

July 2024



# THE MESSENGER



Prepared for the members & friends of:  
St. John's United Church of Christ (Huntersville)  
300 N. Huntersville Road, Batesville, IN 47006

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from the Pastor . . .

“The dog days of summer...” is a phrase that you will likely never hear me say unironically. (Summer is my favorite season; yes, even in the Midwest heat.) But it IS a phrase that our society says for a reason. It is easy in summer, when the heat makes it hard to do anything, when the sun is beating down on us, and when those cooler days of fall and spring feel so far away, to forget the joys of the season. It is easy really anytime to let the worries of now, and the uncomfortableness of whatever we are feeling, block us from counting our blessings. And so, in this article published during the heart of summer, when all of our brains are a little frazzled with heat and dry weather, I want to list just a few of the people and things I am grateful for in our congregation and community.

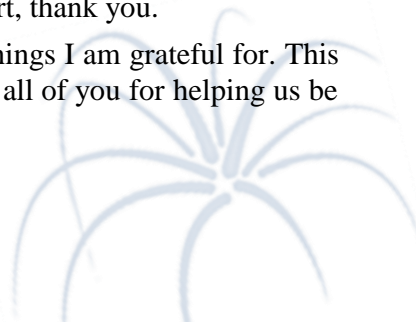
- **Our Vacation Bible School Program:** We are known in the community for doing this well. I am deeply appreciative of the history and legacy that has been passed down. And am even more grateful for the work Sarah Dobson does to keep it going. Our VBS is a place where all kids can come and learn that they are loved. And that is exactly what Church is about.
- **The fellowship moments we are forming:** Near the end of 2023, it became clear to me that our congregation had been yearning for more intentional fellowship time. So I have been very excited this year for events like the soup luncheon in February and the All Daughters Banquet in May. I am hoping the work we will be doing this summer and fall with our young families group and our youth group will continue this trend. Plus, who knows what events we will think of next? I am grateful that we are meeting this need together and eager to see where we go next.
- **Our focus on mission:** From the CROP Walk to the Food Pantry, from giving quarters for laundry to the school supplies drive mentioned in this newsletter, St. John's continues to be a congregation whose focus is outside of our walls, we continue to be a place that seeks to serve the least of these. And I continue to be so proud.
- **David Hanson:** I likely do not sing my partner-in-ministry's praises enough. But it truly is a blessing to have an organist who can play basically anything I give him, is wise to what will help us best worship together, and who has become a true friend. I am not alone in being grateful for Dave. But I definitely am happy he is here.
- **Floyd and Janet:** Speaking of people I probably don't praise enough. But their faithfulness is beyond inspiring. Even as a couple who are semi-retired, these two do so much for our congregation. From their custodial work to teaching Sunday School to so many other things. They give their heart to our congregation. And as your pastor I am very grateful.
- **Cindy and the decorating team:** Goodness, would we be in a world of hurt if making the Sanctuary look good was my job. I am so happy it is not. Cindy and her team deserve all the thanks. They do amazing work and I greatly appreciate it.
- **The many volunteers:** Look, if I try and list you all, this article will be pages long and take up their entire newsletter. Just know that I see you counting money, being liturgist, cleaning up the church grounds, keeping our facility in tip-top shape and more. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.



I will stop here as I am about out of space. But this is not the end of the things I am grateful for. This is a wonderful congregation and I feel blessed to be a part of it. Thanks to all of you for helping us be faithful to our call as the Body of Christ.

Shalom,

*Pastor Joe*





## ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

#23

This hymn in praise of the God of Creation was originally written by Saint Francis of Assisi. Born Giovanni di Pietro Bernardone, c.1182, St. Francis was one of seven children of a prosperous silk merchant. A soldier, he was converted in 1209 after hearing a sermon based on Matthew 10:9; “Don’t take any money in your money belts-no gold, silver, or even copper coins.” He devoted himself to poverty and founded the Franciscan Order of Friars (“followers”). His rule for followers was “to follow the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ and to walk in His footsteps.” St. Francis died on October 3, 1226, while listening to a reading of Psalm 142. He was canonized on July 16, 1228 by Pope Gregory IX. He is the patron saint of animals and the environment and is the creator of the Christmas Nativity Scene, in 1220. This poem “Canticle of the Sun” was translated and set to music by William Henry Draper, sometime between 1899 and 1919. Draper was born in Kenilworth, Warwickshire, England on December 19, 1855. He was educated at Keble College, Oxford and was ordained in the Anglican Church in 1880. He wrote 60 hymns and published several hymnals. “All Creatures of Our God and King” is his only hymn included in our hymnal. Draper died on August 7, 1933 in Clifton, Bristol, Warwickshire, England.

The tune, LASST UNS ERFREUEN, (“Let Us Rejoice”) was composed by Friedrich Spee, February 25, 1591 - August 7, 1635. Spee was a German poet, professor and priest. The tune was composed as an Easter hymn and was first published in 1623 in “Auserlesene Katholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng.” The tune was adapted by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958) in 1906. This tune is also used for the hymns: “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (#322); “God’s Holy Ways Are Just and True” (#663); and a setting of the Doxology (#147).

*“All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing Alleluia!”*

David W. Hanson, Organist/Choir Director  
St. John’s (Huntersville) UCC



### † Requesting Prayers for:

- Nikki Sarringhaus.
- Gayle Sarringhaus.
- Carolyn Carson (Nikki Sarringhaus’ grandmother).
- Dave & Bonnie Johnston.
- Randy & Becky Schebler.
- Dale Koester (Passing of Marian).
- Edna Rouse (Passing of Willis).
- Connie Moody & family (Passing of John).
- Georgia Haarman.
- Elaine Wessling (Health Issues).
- Danny & Patty Canterbury (Patty is in ICU, friend of Dan & Elizabeth Hall).
- Steve & Ann Koph (Melanoma diagnosis and other health issues, friends of Dan & Elizabeth Hall).
- Sheryl Voss (On her Recovery).
- Connie Miller (Heart Surgery).
- Olivia Williams (On her Recovery, daughter of Tim & Sara Putnam).

### **SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING:**

The 2024 semi-annual meeting will be July 28 after worship (approximately 10:15am). Please plan to attend this important part of our life together as a congregation.

### **ORGANIZE THE CLUTTER DAY:**

It has come to the attention of the council that many of the storage spaces around the church have become quite cluttered. If you have items stored around the church, please organize and label them before August 1st. The council would like to schedule an organization day sometime in August to tidy the areas. Things that are not labeled by then may be discarded.

Clutter represents indecision.  
Make a decision and clear the clutter.

Thank you all so much for the prayers, visits, cards, smiles and food after my surgery! It has meant a lot to me and my family. Thanks again,  
~ Connie Miller

grateful  
thankful  
blessed

**2024 SCHOLARSHIP**

**APPLICATION FORMS**

are available on the "card signing table or you can have Shannon email you the form, her email is stjohsuccbatesville@etczone.com. Applications are due no later than July 31, 2024. Requirements for the scholarship now include college freshmen and trade/technical school students. Any questions please contact Bev Schwier: 812-525-0821 or beverlyschwier@gmail.com.



Upcoming  
**COMMUNITY  
EVENTS**

**July 4<sup>th</sup>:** "City of Batesville July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade" starting @ 10am in Downtown Batesville.

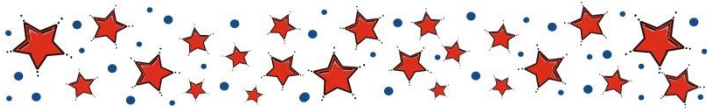
**July 5<sup>th</sup>:** "City of Batesville and Hillcrest Golf & Country Club Fireworks" starting @ 9:45pm.

**July 19<sup>th</sup>:** "12<sup>th</sup> Annual 4-Person Scramble Golf Outing" Hillcrest Golf & Country Club starting @ 12pm.

**July 20<sup>th</sup>:** "Napoleon Volunteer Fire Department Picnic" 5pm-9pm at the Napoleon Firehouse.

**July 27<sup>th</sup>:** "St. John's UCC Annual Church Picnic" 5pm-8pm, 300 N. Huntersville Rd, Batesville, IN.

**July 30<sup>th</sup>:** "Free Movie at the Gibson Theatre". This month's movie is National Treasure starting @ 7pm.



We are looking for someone who might have extra garage space for us to store larger items for the Rummage Sale. We would need this space from September until the first week of October. If you have any space and are willing to allow us to store items, please contact me. ~ Thanks, Jenell

*Anniversaries This Month*

- 5 Sarah & Jarrod Dobson, Travis & Shari Westerfeld
- 6 Cami & Tom Muto
- 7 Rachel & Alex Davis
- 9 Maddi & Josh Vohland
- 10 Mark & Melissa Blanton
- 11 Todd & Kindred Lehfeltd, Randy & Linda Meyer
- 14 Steve & Emily Vonderheide
- 15 Sarah & Justin Benoit
- 16 Jenni & Tom Fullenkamp
- 20 Chris & Carey Weiler
- 26 Dennis & Roberta Siebert

*Birthdays This Month*

- 1 Sharon Davidson
- 3 Emily Bohman
- 4 Brooke Hartman, Roger Schutte
- 5 Pam Gutzwiller, Anita Narwold
- 7 Emily Placke, Lily Sarringhaus, Lydia Sarringhaus
- 9 Daren Sarringhaus
- 10 Aydin Nunlist, Carleen Weiler
- 11 Warren Boor
- 12 Jacob Benoit, Amelia Borgman
- 15 Violet Baldwin, Audrey Hall, Nathan Hall, Charrel Raver, Dennis Siebert
- 16 Nancy Lochard
- 17 Marlene Emsweller
- 18 Delores Cornett, David Hanson, Linda Meyer
- 19 Johnathan Welborn
- 20 Rob Shane
- 23 Todd Lehfeltd
- 25 Rebeca Lehfeltd
- 26 Rachel Davis, Justin Huff
- 27 Dick Feller, John Wilhelm
- 28 Vy Borchelt
- 29 Deloris Brebberman
- 30 Heather Oliver

**ST. JOHN'S CRAFTER'S STORE,**  
**formerly known as THE COUNTRY STORE:**

The Sunday School Picnic is fast approaching! Thank you in advance to all crafters for your donations to the St. John's Crafter's Store. Back in the "olden days", produce and baked goods were the main donation to the "Country Store" and now quality handmade gifts and décor are the largest part of the items for sale. That is why I decided to change the name. Of course, produce and yummy specialty baked goods are still welcome!



Please bring your craft/handmade donations to church by July 14<sup>th</sup> if possible, but donations will be gratefully accepted up until the day of the Picnic. Your baked goods can be brought the day before the picnic or the morning of the picnic. The St. John's Crafter's Store will be "open" on Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup> after service. The store will be in the Parish Hall again this year. This is to give our members a chance to check out the many items in advance since they will be busy the day of the Picnic. Please put your donations in the Parish Hall in the corner where the Christmas tree sat.

Let's make the St. John's Crafter's Store a success again this year by showcasing your talents!

Any questions – contact Cindy Feller by:  
☎ 812-212-8308 or ✉ cindyfeller1@gmail.com

*Save the Date for this truly*

*special event!*



*Who:* David Hanson

*What:* Organ Recital

*When:* 4pm Sunday,  
August 18<sup>th</sup>

*Where:* St. John's  
UCC Huntersville

*Why:* In observance of 50 years as church organist in the greater body of Christ.

**JOE WITH PASTOR JOEY:**



at Amack's Well each Monday from a little after 9am until noon. (You can usually find him upstairs.) Come for casual conversation, to get something off your chest, or just to support our local business.

**School Supply Drive**

**Batesville Area Resource Center, Project T3 and The So Loved Closet will be hosting a Back-to-School Bash this July, especially for those in need within our community. The congregations of BAMA are helping by raising some of the items in need. We, St. John's, have volunteered to bring in pink erasers, glue sticks and bottles of glue. We are still in need of several of each of these items. Please bring your items in by June 30 (or immediately after) so they can be delivered in time to So Loved Closet for distribution preparation. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity.**



## St. John's Liturgist and Benevolence Schedule July 2024 – August 2024

July 7	Jane Link	Southeast Indiana Health Clinic
July 14	John Kuhlman	Crossroads Children's Home
July 21	Sam Sitterding	St. John's Scholarship Fund
July 28	Mike Vonderheide	Fernside
August 4	Kristina Frye	Neighbors In Need (UCC)
August 11	Gary Weber	Huntersville School House Fund
August 18	Danny Narwold	Granny Connection
August 25	Sarah Dobson	Batesville Area Ministerial Association (Food Pantry)

### 2024 SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC:



Don't forget the Church Picnic is on July 27<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm. Games, ice cream, delicious roast beef, and our famous mock turtle soup will all be available to eat at the picnic or to take home for later. The

Eureka Band will play. And we will be auctioning off amazing pies. We need you to volunteer... and to invite your family, friends and neighbors to come along.

*See you at our Annual Picnic!*



There will be an all-church pool party at Batesville Memorial Pool on Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at noon. We will gather at the pool and have a light lunch. Then, we will swim together. This will be during regular pool hours, but the youth group

will pay admission for anyone who does not already have a pool pass. All are invited to join us for swimming and fellowship. Put this on your calendar now and come join us!

### YOUTH GROUP:

A plan is being formed to have a youth group trip to King's Island in August. Please let Pastor Joey know ASAP if you are interested and what dates are possible for you so the plan can be finalized.



*If you have a loved one currently serving in our military and would like to add them to our prayer list/bulletin, please contact the office.*

# ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL

## YEAR OF VBS!!!

2024 VBS was SUPER this year! We had a blast learning all about how heroes can work together to help others. We had 43 kids and 15 helpers! Our heroes worked together to collect supplies for So Loved Kids Closet and collected almost 200 glue sticks and pink erasers. Our core verse, which is something we can all work on, was from Romans 14:19 "So let's strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up."




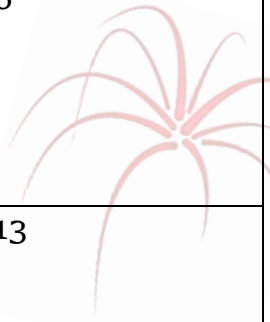


### Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God



# July 2024



August 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Sunday School Board Meeting 6pm	2	3	4 	5	6 
7 	8	9 Council Meeting 7pm	10	11 BAMA 1:30pm	12	13 
14	15 	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 	25 	26	27 
28 Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting @ 10:15am	29	30	31			



# July 4<sup>th</sup>!



AMERICA  
ANNIVERSARY  
ANTHEM  
BACKYARD  
BARBECUE  
BASEBALL  
BLUE  
BOOM  
BUNTING  
BURGERS  
CELEBRATE  
COMMEMORATE  
COMMUNITY  
CONCERT  
COOKOUT  
CROWDS  
DECLARATION  
DECORATIONS  
DEMOCRACY  
EAGLE  
ENDURE  
EQUALITY  
FAMILY  
FIREWORKS  
FLAG  
FREE  
FUN  
GATHERING  
GRATEFUL  
GRILL  
HOLIDAY  
HOME  
HOT  
HOT DOGS  
INDEPENDENCE  
JULY  
LEMONADE  
LIBERTY  
MUSIC  
NATIONAL  
OUTSIDE  
PARADE  
PARTY  
PATRIOT  
PICNIC  
PRIDE  
PYROTECHNICS

B	M	A	P	P	L	V	K	W	H	I	T	E	X	B	A	C	K	Y	A	R	D	X
F	B	J	A	C	X	X	M	T	G	P	N	X	C	O	N	C	E	R	T	E	T	C
E	V	X	J	Z	D	R	Z	K	C	A	G	D	L	L	N	A	I	R	J	U	L	Y
A	C	W	Q	T	S	U	D	N	R	T	S	R	E	C	I	U	T	C	Y	N	Q	P
K	G	O	C	O	M	M	E	M	O	R	A	T	E	P	V	B	J	I	K	I	P	H
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RED  
REUNIONS  
SALUTE  
SPARKLERS  
SPIRIT  
STARS  
STAR-SPANGLED  
STATES  
STREAMERS

STRIPES  
SUMMER  
TRADITION  
UNFURL  
UNITED  
VALUES  
VETERAN  
WATERMELON  
WHITE

