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St. John's United Church of Christ
prayers • promises • possibilities



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November 29, 2024

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

Fellowship Hour at 9 a.m. Worship Service at 10:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am

In-Person, [Facebook Live](#), or [Virtual](#)

15370 Olive Blvd Chesterfield, MO 63017 (636) 532-0540 ([Website](#))

We pray for **Karen (Scooter) Beatty, Kevin Beatty, Rev. Dwayne Dollgener, Elizabeth Hart, Cherie Messina and Gloria Vaclavik.** Please let us know your prayer concerns. If you have private prayer concern please speak with Rev Katie Jo Bielke

We extend our Christian sympathy to the Dollgener family.

Donna was taken into God's care and keeping

Sunday November 17, 2024.

We ask that God's presence will provide strength in this time of grief. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families. A memorial service is being planned for a later date.

Global Ministries requests that we pray with **Turkey** this week.

... For the full prayer [click here](#).

The Calendar ... Looking Ahead

Hope, the first Sunday of Advent

12/01/24 Service

Liturgist: **Danny Mueller**

Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Philip Difani**

Special Music: **Handbells**

Peace; Second Sunday of Advent

12/08/24 Service

Liturgist: **Kathy Scherr**

Usher Team: **John Bartelt**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Philip Difani**

Joy; Third Sunday of Advent

12/15/24 Service

Liturgist: **Helen Stortz**

Usher Team: **Phil Difani**

Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**

Fellowship/Lockup: **Philip Difani**

Special Music: **Chancel Choir**



St. John's will be participating in the **VOYCE Holiday Cheer program** again this year. We will be signing Christmas cards to be distributed to area nursing home residents. Last year we signed and distributed over 430 cards! We will appreciate **donated unused cards & envelopes** between

now and **Dec 8**. The cards may be left on the table in the Narthex or in the church office.

During **Fellowship Hour** we welcome **card signers!** VOYCE is the long term care resident advocacy program in St. Louis. Their goal is to make sure all nursing home residents, especially those without loved ones to visit, receive a bit of cheer at Christmas time.



Our Stewardship Campaign has begun

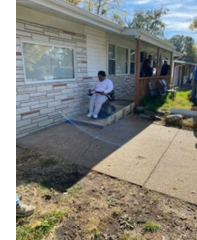
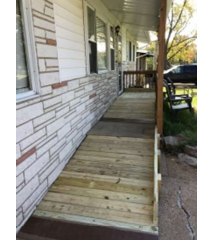
Mailings have gone out this week, you should have received yours.

Please bring your **pledge card** back to church **on Dec 1 Commitment Sunday**. You may also mail them back to the church office.

Women's Game Night, will not be meeting in November or December. Please join us in the new year. For more information contact Jan Boehm



On **November 2nd**, a team of **volunteers** from St. John's assisted with the construction of a **wheelchair ramp** and did some yard maintenance at the home of a disabled resident. This is the first time that we worked with **Gateway Housing Service Project** and it was a huge success as evident by the joy on the residents face as she was able to safely exit the home. Thanks to **Jan Boehm, John Boehm, Mike Kelly, Brian Spahr, Brad Notch, Steve Hawkinson** and **Jim Pisoni** for giving their time on a Saturday morning.



Hanging of the Greens

will be on Sunday 12/1 immediately following worship. With many hands "decking the halls" will take less than an hour. Lunch will be provided. Please plan to join us to get into the Christmas spirit!

... Looking Ahead December

Sun	12/1	10:00 AM	Hope; First Sunday of Advent with Communion
		11:00 AM	Hanging of the Greens with luncheon to follow. (volunteer)
Mon	12/2	11:00 AM	Advent Bible Study (sign-up)
Tue	12/3		Giving Tuesday (link) (please consider St John's)
Wed	12/4	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting
Thu	12/5	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due
Sat	12/7	9:00 AM	Cookies with Santa at the carousel
Sun	12/8	10:00 AM	Peace; Second Sunday of Advent & GM Pray for Honduras
		10:00 AM	The (no practice) Christmas Program
		2:00 PM	Sr. Ministries Metro Singers Christmas Concert (rsvp)
Mon	12/9	11:00 AM	Advent Bible Study (sign-up)
		1:00 PM	Exec Council
Fri	12/13	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter (subscribe)
Sat	12/14		Habitat Build Date (volunteer)
Sun	12/15	10:00 AM	Joy; Third Sunday of Advent & GM Pray for Hong Kong
Mon	12/16	11:00 AM	Advent Bible Study (sign-up)
		6:00 PM	Council Meeting
Tue	12/17	10:00 AM	Book Group Reading "Comfort and Joy" by Kristin Hannah
Wed	12/18		ECC Christmas Break Begins
Thu	12/19	5:00 PM	Newsletter Articles Due
Thu	12/19		Table Fellowship (will resume January 23 due to busy schedules)
Sat	12/21	3:00 PM	Longest Night Service
Sun	12/22	9:20 AM	Loaves & Fishes
		10:00 AM	Love; Fourth Sunday of Advent & GM Pray for Afghanistan
		11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
Sun	12/22	3:00 PM	Hart Spahr Open House
Mon	12/23	11:00 AM	Advent Bible Study (sign-up)
Tue	12/24	4:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
Tue	12/24	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
Tue	12/24 & 25		Christmas (office closed)
Wed	12/25		Merry Christmas
Fri	12/27	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter (subscribe)

Please check your News Notes/Website for specific information around upcoming activities

<https://www.stjohnsucchesterfield.org/fellowship>



Advent Bible Study (*sign up in the narthex so we can order the \$11 books*). Things just look, smell, and taste differently during the Advent and Christmas season, and these differences are a sign to us that God is about to do something radical and different. What signs do you see during the Advent and Christmas season that point you to the divine?

- 2 DEC 2024 11AM – 12pm Advent Bible Study
- 9 DEC 2024 11AM – 12pm Advent Bible Study
- 16 DEC 2024 11AM – 12pm Advent Bible Study
- 23 DEC 2024 11AM – 12pm Advent Bible Study

Senior ministry committee has been meeting the first Sunday of the month after church. It has been difficult for some members to attend at that time due to conflicts. We've decided to try a weekday. The next meeting is **Wednesday 12/4/2024 at 11 am** to noon with lunch following. The restaurant will be Hog Hollow on Olive Blvd. .

We invite individuals interested in senior ministry to join us at any time. We always need ideas!



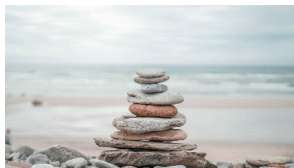
Cookies with Santa

We will have a **booth** at the **Cookies with Santa** at the **Carousel House** that is put on by the Chamber on **Saturday, December 7 from 9-12:30**. We will be helping children make beeswax sheet rolled candles. We **need volunteers** to help that day at the booth and volunteers to help get all the supplies ready

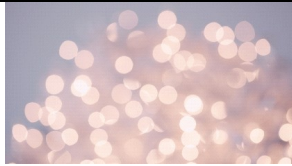
**GIVING
TUESDAY**

Tue, Dec 3, 2024

Please consider giving to St. John's



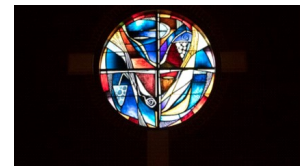
[General Fund](#)
For St. John's UCC



[Memorial Fund](#)
(Type "giving Tuesday" in the "Note" field)
For the cemetery



[Building Fund](#)
For the Building and
Grounds



[Stained-Glass Windows](#)
(Campaign Fund to repair
Sanctuary Windows)

Please consider giving through St. John's to Five for Five



One Great Hour of
Sharing ([info](#))

Give [through St Johns](#)



Strengthen The
Church ([info](#))

Give [through St
Johns](#)



Our Churches
Wider Mission ([info](#))

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Neighbors in Need
([info](#))

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Christmas Fund
([info](#))

Give [through St
Johns](#)

Any of these contributions will be included in your End Of Year statement

December Birthdays

Evan Schnatmeier	12/05	Phyllis Freiberger	12/09	Caroline Ayers	12/23
Sara Pisoni	12/06	Christine Bersche	12/10	Judy Dierberg	12/23
Lee Ann Difani	12/07	Jeanne Buchner	12/11	Chris Stecher	12/25
Megan Pratt	12/07	Stacia Bals	12/17	Diane Nemec	12/25
Jane Lindberg	12/08	Michael Pratt	12/17	Sam Hawkinson	12/26
Laine Angelo	12/09	John Spenader	12/21	Brock Wickenhauser	12/29

No Rehearsal Christmas Program

If you would like to participate in the Christmas program, please be to church by 9:40 on Sunday, **December 8** in the Community Room to get a costume. You can pick from an angel, shepherd or magi. The children will follow their group leader and repeat a few simple lines that the narrator says. The children will be asked to sing the chorus of "Go Tell it on the Mountain" so please practice it at home.

Cookies Wanted

We will be having a reception after the no rehearsal Christmas program. In the fellowship hall. We are looking for people to bring in donations of cookies. Please let the church office know if you will be donating cookies by signing up in the Narthex or emailing stjohnsucconlive@gmail.com or calling 636-532-0540. You can bring them in the week before if they're suitable to put in the freezer. Or you can bring them that morning by 9 AM.



Book Group



We will be meeting on Tue, Dec 17 at 10am. We will be discussing "Comfort and Joy" by Kristin Hannah

Please join with Senior Ministries for a Christmas Concert. We will be carpooling from church and will meet at St. John's at 2 pm. Or you can meet us at St. Anthony's (address below).

If you would like to car pool please sign up so we can plan accordingly. If you need a ride from your residence we can arrange to pick you up and take you home.

Any questions call Carol Tindira at 314-494-3293.

December 8, 2024 Concert at 3 pm

St. Anthony Padua Catholic Church 3140 Meramec St, St. Louis, MO. 63118

St. Louis Metro Singers Christmas Concert. No tickets needed, there is a free will offering.





Happy Holidays!



You are cordially invited to the
Hart / Spahr Household
on Sunday, December 22, 2024
Place: 15317 Oaktree Estates Drive,
Chesterfield Missouri 63017
Time Open House: 3p.m. – 7p.m.

Join us in celebrating the Joy of the Season and bring your favorite appetizer,
snack or dessert!

Please *R.S.V.P.* by **December 15, 2024**
Monica_hart@ibslc-usa.com (314) 616 – 5844

Feel free to take the invitations in the Narthex and give them to family & friends.
Invite them to join us in December

Join Us

This Holiday Season

10 AM Worship

1st Sunday of Advent Dec 1st

2nd Sunday of Advent Dec 8th

The Children's Program on Dec 8 is a no
practice program.

If you are here you may participate.

3rd Sunday of Advent Dec 15th

4th Sunday of Advent Dec 22nd

Peace

Hope

Joy

Love

Join Us

Advent Bible Study

11 AM December 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd

Book Club

"Comfort and Joy" by Kristin Hannah

December 17th at 10 AM

Longest Night Service

December 21st at 3 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24th

4 PM Christmas Eve Service

7 PM Christmas Eve Service

both services will have communion for all
and
Candlelit Silent Night



Volunteers needed to make sandwiches for Loaves & Fishes.

Next Dates **December 29th 2024 at 9:15 am**



Circle of Concern Bring your donations to church and place them in the grocery cart labeled
"Circle of Concern." For monetary donations put "Circle of Concern" in the memo.

Our Current Needs in the Food Pantry (updated 10/25/2024):

**Our current needs are Dinner Side Items (rice, potato & pasta packs), Dinner
Helpers, Canned Pasta Sauce, Canned tomatoes, Beans, Snacks like
crackers, trail mix, granola bars, etc. (8-12 servings), Canned chicken,
Canned fish, Canned meat (ie; beef stew & chili), Condiments, Soup, Peanut
butter, Canned fruit.**

View our [Amazon Wish List](#) or [Walmart List](#) for more items to fill our pantry

Our ministry happens because of YOU! To become a financial partner, [click here.](#)

Or Mail contributions to 15370 Olive Blvd Chesterfield MO 63017

Or Text to 833 502 0657 and follow the easy directions. *Thank you!*



In keeping with our long tradition, we have again set up a **mitten, hat, and scarf tree**. The tree is standing under the portico here at church. Please drop off your donations on Sunday morning or when you are out running errands. There will also be a tub nearby in which you may deposit them. We will be delivering all the warm things you bring to **Circle of Concern** from now until the end of January. We appreciate the always generous spirit of St. John's!



We want to **thank** our **prayer chain member** for their prayers over the past year. Thank you, **Mary Polt, Phyliss Freiberger, Rev. Shari Maddox, Jan Boehm, Jane Lindberg, Helen Stortz, Carol Tindira, and Pastor Katie Joe**. If you have a prayer concern please contact someone on the team or write your request on the freindship pads.

Table Fellowship will meet at 5:30 on **Thursday, January 23rd**. You may sign up in the church narthex, or give either Jane Lindberg or the office a call indicating your planned attendance or [RSVP](#).



ST. JOHN'S COUNCIL

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FOR AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCIES CONTACT HELEN STORTZ AT 314-828-5372

ST. JOHN'S STAFF

PASTOR KATIE JO BIELKE PastorKatieJo@StJohnsUccChesterfield.org
 Mon - Thu 9 to 1, Friday off. Meetings, emergencies, etc., often cause changes to this schedule.
 Please call or email to check availability 636-532-0540
 In case of **pastoral emergency** please call 830-305-3684
RUTH NOTCH Dir of Music Ministry rnotch@sbcglobal.net
LAURA RENTH, Dir of the Early Childhood Center <mailto:stjohnsecc@gmail.com>
ALBA HERNADEZ & ULISES MARTIR Custodians
KATIE WILSDORF Administrative Assistant stjohnsuccolive@gmail.com

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