

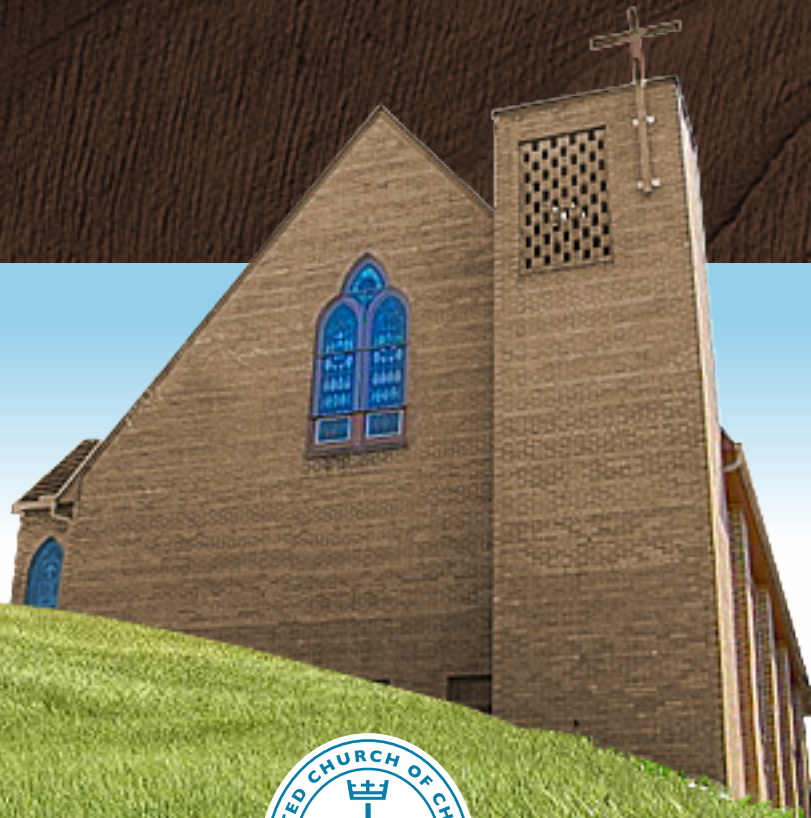


**St. John's**

United Church of Christ

# Digital Newsletter

**SJC Issue 1122 - November 2022**

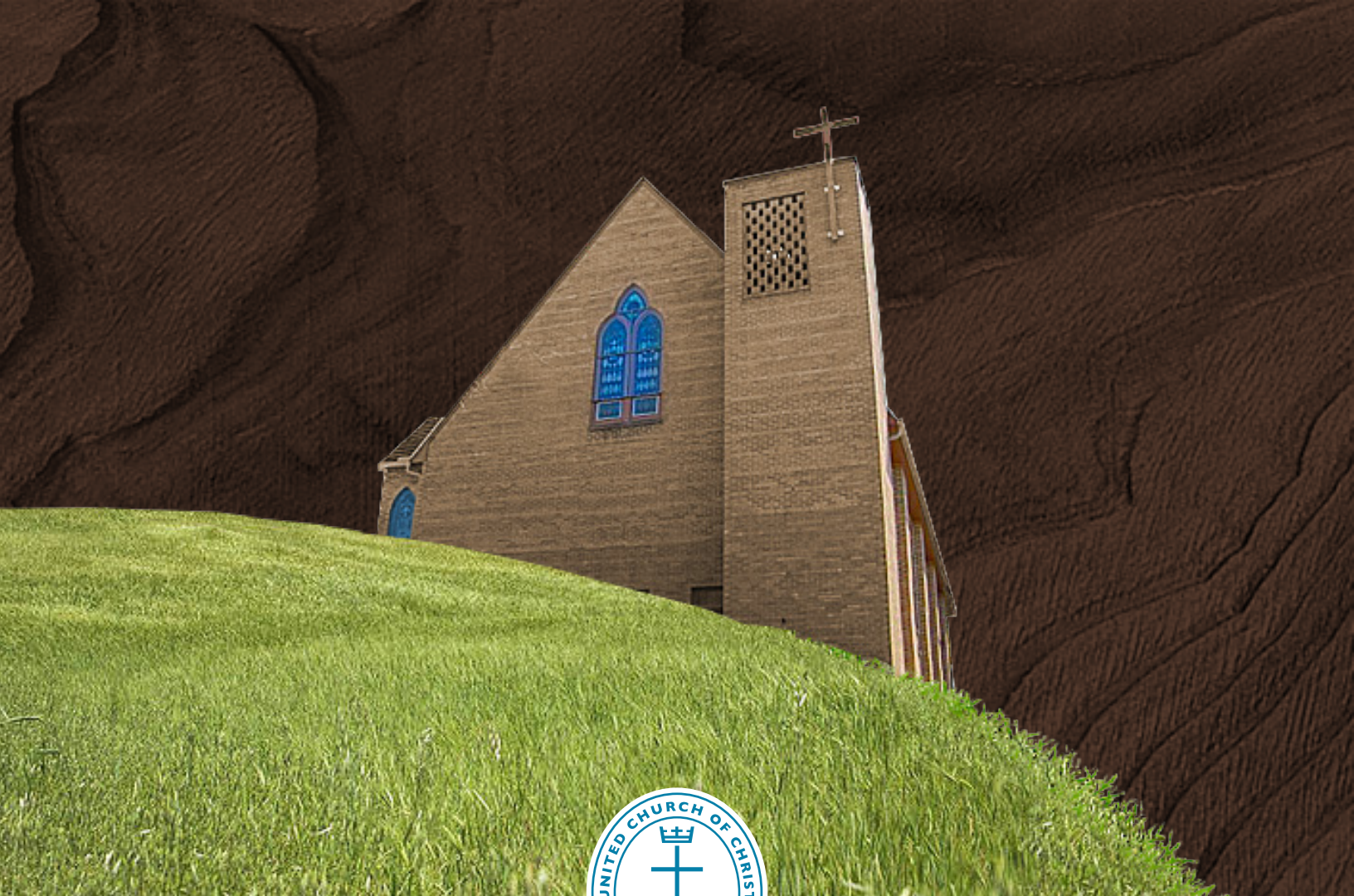


**[stjohnsfzwi.org](http://stjohnsfzwi.org)**

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**

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# Letter From The Pastor

**November 2022**

From the Pastor's Desk

Where have the last 10 months gone? Thanksgiving (and Deer Hunting Season) are at the end of this month. Then it's off to the Holiday Season, Christmas, and New Year's Eve. These all bring beloved traditions, gathering with friends and family, and celebrations.

Except, these past few years. Some were canceled, and others were limited the number of attendees and activities due to health concerns as the result of the pandemic. Others might have changed because friends or family are divided politically to the point that they cannot be in the same room. Of course, there are the changes that are part of life: people grow older, children turn into teens then adults who get married and have their own children, people move away for work or retirement, and more. It's just as true today as when Greek Philosopher Heraclitus thousands of years ago said, "change is the only constant in life."

Yet there are still reasons to be grateful as Thanksgiving approaches. Your celebrations may be bigger or smaller, quieter or louder, than years past. Yet within all changes, especially the negative ones, there are gifts of God's grace. They may not be easy to see at times. But they are still there. For God promises us wherever we are, God's love and presence is there. And that will not change.

So, what will you be grateful for this Thanksgiving? I'd love to hear.

God's grace and peace.

**Pastor Deb Kunkel**

P.S. The St. John's Consistory will be deciding at their November meeting when/if a Thanksgiving Service might be held. Please watch the webpage and the bulletin for details.



# Light of the World: Book Study

## A Beginner's Guide to Advent

Pastor Deb will be offering a joint a four-week Advent Book study for both Hope and St. Johns UCC. It will start Tuesday, November 29 and continue each Tuesday until December 20, tentatively at 4:00pm at Hope UCC. If you would like to participate and this time does not work for you, please let Pastor Deb know at [pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com) or 239.994.2528. A Zoom option can be made available if needed.



The book is Amy Jill Levine's "Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent." The book is described as "author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. Join her as she traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi.

These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt.

While reading the chapter in the book each week is not required, it will enhance the experience. Copies of the book will be available from Pastor Deb starting November 13. A donation to cover the cost is appreciated. (If you prefer, it can also be purchased as a Kindle or Audio Book from Amazon.)

God's grace and peace.

**Pastor Deb Kunkel**

# Fall Bazaar Fundraiser

**Saturday, November 5, 2022**

St. John's United Church will be hosting a Fall Bazaar on Saturday, November 5 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. The church is located at 303 S. Hill Street in Fountain City, WI. Available for purchase will be cookies, candies, breads, cakes, brownies and some surprise treats too. All are made by some of the best bakers in Buffalo County. Catch up with friends while you enjoy a beverage and a dessert served in the fellowship hall. A lift is accessible if you are unable to do stairs. Many theme based baskets will be offered for a chance drawing. Tickets can be purchased at the church. We hope you enjoy your afternoon with us. Winners of the baskets will be drawn and announced Sunday, November 6 at 9:30am right after church.



## Starts @ 1:00pm

- ✓ Bread, Candies & Desserts
- ✓ Craft Items
- ✓ Basket Raffle
- ✓ Coffee & Dessert
- ✓ Tickets Available



# 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.

**Starts: Sunday, October 2, 2022**



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## Archiving

### Volunteers: Historians & Photographers

We are looking for a volunteer (or two) who would enjoy being the historian for the church. This would mean going through the old files and documents of the church, deciding what has value to keep. This can be done at your pace. This isn't an "official" position, so your term would be as long or brief as you decide.



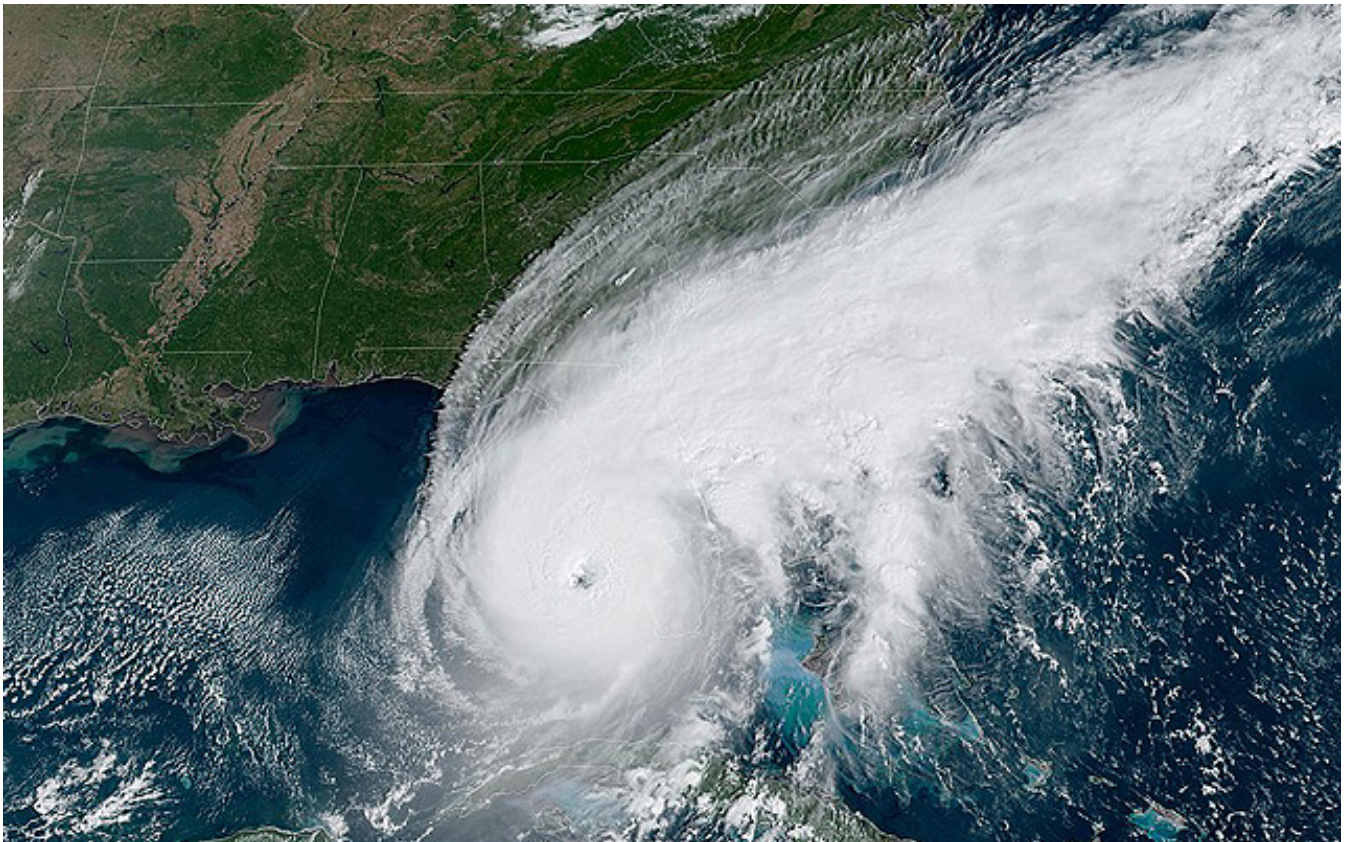
Pastor Deb is also hoping that there might be some photographers who be willing to be contacted to see if they would be available to take pictures at special services or events that could be used either in the church newsletter, website, or press releases. This also isn't an "official" position, so is based on your availability, and how often or long you choose to do this. If you are interested in either of these, please let Dale Schmidtknecht or Pastor Deb know.



# Hurricane Disaster Relief

## United Church of Christ

The United Church of Christ has issued an appeal to support immediate needs for families and communities affected by Hurricanes Fiona and Ian.



While this year's hurricane season started slow, the last two weeks have made it clear just how dangerous and destructive these storms can be. With wind speeds topping out at 130 miles per hour and 155 miles per hour, respectively, Hurricanes Fiona and Ian have left devastation in their wake. More than a week and a half after Fiona's winds left all of Puerto Rico in the dark, hundreds of thousands of people remain without power.

# Hurricane Disaster Relief

Communities remain in crisis mode as the delivery of food, drinking water, and medical needs is challenged in hard-to-reach places cut off by downed trees, mudslides, and washed away bridges. Millions have lost power and access to clean drinking water. The need for emergency food support, medical care, and temporary shelter is high. Rev. Edward Rivera-Santiago, Pastor General of Iglesia Evangélica Unida de Puerto Rico shared that congregations across the island are reporting both church and community members whose homes are severely damaged, with some facing total loss. Solidarity grants from Global H.O.P.E. and Global Ministries have been sent to assist with immediate needs while basic infrastructure is repaired and more complete assessments can be made. Meanwhile, Hurricane Ian has brought significant damage to Cuba, Florida, and the Carolinas. It is way too early to know the full extent of damage in Cuba and in Florida, yet early indications point to a recovery that will take many years – perhaps a decade.

## Donate Online: <https://www.ucc.org>

Your generous financial support will be used by our partners in the areas of greatest need, for relief and long-term recovery. If you prefer, you may mail a check payable to:

**United Church of Christ**  
**Memo: Hurricanes 2022 Fund**  
**PO BOX 71957, Cleveland, OH 44194**

Emergency response personnel are active. Relief agencies are meeting immediate needs where they can gain access to communities hard hit by the storm. United Church of Christ partners through National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster who focus on relief are implementing their plans. Global Ministries Area Executive for Latin America Angel Luis Rivera is in touch with bilateral partners. Conference leaders and Conference Disaster Coordinators are making contact, assessing needs, and communicating with the Global H.O.P.E. team so that help can be channeled, now and for the long term.



# 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

This is the time of year when many organizations, including churches, focus on seeking financial support. At the same time it is important to remember our joy when we give of ourselves. So many volunteer opportunities are out there, especially this time of year. Now is a great time to share the abundance of our time and talent, as well as our treasure. When we ask someone, “How are you?, what if we also ask “Do you have or know of some need? Is there a way for me to help? After the ups and downs of the last few years, we are finding ways to get back on track. Helping others is the one of the best ways. Let’s ask these questions. ~ Deacon John Stettler



# Food Shelf

## Report For October 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
- ✓ 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**



- ✓ 465 Pounds Of Food Distributed
- ✓ Averages 15 Pounds Of Food Per Person
- ✓ 31 Total People Helped
- ✓ 00 Children
- ✓ 13 Adults
- ✓ 18 Seniors
- ✓ 14 Households (4 Came Twice)



# Volunteers: November

## Ushers

Sue Prussing, Steve Prussing, Brian Wolfe

## Greeters

11.06.22 Betsy Semling & Nancy Malotke

11.13.22 David & Sharon Korb

11.20.22 Tom & Linda Clark

11.27.22 Sandy & Tom Ruben

12.30.22 Byron & Sherry Hoch

## Counters

Sherry & Byron Hoch

## Communion & Flowers

Joanne Muench

# Financial Report

## Overview as of 10.28.22

Current Income: \$2,380

Other Income: \$350

Total Income: \$2,730

Current Expenses: \$6,640

Net Decrease: (\$3,910)

Current income does not include online donations

Extra expense \$666 for a new laptop for

Confirmation/Worship Aids

## Birthdays

Mary Aus

Judy Schutz

Joe Semling

Randy Maier

Randy Knecht

Linda Wicka

Jacob Beck

Stacy Walth

Robert Wooden

Kristy Baures

Fritz West

Ted Wilson

Jack Wilson

Heather Schmidtknecht

Dominic Pyka

Mike Walth

Ana Knecht

Ross Ruehmann

Diane Schaffner

Madison Tennant

Kayla Kamrowski

Linda Clark

Madeline Kuhn

## Anniversaries

Aaron & Mickki Prussing

Bob & Kristy Baures

Byron & Sharon Hoch

Steve & Sue Prussing

# 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  
What is Confirmation



### Confirmation Class

3:30pm - 5:00pm  
St. John's Church  
Bible Old Testament



### Confirmation Class

3:30pm - 5:00pm  
St. John's Church  
Bible New Testament



### Confirmation Class

3:30pm - 5:00pm  
St. John's Church  
Service Project





# 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.

<b>OCTOBER</b> SUNDAY <b>30</b>	<b>Confirmation Sunday</b> <b>St. John's Church</b>  303 S Hill Street Fountain City, WI Starts @ 8:30am
<b>NOVEMBER</b> SUNDAY <b>05</b>	<b>Fall Bazaar</b> <b>St. John's Church</b>  303 S Hill Street Fountain City, WI Starts @ 1:00pm
<b>NOVEMBER</b> TUESDAY <b>06</b>	<b>Penny Collection</b> <b>St. John's Church</b>  303 S Hill Street Fountain City, WI Starts @ 8:30am
<b>NOVEMBER</b> SUNDAY <b>09</b>	<b>Consistory Meeting</b> <b>St. John's Church</b>  303 S Hill Street Fountain City, WI Starts @ 6:30pm

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)**

# 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](mailto:stjohnsuccfc@gmail.com)

Newsletter:

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

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