

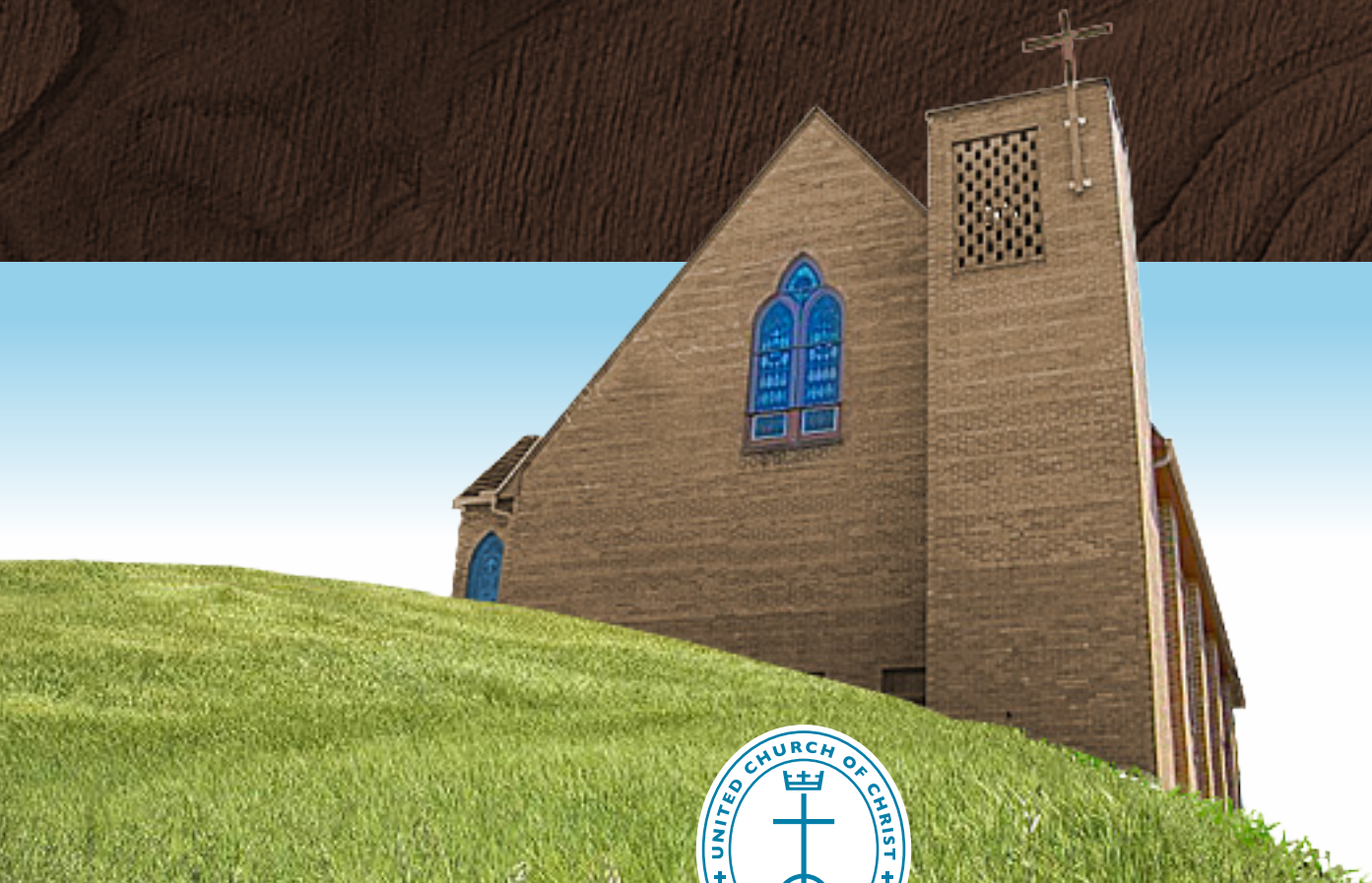


St. John's

United Church of Christ

Digital Newsletter

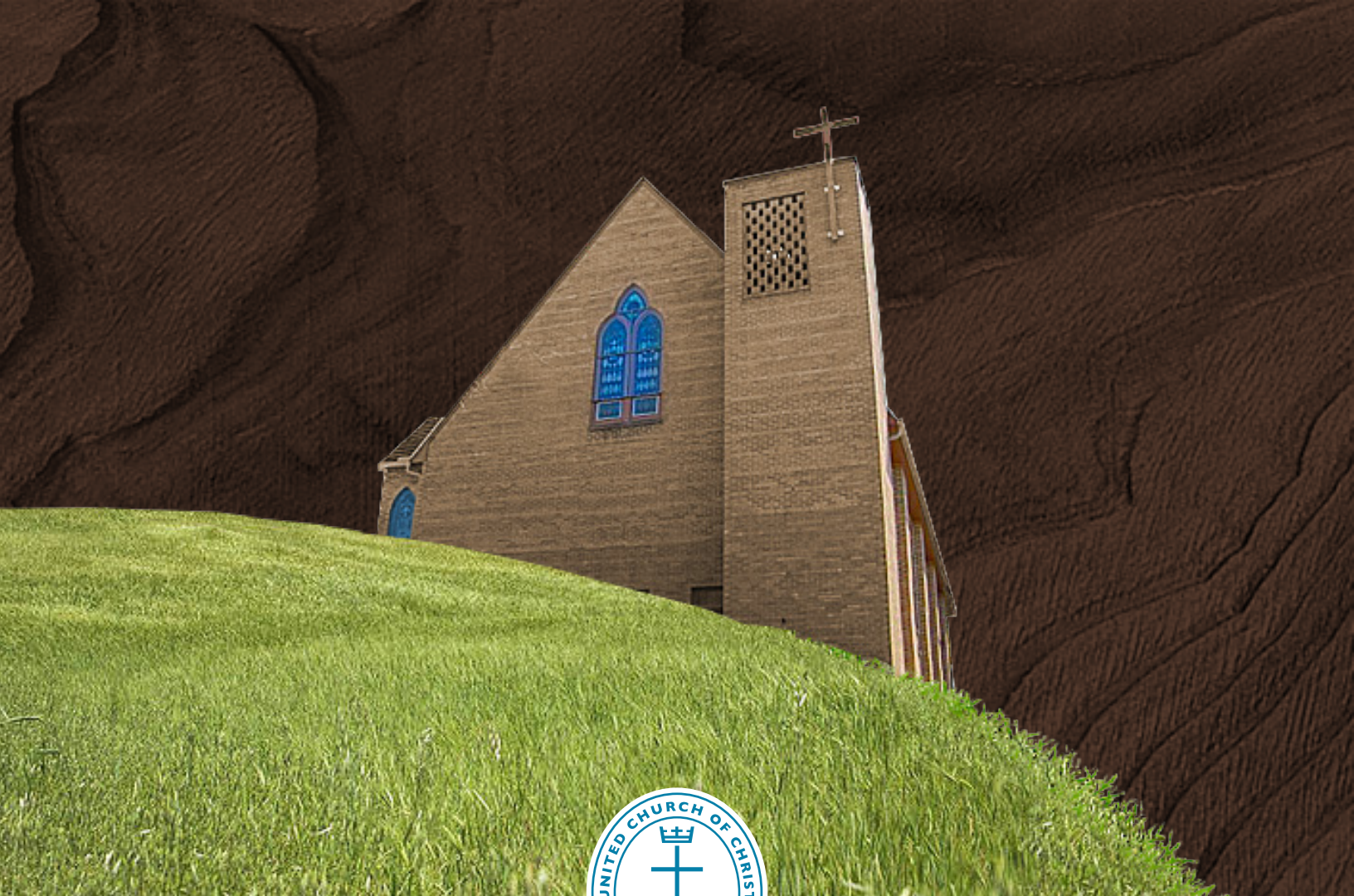
SJC Issue 0422 - April 2022



stjohnsfcwi.org

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

608.687.3277



Sunday Worship @ 8:30am

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 8:30am 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

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

stjohnsfcwi.org

Letter From The Pastor

April 2022

Some of my favorite services to prepare are the ones in Holy Week Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship. They offer me a chance to reflect on the impact they can and do have on myself and the church.

Maundy Thursday tells of the preemptive grace of God. Jesus shares one last meal with his disciples who will soon betray and abandon him to the Romans, and he holds the first Communion as a sign and reminder that he still loves and forgives them. He transforms what could have been memories of shame and guilt into a celebration of God's love for all and of the wider Body of Christ that begins to form after resurrection.

Good Friday tells of how the world thinks power should work (crucifixion and death, with some on top over the rest), how it works under God's reign (vulnerability to others, refusing to meet violence with violence). Good Friday reminds me to ask not about where I would have been at Jesus crucifixion, but where I am today in the deaths by violence that still take place in the world. These prepare me for the joy of Easter, when God refused to let death in any form have the final word or abandon us by brining new life where there had only been pain, betrayal, and loss. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services are often the lowest attendance of the year. Some people avoid them because they see them as "sad" (and they can be) and have attended ones in the past that seem intent on shaming or scaring people into repentance and following Jesus. While there are those who can't attend due to schedules or distance, many decided that they were too hard or dark to sit through.

If you don't attend because of one of the above reasons (or another that I don't know of) please consider joining our Maundy Thursday service on April 17 at 6:00 p.m. here at St. Johns, and join with Hope UCC in Cochrane on Good Friday at 6:00pm Maundy Thursday we will share in Communion, as we retell this part of the story of our faith.

Continued on next page...

Letter From The Pastor

April 2022

Good Friday I will be offering a dramatic monologue as Mary Magdalene as the sermon, imagining how she felt as day faded into night that Friday. Yes, they will both be more solemn than our usual Sunday services. But the point is not to shame us. They remind us that even in our darkest moments there is God's love and grace are there, ready to bring new life out of death in all its forms in surprising and wondrous ways beyond what we can imagine. I hope you will join me.

God's grace and peace.

Pastor Deb Kunkel

P.S. If you are planning to attend the sunrise Easter Service at Eagle Valley, please note the time change to 6:30am to allow me to get to Hope UCC on time for the 8:30am service.

P.S.S. On Palm Sunday I will invite the children to join me waving Palms while walking around the sanctuary as the congregation sings "Hosanna Loud Hosanna!" Hope your kids can be there.

The Northwest Association

Annual Meeting Update

The Northwest Association Annual Meeting is April 23, from 9:00am - Noon at the Plymouth United Church of Christ in Eau Claire. The topic of discussion is Why WISE? (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged) in the Mental Health of the community and the wider world. Also a discussion on how to become a WISE congregation. Registration Deadline is April 11, 2022. You may attend the meeting in person or virtually. Registration is \$15.00 or no charge for Zoom attendees. Register online at wcucc.org (Associations Tab).

Stewardship

Stewardship Moment from the Deacons

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is one of the special UCC mission offerings. One Great Hour of Sharing provides funds for emergency relief, health, education, and refugee ministries world wide, as well as disaster response domestically and internationally, such as aid to people of Ukraine.



Sunday, March 27, 2022 One Great Hour of Sharing donations were collected in church. Donations will still be accepted either at church or mail your donation to:

St. John's UCC,
PO Box 103
Fountain City, WI 54629-0130

Specify OGHS on the check.
Thanks for your support.

God's grace and peace.

Dale Schmidtknecht



Food Shelf

Report For March 2022

Can you give a couple hours a month and volunteer at the St. John's Food Shelf? Put a note in the offering plate this Sunday or reach out to Pastor Deb or Linda Clark at 715.495.5282. Thank you to our current volunteers! We are trying to help as many people possible!

Donations Most Needed:

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

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



- ✓ 507 Pounds Of Food Distributed
- ✓ Averages 15 Pounds Of Food Per Person
- ✓ 33 Total People Helped
- ✓ 1 Children
- ✓ 13 Adults
- ✓ 19 Seniors
- ✓ 16 Households (3 Came Twice)

Memory Café

Two Local Area Locations

Memory Cafés are a comfortable, social gathering that allow people experiencing memory loss and a loved one to connect, socialize, and build new support networks. Free and welcome to all! They can simply enjoy the company of those with similar things in common. Activities are varied, but tend to focus on topics that are apt to cause one to reminisce about times gone by. That “connection” to the past can be as comforting as it is medically beneficial. Emphasis is often placed on activities where humor can be a central part of the enjoyment. You may find refreshments offered, or you may be a part of a potluck style gathering. In most cases, you’ll be able to obtain valuable resources from local support organizations to help you in your caregiving experience. Learn more today!

**2nd Tuesday
Of Each Even
Month**

Hurlburt’s Haven

1227 E Prospect Street, Durand, WI
10:00am - 11:30am

**3rd Tuesday
Of Each Even
Month**

Central Lutheran Church

221 W Main Street, Mondovi, WI
10:00am - 11:30am

Call Katrina, Dementia Care Specialist, at the ADRC of Buffalo and Pepin Counties at 715.279.7870 for more information.

The Cake Auction Is Back!

Sunday, May 1, 2022

The Christian Education Committee is having their annual Cake Auction right after church in the Fellowship Hall. Tasty cakes, pies, and other goodies will be available for purchase. We look forward to your participation in baking and bidding. This is one of our favorite events & proceeds go to our Sunday School Program. A light lunch will be served by your Christian Education Committee.



Volunteers: April

Ushers

Sandy Ruben, Tom Ruben, Joanne Muench
& Larry Muench

Greeters

04.03.22 Mary Schmitt & Karen Knospe
04.10.22 Dale & Jenny Schaffner
04.17.22 Larry & Joanne Muench
04.24.22 Bryan & Laura Madsen

Counters

Cindy Zieger

Communion & Flowers

Sue Schaffner

Contact us if you are interested in filling any
of the **"OPEN"** volunteers positions.

Financial Report

Overview as of 03.31.22

Income \$8,282

Expenses \$31.809*

*Lift Deposit: \$15,750 & Final Roof Payment: \$7,333

Birthdays

Autumn Schaffner

Gary Sutter

Donna Beck

Jacob Guenther

Jessica Osborn

Mickki Prussing

Amber Morse

Ruth Ehmcke

Jenny Schaffner

Becky Vestal

Sally Ratz

Vira Mae Engel

Jenny Krause

Katie Wachowiak

Brent Skroch

Hale Madsen

Becky Kamrowski

Carol Colbenson

Bob Baures

Mary Kirchner

Sherry Guenther

Ethan Osborn

Eyan Knecht

Other Special Events

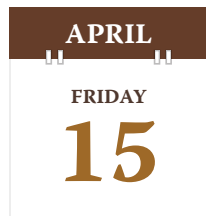
St. John's Church

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.



Maundy Thursday Worship Service

St. John's Church
Starts @ 6:00pm
W/Communion



Good Friday Worship Service

Hope UCC Cochrane
Starts @ 6:00pm
Monologue Sermon



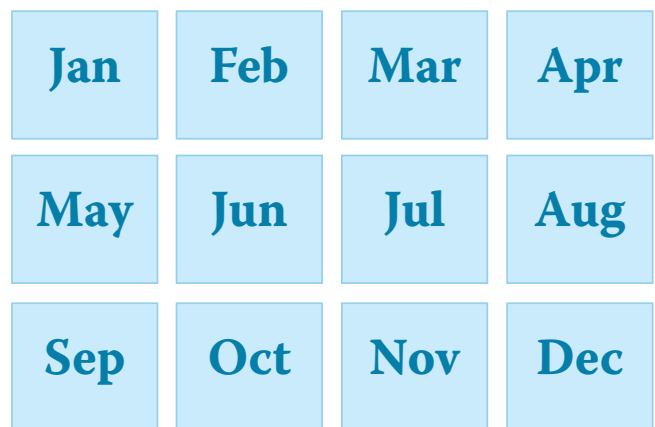
Easter Sunday Worship Service

Sunrise Service
Eagle Valley Church
Starts @ 6:30am



Easter Sunday Worship Service

Sunday Worship
Hope UCC @ 8:30am
St. Johns UCC @ 10:30am



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
info@stjohnsfcwi.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 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

Newsletter:

stjohnsfcnewsletter@gmail.com

Pastor Deb's Office Hours:

Monday's Noon to 2:00pm | Wednesday's 10:00am - Noon

239.994.2528

pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com



stjohnsfcwi.org

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

608.687.3277