

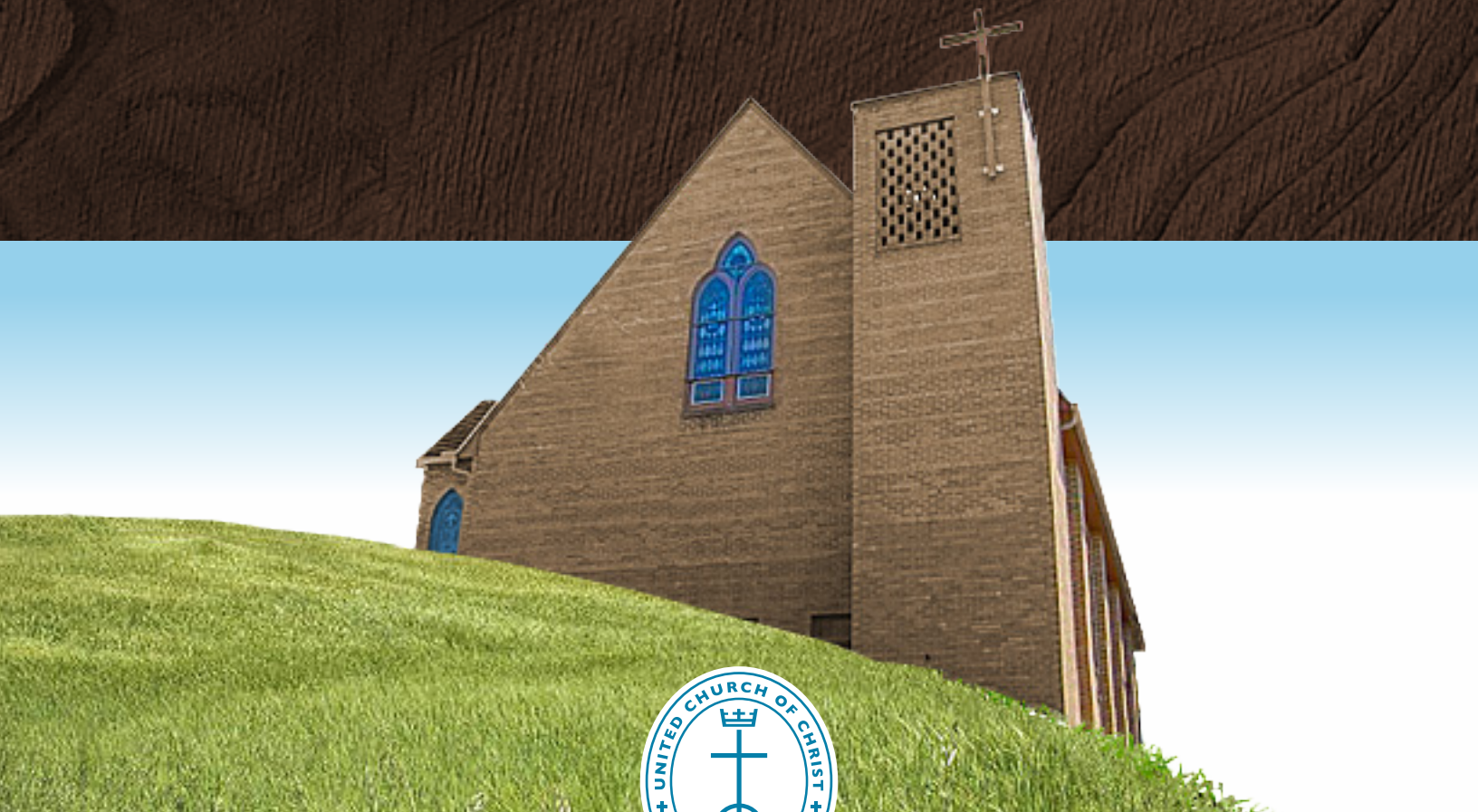


**St. John's**

United Church of Christ

# Digital Newsletter

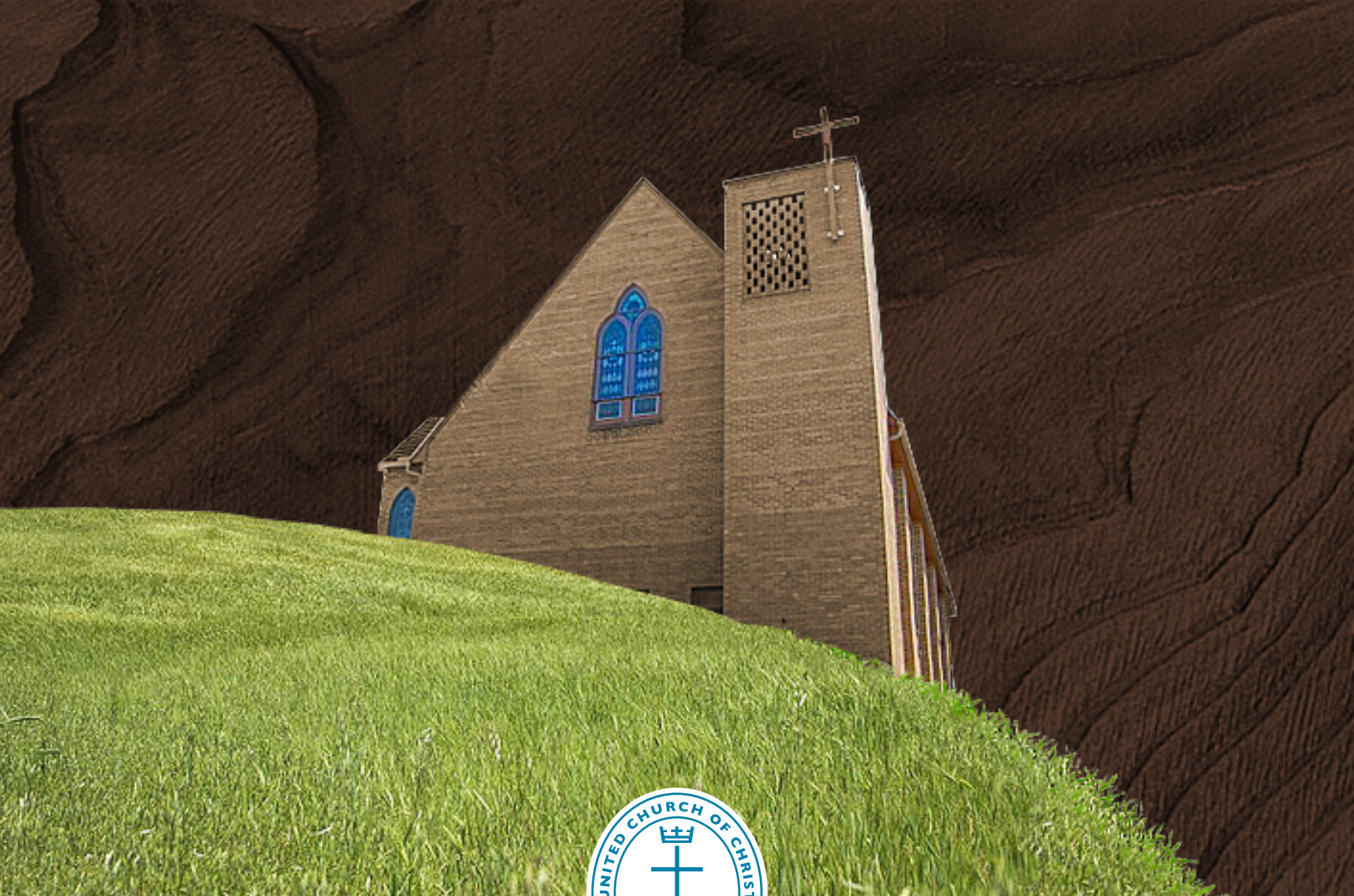
**SJC Issue 0224 - February 2024**



**[stjohnsfcwi.org](http://stjohnsfcwi.org)**

St. John's Church | PO Box 130 | 303 S Hill Street | Fountain City, WI

**608.687.3277**



# Sunday Worship @ 10:30am

We offer two options for worship on Sundays: in person or online. Whether you prefer to worship from the safety of your home or with others, we at St. John's want to make sure you get the spiritual encouragement you need. Join us in person each Sunday at 10:30am or watch a video recording of the online service. The service is not recorded live but is uploaded after the service has ended. We look forward to worshipping with you!

## [stjohnsfcwi.org](http://stjohnsfcwi.org)

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# Letter From The Pastor

**February 2024**

It seems like we just finished Christmas, and in a little less than two weeks Ash Wednesday kicks off Lent on February 14. We will have an Ash Wednesday service for both congregations that evening at St. Johns at 6:30 p.m. Ashes will be available to anyone who wishes.

Starting the next day, Thursday, February 15, I will begin a Lenten Study to be held each Thursday of Lent at St. Johns from 2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. for both congregations. It will be “Forgiveness and Reconciliation: How to Find Peace by Letting Go.” We will look at the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation, and if you can have one without the other. We’ll use scripture to ask questions such as: must I forgive (fill in the most hurtful thing that’s happened to you), and what if we aren’t yet ready to do so? Finally we’ll reflect on what to do if we are the one needing forgiveness, and how God’s forgiveness is already available to us. I’ll be basing it on the Bible, and also the writings of Bishop Desmond Tutu, as well as a few miscellaneous resources. As always, if you cannot make each session, that’s okay. You can still join us for those you can.

That’s what’s coming. But I want to take a moment and look back at the last year. For I want to give thanks to all the people who volunteer their time, their energy, and their heart to keep St. Johns a vital presence in the community. I don’t want to miss anyone, so I won’t name anyone. But sometimes it’s easy to forget that there are people “behind the scenes” who do the things that make worship and our church not only function, but flourish.

This is just a portion of the list of those who give freely:

- ✓ **Our Officers and Committee Members;**
- ✓ **Our Food Shelf and Feeding CFC Family Helpers;**
- ✓ **Our three musicians;**
- ✓ **Our choir director and those who join their voices in choir;**

Continued...

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- ✓ **Our Sunday School Teachers;**
- ✓ **Our Women's Guild;**
- ✓ **Those who vacuum, dust and empty trash;**
- ✓ **Those who take the trash and recycling home to be disposed of with their family's trash pickup;**
- ✓ **Those who fill the candles, change the altar cloth and banners;**
- ✓ **Those who prepare and serve Communion, count the money, lock up the church on Sundays;**
- ✓ **Those who host Fellowship, and stock the napkins, coffee, cups etc. wash the table clothes and place out the centerpieces;**
- ✓ **Those who make sure during the winter that any ice is salted before church and the flowerpots are planted and watered come spring;**
- ✓ **Those who when asked, will say "yes" if it is something that they can do;**
- ✓ **Those who notice that something needs to be done, just do it.**

Thank you to all, both those who find themselves in the list above, and those who aren't but are just as vital. Thank you to all who are doing more than your share by taking on several of these tasks and responsibilities at the same time or continuing because no one else has said "yes" to helping or taking over. And if I haven't noticed you doing it (whatever "it" you are doing), well that means I am secure in knowing that "it" will get done without me having to check and/or remind people (or do it myself). I appreciate you all.

God's grace and peace.

**Pastor Deb Kunkel**

Church: 608.687.3277

Cell: 239.994.2528

[pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com)

# Bible Study

## Lenten Bible Study

Starting Thursday, February 15, 2024, I am offering Lenten Bible Study on “Forgiveness and Reconciliation: How we find peace by letting go.” The Study will be from 2:30pm to 4:00pm at St. John’s Church. More details are coming...

**Thursdays**  
**2:30pm-4:00pm**

**St. John’s Church**  
**303 S Hill Street**  
**Fountain City, WI**



- ✓ **Thursday, February 15, 2024**
- ✓ **Thursday, February 22, 2024**
- ✓ **Thursday, February 29, 2024**
- ✓ **Thursday, March 7, 2024**
- ✓ **Thursday, March 14, 2024**
- ✓ **Thursday, March 21, 2024**
- ✓ **Thursday, March 28, 2024**



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See All Letters & Messages Online Under The Worship Tab  
**[stjohnsfcwi.org](http://stjohnsfcwi.org)**

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# Sunday Penny Collection

## First Sunday of the Month

The Church School Students will be collecting pennies the first Sunday of every month. We haven't done this in a long time and are anxious to start again. This money enables us to do donations to people or needy projects in our area or throughout the world.

**Sunday, February 4, 2023**



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# Online Calendar

## Visit Us Online 24/7

Please go online and visit our NEW easy to use website for current up-to-date, detailed event information. Our calendar is updated daily. Email us with any questions or comments.

[stjohnsfcwi.org](http://stjohnsfcwi.org)



# Leadership Positions

## Leadership Positions Are Available For 2024

St. John's Church is seeking the following Leadership Positions for the upcoming year. Please contact us if you are interested!

- ✓ **PRESIDENT (Steve Prussing)**
- ✓ **TREASURER (Dale Schmidtknecht)**
- DEACON (Open Position)**
- DEACON (Open Position)**
- ✓ **INVESTMENT (Randy Boehm)**
- ✓ **INVESTMENT (John Stettler)**
- INVESTMENT (Open Position)**
- ✓ **SMAT (Linda Clark)**

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**Volunteers Are Needed...**  
**Contact Us Today To Volunteer For Any Open Position.**

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# Liturgists & Others Wanted

## Do you like to read during the service?

Then you will be happy to know that Pastor Deb is seeking liturgists to start the first week in November. Liturgists will lead the Call to Worship and read the first Scripture Reading. If you would like to be included in the pool of liturgists or readers, please let Pastor Deb know or look for the sign-up sheet. Or do you like the spotlight or have a little bit of “ham” in you? Pastor Deb would love to have you join her in skits or dramatic monologues used on occasion during the service. Please let her know (all ages welcome.)



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## Stewardship

### Stewardship Moment from the Deacons

Stewardship is as important in today as it is in December.

From the Stewardship Theme last year we are reminded that stewardship is all year long.

**“Because of You our Church changes lives”.**

~ St John’s Church





# Food Shelf

## Businesses Of The Month: Waumandee State Bank

Thanks to Waumandee State Bank for their donation along with cookies and milk for our volunteers! Left to Right: Vice President and Branch manager Heather Grotjahn presents a donation of \$250.00 to the Linda Clark of the Cochrane-Fountain City Area Food Shelf.



# Food Shelf

## Businesses Of The Month: The Grove Golf Course

A big thank you to The Grove Golf Course for thinking of the Cochrane-Fountain City Area Food Shelf. They collected food during their 1st Annual Grove Gobbler Run/Walk Event! These donations are much appreciated.



# Food Shelf

## Businesses Of The Month: C-FC Parent Teacher Organization

We would like to thank Karla Patzner and the C-FC Parent Teacher Organization for collecting food at the Holiday Craft Fair at school in December. These donations help the Cochrane-Fountain City Area Food Shelf are are appreciated.



# Food Shelf

## Businesses Of The Month: St Michael's Lutheran Church

Eric Horstman from St Michael's Lutheran Church in Fountain City, just down the street, brought in a wonderful monetary donation and food items they had collected at their Brass Concert in December. Thank you again for all the support.



# C-FC Area Food Shelf

## Report For January 2024

As part of our Stewardship as a church please consider a monetary donation or food donation for our Food Shelf here at Church. See list below of our most needed items. This summer and fall we have been much busier than usual providing food to people in need in our community. If we want to continue this service we do need your assistance to continue. Please put your donation of food in the bin at church by coat rack or your monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to church with checks made out to C-FC Area Food Shelf - St John's Church, PO Box 130, Fountain City WI, 54629.

### Donations Most Needed:

- ✓ Toilet Paper
- ✓ Canned /Ham/Salmon
- ✓ Cake/Brownie
- ✓ Muffin Mixes
- ✓ Canned Frosting
- ✓ Instant Oatmeal
- ✓ Cereal (Healthier)
- ✓ Crackers (Saltines)
- ✓ Rice/Pasta Pouches
- ✓ Vegetable Spray
- ✓ Brown Rice
- ✓ Juice Boxes
- ✓ V8/Tomato Juice
- ✓ Boost/Ensure
- ✓ Canned Chili
- ✓ Canned Stew
- ✓ Spices
- ✓ Applesauce
- ✓ Salad Dressing
- ✓ Ketchup
- ✓ BBQ Sauce

**1st & 3rd Monday: 4:30pm - 6:30pm**  
**2nd & 4th Wednesday: 3:00pm - 5:00pm**



- ✓ 717 Pounds Of Food Distributed
- ✓ Averages 40 Pounds Of Food Per Person
- ✓ 18 Total People Helped
- ✓ 06 Children
- ✓ 23 Adults
- ✓ 11 Seniors
- ✓ 21 Households (4 Came Twice)

# Choir Praticce

## 1st & 3rd Wednesdays Of The Month

St. John's Church will have Choir Practice on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays Of The Month starting at 6:30pm in Fountain City, WI. Do you have ideas of things the Choir could try? Please share your thoughts on new ideas for musical offerings for our congregation. Please contact us with any questions or comments.



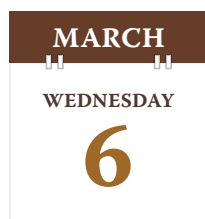
### St. John's Church Choir Practice

303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI  
Starts @ 6:30pm



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303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI  
Starts @ 6:30pm



# Volunteers: February

## Ushers

Brady Krause, Bill Krause Jr., Adam Krause

## Greeters

02.04.23 Karen Pehler

02.11.23 Faye Strelow & Ron Novak

02.18.23 Neal & Diane Schaffner

02.25.23 Mary Schmitt & Karen Knospe

03.03.23 Randy & Judy Boehm

## Counters

Dave & Sue Schaffner

## Communion & Flowers

Doris Ruben

# Financial Report

For detailed information regarding the financial standing of St. John's Church, contact the office to review financial documents.

St. John's Church  
United Church of Christ  
303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI

608.687.3277  
stjohnsfcwi.org

## Birthdays

Kayla Knospe

Elaina Jo Conners

Cindy Ziegler

Adam Krause

Delaney Yapp

Mark Schaffner

Rev. Betsy Miler-Ruben

Dawn Fiedler

Alicia Knecht

Ron Novak

Jerrild Kreher

Erik Sutter

Doris Ruben

Joy Pehler

Susan Fons

Tom Riskey

Dan Wicka

Drew Schaffner

Logan Schaffner

## Anniversaries

Becky K & Bryan Guenther

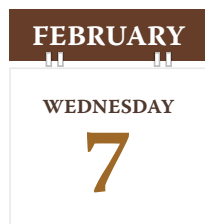
Carl & Sara Brommerich

Dan & Karen Knospe

# Confirmation

## Confirmation Class Schedule

We offer Confirmation class for middle or high schoolers. This process which includes class meetings, service opportunities, leading worship, and other activities created to fit the needs and interests of each particular class. Our youth will be enriched by these conversations and planning so that we can welcome them into the journey of our life together.



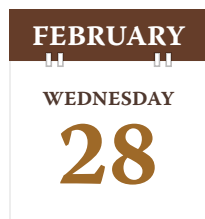
**Confirmation Class**  
3:30pm - 5:00pm  
St. John's Church  
Education



**Confirmation Class**  
NO CLASS  
St. John's Church  
Education



**Confirmation Class**  
3:30pm - 5:00pm  
St. John's Church  
Education



**Confirmation Class**  
3:30pm - 5:00pm  
St. John's Church  
Education





# Other Special Events

## St. John's Church

Along with our Sunday Worship Service schedule, Pastor Deb's Office Hours, Consistory Meetings, Food Shelf Schedule and other recurring events. Below is a list of SPECIAL EVENTS located at St. John's Church and or the local area. Please contact us with any questions. Thanks again for all the support from volunteer and the community.

**FEBRUARY**  
SUNDAY  
**4**

### Penny Collection St. John's Church

303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI  
Starts @ 10:30am

**FEBRUARY**  
WEDNESDAY  
**14**

### Ash Wednesday St. John's Church

303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI  
Starts @ 6:30pm

**FEBRUARY**  
THURSDAY  
**15**

### Consistory Meeting St. John's Church

303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI  
Starts @ 6:30pm

**FEBRUARY**  
SUNDAY  
**18**

### 1st Sunday of Lent St. John's Church

303 S Hill Street  
Fountain City, WI  
Starts @ 10:30am

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

## Online Calendar

Please go online and visit our NEW easy to use website for current up-to-date, detailed event information. Our calendar is updated daily. Email us with any questions or comments.

**[stjohnsfcwi.org](http://stjohnsfcwi.org)**  
[info@stjohnsfcwi.org](mailto:info@stjohnsfcwi.org)

# Winona Volunteer Services



IRS Certified Volunteers Providing  
**FREE TAX PREPARATION**

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is sponsored by the IRS and Minnesota Department of Revenue. Income limits apply as follows: VITA INCOME LIMIT (Adjusted Gross Income plus untaxed investment income)

<b>\$35,000</b>	Dependents (Student Working Sependent For Parents)
<b>\$45,000</b>	Single (No Dependents)
<b>\$55,000</b>	Family size 2 (Married Couple or Single With 1 Dependent)
<b>\$65,000</b>	Family size 3 (or More)

To find out if you are eligible for the free tax service, look at your 2022 tax returns and find the 1040 IRS form, Line 11 Page 1. If your adjusted gross income falls within the guidelines above and your income has not significantly increased, you are eligible to have your taxes done free at our tax site. For more information go to [www.winonavs.org](http://www.winonavs.org). Additional instructions will be given when you call for an appointment. Tax preparation procedures will provide maximized safety for clients and volunteers while assuring all standards for the completeness, accuracy and security of returns.

## Winona

**Faith Lutheran Church**  
1717 West Service Drive  
January 31-April 13  
Mondays: 4:00-7:00 PM  
Tuesdays & Wednesdays:  
8:30-11:30am & 12:30-3:30pm  
Saturdays: 9:00-Noon

## St. Charles

**Senior Center**  
830 Whitewater Ave  
February 8-April 11  
1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays  
1:00-4:00pm  
2nd & 4th Thursdays  
3:30-6:30pm

## La Crescent

**Public Library**  
321 Main Street  
February 8-April 11  
Thursdays  
9:00am-Noon

**All Locations by Appointment Only!**  
Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm

CALL 507.474.7202  
[www.winonavs.org](http://www.winonavs.org)



# Prayer Requests

## St. John's Church - Pastor Deb Kunkel

Congregation members and non-members are encouraged to request prayers for times of need, comfort, healing, celebration and joy. If you would you like a visit from Pastor Deb, please call her to set up a time today!



**Pastor Deb's Office Hours:**

Monday's Noon to 2:00pm  
Wednesday's 10:00am to Noon  
239.994.2528  
pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com

St. John's Church  
United Church of Christ  
303 S Hill Street, PO Box 130  
Fountain City, WI 54629-0130

608.687.3277  
stjohnsfcwi.org  
info@stjohnsfcwi.org



# St. John's

United Church of Christ

Church Office:

[stjohnsuccfc@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsuccfc@gmail.com)

Newsletter:

[stjohnsfcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsfcnewsletter@gmail.com)

Pastor Deb's Office Hours:

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