

August 2019

PREVUES

The Monthly e-newsletter of St. John United Church of Christ
Bellevue, Kentucky



Sunday Worship in August @ 10:30a

Pre-service music begins at 10:20a

Sermons and Reading:

August 4: "Soul Investment" – Luke 12.13-21

August 11: "Living into the Promise" – Luke 12.32-40

August 18: "Restore Us" – Luke 12.49-56

August 25: "Healing Reign" – Luke 13.10-17

Prepare for Sunday Worship by:

Reading the lesson for the day; **Inviting** a friend, neighbor, or family member to come with you; **Praying** for all who will attend, the pastor, and other leaders of worship; and **Enhancing** your experience by sitting toward the front and inviting someone to sit with you.



**Weekly Bible Encounter
will not meet starting
Sunday, Aug 4 thru
Sunday, Sept 1. It will begin
again on Sunday, Sept 8.**

From the Corner – *Country Club Religion*

I find it amazing how much gossip goes on among people. It's as if we are so limited in creativity that we can't think of anything better to do with our time than to talk about others, and not in positive ways. Oh, we think it's okay to simply recognize the flaws we see in others, but, we are most likely revealing things we are unconscious of or unwilling to admit to within ourselves. I have several friends who will respond to things I have said about others with a simple yet poignant punch. They say, "Pot, Kettle!" If you're not familiar with this phrase it is a good one to remember. It is referring to the admittance of the "Pot" (that would be the one speaking) calling the "Kettle" (the one being talked about) black, while forgetting that both are made from the same material. Usually when my friends say this to me we laugh and offer a brief admittance that, yes indeed, I too behave in the same manner, at times, as the one I am gossiping about.

But sometimes gossiping and idle talk cross the line into demeaning others with our assessment of not only what they might have done or are dealing with, but who they are as a person. When talking begins as a prayer concern and ends with judgement, opinion, and conviction we may want to ask someone else to pray for us.

Sometimes I'm embarrassed to be affiliated with the church. I don't like admitting it out loud, but it's true. I grew up in the church and thru the years I have seen the under belly, not of Christianity but rather the institutional church. And it's not pretty. When I say *institutional*, I'm not referring to any particular denomination or group of Jesus followers. I'm describing what the church becomes when we forget our purpose and place in the world; when we forget who we are and whose we are, and begin to see ourselves as the owners, the club members, the establishment with status and position, and act and think as if "our" institution is over and above the Jesus ministry we are called to do together, and the justice we are to seek for all. (By the way, justice is a Jesus thing!)

Is the Christian congregation I serve a perfect place? No way! We have sacred cows that have nothing to do with ministry, some country club behavior going on, and we struggle between taking care of our building as a gallery or as a building that actually facilitates ministries with and for others. Yes, we miss the mark in many ways – Pot, Kettle. But the good news is that we realize we have work to do that must be done in new, creative, and responsible ways to be the church.

"Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you" -Ephesians 4.29



Pastor Keith is always available by appointment.

Phone: 859.261.2066, ext. 202;

Email: Pastor@StJohnChurch.net

Typical office hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9a to 4p

Changes for Around the Table Luncheons

The Around the Table luncheons, a ministry to facilitate building community, friendship, and doing ministry in and beyond the Church together, has some updates to share.

Although we continue to support (through our Mission and Mission Action Plan - annual budget, and the Pastor's Discretionary Assistance Fund) the Brighton Center, we will no longer be using *Center Table Catering*, a training program of the Brighton Center for women in recovery, as our caterer. Our *Around the Table* directors and team will be preparing and coordinating the food themselves. A new menu and a lower price are now in place (see below).

Plan now to make your reservations for upcoming Around the Table luncheons and community connections with engaging speakers and opportunities to serve. Next Luncheon is September 15, 2019. Three ways to place an order: contact an Around the Table coordinator (Cherie Draper: 425-971-4703 or Jeff Draper: 425-905-0827), order online at St. John's homepage (<https://stjohnchurch.net/>), or pick up a yellow order form at the Welcome Table.



Around the Table Luncheons - Information and Menu

Lunches are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children age 11 and under. Around the Table lunches are catered, boxed lunches customized and made to order. Orders must be placed no later than the Thursday before each luncheon.

All lunches include a full sized salad or sandwich of your choice; plus drink, chips, and a cookie.

Entree Salads:

Large salad with a mix of fresh greens and seasonal veggies. Choice of any or all additional toppings: roasted chicken, bacon, cheese, and beans. Salad dressing choices: ranch, blue cheese, French, or Italian. All options are gluten free and salads can be customized to be vegetarian or vegan.

Sandwiches:

Includes pickle, choice of bread, and fresh fruit or side salad. Bread choices: croissant, wrap (vegan), whole wheat (vegan), or gluten free bread.

Chicken Salad

House made roasted chicken salad with apples, walnuts, and eggless mayo. Topped with crispy romaine leaves.

House Club

Herb roasted, nitrite-free turkey breast. Topped with bacon, tomato, lettuce, and cheddar cheese.

Cucumber and Pesto Cream Cheese

Thin slices of English cucumber with a fresh cream cheese pesto spread. Topped with sun dried tomatoes and baby spinach. (Vegetarian)

Garden Veggie Chickpea Salad

Smashed chickpeas, carrots, celery, bell pepper, roasted sunflower seeds, and vegan mayo. Topped with crispy romaine leaves. (Vegan)

United Church of Christ Ohio Conference and Annual Gathering News

On June 27, 2019, at a duly called meeting of the Ohio Conference Board of Directors, a resolution was passed by the board to recommend a name change from Ohio Conference to Heartland Conference for a vote at the Ohio Conference Annual Gathering to be held September 27 and 28, 2019 at Westerville Community UCC, in Westerville, Ohio. Watch *The e-Weekly* for registration information available soon.

Rev. Dave Long-Higgins, Transitional Conference Minister, offers a video introduction to this resolution. To view the video [Click Here](#). Questions about this resolution may be directed to Pastor Dave by emailing him at davelhohucc@gmail.com.



To read the Proposed Name Change Resolution [Click Here](#).

To read the Constitution and Bylaws with Current and Proposed Language [Click Here](#).

Recent Memorial Fund Gifts

In Memory of Marc Bruin from Melissa Artopoeus

In Memory of Kenneth Rolfes from Melissa Artopoeus

In Memory of David Mahaney from Pat & Charles Giglia, Dale Clark, Bill Machuga, Marvin Snodgrass, Mary Ann Pedoto

In Memory of Roland Peaslack from Melissa Artopoeus, Diane Cottingham, Ed & Janet Ulsas & Family, Pat & Charles Giglia



Join the Ding-a-Lings!

Have you ever heard the handbell choir play and say to yourself, "I wish I could do that"? Well, now is your chance! The St. John Handbell Choir is gearing up for the Fall/Winter and can always use a few more hands. Being able to read music is helpful, but not necessary. We love to teach new people how to ring! Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings at 6:30p and will begin on August 20th. If interested, please contact Stephanie Dalsfoist (sdalsfoist@gmail.com or 513-708-0246)



Did You Know?

St. John Church owns a wheel chair and walker for use by anyone who may have a temporary need. To check these resources out please contact Pastor Keith at 859.261.2066, ext. 202 or Pastor@StJohnChurch.net

Donations Needed for Blessing Bags



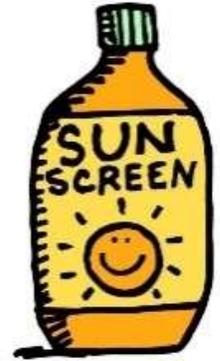
Thru the end of August we will continue to collect chapstick, tiny sunscreen and tiny hand sanitizers for the Blessing Bags. You may put your donations in the big box in the Accessible Lobby. The

Pastor's Discretionary Assistance Fund (PDAF) thanks your for your generous donations.



Yellow PDAF envelopes at the Welcome Table can be used for cash donations or checks payable to St. John United Church of Christ with PDAF on the memo line. You may mail your PDAF donation to St.

John United Church of Christ, 520 Fairfield Ave., Bellevue, KY 41073 or place your yellow envelope in the offering plate on Sunday.



Well Done St. John - Ink Cartridge Recycling

Staples Office Supply has an ink and toner recycling program. For each cartridge we receive \$2.00. If you have empty ink or toner cartridges, please bring them to Church and put them in the box located in the hallway behind the pulpit. Thanks for going green and for supporting your Church!

PS: Thank you! 20 cartridges received in June and 27 in July. We can turn in a maximum of 20 per month. That's \$40 in June, \$40 in July and \$14 so far for August. Keep up the recycling!



Illumination Youth Ministries Summer Schedule

Wednesday, August 7--5:30 PM-7:30 PM at St. John UCC (520 Fairfield Ave, Bellevue): Eat dinner at home because tonight we'll have a scavenger hunt leading to a variety of desserts around the church.

Wednesday, August 21--5:30 PM-7:30 PM at First Christian Church (1031 Alexandria Pike, Fort Thomas): Bowling and pizza to start the new school year. Please bring \$5 to help offset costs.

For schedule information contact Illumination Director: Melanie Sorrell

Call or text: (859)468-8076 Email: melaniemcb@gmail.com



Youth Advisory Board (YAB)

The YAB, made up of the pastors and lay representatives from the four Illumination Youth Ministry congregations, is happy to report that our Safe Conduct Policy (sometimes called Safe Church Policy) has been completed, reviewed by our lawyer, and unanimously adopted at our July meeting. This has been a very long process requiring lots of research, details and prayer. This resource may be presented to the Strategic Leadership Council as a model for a policy for our children's program at St. John Church.

Spring Rummage Sale Leftovers Taken to Matthew 25 Ministries

June 25, 2019

Thank you for your generous donation of clothing, shoes and household items in May. You are bringing hope and relieving suffering throughout the United States and in developing countries. Your donation will make a huge difference in the lives of countless people. Thank you on behalf of all the people in need we are called to help.

God's Blessings,

Rev. Wendell Mettey, Founder & President

Tim Mettey, CEO



Bellevue Neighborhood Association News

8th Annual Bellevue Neighborhood Association Drink in the Vue fundraiser.

Join us for an evening of food, music, silent and live auctions, and beer and wine tastings on Friday September 20, 2019 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Only 200 tickets will be sold. Price is \$40.00.

Purchase tickets at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4288841>.

Brighton Center receives gift from the Pastor's Discretionary Assistance Fund

June 24, 2019

Thank you! Your gift of \$62.50 allows hard-working people in our community to access our programs. We empower individuals and families on their journey toward self-sufficiency.

Thank you, friends,! We appreciate your help.

Tammy Weidinger, President & CEO



BRIGHTON CENTER
A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT



Building Maintenance Team Members

Volunteers are needed to work with the Building Maintenance Coordinator, Dale Sexton. Skills required are a passion for taking care of the Church house, a willingness to learn, strong communication and follow through – bringing projects to completion. Guidance/training is available. Contact Alan Imberg at 859.743.7434 or Alan@AlanImberg.com.

BUILDING USE AND SCHEDULING

ST. JOHN CHURCH GROUPS

We anticipate the church building being used more often by community organizations outside of the church groups and programs. Thus, it is critical that **ALL** in-house church groups be diligent about scheduling meetings and programs through Linda Schuster in the Church office (859.261.2066, ext. 201 or Office@StJohnChurch.net). For the Master Calendar [Click Here](#).

Please include the following information with your request for space: Name of church group, chair person's name and email address, name of event, date of event, what time you need to enter the building, time the event begins, time the event ends, time you will leave the building, room/s (name/s or number/s) you are requesting. Please be flexible as some rooms may not be available and depending on the nature of your meeting/event your group may be moved to accommodate maximum usage of space available or for noise considerations.



Weddings, funerals, baptisms and services of worship are scheduled through the Pastor's office.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

St. John United Church of Christ in Bellevue, KY has space for use by non-profit organizations such as educational, musical, theatrical, dance, banquets, training workshops, yoga, 12-step groups, exercise groups, and more. If you are looking for economic space in a positive and inclusive environment consider St. John United Church of Christ in Bellevue, KY. Go to www.StJohnChurch.net then click on "Contact Us", then click on Building Use for the Building Use: Application Policy Agreement and room list.

Contact: BuildingUse@StJohnChurch.net

Help St. John Church

Sign up for Kroger Community Rewards program



57 households have linked their Kroger Plus card to St. John UCC which means that a percentage of the total spent is gifted to St. John each quarter. This is free money for our congregation. Please use your Kroger Plus card each time you shop.

Card not linked to St. John? Have questions?

Contact the Church office for assistance 859.261.2066 or office@StJohnChurch.net



Pastor's Discretionary Assistance Fund

-Helping those in need-

July Update

The Rev. Keith M. Haithcock

8 Kroger Cards for food were distributed.

40 Blessing Bags (individual-meals) were distributed.

8 households were served by PDAF.

Your over-and-above gift will go to those in our congregation and community who need food, housing, utilities and amenities.

August Anniversaries & Birthdays

Anniversaries

- 1 Ed & Janet Ulsas
- 10 Mee-Shew Cheung & Dan Henning
- 30 Timothy Smith & Penny Poirier



Birthdays

- 3 Keith Haithcock
- 5 Marvin Snodgrass
- 7 Doreen Johnson
- 8 David Hiser
- 15 Bobby Moreland
- 17 Dale Clark
- 22 Ed Stitt
- 24 Deana McReynolds
- 26 Carol Griffith
- 29 Penny Poirier
- 31 Tim Smith



Financials & Attendance July, 2019

Offering Total: \$12,683

Average Attendance for July: 65

Average Attendance for 2019: 73



At St. John Church

A simple way to give and support your Church.

Click: <https://StJohnChurch.net/donate-online-2>

Prevues is published monthly. **SEPTEMBER ITEMS DUE AUGUST 10TH**

Email your submissions to: Prevues@StJohnChurch.net.

All repeat submissions should be revised.

Requests for the Prayer List are due on Mondays. Email to PrayerList@StJohnChurch.net.

Editor: Keith M. Haithcock; Publication Assistant: Linda Schuster

August 2019 Calendar

Thursday, August 1

10:00a UCC Clergy Group
Christ Church, 15 S. Ft. Thomas

Sunday, August 4

10:30a Sunday Worship with Holy Communion
& Sign Interpretation, Sanctuary
NO Weekly Bible Encounter in August

Monday, August 5

7:15a Music on the Avenue meeting, Rm 102

Tuesday, August 6

1:30p Staff meeting, Rm 101

Wednesday, August 7

8:00a Morning Prayer, Sanctuary
2:00p Friendship Center, Rm LL100S
5:30p Illumination Youth Ministry Middle & Sr.
High Dessert Scavenger Hunt
St. John, 520 Fairfield Ave, Bellevue, KY

Thursday, August 8

10:00a UCC Clergy Group
Christ Church, 15 S. Ft. Thomas

Saturday, August 10

➔DEADLINE AUGUST PREVUES

Sunday, August 11

10:30a Sunday Worship, Sanctuary

Wednesday, August 14

8:00a Morning Prayer, Sanctuary
1:30p A2A meeting, Rm 102
2:00p Friendship Center, Rm LL100S

Thursday, August 15

10:00a UCC Clergy Group
Christ Church, 15 S. Ft. Thomas

1:30p Staff meeting, Rm 101

4:30p Youth Advisory Board, Christ Church Ft.
Thomas

Sunday, August 18

10:30a Sunday Worship, Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 20

1:30p Staff meeting, Rm 101

Wednesday, August 21

8:00a Morning Prayer, Sanctuary
2:00p Friendship Center, Rm LL100S
5:30p Illumination Youth Ministry Middle & Sr.
High Bowling & Pizza, First Christian
1031 Alexandria Pk, Ft. Thomas

Thursday, August 22

10:00a UCC Clergy Group
Christ Church, 15 S. Ft. Thomas
6:00p Strategic Leadership Council, Rm 102

Sunday, August 25

10:30a Sunday Worship, Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 27

1:30p Staff meeting, Rm 101

Wednesday, August 28

8:00a Morning Prayer, Sanctuary
2:00p Friendship Center, Rm LL100S

Saturday, August 31

11:30a Free Senior Meal, LL100

Save these Dates!

September 15, 2019 – Around the Table Luncheon following Sunday worship

September 27-28, 2019 – Ohio Conference United Church of Christ Annual Gathering

October 6, 2019 – All local UCC Churches Picnic, location to be announced

October 19, 2019 – 2019 St. John Variety Show

November 9, 2019 – Covenant Member Class 9a – 2p

November 24, 2019 – Thanksgiving Dinner following Sunday worship

December 6-7, 2019 - Christmas Shoppe and Rummage Sale

December 24, 2019 (Wednesday) – Christmas Eve Service 9p (Pre-service Music 8:45p)

April 12, 2020 – Easter Sunday

May 31, 2020 – Annual Congregational Meeting

St. John
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
520 Fairfield Ave. Bellevue, Kentucky 41073
859.261.2066 | www.StJohnChurch.net
Facebook.com/StJohnUCC

Church office hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 8a to 4p

Ministers

The whole congregation

Clergy

Pastor & Teacher The Reverend Keith M. Haithcock
Pastor@StJohnChurch.net - 859.261.2066, ext. 202
Always available by appointment

Volunteer Chaplain in Residence The Reverend Sue Jelinek
sue.jelinek@cchmc.org

Staff

Administrative Assistant to the Pastor Linda Schuster
Office@StJohnChurch.net - 859.261.2066, ext. 201

Data Coordinator Linda Schuster
Data@StJohnChurch.net

House Keeper Luis Hernandez

Illumination Youth Ministry Director Melanie Sorrell
melaniemcb@gmail.com - 859.468.8076

Keyboard Musician and Choir Director Steve Milloy
smilloy738@aol.com - 513.373.2352

Strategic Leadership Council (SLC)

President Jeff Draper, neworleans2415@yahoo.com - 425.905.0827

President Elect *Position open, please consider volunteering for your congregation*

Recording Secretary Jan Hoeweler, jhoeweler@fuse.net - 513.314.5736

Treasurer Melissa Stephens, treasurer@StJohnChurch.net - 859.802.2745

At-Large Carol Griffith, cabbg@hotmail.com - 513.407.0832

At-Large Ginnie Kelley, virginia.m.kelley3546@gmail.com - 859.801.4951

St. John United Church of Christ is proud to provide outreach to the following organizations:



Illumination Youth Group



BRIGHTON CENTER
A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

Washington
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
Cincinnati, Ohio



SONKA

Southwest Ohio
Northern Kentucky
Association

Our Church's Wider Mission

God is still speaking,

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



CHICAGO UNITED EDEN

QUE SEMINARIES of the



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

OPEN AND AFFIRMING
COALITION
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Cub Scouts

Pack 17 – Bellevue, KY
St. John United Church of Christ