

From the Corner – **Ignite 2022**

Some refer to us as the Church on the Avenue. Others call us the Church that does Music on the Avenue concerts. If you've been around for several decades, you might describe us at the Church that hosted the weekly Rotary Club luncheons, or the annual Lenten Quiet Hour. Some may know us as the Church that offered World AIDS Day prayer services for 17 years, or the Church that pulled together over 300 residents to pray on the evening of the 9/11 attacks, followed by an interfaith prayer service at the first anniversary of 9/11 led by local clergy and Jewish and Islamic leaders. Some have called us the Gay Church. Many know us as the Church that displays the community Nativity scene. Those in need know us for the Pastor's Discretionary Assistance Fund that provides complete meals in a Blessing Bags and assistance for housing, food, and utilities for residence of Bellevue and Dayton. However you know us we are grateful to be part of the Bellevue community and invite you to join our new initiative.

In 2022 St. John Church is all in for IGNITE 2022, an initiative focused on three areas: Anti-racism, Accessible to All, and Open and Affirming (LGBTQ+), inviting, welcoming, and including all people. This initiative will touch on these three focuses in different ways each quarter of the year.

The first quarter (January – February – March) is a “season to learn” what it means to be anti-racist, open and affirming to people who are Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, etc., and inclusive to persons of all abilities.

The second quarter (April – May – June) is a “season to engage” with individuals or groups to network, build relationships, and explore ways of working together for justice, diversity, and inclusion.

The third quarter (July – August – September) is a “season to tell our stories” around the three focuses.

The fourth quarter (October – November – December) is a “season to celebrate” all we have learned and experienced, and how we will work within the Church, with the community, and beyond.

The first event is a Zoom book study on “The Bible and the Transgender Experience – How Scripture supports Gender Variance” by Linda Tatro Herzer.

For questions or to register to attend this Zoom book study go to: <https://stjohnchurch.net/book-study/>

Watch the website www.StJohnChurch.net for **Ignite 2022** upcoming events and opportunities.

Journey well!

Pastor Keith



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St. John United Church of Christ

520 Fairfield Ave., Bellevue, KY 41073

Sunday worship at 10:30a

YouTube and Facebook

 **Ignite 2022** is an initiative grounded in justice, diversity, and inclusion to extend love and extravagant welcome to all of God's children without judgment, no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey. Everyone is invited and encouraged to engage in this effort to transform St. John Church in service to Christ.