

The Crier

April 2024

serving St. Philip's and St. John UCC

"So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid."

Mark 16:8

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

Spring certainly sprung up on us fast! The flowers are blooming, the birds are singing, and new life is springing up left and right! There's no doubt about it, all of creation agrees, we just can't help celebrate that Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

As new blades of grass inch up in green tufts in our yards, as buds break forth into flowers, as the warm breeze blows through our open windows, it is as if all of creation is praising God! The birds sing, the bees buzz, and the plants display their vibrant colors, all as if saying, "Thank you God for this new life!"

Can we be so outspoken in our praise? In Mark's Gospel, when the disciples found the empty tomb, they were "overcome with terror and dread," and "they fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid" (Mark 16:8).

Christ is risen! Hallelujah! Don't be afraid to share the joy! In Mark's Gospel, the disciples never quite "got it." Today, all of creation "gets it!" From the plants and animals to the wind and all of us, let us praise God with joy for the new life Christ brings!

During this Eastertide season, we're going to explore what it means to lean into the celebration of new life, the joy of resurrection, the wonder of transformation. In the face of all that life throws at us, we can choose to respond like those first disciples—with fear, and all the complicated ways we express our fearfulness. Or, we can choose to respond with hope in the resurrection. Over the next few weeks, we're going to imagine what choosing hope in the resurrection might look like in our lives.

(continued on Page 2)



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

Facebook
stjohnstclair.com

9:00am Services are Livestreamed on Facebook

Mission Statement

Pray together.
Play together.
Serve together.

St. John UCC Online Giving

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

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

Facebook
stphilipsucc.com

9:30am Services are Livestreamed on Facebook

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. 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.

(continued from front page)

Christ is risen! Hallelujah! Don't be afraid to share this Good News! And don't be afraid to embrace this Good News in your own life! May we live as though we are transformed by the joy of Christ's resurrection, this day and always!

Celebrating With Joy,
Pastor Laura



April Worship Plans!

April 7, 2024 (St. Philip's UCC)

- Communion @ St. Philips; Congregational Meeting @ St. Philip's
- 1 John 1:1-2:2
- John 20:19-31

April 14, 2024 (St. John UCC)

- Communion @ St. John UCC
- Deuteronomy 30:11-20
- Luke 24:36b-48

April 21, 2024 (St. Philip's UCC)

- Joshua 24:1-15
- Luke 24:13-35

April 28, 2024 (St. John UCC)

- Matthew 5:33-37
- John 21:1-14

LaDonna Kay Anderson

Dave Boyanchek

Iveta Boyanchek

Joyce Brand

Lou Cherry

Ron Hemingway

Virginia Hladnick

Ray Hoffstetter

Mary Ann Krewson

Marilyn Milne

Paul Shrout

Paula Williams

April Council Meetings St. John UCC

Monday, April 8 6:00pm

St. Philip's

Monday, April 8 7:00pm

April Birthdays

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

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 UCC

- 4 Morgan Juergens
- 7 Devin Juergens
- 19 Rich Guinn
- 22 Lillie Coello

Anniversaries

- 19 Adam & Heather Rucker

St. Philip's

- 1 April Schillinger
- 3 Ben Kotthoff
- 8 Gwen Swanson
- 10 Judy Parkinson
- 10 Stan Parkinson
- 15 Karen Walker
- 23 Al Bowles
- 24 Steve Hladnick
- 25 Eloise Schamburg
- 27 Lucy Vogt
- 28 Kate Hausman
- 28 Mary Darr

Save the Date!

The Eastern Association Spring Meeting will be **Saturday, April 27, 10am-1pm**, at Christ Evangelical UCC in Cape Girardeau.

This programmatic meeting (no business!) will involve an exploration of all five of the strands that came together to form the United Church of Christ.

All are invited to participate. Registration is available through the Missouri Mid-South Conference eCourier (or contact Pastor Laura if interested in attending).

The St. Louis Association Spring Meeting will be Thursday, May 2, time TBA, at St. Lucas UCC, with special Guest Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President of the UCC. Registration info will be available later this spring.

FINAL SPRING MoVAL RETREAT PLANNING MEETING

The final retreat planning meeting will be on **Thursday, May 2** at 5:30pm at Pacific Brew Haus with our St. John's friends if anyone would like to join.

220 S 1st Street
Pacific, MO 63069

**Retreat Registrations
and Checks due
Sunday, April 7**

CAMP MO-VAL

**SATURDAY, MAY 18 - SUNDAY, MAY 19
(DAY ONLY and OVERNIGHT OPTIONS)**

Join us for an outdoor getaway and spend some time in God's creation with your church family! Activities for the day will include bible study, group games, crafts, outdoor activities and games along with meals and snacks.

There will be whole group activities along with options for adults to enjoy other adults while the kids get to be kids! Stay for the day or consider spending the night in one of Mo-Val's updated, climate controlled cabins complete with more evening fun. The following morning we will have a beautiful outdoor worship on the lake.

For more information or to register, you will find registration form links and/or attachments in this email. The same forms and information will be found on our website, stphilipsucc.com and available on the credenza in the gathering space.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Laura or Andrea Tugin at (314) 566-8633 or andreatukin@gmail.com

St. John UCC's April Special Offering

Our April Special Offering is for Heifer Project International. Through gifts to Heifer, families around the world are given the resources (mostly animals) to create a sustainable source of income to lift them out of poverty.

When a family receives an animal from Heifer, they also pass on offspring to another family in their community so that they are also helping others find sustainable means to pull themselves out of poverty.

If you'd like to contribute, please indicate "Heifer" on your checks or envelopes. Thank you for your generosity!



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!

St. John UCC Tri-Church Children's Ministry AND VBS Planning Meeting!

We will be having VBS this year with our UMC friends August 5-9 at St. Clair UMC.

Our next **planning meeting** will be on **April 16 at 5:30pm at the Library.** (St. Philip's UCC will share the curriculum—"Camp Firelight"—and decorations with us again! Thank you St. Philip's UCC!!!).

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

We're continuing to partner with St. Clair UMC and Fairview UMC to provide children's programming on the **third Monday of each month, from 6:00pm-7:30pm** (a light dinner included). Please invite any children/families you know to join us at St. Clair UMC!



LITURGISTS and

TECH OPERATORS NEEDED!

Would you like to serve as a liturgist for worship? Would you like to run the PowerPoint for worship (it really is super simple!)? We'd like to have a good rotation of folks to serve in both of these roles - everything is scripted and easy to follow! Talk to Pastor Laura if you're interested in serving in either capacity (or both!!) Sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

ST. PHILIP'S OUTREACH MINISTRY

During Lent, up until Palm Sunday, we collected well over 150 food and toiletry items (plus 5 bags of clothing) for Isaiah 58 Ministries.



The name of the agency is based on Isaiah 58:9b-12.



"If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday... Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt: you shall raise up the foundations of many generations, you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in."

Food collections like ours are an important part of doing God's work in the world.

Thanks for your generosity!

St. Philip's SUNDAY SCHOOL & BABYSITTING ON SUNDAYS

Babysitting is available during the church service in the first classroom on the right in the Early Childhood hallway.

If you are interested in teaching Sunday School or helping with the younger children, please contact Andrea Tukin or see the **GREEN** sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

There is also a **PINK** sign up on the bulletin board to do Children's Time during the service. Lessons can be provided for you.

ST. PHILIP'S WILLING WORKERS APRIL SCHEDULE

On Thursday, April 11 at noon, the Willing Workers will meet at my house to begin making items for Vacation Bible School. The theme is Camp Firelight-a Summer Camp Adventure with God. The camp call-out is "Whenever I'm afraid I put my trust in you" - Psalm 56:3.

We will be cutting and glueing so bring your scissors. Also bring a sandwich for lunch. Hope to see you then.

Virginia Hladnick
314-843-3605

P.S. The 21 adult bibs and 4 laprobes made at our March meeting are going to Green Park Nursing Home. These will be much appreciated.

ST. PHILIP'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We hope you can join us at **Camp Firelight July 22-26** for some fun, faith, and adventure! Mark your calendars!

We are currently in need of volunteers. If you are interested in being a "camp counselor" (really just helping out how/when you can) please fill out the

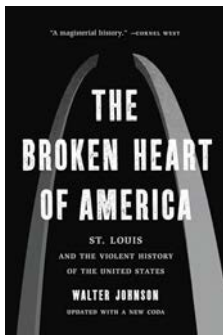


following google form! [VBS Volunteer Interest Form \(google.com\)](#)

We appreciate your continuous love and support as we enrich the lives of our youth!

Sincerely,
The Learning Ministry

Book Club

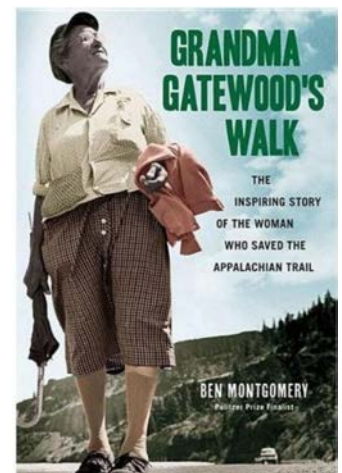


**Sunday
April 21
10:15am**

We will meet on April 21 after church to discuss *The Broken Heart of America*.

Our next selection is *Grandma Gatewood's Walk*, the inspiring book about Emma Gatewood, the first woman to hike the Appalachian Trail, a remarkable 2100-mile journey through 13 states.

Books are available in kit form from the county library. Consider joining us. We meet after church, share a pot luck lunch, and always have a good time!



May's Selection

St. Philip's LOGOS

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! We would LOVE to see you there!!



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

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.

Need ideas on feeding 30 people?

Here are some meals we've had in the past that have been successful for our group:

- Spaghetti, garlic bread, salad
- Baked potato bar with soup
- Chili & hot dogs
- Taco night! (beef, chicken or pork)
- Build your own sub/sandwich night
- Lasagna
- Ham & cheese, Turkey & cheese Sliders
- Pulled pork & macaroni & cheese
- Enchiladas
- Chicken Alfredo
- We'd love to try your ideas too!!

If you are interested, please see the schedule below.

If you have questions, please let Andrea Tukin know or sign up below!

Thank you for your support,
Andrea Tukin
(314) 566-8633 (call/text)
andreatukin@gmail.com

Signup here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qhhkaSiIwpO2m5HWKBsZs5atcJWvJJhzlQdaI2qc7s4/edit>

| 2024 Dates | Dinner | Dessert |
|------------|--------|---------|
| April 10 | | |
| April 24 | | |
| May 8 | | |

St. Philip's SUMMER KICKOFF...

Sunday, May 5 10:30am

Join us for games, taco bar, bounce house, face painting, and snow cones for our Summer Kickoff!

(Worship and Sunday School are at 9:30am)



All
are
Welcome!



ITALIAN RESTAURANTS

ST. PHILIP'S LUNCH BUNCH

Please join us for the April Lunch Bunch at noon on Wednesday, April 10 at Pasta House located at 6214 S. Lindbergh Blvd.

See the signup sheet on the bulletin board and signup by Sunday, April 7.

If you have any questions, contact Shirley Illert at 314-541-5615.

St. Philip's SPRING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Sunday, April 7, 2024

Please plan to attend this very important meeting to be held immediately following the April 7 worship service. New committee and Church Council members will be voted on. Annual Reports are available on the credenza just outside the sanctuary so that you can review them prior to the meeting.

Important Note.....

Occasionally members have notified us that they receive a request via email or text with a vague request from Pastor Laura or asking them to purchase gift cards for the church. **Please note that St. Philip's will never ask you for gift cards and if Pastor Laura has a request she will be specific.** (From the most recent report the email address of the sender was not Pastor Laura's email address)

Gift cards have become one of the most popular payment methods for scammers as they're easy to buy and share, hard to trace, and nearly impossible to refund once their balance has been spent. Only scammers will tell you to buy a gift card and give them the numbers off the back of the card.

If you have any concerns, please contact Pastor Laura.

GREAT LAKES & WEST CENTRAL *Regional Youth Event* JULY 17 - 20, 2024

glwcrye2024@gmail.com



Join hundreds of United Church of Christ Middle and High School youth from across the Midwest at Augustana College as we come together in the Quad Cities for our first regional event since 2018. Collective worship, service, learning, advocacy, music, fellowship and FUN.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
UNTIL MARCH 31: \$200.00

LOVE
is greater than
FEAR

St. Philip's UCC &
St. John UCC

SPRING

RETREAT

MAY 18-19

AT CAMP MOVAL
Union, MO

**DAY ONLY & OVERNIGHT
OPTIONS**

Join us for an outdoor getaway and spend some time in God's creation with your church family! Activities for the day will include bible study, group games, crafts, outdoor activities and games along with meals and snacks. There will be whole group activities along with options for adults to enjoy other adults while the kids get to be kids!

GAMES . BIBLE STUDY. OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

PLEASE REGISTER BY APRIL 7

For more information or to register visit the bulletin board, your email or church website!

www.stphilipsucc.com

Questions? Contact Andrea Tugin at (314) 566-8633 or andreatugin@gmail.com

St. Philip's

February 2024 General Fund Summary

Receipts

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Sunday Offering | 7,090.48 | |
| Interest Income | 263.59 | |
| Early Childhood Center | <u>9,500.00</u> | |
| Total | | 16,854.07 |

Expenses

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Learning Ministry | 229.99 | |
| Financial Ministry | 1,597.74 | |
| Church Property Ministry | 6,167.51 | |
| Personnel | <u>8,308.95</u> | |
| Total | | <u>16,304.19</u> |

| | | |
|---------------------|--|------------------|
| February Surplus | | 549.88 |
| Previous Balance | | <u>18,595.99</u> |
| February 29 Balance | | 19,145.87 |
| | | ===== |

Febraury Building Fund Summary

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Beginning Balance | | 7,062.23 |
| Building Fund Offering | | 726.00 |
| Capital Improvement Fund | | <u>(417.00)</u> |
| February Ending Balance | | 7,371.23 |
| | | ===== |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|----------|--|---|--------|----------|
| <p>Sunday</p> <p>APRIL</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| <p>7 Pastor Laura @ St. Philip's</p> <p>9:00 SJ Worship</p> <p>9:30 SP Worship</p> <p>9:45 SP Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 SP Spring Congregational Meeting</p> <p>Retreat Registrations Due</p> | <p>8</p> <p>6:00 SJ Church Council Meeting</p> <p>7:00 SP Church Council Meeting</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10</p> <p>noon SP Lunch Bunch @ Pasta House</p> <p>5:30-7:00 SP LOGOS</p> | <p>11</p> <p>noon Willing Workers SP</p> <p>5:00-6:00 SP Rawlings Scout Mtg</p> | 12 | 13 |
| <p>14 Pastor Laura @ St. John</p> <p>9:00 SJ Worship</p> <p>9:30 SP Worship</p> <p>9:45 SP Sunday School</p> | <p>15</p> <p>6:00-7:30 SJ Children's Ministry</p> | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| <p>21 Pastor Laura @ St. Philip's</p> <p>9:00 SJ Worship</p> <p>9:30 SP Worship</p> <p>9:45 SP Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 SP Book Club</p> | <p>22</p> <p>4:45 SP ECC Board Meeting</p> | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| <p>28 Pastor Laura @ St. John</p> <p>9:00 SJ Worship</p> <p>9:30 SP Worship</p> <p>9:45 SP Sunday School</p> <p>noon MPR Rental</p> | 29 | 30 | <p>SJ = St. John UCC</p> <p>SP = St. Philip's UCC</p> | | | |