

St. John's UCC
945 Wolfrum Rd., Weldon Spring, MO
(636) 926-8995
www.stjohnsweldonspring.org

Sunday, November 28, 2021
First Sunday in Advent

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

*(The congregation's parts are printed in **bold type**.)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: HOPE**

Jane Wallace

“Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long” (Ps. 25:4-5, NRSV)

Light the First Candle of the Advent Wreath, the candle of hope.

Jeremiah 33:14-15 and 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

*O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appears.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

Opening Prayer *(in unison)*

All-Present One, may we find a sense of hope and anticipation in the midst of our current realities. May we not lose faith. In this season of Advent encourage and strengthen our faith, and give us eyes to see you! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“ Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

CHILDREN'S TIME

***CARE CHORUS** (*children may leave for Sonshine Kids' Club*)

*I cast all my cares upon you,
I lay all my burdens down at your feet.
And anytime that I don't know what to do,
I will cast all my cares upon you.*

GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36 (NIV)

CHOIR

“Joyful Thanks!”

SERMON

“Sign of Things to Come”

***APOSTLES CREED** (*in unison*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Universal Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Petitions are offered by the Pastor, ending with the following phrase to which all may respond, as indicated below.)

Christ, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Neal Fix

MARCH TO THE MANGER OFFERING / "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

***DOXOLOGY** (*sung*)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***CLOSING HYMN** **"Angels We Have Heard on High"**

***BLESSING**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Verse 1: *“Alleluia, Alleluia”*

Verse 2: *“God be with you, Alleluia”*

***POSTLUDE**

Participants: *Rev. David Poe, Intentional Interim Minister; Ann Gaadt, Organist & Pianist; Rhonda Hanne, Liturgist; Mark Falkner & Sheila Fredrick, Ushers; Bill Cunningham & Ron Winchell, Sound Booth; Dick Wade, Bell Ringer; Melissa Anstedt & Dottie Seiter, Son Shine Kids Club.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Last Week's Worship Attendance: 74

Facebook Views: 34 Youtube Channel Views: 5

GET CONNECTED

Welcome! We are glad you came. Please locate a “Welcome Card” in your pew and fill it out so we can send you our weekly *eBlast* and *One Call Now* updates about upcoming activities at St. John's UCC.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Office Hours M-F from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Mary Trostel, Admin.)

Sunday, Nov. 28

10 a.m. Worship Service

10 a.m. Son Shine Kids' Club (following Children's Time)

10 a.m. Facebook Live & 88.9 FM - Live Streaming

11 a.m. Coffee Hour

Tuesday, Nov. 30

8 a.m. Men's Bible Study via Zoom

11 a.m. Staff Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, Dec. 1

Women's Bible Study in person & via Zoom

7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Dec. 2

10 a.m. Deadline for Bulletin & eNews Articles!

POLICY ON MASKS Per CDC guidelines, our church council recommends you wear your mask in our church, but if you are fully vaccinated, masks are not required. If you are not fully vaccinated, please wear a mask. Thank you!

MARCH TO THE MANGER SPECIAL OFFERING

During this Advent Season we will be collecting a special offering to assist in raising funds to support our General Operating Fund. This Fund is used to pay salaries, utilities, program expenses, and Our Church's Wider Mission through the Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church of Christ (currently 7% of the budget). When the offertory hymn is played we will be asking the congregation to come forward to the manger to give a special offering. We will also have the ushers come around to you if you would prefer to remain seated. Every gift amount helps us continue to provide vital ministry to our local community and beyond, so please give generously. Thank you.



The council has formed a pastoral search committee! Here are the names: Rhonda Hanne, Tom Gooch, Howard Hoskins, Bill Cunningham, Craig Lilly, Bob Fuerbacher, and Gina Hale. The council has approved new officers for 2022, Brad Rehm will continue as President, Kristy Kniest will serve as Vice President and Loire Kroeger will be our recording secretary. Many thanks to the outgoing council members: Suzi Weaver, Greg Hale and Roy Boschert.

The council is seeking a new BBQ coordinator and Christian Foundation leader. If you are interested in helping out in either of these roles, please contact any of the council members.

MISSION & CARING MINISTRY TEAM NEWS

Members of the Mission and Caring Committee are Gina Hale, Suzie Weaver, Connie Wildt, Rhonda Hanne, and Dana Fehr

- **F.I.S.H. (Food Pantry Needs for November)**
- Chili
- Canned Pasta
- Pork & Beans
- Stuffing Mix
- Jiffy Muffin Mix
- Pumpkin
- Cereal
- Saltine Crackers

Place your donations in the grocery cart in the fellowship hall.

- **Meals Made with Love** - If you, or someone you know needs a meal while recovering from a hospitalization, please contact Connie Wildt, cjwildt@yahoo.com, or 636-928-4719.
- **Homebound?** If you know of someone who should be included on our shut-in list to receive quarterly Holy Communion from the minister and occasional visits and gifts from our team, please contact the church office at 636-926-8995 or office@stjohnsweldonspring.org.
- Soda tabs for the **Ronald McDonald House** are still being collected. So far this year we have turned in 6.6 pounds of soda tabs.
- **Old eyeglasses** can be put in the bin in fellowship hall. The eyeglasses are collected throughout the year for the Festival of Sharing.

Hat & Mitten Update 19 gloves/mittens, 9 mitten and hat sets, and 10 hats were collected for the Boys and Girls Club of O'Fallon. Thanks to everyone that donated items.

The Angel Tree

This year we are adopting a family from St. Charles county as well as continuing to support Uni-Pres KinderCottage, an UCC Child Development Center in East St. Louis, IL. Our adopted family consists of a mother, Lucia, her two sons John, 14 and Jose, 21 and her 3 month old baby boy, named Valentin. They really need food and clothes. There will be angels on the tree with what they need. Please take one and return it with the unwrapped item taped to it by December 12. If it's a gift card

or a monetary gift, place it in the envelope attached to the angels and put it on the offering plate. There will be extra envelopes under the tree if you misplace your envelope. We also plan to provide 6, \$25 gift cards to grocery stores for food. For Kinder Cottage there will be 20 angels for monetary giving with an envelope attached so you can place them in an offering plate. These donations will be mailed to Kinder Cottage. The Angel tree collection will be from November 28 through December 12. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Mission & Caring Ministry Annual Poinsettia Sale

As a project of our Caring and Mission Ministry for the holiday season, we will take orders for poinsettias, which will be used to decorate our church for the Christmas Season. Proceeds from this sale will be donated to *The Christmas Fund* for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund. (funds provide direct financial support to those who serve the church and are facing financial difficulties). All friends and members are welcome to order. Only a limited supply of these traditional plants (nursery-grown in 6'pots) are available for this worthwhile mission project, so we ask that orders be placed as soon as possible.

Please indicate on the attached form any commemoration you wish. We ask for a minimum donation of \$15.00 per plant. Plants may be taken home after our Christmas Eve Service. Orders may be placed before or after worship service November 28 and December 12, by calling the church office at 636-926-8995, or by emailing office@stjohnsweldonspring.org anytime.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet again on Monday, December 13th at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you need a prayer shawl to give to a friend of a loved one who is going through a difficult time, please contact the office at 636-926-8995 or by email at office@stjohnsweldonspring.org or Suzanne Weaver at 636-970-1188.

Movie Time - The movie date for November will be Tuesday, **November 30th** at St Charles cinema on Hwy 94. Movie options are “**Ghostbusters: Afterlife** or “**King Richard**”. Check Rotten Tomatoes for synopses. Please email your preference to jeanahoskins15@yahoo.com. Showtime will be announced later. We will have dinner at Ginghams on 94.

PLEDGE CARDS FOR 2022

Members received a special mailing recently asking you to prayerfully consider your giving to support St. John's UCC, Weldon Spring, as we head into 2022. Please mail it to the church, or drop it in the collection box in the sanctuary. All pledge cards need to be turned in by Tuesday, November 30th.

UPDATE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Please help us keep current information on file as we prepare for a New Directory. Attached is a Membership Form to fill out and turn into the office.

PRAYER LIST

Prayer request cards are located on the small table as you enter for worship. Please fill one out and give it to the Minister, or an Usher. Make sure you have the person's permission before filling out a card and let us know when it's time to remove a request for this list.

Comfort and Healing: Sharon Kolkmeier; John Long; Buzz Saeuberlich; Zoey Poyser; Danny Kolkmeier; Larry Nadler; George Schile; Kendra Howell; Dave & Dorothy Kappeller; Pat Fischer; Sue Hartman; Carol Keiser (Surgery Monday November 29th).

Others for whom we have concern: Sharon Moore (mother of Kristy Kniest), Mark Steven Leuthauser (son of Mark A. Leuthauser); Dylan Jensen (per Jinnielynn Howell); Mike Robertson (Vicie Smith's nephew); Gail Smith (Vickie Smith's daughter-in-law); Mike Hollis (friend of Pam Johnston); Rose Stamm (friend of Barb Eickmeier); Shara Power (Dot Janitch's granddaughter); June Bonn (Chris Savage's sister); Joy Bellow; Larry Smith (friend of Weavers); Pastor Jeff Willey; Sandy (daughter of Mary Lafser); Shirley Gibeson (mother of Debbie Lilley); Gary Rose (Barb Rose's step-son); Brenna Rolle Stretch (friend of Shelia Fredrick); Noelle Billy (sick with covid, Bleeckert family); Elesha Winschel (friend of Mary Trostel); Valevie Logaglio (Kidney Surgery, friend of the Weavers).

