

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



945 Wolfrum Rd., Weldon Spring, MO 63304 stjohnsweldonspring.org 636-926-8995

APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

Pastor's Corner

"Let's Get Started!"

By Rev. David W. Poe, Interim Minister

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:19-20

Greetings! I'm excited to join you as your Interim Minister. "What's an Interim Minister?" you might ask. Well, an Interim Minister is someone who provides a local church with pastoral leadership in the form of preaching, teaching, administering the sacraments, and providing pastoral care during a pastoral vacancy. In addition, an Intentional Interim Minister has received special training to facilitate a process that invites local church members into a time of self-examination and reflection. This process culminates in the calling of a new Settled Minister to further assist the local church in its future endeavors. Interim Ministers usually serve for a period of 12 to 18 months. So, I'll be counting on all of you to make this as productive a time as possible.

I am an Ordained Minister in the United Church of Christ. I've served congregations in Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri. I have served as an Ordained Minister for 27 years and am joining you after a seventeen-year pastorate at St. Peter's UCC, New Haven. I am married to my wife, Teresa, who serves as a Special Education Teacher at Franklin County RII. We have four adult children: Tyler, Miranda, Megan, and Kamryn. Our youngest, Kamryn, is a sophomore at Missouri State University and lives with us when classes are not in session. We just recently purchased a home in Washington, Missouri.



Continued on page 2

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I'll be primarily working from my home office and commuting to the drive-in worship services until your leadership determines it is safe enough to re-open the church for in-person worship and other events. You can contact me directly on my cell phone at 636-667-2541 and email me at pastor@stjohnsweldonspring.org. I am also available for Zoom meetings.

Let's get started! I invite you to come and be a part of our drive-in worship services and my sermon series: ***Aftershocks!***

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was the event that changed everything. Today, we continue to be transformed by the ***aftershocks*** emanating from the empty tomb. How do you handle grief? What do you do to relief your doubts? Where does fear threaten to paralyze you? Who has told you that you are worthless and deserve to be alone? Jesus of Nazareth rose from the grave on Easter Sunday to proclaim an end to the reign of sin and death and to offer a new beginning.

You matter to Almighty God! You are loved by the Good Shepherd! You can overcome grief, doubt, fear, and isolation thanks to Christ and his church. No, Christ doesn't offer a quick fix, or your ticket to prosperity, but he does offer you a new life.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at St. John's United Church of Christ, Weldon Spring. Come and see what Christ has planned for you.

Pastor Dave

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor David Poe's office hours will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-Thur. Other times are available by appointment. During the month of April he will be working from his home office in accordance with the church's phase 1 COVID-19 response plan.

Note: Church Office Hours remain the same for Cassandra Langley.

Worship Ministry



A DAILY DEVOTIONAL:

"Today is God's gift to me.
What I do with it is my gift to God."

NEXT MEETING OF THE WORSHIP MINISTRY: Tuesday, April 20, 7 p.m.



Mission & Caring Ministry

SHOWER OF LOVE

This year the Mission and Caring Committee has decided that the donations for the Shower of Love will go directly to Nurses for Newborns. There are three ways to donate: You can give a monetary donation (Make the check out to St. John's and put "Nurses for Newborns" on the memo line); You can shop on their Target registry online; Or you can purchase items from the list below and bring them to church. We will take donations from April 4 to April 25.

Baby Care Items (Lotion, Shampoo, Wash)	Clothing (Preemie to Size 4T)
Baby Formula (Preferably Enfamil w/Lipil)	Diapers (All Sizes, & Pull-Ups)
Baby Wipes	Diaper Wipes
Bottles	Gift Cards
Canned Food	Pack 'n Plays
Car Seats (5 point car seats only less than 5 years old)	High Chairs

F.I.S.H. NEEDS FOR APRIL

St. John's UCC supports F.I.S.H. food pantry of St. Charles County by contributing food and financial contributions made by our members and friends. Items can be left in the shopping carts. You can find out more about FISH at www.fishofstcharles.com or by calling 636-447-5482. Here are the items FISH is especially in need of this month:

- Tomatoes (can)
- Tomato Sauce can)
- Pasta Sauce (can)
- Syrup/Pancake Mix
- Vegetable Soup
- Applesauce (can)

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

Old eyeglasses are being collected and can be dropped off at the shopping carts during drive-in services.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

Soda tabs may be dropped off at the shopping carts during drive-in services.

22 Easter gift bags were put together and delivered to homebound members. Thank you to everyone that helped deliver the gifts.

84 Easter eggs were filled with candy. 25 of those were delivered to FISH and 59 went to Alleluia Baskets in St. Peters. Alleluia Baskets is a ministry through All Saints church. They provide approximately 6,000 Easter baskets to food pantries, low income families in economically challenged areas, an organization for kids without parents, and many others for the areas north of Troy down to Springfield and from the KC area over to Illinois. Thank you to everyone that donated the candy, filled and delivered the eggs.

News & Notes

SOUND BOOTH HELP

We are in need of more people to run the Sound Booth on Sunday mornings. I am not sure why but until recently we have only been recruiting men but now we are CALLING ALL WOMEN that may be interested. You will receive training and help before being asked to run the booth alone. If you are interested or have any questions about this position, call Jewell Nadler at 636-373-1860.

NOTES FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

The Council wants to remind members and friends to please refrain from contacting Church Office & Communications Manager Cassandra Langley's personal cell phone after-hours via phone calls or text messages. This request also applies to the office phone (which is 636-926-8995 for reference) as it forwards to her personal cell phone while she is working from home. Please contact her/the office only during church office hours (via the office phone or email). If you need immediate assistance outside office hours, then you can contact Pastor David Poe on his cell phone (via voice or text) at 636-667-2541. Email to the church office is always available and we will respond to your emails (or voicemails left during office hours) as quickly as possible during our normal office hours. The church office hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thank you!

Brad Rehm,

Council President

DON'T MISS IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

"One Call Now" is the phone alert system we use to get the word out to our friends and members about important events, weather-related cancellations, meeting reminders, bereavement notices and more. If you miss the voice call, the system will leave a message on your voicemail. If the message gets cut off, simply dial 1-877-698-3261 to retrieve the message in its entirety. If you are not receiving the One Call Now notices and would like to, please contact the church office at 636-926-8995.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men's Bible Study meets on Zoom every Tuesday at 8 a.m. If you would like to join the group, please look for the information you need in the weekly "Ways to Connect" email that is sent on Mondays, or on the website calendar. If you do not receive the email and would like to, please contact the church office.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study meets on Zoom every Wednesday at 1 p.m. Look for the information you need to join the virtual Zoom Bible study in the weekly "Ways to Connect" email that is sent on Mondays. If you do not receive the email and would like to, please contact the church office.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Prayer shawls, made by our members, are available. If you know of someone that could use a prayer shawl, please contact Suzanne Weaver or the church office.

April 7, 2021—WE ARE CURRENTLY IN PHASE 1 of the St. John’s reopening plan approved by the church council. What does this mean?

Suspension of all “in-person” worship and church-sponsored activities due to the COVID-19 health crisis. The church building remains closed. We will continue to provide the drive-in worship service as well as the online worship service.

Drive-in Worship Service Every Sunday – Ongoing

- Sundays at 9 a.m.
- All are welcome
- Remain in car
- Tune in on 88.9FM
- Bathrooms available for emergency use only

Weekly Online Worship Service – Ongoing

Services will continue to be recorded and shared on the St. John’s [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) so you can **watch on-demand**.

Any changes in status will be communicated to members via a One Call, email, Facebook post and on the St. John’s website at stjohnsweldonspring.org/covid19.

Stay in Touch

Please consider visiting, calling or sending a note or card to our St. John’s friends who may not be able to go out. Your expressions of caring and thoughtfulness are truly wanted and your cards and prayers are appreciated! Find contact information for the following members in your church directory or call the church office. If you do not have a directory and would like one, contact the church office.

John & Chris Attaway	Janett Heitert	Marian Lonning
Velma Choate	Isabel Hess	Jean Mauntel
Mary Ellen Dieckmann	Pat Honaker	Rita Marcum
Jack Fredrick	Don Howell	Chris Savage
Bob Greeley	David & Dorothy Kapeller	Rick Weaver
Val Gumper	Ginnie Loika	