

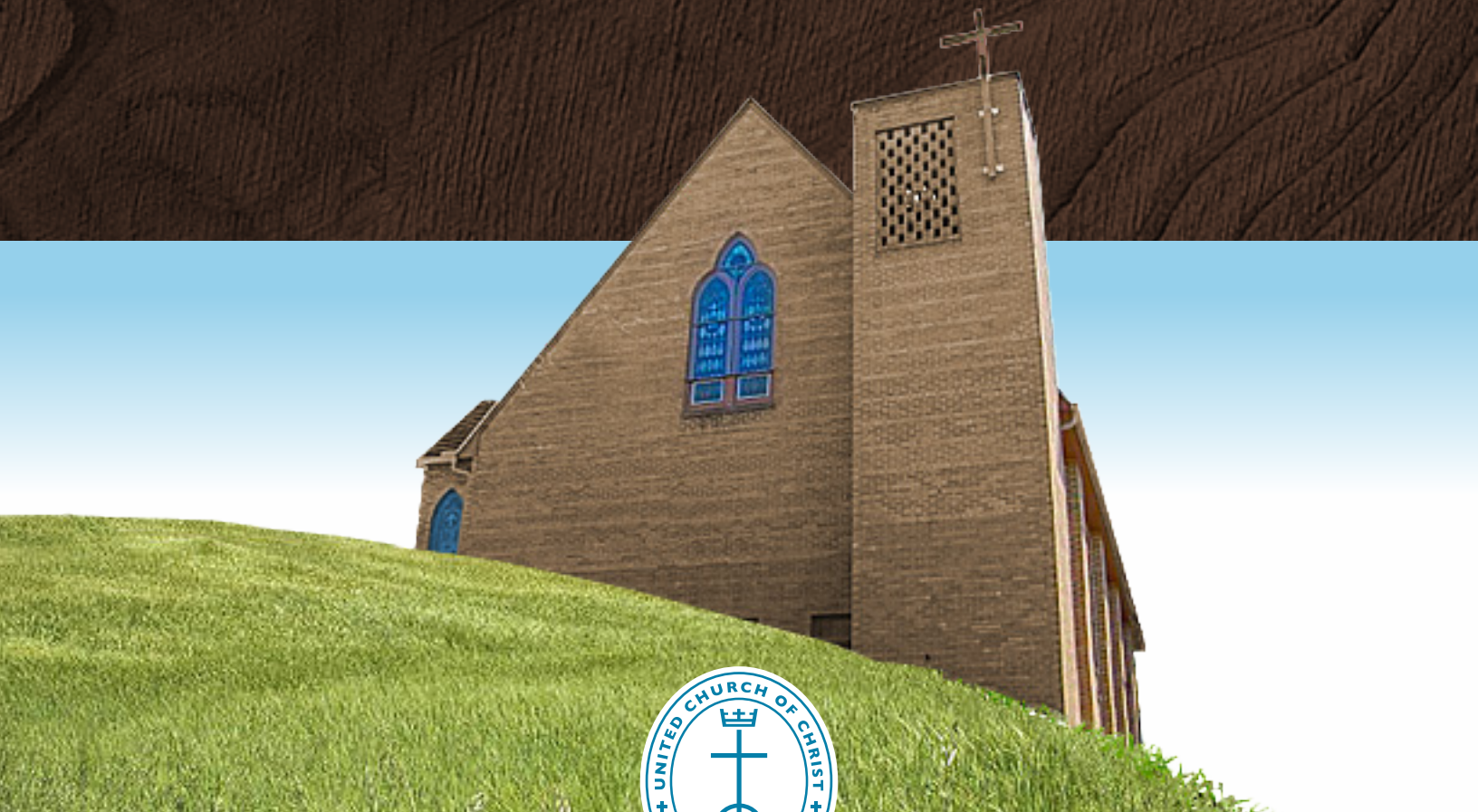


St. John's

United Church of Christ

Digital Newsletter

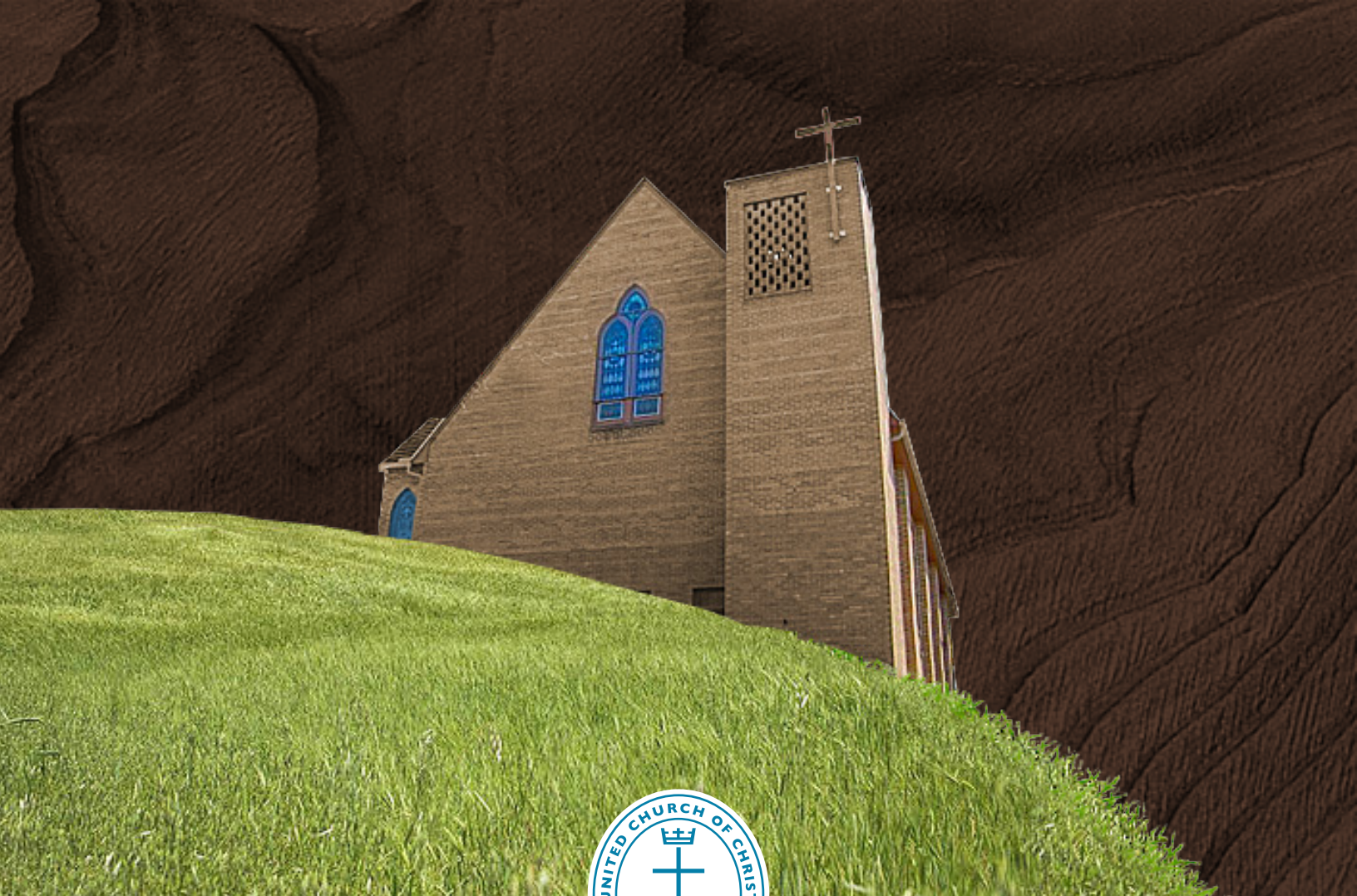
SJC Issue 1123 - November 2023



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!

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Letter From The Pastor

November 2023

How did it get to be November already? Thanksgiving is coming up soon, and then it will be time for all the preparations for Christmas. (Of course the stores have had Christmas items since the beginning of October.) Already the church calendar is starting to fill up.

Here are a few of the happenings going on here over the next month or so.

First:

The Women's Guild Fall Bazaar is on Saturday, November 4 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm There will be baked goods to buy, gift baskets to take a chance on, and coffee and refreshments available to have while you browse or sit to catch up with people you haven't seen in a while. (Thank you to Hope United Church for their donation of a dog themed basket for the raffle.)

Second:

The Deacons are asking us to focus for the month of November the Deacons on the spiritual practice of stewardship - which is about more than what you give to the church. It is not only about how we care for our finances, but also our time, our energy, our relationships, and even Creation itself. My sermons during November will also focus on the multitude of areas of life that are shaped by this spiritual practice. The Deacons chose the theme "Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives".

Third:

Starting Tuesday, December 5, I am offering an Advent/Epiphany Study at 5:30pm here at St. John's Church. It's a little lighter than my previous offerings - it's based on the small book "The Heart that Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch." Using Dr. Seuss's "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" we will explore some of the faith themes in this Christmas classic, including how exactly one's heart can grow three sizes?

Continued on next page...

Letter From The Pastor

November 2023

Each class will be about an hour. The schedule will be:

Advent/Epiphany Study Starts @ 5:30pm

- ✓ **Tuesday, December 5, 2023: When everything is wrong.**
- ✓ **Tuesday, December 12, 2023: When Christmas isn't Christmas.**
- ✓ **Tuesday, December 19, 2023: When Light Shines.**
- ✓ **Tuesday, January 2, 2024: When Joy is Our Song.**

While it is helpful to buy the book to read before each week's class it isn't required. I will have several copies available for purchase starting Sunday, November 12. And if you need a refresher on the Grinch, I have a few copies on my own bookshelf that I can loan out. And Hope United Church members are welcome to join.

And don't forget Hope United Church Soups & Chili Supper Fundraiser on Friday, November 10, 2023 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm in Cochrane, WI. See hopeunitedcochrane.org for full details.

Of course that isn't all that will be happening - please check the rest of the newsletter for more events and experiences, and then December's for details of special Christmas services. Hope to see you at some (or all) these!

God's grace and peace.

Pastor Deb Kunkel

Cell: 239.994.2528

pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com

Consistory President Message

November 2023

Hello Everyone,

We are well into fall. Today feels more like winter. The weather is definitely changing. Things are starting to get busier here at St. John's Church. Coming up shortly, we will be having our Fall Bazaar. This is being put on by our wonderful Women's Guild. These ladies always amaze me with the great job they do at organizing and putting on the Fall Bazaar.

The Deacons are also busy working on the budget for next year. This is always a tough job for them trying to keep expenses down but still maintain our church efficiency. This is the time of the year when we need to dig deep in our pockets and give so we do not fall behind in keeping our church viable.

The Consistory is also starting to look at the Leadership Positions needed for next year. Please think hard about volunteering to cover these positions. Your input and your help are greatly appreciated.

And remember to keep watching for the upcoming Holiday schedule. The Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday schedule will be coming out and you do not want to miss anything.

God's grace and peace.

Dale Schmidtknecht

303 S Hill Street
Fountain City, WI
PO Box 130
Church: 608.687.3277



Leadership Positions

Leadership Positions Are Available For 2024

St. John's Church is seeking the following Leadership Positions for the upcoming year. Please contact Dale Schmidtknecht or any Consistory Member know if you are interested!



PRESIDENT
(3 Year Term)



TREASURER
(3 Year Term)



DEACON
(2 Year Term)



INVESTMENT
(2 Year Term)



SMAT
(2 Year Term)

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

Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests For Inclusion In The Bulletin

There have been many requests for prayers requests to once again be placed in the bulletin. And so in September we will start to do so. There will be prayer request slips left out by the bulletins each Sunday that can be put in the offering plate or on Pastor Deb's desk. Please note that these will only be for those requests you wish to have put in the bulletin.

Because of HIPPA and confidentiality concerns, for inclusion in the bulletin, prayer requests must be from an immediate family member, and/ or indicate that the person the request concerns has indicated it is okay that it can be shared in the bulletin. They should also have the name of the person requesting the prayer so that there is someone to check with, if needed, if after a period of time the request is still needed. Of course, if the request is for you personally, simply let Pastor Deb know it can be included in the bulletin.

Please note that we will continue to accept all prayer requests for inclusion in the pastoral prayer during the service, and that you can also lift the request up at the time. However, Pastor Deb will need the written slip to verify spelling etc., especially if the person is not part of the congregation. If you have any questions or concerns, please see Pastor Deb.

God's grace and peace.

Pastor Deb Kunkel

303 S Hill Street

Fountain City, WI

PO Box 130

Church: 608.687.3277

Cell: 239.994.2528

pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com

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, October 1, 2023



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.

stjohnsfzwi.org



Fall Bazaar Fundraiser

Saturday, November 4, 2023

St. John's United Church will be hosting a Fall Bazaar on Saturday, November 4 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



St. John's
United Church of Christ

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Stewardship

Stewardship Moment from the Deacons

Our church changes lives. Framed photos on the wall across from the church office are of daughters and sons of St. John's congregation (became pastors and missionaries) that served their faith beyond the walls of St. John's. They changed lives. In 2023 we still say, **"Because of YOU our Church Changes Lives"**. At many levels of service, participation, and financial support.



~ Deacon John Stettler

Sunday School

School Education

School age children are welcome to join our Sunday School classes during Sunday morning services at 10:30am. St. John's Church has two groups Pre-K to 2nd grade and 3rd to 6th grade. Through weekly lessons we learn about our Savior Jesus Christ. Each year the Sunday School students rehearse and perform the Children's Christmas Service in December celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. For more information, contact Karen Knospe.

During Sunday Morning Service

- ✓ **Sundays @ 10:30am**
- ✓ **Pre-K to 2nd Grade**
- ✓ **3rd to 6th Grade**

Feeding C-FC Families

The “Backpack Program” Is Now “Feeding C-FC Families”

Feed My People will deliver food to the Milton Town Hall on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 11:00am. Volunteers are needed to help unload the food, and store the food in the designated areas in the Town Hall. Volunteers are also needed to pack and help distribute the food on the following Tuesday. Food will be packed from 1:00pm to 3:00pm, ready to be picked up by the families from 3:00pm to 5:30pm. People can volunteer to help pack or be available for family pickup or for both. Hope United Church members and friends are also invited to join St. John’s Church volunteers, as well as the wider community.

✓ **1st Wednesday Of Each Month**

11:00am

Unload Food Truck

✓ **The Following Tuesday**

1:00pm to 3:00pm

Organize & Pack Food

✓ **The Following Tuesday**

3:00pm to 5:30pm

Food Read To Distribute

Volunteers Are Needed...

Contact us today to volunteer for any open position.

[Volunteer Now](#)

C-FC Area Food Shelf

Report For October 2023

Can you give a couple hours a month and volunteer at the C-FC Area Food Shelf located at St. John's Church in Fountain City, WI? 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!

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



- ✓ 632 Pounds Of Food Distributed
- ✓ Averages 36 Pounds Of Food Per Person
- ✓ 18 Total People Helped
- ✓ 02 Children
- ✓ 15 Adults
- ✓ 19 Seniors
- ✓ 25 Households (6 Came Twice)

Volunteers: November

Ushers

Sue Prussing, Steve Prussing & Karen Pehler

Greeters

11.05.23 Betsy Semling & Nancy Malotke

11.12.23 Randy Knecht Family

11.19.23 Tom & Linda Clark

11.26.23 Sandy & Tom Ruben

12.03.23 Byron & Sherry Hoch

Counters

John & Mary Stettler

Communion & Flowers

Joanne Muench

Financial Report

A monthly Financial Report summarized by category is available in the office or requested by email. For detailed information regarding the financial standing of St. John's Church, contact the office to review financial documents.

St. John's Church
303 S Hill Street
Fountain City, WI 54629
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stjohnsfcwi.org

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

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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Confirmation

Confirmation Exploration Class

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 Exploration Class

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



Confirmation Exploration Class

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



Confirmation Exploration Class

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



Confirmation Exploration Class

NO CLASS
St. John's Church
Education



St. John's

United Church of Christ



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.



St. John's Church Fall Bazaar

303 S Hill Street
Fountain City, WI
Starts @ 1:00pm



St. John's Church All Saints Day

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



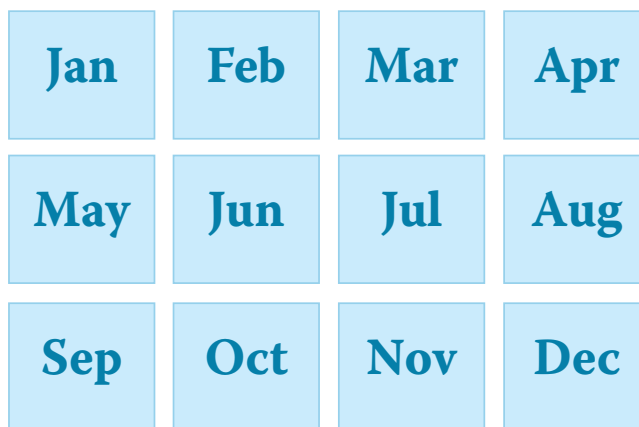
St. John's Church Consistory Meeting

303 S Hill Street
Fountain City, WI
Starts @ 6:00pm



St. John's Church 1st Sunday of Advent

303 S Hill Street
Fountain City, WI
Starts @ 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

Bible Study

Advent/Epiphany Study

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Tuesdays Starts @ 5:30pm

- ✓ **Tuesday, December 5, 2023: When everything is wrong.**
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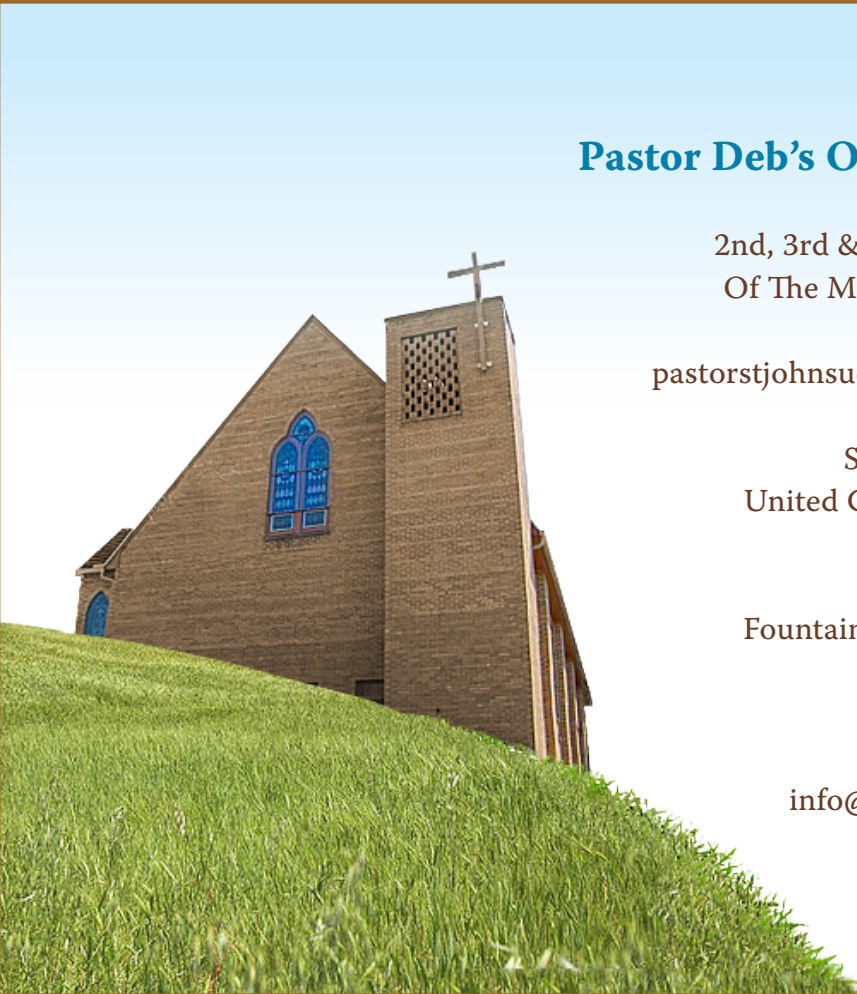
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See All Letters & Messages Online Under The Worship Tab
stjohnsfcwi.org

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 you like a visit from Pastor Deb, please call her to set up a time today!



Pastor Deb's Office Hours:

2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday
Of The Month @ 10:00am
239.994.2528
pastorstjohnsuccfc@gmail.com

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St. John's

United Church of Christ

Church Office:

stjohnsuccfc@gmail.com

Newsletter:

stjohnsfcnewsletter@gmail.com

Pastor Deb's Office Hours:

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