

The Crier

June 2023

serving St. Philip's and St. John UCC

“And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.” -Acts 2:2-4

Greetings St. John UCC and St. Philip's UCC!

I think it's fitting that the longest season of the Church year is what we commonly refer to as “ordinary time,” but is also called “the season after Pentecost.” On Pentecost, we celebrate the birthday of the Church, the coming of the Holy Spirit to empower the disciples to spread the Good News of God's love and grace through Jesus Christ far and wide. And then, for several months, we linger in the season after Pentecost.

I vividly remember the day I brought my son home from the hospital after he was born, getting all the stuff in from the car and settling in the house, and then looking at this sleeping newborn infant and thinking, “Now what?!?” The birthing process is eventful, and experienced doctors and nurses guide new parents through those first couple of days of caring for a tiny new human. But then, after the birth and all the commotion has settled down, you look down at the new life in your arms and ask, “now what?!?”

The Pentecost moment was exciting and memorable for the disciples to say the least. But then, once the Holy Spirit had blown through with a violent wind and tongues of flame, gifting the disciples and birthing the Church through them and their proclamation of the Good News, we can imagine them looking around and asking, “now what?!?”

The season after Pentecost answers that question. The “now what?!?” is the disciples figuring out how to build and grow the Church from the ground up. And that's what we continue to do today, two thousand years later. We're still trying to figure out how to be and grow the Church! For several months, all through the summer and all the way until we hit Advent in December, we marinate in the season after Pentecost, the season of ordinary time.

And the really extraordinary thing about the season of ordinary time this year is that we're living into the very heart of a post-Pentecost season in the life of the Church! We're learning how to be the Church together as two congregations, divided by geography, but united by technology. We're learning how to mutually support one another, care for one another, pray for one another, and participate in ministry together. Really, I think **our** post-Pentecost moment began last fall, when the Holy Spirit blew through our congregations and lit a fire in our hearts to try something new. On December 1, we hit the ground running and maybe you had the same thought I did: “Now what?!?”

We're now six months into this holy experiment. Has our “now what?!?” begun evolving into a “what's next?” The disciples started spreading the Good News, gathering communities of faith, baptizing them, and guiding them to become faithful followers of Jesus' way of love and grace. I'm not sure how long it took for their “now what?!?” to become a “what's next?,” but they, and the Church, eventually got there.

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Church Info

Rev. Laura Mignerone
Call/Text (314) 452-0785
lmignerone@gmail.com



St. John United Church of Christ
920 E. Gravois Avenue
St. Clair, MO 63077

St. Philip's United Church of Christ
10708 Lavinia Drive
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-843-5100

Facebook
stjohnstclair.com

Facebook
stphilipsucc.com

9:00am Services are Livestreamed on Facebook

9:30am Services are Livestreamed on Facebook

Mission Statement

Pray together.
Play together.
Serve together.

Mission Statement

St. Philip's United Church of Christ is a loving Christian community believing in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit

St. John UCC Online Giving

https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give/1303503?widget=0

St. Philip's Vision Statement

We are called to the body of Jesus Christ, with:

Minds to study God's word,
Mouths to proclaim the Gospel,
Eyes to see the needs of others,
Arms to welcome all,
Hearts big enough to share God's love with all God's children.

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The communities of faith grew, and as they did, they had to keep adjusting and changing to meet the next challenge that came their way—and there was always a new challenge to address!

“What's next?”—that's the spirit of the season after Pentecost, the season of ordinary time. If the Church is growing, it's changing, it's adapting to the next challenge it meets along the way. The immediate moments after Pentecost may have felt desperate: “Now what?!” But then, as their lives adjusted to the care and nurture of the new life, the new Church, they were entrusted to grow, they began to ever more confidently and boldly ask: “What's next?” with excitement and passion.

May this season after Pentecost, this season of ordinary time, indeed, be a season of growth as we boldly tackle the challenges that lie ahead for the Church together, confidently asking “What's next?” as we strengthen our mission and ministry to build God's kingdom of love and grace hear and now.

Pentecost blessings, friends! What's next?

Peace,
Pastor Laura



June Birthdays

- Ken Behnen
- Joyce Brand
- Victoria Dawson
- Grace Heady
- Virginia Hladnick
- Marilyn Milne
- Sue Myers
- Jered Nagle
- Shirley Nottelmann
- Paul Shrout
- Lily Swanson
- Paula Williams

Happy Birthday to our St. Philip's and St. John members who will be celebrating a birthday in June.

The following words will be heard on the 1st Sunday of each month....

*“Happy Birthday to You!,
Happy Birthday to You!,
Happy Birthday Everybody!,
and God Bless you!”*



Mary Heideman	1
David Knoll	1
Christine Vogt	1
Sheryl Treaster	9
Kathy Shelton	13
Art Kuhn	13
Tricia Mills	16
Jean Paul Thibodeaux	16
Charli Coello	17
Kent Kotthoff	17
Sloane Juergens	18
Dawn Schillinger	18
Don Siewing	20
Ruthann Nuelle	22
Jordan Lewis	23
Clay Maxwell	23
Gary Schamburg	23
Kelsey Wachter	24
Adam Rucker	26

- ## June Worship Plans!
- June 4, 2023** (Pastor Laura at St. Philip's UCC)
 Genesis 1:1-2:4a
 Matthew 28:16-20
- June 11, 2023** (Pastor Laura at St. John UCC)
 Genesis 12:1-9
 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
- June 18 - Father's Day**
 (Pastor Laura at St. Philip's UCC)
 Genesis 18:1-15
 Matthew 9:35-10:8
- June 25, 2023** (Pastor Laura at St. John UCC)
 Genesis 21:8-21
 Matthew 10:24-39



Patrick & Genea Hays 25

St. Philip's members - please call the office or email admin@stphilipsucc.com to add your anniversary to this new feature of the newsletter.

**Save
the
Date!**

St. John UCC
VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL
July 24-27
5:30-7:30pm

St. Philip's
VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL
July 10-14
Registration form online
or copies on credenza

**LOGOS
Summer
Dates**

June 21
July 19
August 9
...more info
to come!

St. John United Church of Christ

920 Gravois, St. Clair

**ANNUAL FRIED CHICKEN
& BAR B QUE DINNER**

Saturday, June 10

11 am - 3 pm

DINE IN OR CARRY OUT

636-629-3235

**FRIED CHICKEN
BBQ PORK STEAKS & BRATS
HOMEMADE POTATO SALAD
FRESH COLE SLAW
BAKED BEANS
DESSERT & DRINK**

ADULTS \$12

CHILDREN 6-12 \$5

5 & UNDER FREE

QUILT RAFFLE * BAKE SALE

EVERYONE WELCOME



Outreach Ministry

St. Philip's has no new projects at this time. The Medical information form and the Angel Team volunteer forms are being revised. Since there are several changes, we are asking people to fill out new forms, even if you have done so recently. Watch for copies of the forms that will



The greatest needs at Agape House right now are dry goods, noodles, ramen noodles, hamburger helper, tuna helper, cereal, and oatmeal. All food donations can be placed in the barrels in the entryway at St. John UCC. Thank you for your generosity!

St. John UCC's June Special Offering

Our June special offering will be for the Strengthen the Church fund, one of our four UCC special mission offerings each year. It is used to help grown the UCC's future by funding new church starts and invigorating existing congregations. If you'd like to contribute financially, please indicate "strengthen the church" on your checks or envelopes. Thank you for your generosity!

EMERGENCY MEDICAL and ANGEL TEAM FORMS

The St. Philip's Outreach Ministry met on April 26, and decided to update the Emergency Medical Forms and the Angel Team Forms. Changes and additions were made to both forms so please complete new ones even if you have done so recently.

Angel Team is a program designed to complement Pastoral Care and match volunteers with members of the St. Philips Community during times of illness, stress grief and family emergencies.

Copies of the new forms will be included in bulletins in the near future. Please complete the forms and return them to members of the Outreach Ministry. They will be kept in the office for reference as needed.

Outreach Ministry

Jeanine Navratil Sue Meyers
Shirley Oldani Barbara Barnes

LITURGISTS NEEDED!

Both churches always need liturgists for the Sundays Pastor Laura is physically at "the other church," and St. John also needs tech operators to run the PowerPoint presentations those same Sundays.

A sign up sheet is up on each church's respective bulletin boards. THANK YOU to those who have volunteered already! If you're considering it, please reach out to Pastor Laura with any questions or concerns you might have. Having proactive volunteers sign up instead of needing to scramble to find someone the week of makes God smile (Pastor Laura can only assume ☺).

ST. PHILIP'S PRINTER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

Thanks to each of you who brought computer cartridges to be recycled. Not only did we keep them from going into the landfill, but St. Philip's also received \$120.00! Keep them coming!

As a reminder, at the present time only Canon and Hewlett Packard inkjet cartridges that have not previously been refilled are accepted. Please continue to put them in the collection box in the entry space.



Family Camp at MoVal!

While there are lots of different options for summer camp at MoVal this year (and we celebrate kids attending various weeks at camp!), a few families, including Pastor Laura, have already registered for Family Camp, July 5-7, and there's still time to join the fun! This is a camp option for everyone—people of all ages (children, teens, adults, older adults, etc.). Information is available on the MoVal website: www.campmoval.org. If you have questions, please contact Andrea Tukin. We hope you'll consider joining us!



Our Annual Picnic is fast approaching-- Saturday, June 10, 11am-3pm!

A sign up sheet for volunteers is in the Friendship Room (please consider signing up to help!), and extra copies of flyers are available for anyone to take and share/post to help get the word out (please consider inviting friends/neighbors/strangers to come and eat!).

Thanks for helping to make this year's picnic a success!

Fire & Brimstone/ Beer & Bible

We are resuming our SECOND and FOURTH Tuesday night Fire & Brimstone/Beer & Bible tradition at 6:00pm—next up: June 13!

This is a family-friendly gathering, typically around the firepit in the grove behind St. John. It's BYOB and snacks to share (we typically roast hot dogs and make s'mores). In case of unpleasant weather, we will meet at Brothers On Main.

This is an informal gathering to chat about our lives together and wonder about God's movement in the world around us. All are welcome!



Did you know that each Habitat house costs approximately \$65,000 to build? Even though many materials and in-kind services are donated, some of the expenses just need cold, hard cash. And where does that money come from? Individual congregations donate (St. Philip's has given \$1,000 each year from many years) and FUNDRAISERS!

The UCC churches of St. Louis are hoping to have an online fundraiser auction this fall to benefit Habitat. Each church is being asked to have a volunteer from their congregation serve as a point-person to:

- encourage auction item donations of goods or services from their congregation and coordinate getting those donations to one of the committee chairpersons
- publicize the auction within their congregation to increase bidding participation

Please contact Terri Karcher to volunteer or if you have questions.



LUNCH BUNCH

Please join the St. Philip's Lunch Bunch on **Wednesday, June 14** at noon. We will meet at Pasta House located at 6214 S. Lindbergh.

See the BLUE signup sheet on the bulletin board or call Dolores Zikes at 314-282-0197 by Sunday, June 11th to signup.



St. John UCC

Vacation Bible School!

In partnership with St. Clair UMC and Fairview UMC, St. John UCC will host VBS **July 24-27**, 5:30pm-7:00pm each evening. Registration and more info will be available soon! Our friends at St. Philip's UCC have graciously agreed to share curriculum, decorations, etc. with us—WAHOO and THANK YOU!!!

If you'd like to volunteer to help during the week, please let Pastor Laura know.

Thank you!

ST. JOHN

SUNDAY SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS

St. John UCC has more info for our upcoming summer Sunday School Field Trips! These are **family-friendly fellowship outings** for ALL to experience together—all are welcome!

On **Sunday, June 4**, we'll meet just inside the South Entrance of the Zoo at 12:30pm for some fun Zoo exploration!



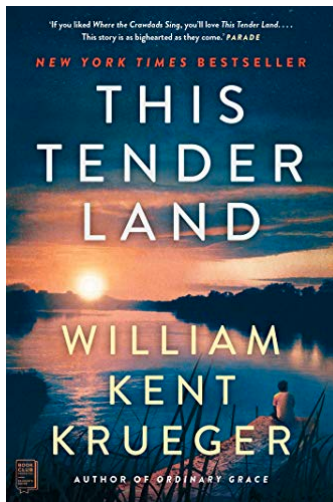
On **Sunday, July 23**, we're planning a trip to Hurricane Harbor at Six Flags—more info coming soon!

Reach out to Pastor Laura with questions.

ST. PHILIP'S WORSHIP LISTENING DEVICES

Listening devices used during worship are now available in the Admin Assistant Office. You can find them as you walk in the door to the right.

BOOK CLUB



We will Meet after church on **Sunday, June 25** to discuss This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger. Set in 1932 at the Minnesota Lincoln Indian Training School, it tells the tale of four orphans. This New York Times bestseller has been described as a deeply satisfying Odessey, a quest in search of self and home.

We share a potluck lunch, and it is not necessary to have read the book to attend, as we will read a summary prior to the discussion. Consider joining us, we always have a good time!



The St. Philip's Young(er) Adults will be getting together on **Saturday, June 24** for a pool party at the Tugin family's house. This is an all ages event so anyone is welcome! It will be an open house from 3-8 pm.

Hot dogs, hamburgers and macaroni & cheese will be served. There will also be soda, tea, lemonade, and water.

If you'd like to bring a dish to share, please RSVP with what you think you may bring. [CLICK HERE to RSVP](#) or let Andrea Tugin know at andreatukin@gmail.com or (314) 566-8633.

The address is 1378 Green Birch Drive, Fenton, MO 63026

All are welcome!!!



Join us this summer at St. Philip's for Vacation Bible School the **week of July 10**.

At **Hero Hotline VBS**, your kids will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they are called together to serve God. They will become Heroes and discover that answering God's call together means striving for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up! With singing, dancing, games, skits, snacks and crafts, it's going to be a great time!

Registration forms are available on the credenza outside church or you can register online at: <https://forms.gle/yNstoS9Mc2LrAUe2A>

Please contact Andrea Tugin at andreatukin@gmail.com or (314)566-8633 if you have any questions.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HELPING MAKE ST. PHILIP'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL THIS YEAR A SUCCESS?? THEN SEE BELOW!

Ways you can help make the week successful:

- **HELP DECORATE** on Saturday, July 8 (we will be there 9:00am until about 1:00pm). There will be food for volunteers (bagels, coffee, juice and then lunch). **If you can only come for an hour, we'll take you! [SIGN UP HERE](#) or on [Sign up Sheet](#)** on bulletin board.



- **CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING ONE MORNING OR ALL DURING VBS:** take a part in the bible story skit, help distribute snacks, help at crafts, help lead recreation games, be a group leader and go to stations with children. [Give your availability/interests HERE.](#)
- **HELP CREATE DECORATIONS** (use survey above or talk with Andrea Tugin)

Questions? Please contact Andrea Tugin at andreatukin@gmail.com or (314)566-8633 or any of the below Learning Ministry Team Members

Thank you for your support,
Missy Ruffino, Andrea Tugin, Cindy Lewis,
Jordan Lewis, Rachel Fischer,
and Pastor Laura
~ Learning Ministry

April 2023 General Fund Summary

Receipts

Sunday Offering	7,847.00	
Interest Income	186.76	
MPR Rental	25.00	
Ink Cartridge recycling	120.00	
Early Childhood Center	<u>9,500.00</u>	
Total		17,678.76

Expenses

Outreach Ministry	351.07	
Learning Ministry	492.31	
Financial Ministry	1,649.66	
Church Property Ministry	6,292.90	
Personnel	<u>7,692.63</u>	
Total		<u>16,478.57</u>

April Surplus	1,200.19
Previous Balance	<u>15,570.27</u>
April 30 Balance	16,770.46
	=====

April Building Fund Summary

Beginning Balance	6,234.23
Building Fund Offering	590.00
Capital Improvement Fund	<u>(417.00)</u>
April Ending Balance	6,407.23
	=====

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SJ = St. John UCC SP = St. Philip's UCC						
4 Pastor Laura @ St. Philip's 9:00 SJ Worship 9:30 SP Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 SP Sunday School 12:30 SJ Sunday School Field Trip to the Zoo	5 6:00 SJ Church Council Meeting 7:00 SP Church Council Meeting	6	7	8	9	10 11:00-3:00 SJ Annual Picnic
11 Pastor Laura @ St. John 9:00 SJ Worship 9:30 SP Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 SP Sunday School	12	13 6:00 SJ Fire & Brimstone	14 noon SP Lunch Bunch @ Pasta House	15	16	17
18 Father's Day Pastor Laura @ St. Philip's 9:00 SJ Worship 9:30 SP Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 SP Sunday School	19 4:45 SP ECC Board Meeting	20	21 SP LOGOS	22	23 July CRIER Articles Due	24 3:00-8:00 Young(er) Adults Pool Party @ the Tugin's
25 Pastor Laura @ St. John 9:00 SJ Worship 9:30 SP Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 SP Sunday School 10:15 SP Book Club	26	27 6:00 SJ Fire & Brimstone	28	29	30	JUNE