

The Crier

September 2023 | serving St. Philip's and St. John UCC

"When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'"

Exodus 1:10

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

A new school year-- a new program year-- is just beginning, the sun is setting earlier, and the aroma of pumpkin spice is in the air. The season is shifting and fall is coming! Both churches have a lot of exciting things planned for the coming weeks!

This summer, during our regular Sunday morning worship, we worked our way through the highlights of the book of Genesis—from Abraham, to Isaac, to Jacob, and through the end of Joseph's epic story. This fall, we'll continue by working our way through the highlights of the book of Exodus. The stories we heard from Genesis are the stories of the great patriarchs, the forbearers of our faith, and how they established a covenant with God. The story of the exodus, led by Moses, is **the** foundational story of our faith tradition, out of which everything else emerges.

The story of the exodus begins with God's people--the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph—being oppressed and enslaved by Egypt's Pharaoh. The story begins with the birth of Moses, a child born into a world that wanted him dead. The story begins with baby Moses being saved from death, and growing up to one day lead his entire nation of people to freedom.

But freedom from enslavement was really only the beginning. From freedom from oppression, to wandering in the wilderness, to learning to trust God and follow God's ways (and endlessly oscillating between getting that right and wrong)—the Israelites were in for quite a journey. Their story is our story, it's the story of our faith.

Some days we feel like we're back under the thumb of whoever it is that can oppress us today. Other days we're celebrating our freedom and the joy of life. Some days it seems like we're lost in a wilderness we won't every escape. Other days we trust in God's providence and grace, and somehow make it through. Everyday, we get some of it right, and we mess up and get some of it wrong too.

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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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This fall, as we head into a new season, a new programmatic year, may the story of the exodus ground us in hope in God's steadfast love for us each and every day. Whether we're oppressed, or we're lost in the wilderness, or we're getting a gold star for getting it right, or we're repenting for whatever golden calf we've created—regardless, God's steadfast love for us never wavers. May we trust in that foundational truth of our faith, this season, and always.

In great hope,
Pastor Laura



September Birthdays

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

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!"*



St. John

- 3 Caleb Conaway
- 5 Phyllis Wideman
- 6 Sarah Andrews
- 9 Gabe Mignerone
- 12 Janet Van Leer
- 18 Melissa Mills
- 19 Bailey Thurman
- 19 Joley Ostendorf
- 25 Brian Wideman

Anniversaries

- 23 Jim & Tricia Mills
- 26 Bob & Deana Juergens
- 29 Brad & Marcie Rucker

St. Philip's

- 10 Leona Gottschlich
- 11 Ollie Coleman
- 18 Jeannine Navratil
- 20 Ray Hoffstetter
- 20 Carole Armistead
- 21 George Brand
- 21 Cindy Lewis
- 21 Cara Schamburg
- 23 Sue Myers
- 23 Tom Nottelmann
- 26 Mary Dykstra
- 26 Susan Yung
- 28 Chris Fischer
- 30 Averil Henson
- 30 Hayden Henson



- Joyce Brand
- Victoria Dawson
- Bob Eillson
- Grace Heady
- Virginia Hladnick
- Mary Ann Krewson
- Marilyn Milne
- Jeanette Monroe
- Jered Nagle
- Jeannine Navratil
- Shirley Nottelmann
- Paul Shrout
- Lily Swanson
- Paula Williams

September Worship Plans!

September 3, 2023 (St. Philip's UCC)

- Communion @ St. Philip's UCC
- Exodus 3:1-15
- Matthew 16:21-28

September 10, 2023 (St. John UCC)

- Communion @ St. John UCC
- Exodus 12:1-14
- Matthew 18:15-20

September 17, 2023 (St. Philip's UCC)

- Exodus 14:19-31
- Matthew 18:15-20

September 24, 2023 (St. John UCC)

- Exodus 16:2-15
- Matthew 20:1-16



St. Philip's
Blessing of
the Animals
October 1

St. John
Annual
Sausage
Dinner
October 8

St. Philip's
Fall
Congregational
Meeting
October 15

St. John UCC
Fall
Congregational
Meeting
October 22

Conference Annual Gathering!

This year's Missouri Mid-South Conference Annual Gathering will be October 12-14 in Jefferson City. More information is posted on the MMSC website.

Fall Book/Bible Study!

Plans are in motion for separate book/Bible studies for both St. John UCC (in partnership with St. Clair UMC and Fairview UMC) and St. Philip's UCC. Watch for more info coming soon!

St. Louis Association Meeting

The St. Louis Association Fall Meeting will be on Saturday, September 9 at St. Paul UCC (Oakville) or online.



Habitat
for Humanity®

Volunteers Needed

St. Philip's has volunteered to send 10 people to work on the UCC Habitat for Humanity House on **Saturday, October 28**. If you are interested in volunteering, please let Andrea Tukin know at:

andreatukin@gmail.com
(314)566-8633
or [RSVP HERE](#)

If you have any special skills in regards to construction, etc. please note that as well.

September Council Meetings!

St. John and St. Philip's both have their September Council meetings on **Monday, September 11**. Note the times:

St. John's 6:00pm
St. Philip's 7:00pm

St. John

The Eastern Association Fall Meeting will be on Sunday, **September 17 at 3:00pm** at Friedens UCC (St. Charles).

We need at least two delegates from St. John to participate. If you'd like to participate, please talk to Pastor Laura.

Save the Date!

St. John UCC's Annual Sausage Dinner will be **Sunday, October 8**, serving 11:00am-3:00pm.

Fall Congregational Meetings!

(Immediately following Worship)
St. Philip's UCC - October 15
St. John UCC - October 22



Many, many thanks to the following people for donating items to the Habitat online auction:

The Knoll Family (Walter Knoll Florist)
Dori Hudson (seamstress extraordinaire)
Karen Nickel (Private Gardens)

Their generosity is greatly appreciated!!

St. John UCC Festival of Sharing!

We're creating "Youth Personal Care Packs" again for this year's Festival of Sharing!

Our goal is to create 8 kits for youth ages 12-18 who have experienced a crisis situation and who have been placed in state care or are experiencing homelessness. All kits will be distributed in Missouri.

Post it notes with items needed are on the cubby shelves just outside the sanctuary. Please bring donations to the Friendship Room by October 1.

Thank you for your generosity!

St. John UCC's SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING

Our September Special Offering is for our Myron "Bob" Webb Memorial Scholarship Fund. This is to fund the scholarship St. John UCC awards to our graduates each year.

If you would like to contribute, please indicate "Scholarship" on your checks or envelopes.

Thank you for your generosity!

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 😊).



Agape House is very low on canned goods and dry goods—all donations are appreciated! Please place food donations in the barrels in the entryway. If you'd like to contribute financially, please indicate "Agape House" on your checks or envelopes. Thank you for your generosity!

St. John UCC Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, September 10

During our regular 9:00am worship, we will celebrate and bless learners of all kinds and all ages! Students in formal education settings, as well as students of life in all its expressions will receive a prayer of blessing!



St. John UCC's NEW Tri-Church Children's Ministry!

In partnership with St. Clair UMC and Fairview UMC, we invite all kids to gather at St. Clair UMC on the **THIRD MONDAY** of the month, **September-December**, from **6:00pm-7:30pm** for a light dinner and Bible story themed programming (beginning September 18).

We need adult volunteers to help make this happen! Please contact Pastor Laura if you'd be willing to help or donate toward this ministry for children in our churches and in the community.



St. John UCC Outdoor Worship and Blessing of the Animals!

On Sunday, **September 24**, for our regular **9:00am** worship, we will gather in the driveway in front of the church shed for an outdoor worship experience! AND, all are invited to bring an animal to be blessed during our worship experience (leashed/restrained; please be prepared to clean up after your animal).

Be as creative as you'd like as you think about an animal to bring (a pet, a picture of a pet or animal - past or present, a stuffed animal, etc.). We'll celebrate God's magnificent creation and the animals that share it with us as we worship together outdoors! If possible, please also bring your own chairs.

Fire & Brimstone/ Beer & Bible

We gather on the **SECOND** and **FOURTH** Tuesday nights for our Fire & Brimstone/Beer & Bible tradition at **6:00pm**—next up: **September 12!** 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!



**St. Philip's UCC Outdoor Worship
and Blessing of the Animals and
World Communion Sunday!**

On **Sunday, October 1**, for our regular **9:30am** worship, we will gather outside on the church grounds for an outdoor worship experience!

AND, all are invited to bring an animal to be blessed during our worship experience (leashed/restrained; please be prepared to clean up after your animal). Be as creative as you'd like as you think about an animal to bring (a pet, a picture of a pet or animal—past or present, a stuffed animal, etc.). We'll celebrate God's magnificent creation and the animals that share it with us as we worship together outdoors!

If possible, please also bring your own chairs. AND, this is also World Communion Sunday, which we will celebrate with human communion elements and treats for pets too!

St. Philip's!
See the flyer on page 8 for our
Rally Day
Sunday, September 17

9:30-10:30

**Blessing of the Backpacks
and Sunday School**

10:30-noon

Carnival & Potluck
games - face painting - prizes

LUNCH BUNCH
at
HESSLER'S
PUB & GRILL

Please join us for St. Philip's September Lunch Bunch at **noon** on **Wednesday, September 13** at Hessler's Pub & Grill located at 11804 Tesson Ferry (Tesson Ferry and Baptist Church Road).

See the GOLD signup sheet on the bulletin board and signup by Sunday, September 10.

If you have any questions, contact Dolores Zikes at 314-282-0197.

JOIN US FOR OUR
**Rally
Day**
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
9:30-NOON

FREE!
ALL ARE
WELCOME

Blessing of the Backpacks &
Sunday School 9:30-10:30
Carnival & Potluck 10:30-Noon

Join us for lots of fun including
potluck • carnival games
• face painting •
prizes • parachute games

ST. PHILIP'S U.C.C.

NO NEED TO RSVP - CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU!



IT'S HERE!!! The UCC Habitat Online Auction Opens September 3rd!!!



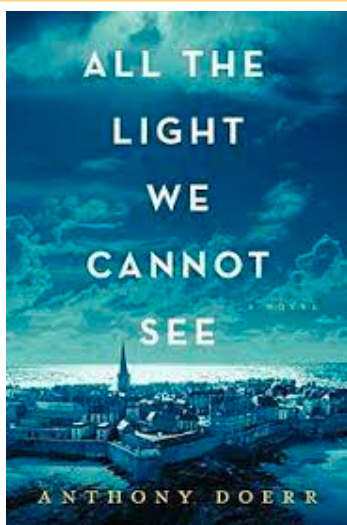
The UCC Habitat online Auction will be live **September 3 - October 15**. There are many items available to bid on ranging from homemade quilts to dinner on the town to lessons to services and many other terrific items. For details, use this link:

<http://biddingowl.com/ucchabitat>

Some items are time sensitive so be sure to read all details and feel free to share the auction website with your family and friends.

Remember... all proceeds will directly benefit Habitat for Humanity St. Louis! Please help us continue to build affordable housing in our community. Contact Terri Karcher with any questions.

BOOK CLUB

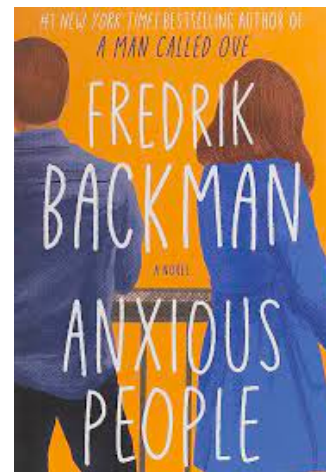


**Sunday
September 24
10:15am**

We will meet on Sunday September 24 to discuss All the Light We Cannot See.

Our next selection is *Anxious People* by Fredrick Backman. We enjoyed several of his earlier books, including *A Man Called Ove*, so we have high expectations for this one! *People Magazine* described it as "Wry, Wise, laugh-out-loud funny...a wholly original story that delivers pure pleasure". Books are available in kit form from the County Library.

Consider joining us to read this book. We meet after church, share a pot-luck lunch, and always have a good time.



St. Philip's LOGOS

LOGOS is returning this Fall



We would LOVE to see you there!! LOGOS is a laid back, intergenerational ministry where families come together to grow in their relationship with God and each other. Every other Wednesday from 5:30-7:00 pm, join us for dinner, family centered games, a simple bible study, crafts and more. It's a great opportunity for faith and family during a busy week. Anyone is welcome! All ages!

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Andrea Tukin, St. Philip's Youth Director, at andreatukin@gmail.com or (314) 566-8633.

LOGOS Meal Sign Up

Would you be interested in making a meal for our LOGOS ministry? If so, we'd love to try your cooking (and have you join us for an evening)! Receipts may be turned in for reimbursement.

Meals that have worked for our group in the past include: chili & hotdogs, spaghetti, tacos, ham & swiss sliders, baked potatoes, etc. We'd love to try your ideas too!!

LOGOS FALL SCHEDULE

September 20
October 4 & 18
November 1, 15, 29
December 13

St. Philip's Outreach Ministry

Fall is just around the corner, and it is time for Festival of Sharing, a nationwide inter-denominational program that provides those in need with food, cleaning supplies, clothing and personal hygiene items. Outreach ministry has decided to collect dental hygiene items, for distribution to children in Missouri schools who do not have these items at home.

Items needed include:

- adult tooth brushes (in single or two packs)
- children's toothbrushes (in individual or multipacks that can be separated while still being sealed)
- full-sized tubes of toothpaste (6 ounces or larger)
- dental floss

Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Emergency Medical Information forms and Angel Team forms have been revised and will appear in Sunday bulletins soon. Please fill out new ones even if you have done so recently, as we have made some changes that we feel are important.

St. Philip's

July 2023 General Fund Summary

Receipts

Sunday Offering	11,563.00	
Interest Income	247.57	
MPR Rental	100.00	
Early Childhood Center	<u>9,500.00</u>	
Total		21,410.57

Expenses

Learning Ministry	108.16	
Financial Ministry	1,599.75	
Church Property Ministry	6,257.01	
Personnel	<u>13,138.68</u>	
Total		<u>21,103.60</u>

July Surplus		306.97
Previous Balance		<u>17,561.82</u>
July 31 Balance		17,868.79
		=====

July Building Fund Summary

Beginning Balance		6,284.23
Building Fund Offering		703.00
Capital Improvement Fund		<u>(417.00)</u>
July Ending Balance		6,570.23
		=====

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SEPTEMBER						
SJ = St. John UCC SP = St. Philip's UCC						
3 Pastor Laura @ St. Philip's 9:00 SJ Worship 9:30 SP Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 SP Sunday School Habitat for Humanity Online Auction Begins	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Pastor Laura @ St. John 9:00 SJ Worship-Blessing of Backpacks 9:30 SP Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 SP Sunday School	11 6:00 SJ Church Council Meeting 7:00 SP Church Council Meeting	12 6:00 SJ Fire & Brimstone	13 noon SP Lunch Bunch @ Hessler's	14	15	16
17 Pastor Laura @ St. Philip's 9:00 SJ Worship 9:30 SP Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:30-noon SP Rally Day	18 6:00-7:30 SJ Children's Ministry	19	20 5:30-7:00 SP LOGOS	21	22 October CRIER Articles Due	23
24 Pastor Laura @ St. John 9:00 SJ Outdoor Worship- Blessing of the Animals 9:30 SP Sunday Worship In-person & Facebook 9:45 SP Sunday School 10:15 SP Book Club	25	26 6:00 SJ Fire & Brimstone	27	28	29	30