church with family and friends. We appreciate Linda Thaler playing the organ and Katie Kieke singing. It was very special to our family. Special thanks to Pastor Darrin and Pastor Glen for the visits and the kind words spoken. We thank everyone for the prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits over the years as Larry battled brain cancer. He won the battle. **The Glenz Family**

To My St. John's Family,

Thank you for the prayers during my cataract surgeries in January. Then, came the big one in February! My back surgery was on February 5th & I felt so loved with all of the cards and prayers and food and Blue Bell ice cream sent my way! You all are wonderful!

I have to thank Pastor Darrien for being with us the morning before surgery-the prayer before surgery was very comforting to me!

Thanks also to my daughters Misty & Kacey and to my sister Jackie & my God sister, Karen Harmel, for being with me that morning and staying all day. Not to leave out, Nick, Ashley, Paisley & Linley who were at our door with food and flowers!

I've been so Blessed in my life with wonderful family & friends. I love you all & I thank God for you every day! God Bless you all, **Love, Barbara Schoenemann**

Prayers

We continue to pray for Paula Boeker, Barbara Bosse, John Boydston, Gene Bredthauer, Carrie Bozarth, Clint Crampton, Speedy Crampton, Herbert Dallmeyer, Dale Guelker, Jack Millett, Carol Naegeli, Barbara Schoenemann, Annie Schulz, Sue Schwartz, Frances Sidenblad and Dotty Wickel. We ask that you remember those in our care facilities: Frankie Ruffino, Gerdine Fuchs, Lee Dell Krause, Hildagard Lange, Kirby Lehrmann and Mack Locke. In February we lost Bruce Dopsloff and Nancy Patterson, so we ask that you keep these families in your thoughts and prayers as they deal with their loss. **Dear God**, we ask You every day for Your blessings, and You have rewarded us with so many. We thank You for all that You give us. We ask for Your comfort and healing on our loved ones and our church family. Send Your spirit to warm their hearts and let them know Your presence. **Amen**.

If you would like to **order Easter lilies to decorate the church for Easter**, please call the office, email or write a note letting us know that you wish to purchase a 6" potted lily with gold pot cover for \$14.50 each.



Flower Calendar for March

- March 1** Altar: In memory of Helen Emshoff by the family
- March 8** Altar: In memory of A. E. & Lesta Matthies, Marjorie & Gene Thaler, Carrie May & Mervin Maass by the family.
Piano flowers are in honor of Cathy and Curtis Fuchs' 49th anniversary.
- March 15** Altar: In memory of Kenney & Lydia Hinze by the family.
- March 22** Altar: In memory of Willie & Rosa Kieke by the family.
- March 29** Altar: Just because it is Spring by Suzanne Kessler.

Please contact Linda Knipstein for any changes or additions to the flower calendar. ((979-277-4468))

2:01 PM

02/11/20

Cash Basis

St John's United Church of Christ
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January 2020

| | Jan 20 | Budget | \$ Over Budget | % of Budget |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | | |
| Income | | | | |
| 125th Church Anniversary | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Cemetery Plots | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Communion | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Contributions | 14,965.98 | 18,208.33 | -3,242.35 | 82.2% |
| Fundraiser Income | 0.00 | 1,250.00 | -1,250.00 | 0.0% |
| Interest | 0.00 | 100.00 | -100.00 | 0.0% |
| Lent | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 83.33 | -83.33 | 0.0% |
| Neighbors In Need | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| OGHS | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Oil Land Lease/Royalties | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Rental-Church/FLC | 70.00 | 166.66 | -96.66 | 42.0% |
| Strengthen the Church | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Sunday School | 105.13 | 250.00 | -144.87 | 42.1% |
| Thrivent Choice Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Vacation Bible School | 0.00 | 500.00 | -500.00 | 0.0% |
| Total Income | 15,141.11 | 20,558.32 | -5,417.21 | 73.6% |
| Expense | | | | |
| 125th Church Anniversary Expens | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Audio/Video/WebHosting | 300.00 | 166.66 | 133.34 | 180.0% |
| Bank Service Charges | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Building Manager | 330.00 | 333.33 | -3.33 | 99.0% |
| Burton Bridge Ministry | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 100.0% |
| Camp Registration Fees | 0.00 | 41.66 | -41.66 | 0.0% |
| Conferences and Association | 0.00 | 83.33 | -83.33 | 0.0% |
| CUE | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Custodian-FLC | 840.00 | 883.33 | -43.33 | 95.1% |
| Custodian - Church | 780.00 | 783.33 | -3.33 | 99.6% |
| Eden Home | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Employee Payroll Taxes | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Financial Secretary | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Furnishings/Equipment | 0.00 | 83.33 | -83.33 | 0.0% |
| Heart of Texas Association Dues | 0.00 | 125.00 | -125.00 | 0.0% |
| Insurance Expense | 4,371.75 | 1,166.66 | 3,205.09 | 374.7% |
| Interest Expense | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Maintenance - Cemetery | 0.00 | 375.00 | -375.00 | 0.0% |
| Maintenance Salary | 0.00 | 250.00 | -250.00 | 0.0% |
| Music | 0.00 | 166.66 | -166.66 | 0.0% |
| Nursery Attendants | 160.00 | 100.00 | 60.00 | 160.0% |
| OCWM | 1,083.33 | 1,083.33 | 0.00 | 100.0% |
| Office Secretary | 1,083.34 | 1,083.33 | 0.01 | 100.0% |
| Office Supplies | 1,010.44 | 1,250.00 | -239.56 | 80.8% |
| One Great Hour of Sharing | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Organists | 60.00 | 583.33 | -523.33 | 10.3% |
| Pastor's Annuity | 1,638.00 | 816.66 | 821.34 | 200.6% |
| Pastor's Car Allowance | 331.20 | 500.00 | -168.80 | 66.2% |
| Pastor's Continuing Education | 0.00 | 83.33 | -83.33 | 0.0% |
| Pastor's FICA Reimbursement | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Pastor's Health Insurance | 517.71 | 516.66 | 1.05 | 100.2% |
| Pastor's Salary | 4,500.00 | 4,500.00 | 0.00 | 100.0% |
| Payroll Expenses | 170.09 | 250.00 | -79.91 | 68.0% |
| Promotion | 670.80 | 375.00 | 295.80 | 178.9% |
| Pulpit Supply | 0.00 | 41.66 | -41.66 | 0.0% |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 417.68 | 1,500.00 | -1,082.32 | 27.8% |
| Slumber Falls Camp | 0.00 | 83.33 | -83.33 | 0.0% |
| Strengthen the Church (STC) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Sunday School Expense | 0.00 | 208.33 | -208.33 | 0.0% |
| Supplies - FLC | 350.00 | 350.00 | 0.00 | 100.0% |
| Treasurer's Salary | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Utilities | 2,085.55 | 1,833.33 | 252.22 | 113.8% |

2:01 PM
02/11/20
Cash Basis

St John's United Church of Christ
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January 2020

| | Jan 20 | Budget | \$ Over Budget | % of Budget |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| Vacation Bible School Expense | 343.59 | 500.00 | -156.41 | 68.7% |
| Web Hosting | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Total Expense | 21,143.48 | 20,216.58 | 926.90 | 104.6% |
| Net Ordinary Income | -6,002.37 | 341.74 | -6,344.11 | -1,756.4% |
| Net Income | -6,002.37 | 341.74 | -6,344.11 | -1,756.4% |

BE A HERO

BURTON COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE
ST. JOHN'S UCC



SUNDAY, March 29, 2020

9:00 - 1:30

PLEASE CONSIDER SAVING LIVES
THROUGH A BLOOD DONATION!!

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE,
KAREN HARMEL

St. John's United Church of Christ
Council Meeting
January 21, 2020
6 pm at the church

REVISION 1

The meeting was called to order by President Ina Eckert at 6:05 p.m. and prayer was given by Pastor Darrin Holub.

Individuals Present:

Council Members – Bill Comiskey, Ina Eckert, Clyde Engelbrecht, Jodell Hodde, Madeline Johnson, Jeff Krolczyk, Christy Moran, James Press

Individuals – Pastor Darrin Holub, Ann Pape, Larry Winkelmann

Minutes from Previous Meeting – the minutes were shared with all via email report prior to; Ina Eckert asked for any concerns with notes presented. Bill Comiskey made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, 2nd by James Press, all voted in approval; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Ann Pape had provided the report previously electronically. There were no questions at the meeting, but the following comments were given:

-Ina Eckert asked Ann Pape if she liked the Quick Books program as a new software and she said that it made it a lot easier for check generation and distribution.

-Bill Comiskey said that Ann Pape was part of the Budget Committee that put together the 2019 budget. If the Anniversary would not have been an expense this year, the budget was right on point – Revenues were within 2% and expenses were within 1% - Great job!

-Ann Pape stated that offering giving has been really well

-Ina Eckert stated that attendance has been up too

-Bill Comiskey concluded that we had income for the year which is very good and a change from the past and contributed that to increased contributions.

Clyde Engelbrecht. moved to approve/accept the treasurer's report and a 2nd was made by Jodell Hodde. No discussion or votes against; the motion to accept was approved.

Investment Report (including Memorial Fund): As of January 22, 2020, the Investments report shows the current CD balance is \$92,098.68, the Savings balance is \$108,492.05 and the additional church funds show a balance of \$19,600.10.

Larry Winkelmann asked if there were any questions about the reports.

There was interest on a CD \$154.17 which was deposited in the Cemetery Fund.

There are a lot of memorials coming in currently from the Emshoff, Glenz, Barber funerals.

The Building Fund is up as checks are still coming in from oil lease. Chesapeake check deposited and transferred. Year End figures for each fund were stated in reports. Few transactions so far this year other than memorial deposits.

Then, Larry Winkelmann went over all the signature cards that our church has and who is on them. There are many cards and some will need names changed. Larry Winkelmann has a list of all the signature cards, who is on them and which ones need to be changed. Larry Winkelmann and Pastor Darrin will work on this.

A motion was made by Bill Comiskey to accept Investment Report with a 2nd from Clyde Engelbrecht. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

A/V, Website Management Salary

At the September meeting, a Website Management Proposal was discussed. A budget of \$2000 for these services was set after speaking with Denton Shippey about needs for this project.

No one has been able to find in notes a salary amount for AV work/technical services done in the past. Ann Pape said that we have paid \$20 per hour for operating AV equipment in the past at services. Currently, Jeff

Krolczyk, Danny Douglas and Lauren Hodde do AV work on Sunday services and volunteer this. However, recently Denton Shippey did some work (3 hours) for a funeral and asked to be paid. Ann Pape needs to know what rate per hour to pay him. The discussion went back and forth on this pay and was intermingled with discussion on website hosting/set-up/updates.

Bill Comiskey said that we budgeted 2000.00 for website and Ina stated that according to Minutes, it would take \$1900 a year to do website maintenance for church. Bill Comiskey suggested \$150 per month. Charles Stark got \$60 per month. The set up was estimated at \$800 and if do \$20-\$40 per week to do the website, that would be on average \$160 per month.

After much discussion and back and forth on this, a motion was made to pay \$20 per worship service to an AV person and \$20 per hour for events needing special services (weddings, funerals, etc.) This motion was made by James Press with a 2nd by Bill Comiskey and approved.

For the Website, Pastor Darrin will tell Denton Shippey about hourly rate and talk to him about starting website initial set up. Darrin Holub has been researching getting a credit card for the church and Citizen's State Bank is setting this up. Madeline Johnson suggested that if Denton Shippey wants to start the website and needs funds to purchase the host, a Paypal account can be set up and funds withdrawn from checking account as needed. Pastor Darrin will work on this.

And, finally, a motion was made by Madeline to pay Denton (as Website manager who also does the power point slides for church services) \$20 per hour not to exceed \$160 per month for weekly services. Also, the motion included to pay him up to \$20 per hour not to exceed \$800 to set up the website initially. Jodell made 2nd to this motion. Motion carried.

Maintenance Technician

Pastor Darrin said that James Schlottmann resigned from Maintenance technician at church and Bobby Garza has offered to take on this task. Pastor Darrin told Bobby Garza of the expectation and they looked at list. Pastor Darrin said that there are some things that this person does not need to do and that he can take care of. One priority currently being worked on is a urinal in the Family Life Center restroom that is leaking and needs work. Bobby Garza will make time to do these maintenance tasks on his own time. Pastor Darrin will order needed supplies at this time and Bobby does not want to handle a credit card. A rate of \$25 per hour was suggested in a motion by Clyde Engelbrecht, with a 2nd by Christy Moran and the motion carried. Pastor Darrin said that Bobby Garza does not always turn in and has done work for the church as a volunteer in the past. Pastor Darrin will keep Bobby Garza updated on church's maintenance needs.

Glen & Dottie Scholarship Recommendations

Ina Eckert brought up the need to review the recommendation prepared by the scholarship committee for the Glen & Dottie Scholarship. Prior to discussion, Ina Eckert said according to Steve Miller's presentation at a previous council meeting the program was never approved at any congregation's meeting or known action of the council. Ina Eckert found council minutes from April 9, 2013 when a presentation was made stating that Ron Hall gave \$25,000 to start this and a church committee to manage. A motion was approved. In the February 2014 church newsletter, St. John's Spirit, Ina Eckert read an entry titled "a scholarship education opportunity - To provide an opportunity for a higher education, a scholarship fund has been established in the name of St. John's UCC, Glen & Dottie Schoeneberg Fund Scholarship Fund started by Ronald E. Hall Trust. This fund will provide financial assistance to students. These monies are awarded based on merit, desire, activities and community service. Academic financial awards do not have to be paid back. These scholarships will apply to any certified school of higher education or trade school. We encourage members of our church and community to donate to this fund. It is a 501 c charitable donation, Please make checks payable to St. John's UCC Scholarship Fund P.O. Box 180 Burton, Texas 77833"

At this time, Bill Comiskey stated it is not a 501 C, as never filed reports.

The following concerns were shared:

- There have never been any written rules or regulations
- Different amounts are given each year
- There has been no limit to the amount and number of recipients each year
- Scholarships were given to all that applied, many were not associated with church or even local
- The recommendation says Burton Senior or those in surrounding communities, this is vague on who can apply. This changed from being offered multiple years.
- Mission statement is too broad

A lot of questions arose about this scholarship program:

Qualifications?

Criteria?

Church Scholarship or not?

Who funds?

Further discussion included:

The money matters of this scholarship have never been managed by the church...They have never been in church funds/accounts, checks written from church or the exchange of monies reported in church reports. If the church is managing the scholarship, it has to be part of the business in terms of record-keeping and decision making.

The committee that started the scholarship was Larry Winkelmann, Steve Miller, Ron and Dixie Hall. Larry Winkelmann stated it was noted that Ron Hall is stepping off the committee and not make decisions, but will continue to give the money.

Jeff Krolczyk asked if this should be given every year. He commented that perhaps a set number of scholarships can be given and any remaining money invested for future when perhaps the financial gifts were not there.

James Press said that criteria needs to be added for this application. St. John's members need to be granted scholarships first and criteria has to be met to receive one. Madeline Johnson volunteered to prepare a guideline draft of criteria for the committee to consider, using the current application.

At the September 10 council meeting, Steve Miller did a presentation and asked for scholarship clarifications and it was questioned about this being a church project. A committee was assigned to meet and bring this before council. Bill Comiskey and Dean Fuchs were appointed to join Larry Winkelmann, Steve Miller and Ron Hall on this work. At the time Steve requested getting this on the budget as a budgeted item and provide \$5,000 on an annual basis.

The question still lies as to the mission (currently too vague), the parameters (need criteria) and policy for management (run by church or not, church money or not and if so, needs to be budgeted and decisions made by the church/congregation)

With no consensus and unsettled discussion, this agenda item was tabled. The proposed recommendation will go back to the committee.

At this time, Larry Winkelmann and Ann Pape left the meeting.

No other unfinished business brought to the meeting.

New Business:

Council member resignation –

This was not on the agenda, but Ina Eckert called on Madeline Johnson who shared that she would be resigning from the church council effective at the end of this meeting due to Wes's health issues and needs with family life. She has 2 years left on the council, so not sure how to handle. Ina Eckert stated that according to the by-laws, a majority vote of the council can replace her. It was discussed that the nominating committee of Jason Hodde, Ina Eckert and Blake Emmitt should make the nomination for her replacement. All

were charged to think of someone to fill this 2 year spot and Madeline Johnson will be thinking about this and come up with recommendations for the committee. This will be announced at the annual meeting as well to search out any volunteers. Jeff Krolczyk asked about gender balance and there are no rules on this, but he said that he thought there was an unwritten rule/suggestion to try to find someone to fill a position of the same gender. Ina stated that the Bylaws state that there is to be 12 people on the council and a representative sample of the church. No further discussion on this.

Ina Eckert and the council thanked Madeline Johnson for her efforts and contributions as a councilman and noted that she will be missed.

Finalize annual meeting agenda-

Ina passed out a copy of the meeting agenda for Annual meeting to be held Sunday, January 26. It was noted that we have 403 current members and that 10% would be need for a quorum, so 41 needed. Ina will ask Jerry Guelker to do the notes/minutes in Blake Emmitt's absence. The reports were listed on the agenda and feel that a motion to accept all reports can be made vs. approving each one separately.

Christy Moran suggested that copies of the report be emailed to the congregation for review. Hard copies will also be made to have in the church the day of the meeting

Building Manager Resignation –

Pastor Darrin reported that Mickie Angerame has resigned from this position at the beginning of the year, effective January 31, 2020

Pastor Darrin asked if this is a position that needs to be filled. He went over the list of job duties and stated that the full time staff at the church can do many of these tasks as they come up on a day to day basis (locking and un-locking doors, security at the church, minor maintenance needs, etc.) Pastor Darrin has the job duty list if anyone wishes to see it. Christy Moran then made a motion to not re-hire for this position at this time and further reconsider the need in the future. Pastor Darrin will take care of tasks and keep us apprised of what comes up and re-evaluate need at that time. James Press made a 2nd to this motion and the motion carried.

A comment was also made that perhaps certain tasks could be delegated out to council members for oversight on needs such as this. June Makowsky will continue to clean at St. John's (her job duties and list of areas are available) and Tommy and Mickie Angerame will also continue their cleaning duties at St. John's (their job duties and list of areas are available)

A/V Operation issues –

Jeff Krolczyk shared some concerns and need to potentially make some A/V purchases in the future.

The screen on the pulpit side was having issues, but is now ok. He suggested that instead of replacing projector in the future, that a large TV might be a better option.

Also, the projector went out in the FLC and when he researched this he found that there are conversions issues as well as the equipment got hot. He has propped up this projector so it will get better air and not get hot. All of this is currently working, but will need to keep an eye on it.

Dean Fuchs had mentioned before about a portable PA system for use at the cemetery. Jeff Krolczyk said that there is a portable system and speakers that could be used. Older and bulkier but one is available.

Also, there are cordless mics to use for people speaking from the pew and we need to remember to use them, especially for folks that are using the hearing impaired devices. Pastor Darrin will also remind the congregation of these being available as not sure anyone is using them at this time.

Charity Reserve Committee request –

Clyde Engelbrecht stated that we are currently blessed to have a large increase in funds. As of January 16, balance is \$1,104,832.00. Last year, we took a withdraw early in year and put into CD. The committee would like to ask to withdraw \$75,000 and put in savings for future grants. Christy Moran made a motion to approve this and Bill Comiskey made a 2nd. Motion carried.

Council Dinner –

It was discussed that we look into having the annual Council Dinner on Friday, February 21st at JWs in Carmine at 6 pm. James Press will contact them to inquire about reservation for 35 for this date.

Other-

No other comments at this time.

Spiritual Time:

Pastor Darrin discussed the book of Leviticus in the Old Testament...Chapter 19, verse 33.

This talks about when a stranger resides with you, don't oppress the stranger, but rather let them be a citizen among you.

He told a story of being at a Cefco gas station in Giddings and went to a gas pump which looked really weird. It wasn't a gas pump, but rather a charging station for a car like a Tesla, an electric car. He questioned why Giddings, Texas would have this, but then thought about how welcoming this was to passers-through who may be driving a car that would need a charge instead of gasoline. He commented that these would be strangers, not locals, but that we should be welcoming of strangers no matter where we are. This relates to the church as well. He said that this church welcomes people very well. People say we are a friendly church. He has personal testimony as he has visitors that come that he knew from previous congregations or towns and they comment on how friendly we are. He said that he felt like was once a stranger among this church and felt welcomed. Bottom line, we have to do good for all, strangers or people we know.

Reports Previously Submitted –

Pastor – Darrin Holub

Maintenance – Darrin Holub

Christian Education – Christy Moran

Charity Reserve – Clyde Engelbrecht

Worship Committee – Kathy Emmett

Retirement Letter – Cindy Miller

Further discussions:

-Christy Moran asked about the intention of the Children's Church in the Worship Committee report. She said that they are struggling to continue to find willing volunteers to help with the many tasks of CE and Sunday School and youth group, and having another children's component added that needs volunteers doesn't make sense. Plus, these kids would have just been in Sunday School and then go back to the FLC instead of staying in the church service. Pastor Darrin shared that he thinks this is to have a place for kids maybe not nursery age but too young to sit through the service to have something to do. Nothing has been finalized on this.

-Cindy Miller's retirement letter was reviewed and the LLM job was discussed. Pastor Darrin said that David Greer helps with reading scriptures and communion as a volunteer. We talked about having a list of lay readers again and also having young people help with the service as much as possible.

-Jeff Krolczyk mentioned that 2 pews are now removed at the front of the church and they have been playing at 8 and 10 am services and leaving equipment set up for Praise Team and have heard good comments about this.

-Christy Moran asked about the February work schedule and Ina Eckert said Dean Fuchs would make this.

James Press moved to adjourn the meeting and Christy Moran shared a 2nd. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on February 18th at 6 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Moran, Council Member



March 2020 Newsletter

Corner Shoppe/Store Next Door- Please visit our little treasure trove for great deals on wonderful items donated from our community. The store is open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Recent changes in the store have helped to increase shelf space for more items.

Manna Ministry- Mobile Food Pantry- The next mobile food pantry will be on **Friday March, 13th** from 10:00 a.m. to noon or when food runs out. This will be a **2nd Friday of the month**. We welcome our Burton High School students who join us each month to help with loading food. Thanks for your help.

Children and Youth Ministry- We are excited to be part of Family Night at the Burton Elementary School on March 4th from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Come out and visit our activity table and learn what Bridge Ministry has to offer our youth and families.

Senior Ministry- all those 55 or older are welcome to join us for a great hot lunch and dessert each Friday at St. John UCC. Lunch is served at noon. The 2nd Friday of each month we will offer bingo from 10:30 am to 11:30 am with prizes. We look forward to having you join in the fun. The cost of the meal is \$4.00.

Welcome Susie Tommaney

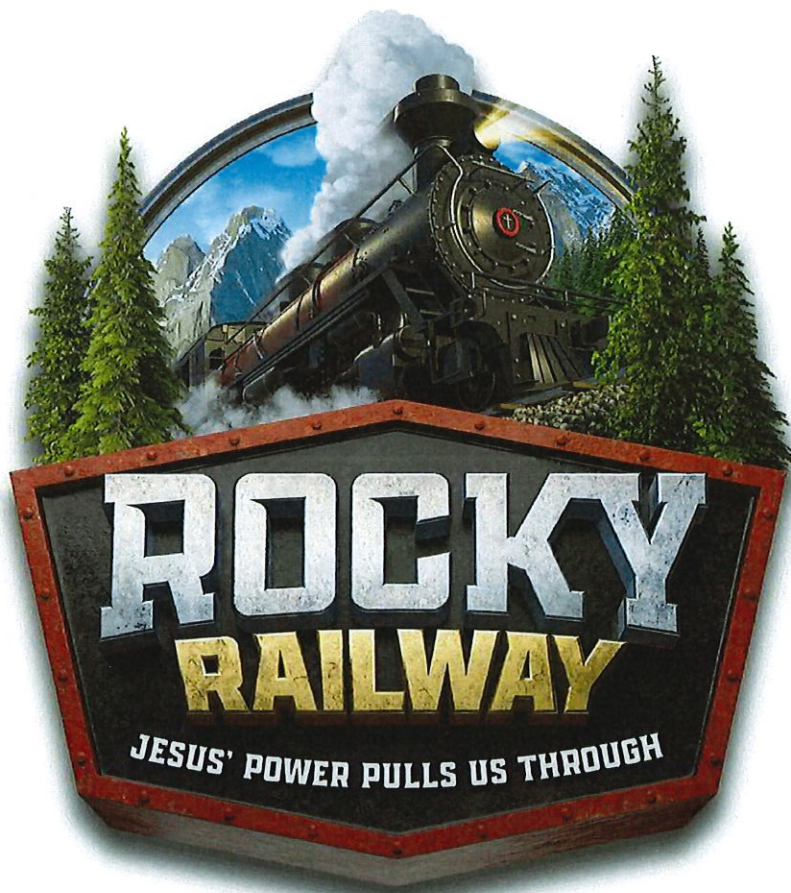
Susie Tommaney has been hired to serve as the Executive Director for Burton Bridge Ministry. March 1 is her official start date. Susie moved to Burton in 2017 after a very successful career in professional communications. She served as director of

communications for St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Houston for 15 years and was a contributing writer and editor for the *Houston Press* and *Houston House & Home Magazine*. At St. Martin's Episcopal Church, she handled the coordination of groups and events, the newsletter, publicity, and coordinated activities with nonprofits. Kids' Meals, Bo's Place, Habitat for Humanity, and the Houston Food Bank are a few of the nonprofits with which Susie has worked. On her creative side, she brings graphic design experience. She used that creative eye in her work as the stage manager at the Country Playhouse Theater in Houston for more than 10 years and now volunteers to help with set production at Unity Theater. Susie has also volunteered with our Manna Ministry and last December's Toys for Tots in Burton. Since moving to Burton, she has been active in rescuing blind and geriatric dogs and providing them a home.

We are excited about the extensive experience and skills that Susie will bring to Burton Bridge Ministry. Pam has done a great job of prepping Susie to step into the role of Executive Director. We are optimistic that the transition will be smooth and that you will be pleased with the decision to hire Susie. We encourage you to take the opportunity to get to know Susie.



Save the Date!
Vacation Bible School 2020
Presented by St. John's UCC
Sun, July 26 through Thurs, July 30
Evenings
More information coming soon!



stjohnssunschool@gmail.com

March Council Duty

| | | |
|---------|-------|---|
| Mar. 1 | 8:00 | Dean Fuchs & Barbara Saunders |
| | 10:00 | James Press Jodell Hodde Tracy Matthies Nikki Harmel |
| Mar. 8 | 8:00 | Sue Schwartz & Jeff Krolczyk |
| | 10:00 | Christy Moran Bill Comiskey James Press Carol Montgomery |
| Mar. 15 | 8:00 | Dean Fuchs & Barbara Saunders |
| | 10:00 | Clyde Engelbrecht Jodell Hodde James Press Christy Moran |
| Mar. 22 | 8:00 | Sue Schwartz & Jeff Krolczyk |
| | 10:00 | Nikki Harmel Bill Comiskey Clyde Engebrecht Carol Montgomery |
| Mar. 29 | 8:00 | Dean Fuchs & Barbara Saunders |
| | 10:00 | Clyde Engelbrecht Jodell Hodde Tracy Matthies Nikki Harmel |

Acolytes

Volunteer Needed

| |
|---|
| Houston Hodde/Devlin Douglas |
| Lawson Fritsch Isaac Matthies & Camryn Douglas |
| Landon & Laina Nugent Kylie Mulanax & Dawson Moran |
| Isaac Matthies Madalyn Henry & Dawson Moran |
| Laci & Lexi Broesche Kylie Mulanax & Michael Smith |

The new council members began their duties on February 18, 2020. We thank Ina Eckert for her four years of service and especially this past year as President. Blake Emmett served four years and his last year was served as Secretary. We thank him for his exceptional service to details and emailing minutes. We thank Jason Hodde for his four years of service. Our new council members are Nikki Harmel, Tracy Matthies and Sue Schwartz. Carol Montgomery has agreed to serve the remaining term for Madeline Johnson. They join Dean Fuchs, President; Clyde Engelbrecht, Vice President; James Press, Secretary and members Bill Comiskey, Jodell Hodde, Jeff Krolczyk, Christy Moran and Barbara Saunders. Ann Pape and Larry Winkelmann are our co-treasurers.

March Birthdays

- 1 Risa Garza
- 2 Frances Sidenblad
- 6 Lloyd Graham
- 7 Patricia Clyde
Ron Hall
- 8 Brian Bain
- 9 Karl Feder
Payton Avery Swonke
- 10 Jeanette Barber
Colton Broesche
- 11 Diana Garner
- 12 Weston McDonald
- 13 Barbara Bosse
Eleanor Jurica
- 14 Mason Peterson
- 15 Kallie Fuchs
Frankie Jo Ruffino
Jeff Krolczyk
Camden Morrison
- 16 Karen Steenken
Imogene Krueger
Mackenzie McDonald
- 17 Paul Kessler
Doyle Reeves
- 19 Dorothy Giese
- 20 Blake Emmett
Suzanne Kessler
Christine Muehlbrad
- 21 Molly Felder
- 22 Jace Howard
Jake Paul Stanley
- 24 Chelsea Michalak
Remi RYanne Draehn
Emily Harmel
Jerry Patterson
- 26 Brock Prigge
Ken Gwyn
- 27 Elizabeth Jurica
Bailey Dallmeyer
Cory Morrison

- 28 Wade Koehl
Preston Samuel Hodde
- 29 Lance Conley
Dylan Dallmeyer
E J Robledo
- 30 Morgan Prigge
- 31 Mary Kessler
Sydnie Knittel
Madeline Johnson
Carrie Bozarth

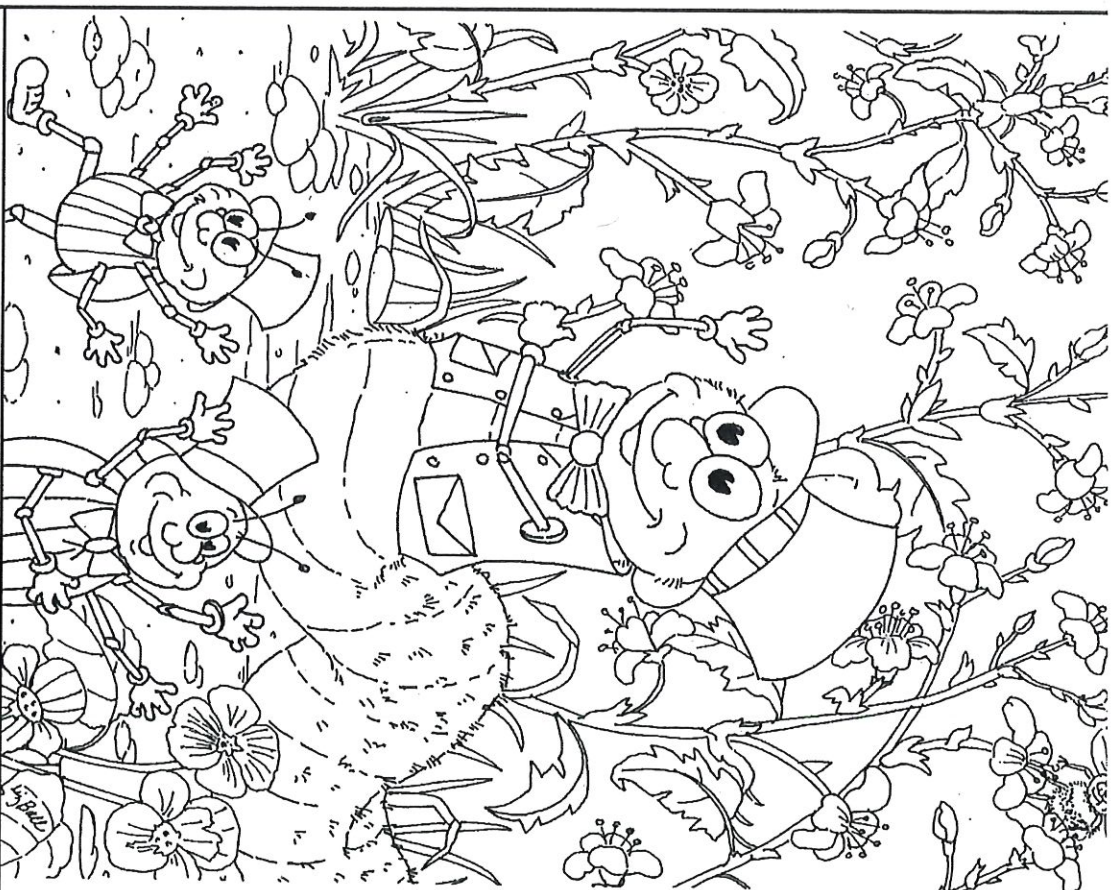
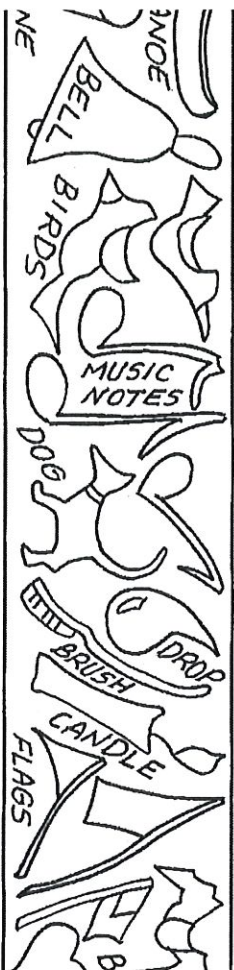
March Anniversaries

- 5 Diana & Larry Glenz
- 6 Kathy & Curtis Fuchs
- 7 Peggy & Jerry Ganske
- 9 Lynda & David Zajicek
- 10 Carla & Larry Lessard
- 11 Emily & Calvin Sellers
- 12 Shirley & Mike Thorpe
- 13 Deloris & Billie Koehl
Kori & Keith Kelm
- 15 Vicki & Doyle Reeves
- 17 Carrie & Ron Bozarth
- 10 Frances & Ken Sidenblad
- 21 Becky & Speedy Crampton
- 24 Chelsea & J. T. Gaskamp

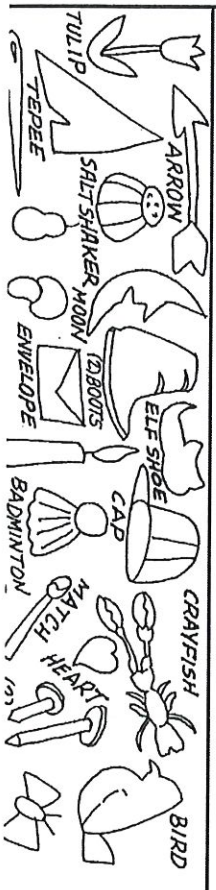




www.hiddenpicturepuzzles.com



www.hiddenpicturepuzzles.com



For the Children

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

March, 2020



| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|----|
| 1 LOFT Choir Communion 8 & 10 | 2 4H, 6:30 A Capella, 6 in the parlor  | 3 | 4 Handbells, 6 Lenten Service, 7 | 5 | 6 Senior Day 10 am - 1 pm | 7 |
| 8 Praise 8 & Traditional 10 Children's Choir, 10 FLC rented 2-5 | 9 Spring Break | 10 | 11 Handbells, 6 Chancel Choir, 7 Lenten Service, 7 | 12 Mary Martha Sewing, 1-5 Ladies Bible Study, 6 | 13 Senior Day 10 am - 1 pm Food Pantry 10-12 | 14 |
| 15 Praise & Communion, 8 Traditional, 10 Chancel Choir, 10 | 16 Circle 1, 2:30 | 17 Council 6  | 18 Lenten Service, 7 | 19 | 20 Senior Day 10 am - 1 pm | 21 |
| 22 Praise 8 & 10 Men's Choir, 10 Room 148 rented 1-5 | 23 | 24 | 25 Lenten Service, 7 | 26 Mary Martha Sewing, 1-5 Ladies Bible Study 6 | 27 Senior Day 10 am - 1 pm | 28 |
| 29 Services 8 & 10 Blood Drive 9-1 Adult & Teen Challenge Choir Break Bread Newsletter deadline | 30 | 31 Newsletter Workday | | | | |