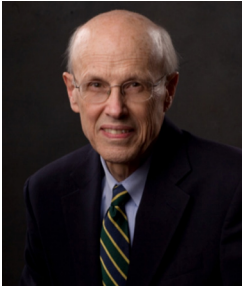


St John United Church of Christ

November 2017

"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The Ham Dinner and St John's Future

Dear Friends in Christ,

I'm thanking God for the coming together of three positive developments:

1st, **funds were quickly raised** to repair the organ and the water pipe. We've received almost \$9,000 for these repairs, including memorials from the Nitz and Frost families.

2nd, **the Search Committee has found an excellent candidate** who is enthused about becoming the permanent p-t pastor of St. John. The candidate's profile was mailed to everyone and is posted on the church bulletin board. Nov. 12 is "candidate Sunday."

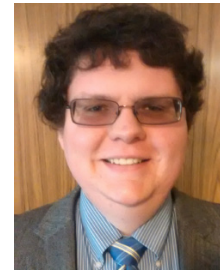
3rd, twelve of our church leaders participated in the **"Listening to the Spirit" survey to help identify a plan to move St John forward**. A meeting with the Rev. Jeff Mikyska of the Center for Parish Development is set for Nov. 18 to develop plans for the future.

My title refers to the "ham dinner." But how does the Oct. 21 "ham dinner" relate to the three topics above? The ham dinner was a success because so many people pitched in and served. There was a clearly defined focus and there were tasks for everyone to carry out.

God's future for St John will be bright as long as everyone pitches in and supports a **"clearly defined plan for ministry in Jesus' name."** As our readings in Mark's Gospel have shown, Jesus does not call us to the status quo.

In Christ's love,

Pastor David



The Seminarian Says

—from our intern
Alex Wolf

November brings about a time when we see the leaves fall off the trees and the weather turns colder. We also celebrate a holiday on the fourth Thursday of the month whose, in my opinion, original purpose has been abandoned. The holiday has turned into a day where we focus on eating as much as we can while we gather around the television watching football (or is that just my family?).



In the first chapter of his letter to the Colossians, the apostle Paul writes down his prayer and petition on behalf of the Christians in Colossae, asking God that they may be filled with wisdom and understanding in order to live a life pleasing to God (Col. 1:9-10). Paul then explains what it means to live that kind of life (vs. 10-12). The first three ways are pretty straightforward: bearing fruit in good works, growing in knowledge of God, (Continued on page 2)

FAITH IN ACTION

by Sue Jacobs



THANKSGIVING

This program assists under-resourced families from our community. We help by providing them with all of the ingredients needed to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Sign up lists for 2 baskets are posted for those who wish to contribute. If you need shopping assistance, please talk to Sue Jacobs. **Baskets need to be returned to the Township Center by Thursday November 16. The last Sunday for drop-off at church will be 11/12.**



Christmas

There are under-resourced families in our community whose financial situations will not allow them to experience a joy-filled holiday season. You can reach out and help one of these Palatine Township families by "adopting" them for the holidays. **The "Adopt-A-Family Program" provides new clothing, toys and gifts to these families within the Township.** When our family is assigned, gift tags for the items to be purchased will be made available. Please purchase the item you select and gift wrap it with BOTH TAGS on the outside of the package. Do not wrap gift cards or put them in gift bags. Just attach BOTH TAGS to the gift card envelope. The date for the 2017 Adopt-A-Family Program is Saturday, December 16 for turning in your donations which will be distributed later that day to your Adopted family.

The last Sunday for drop-off at church will be 12/10. See Sue Jacobs if you have any questions or need shopping assistance. Instructions for the program will be available with the gift tags.

The Seminarian Says (Continued)

and being strengthened in patience and endurance. This pleasing life all culminates in the last way: giving thanks to God.

Paul writes that to be spiritually mature in Christ means to be grateful. I think too often we forget about all the blessings that we have received from God and take those blessings for granted. I know I do. As we watch the leaves turn beautiful colors, as we put on our sweaters, as we enjoy a meal with our families, even as we enjoy that football game, may we be grateful this Thanksgiving for all that the Lord has blessed us with. And if we can, may we also extend those blessings to others. Give thanks to God with a grateful heart!

HAM SUPPER SUCCESS

Thanks to all who helped out on the Ham Supper.

Here is just one of the thanks for all your hard work.

Email from our Firemen guests:

"We wanted to thank you for inviting us to your Ham Supper. The food was fantastic and everyone was friendly and welcoming. We always look forward to coming to this event. Thank you, Roger and the members of Gold Shift Palatine Rural Fire Department."

LITTLE CITY- OUR TEAM



Meet Daniel and Jessica our helpers from Little City. They are doing a fantastic job! Thank you!

Donate any clean rags to aid the clean up by dropping them off on the secretary office desk.



Service 10:30 am – All Year

Children's Church every Sunday, following the Children's Message

Older kids from 9:30 to 10:15 am, before the service

Pastor David has church office hours weekly. Please call 630-747-8181 to make an appointment for a visit.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 5th – Rejoice Singers
November 12 – Candidate Sunday
Turkey/Hymn Sing canceled

November 19th
 Following the Service.
Farewell Luncheon to
Pastor David

November 26th – Alex Wolf preaches
December 3rd – New Pastor's first
 Sunday (hopefully)

Christmas Services
Sunday – December 24th
 Christmas Sunday Service 10:30 am
 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10:00 pm.

January 2018
 Look here for next years events.

PASTORAL CHANGES



Rev. Sandra Kolar is our candidate for new part-time permanent Pastor. On November 12th Rev. Kolar will lead worship and preach the sermon. Please join us on our journey of St John's Future.

At the conclusion of the Service, there will be a **Q&A session** – a time for the congregation to get to know Rev. Kolar better. When the Q & A session ends, Rev. Kolar will be dismissed to the Fellowship Hall and the Congregation will begin discussion and deliberation. Once deliberations are complete, **a vote will be taken** and Rev. Kolar will return to the Sanctuary to learn the outcome.

Informative letters introducing Rev Kolar to the church community have been mailed. Look for yours coming soon.

Her Primary Objective - To serve a faith community dedicated to God and committed to sharing and practicing God's Word. To inspire and guide those who seek to deepen their understanding of faith and faith in action.

The Search Committee is encouraged and excited that Sandy has found St. John and our community. Her ideas to help our church be more visible in the community, her support of and previous experience with our 'Listening to the Spirit' survey process and her ability to develop leaders within the church are all hopeful and purposeful endeavors which align with St John UCC's future.



Fellowship

Come to the lower level after worship to enjoy refreshments and conversation. Please bring a dish to share whenever you can.



Last Sunday of the Month

- Communion
- Food Pantry donation pick up.

Did you know you can donate to St. John Church via paypal? Go to stjohnUCCpalatine.org and click on the Donate button on the home page OR click on the link below to go directly to giving <http://stjohnUCCpalatine.org/giving>

St. John Church

1475 W. Algonquin Rd, Palatine, IL 60067
 Phone 847-358-7620
 email: stjohnUCCpalatine@gmail.com
 website – www.StJohnUCCPalatine.org