

St John United Church of Christ

"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

February 2017



Chili Cook-off March 18



The Chili cook-off returns.

It is a fun event that everyone can join in, *Saturday, March 18th, 5:00 pm.*

Pull out your favorite chili recipe, secret ingredient and whip up a batch. Among the past entries were, bison, chili verde, five alarm chili, chili-mac, chicken and vegetarian recipes.

There will be secret ballot voting and may the best chili win the coveted **Chili Ladle Award**.

Voting pebbles are sold 3 for \$1. Buy as many pebbles as you like. The more kinds of chili we have the more fun it is. We will have sample cups for the voting. *Please sign up in the Narthex* to bring a pot of chili, dessert, corn bread, chili fixin's, soda or help set up.

This is a free admission event but there will be a donation basket with all profits going to the church. If you don't like chili, come on out for the fellowship!



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends in Christ,

At our Annual Meeting I reflected on the past year and said that I am inspired by St. John's marvelous history of serving Christ, by faithful leaders and workers, by faithful worshipers and by generous givers.

*I've also been inspired by several **creative ideas**: having the Rejoice Singers participate in our worship services, scheduling a play by the Harper College drama department in our sanctuary, and launching "St. John Servants," to help our people with transportation and household tasks.*

Laura D'Argo's work as Office Mgr/Communications Director is a lift to our efforts to reach out to our communities. We want a monthly focus—a service or event that we can advertise and that you would want to invite a friend to.

I am happy that we decided to plan an event for this summer that will appeal to families with young children. We must plan to reach out consistently to the thousands (yes, "thousands") of families within a 20-minute drive of our church who have school age children.

I urge you to join me in praying every day that God will lead us to people who feel called by God to serve St. John as pastor, children's ministry director and organist. Our searches have been discouraging so far, but we remember that "with God all things are possible."

*Sunday morning's reading in Matthew 4 stopped at verse 22. I wish we had read verse 23 which says that Jesus went all around Galilee **teaching, preaching and healing**—three words to describe what Jesus was about—and what we, as his disciples, must be about. "Preaching" refers to getting out the Gospel message beyond the walls of our sanctuary; "teaching" includes educating ourselves and our children about Christian truth; and "healing" encompasses all of our ministries to each other AND to the "least of these" in our area.*

If we are faithful in continuing the ministry of Jesus, then, I believe, the future of St. John is bright.

*In Christ's love,
Pastor David*



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 his cell 630-747-8181 to make an appointment for a visitation.

Calendar Events

February 26th – Same sex marriage discussion

by Pastor David

March 18th 5:00 pm –Chili Cook-off

Contact Laura D’Argo

April – Spring Clean Up

Help with the grounds clean up and give our Church curb appeal as we get ready for our summer events.

May 13th– Flower Sale

Brought to you by The Flower Committee

Judy, Julie, Ellen, Jody, Laurie and Sam

May 10th – Women’s Guild Luncheon

June 25th – Semi-Annual Meeting

September 16th – Craft Fair/Flea Market

Contact Lori Neumann

October 21st– Ham Supper, Spiral cut ham and

home-made German potato salad

November 19th– Turkey Pot Luck and Hymn Sing

December 24th – Christmas Eve Service 10:00 pm.

Our History Day, date to be announced.

Make a note on your calendars for the events

In the Know

– by the Communications Director, Laura D.

At our **Annual meeting**, the new budget was approved. The search for a permanent Pastor, Organist, and Children’s Ministry Director is ongoing. The Office Manager/Communications Director continues into June. **Adeline is stepping down from her long service as an Elder and Lori Neumann has become a Trustee.**

There are still positions on the council that are in need of filling. Talk to the Pastor David if you can help.

- Please note the spaghetti dinner has been replaced by a Chili cook-off in March, because of easier preparation.

- This year the old office computer will be replaced by a new one. It had become obsolete. An updated website will be launched allowing for easier updates and a fresh look.

Every hand helps and everyone matters. We are still looking for someone to head up the Ham Supper.



Time takes a leap forward!

Don’t forget to change your clocks on March 12th at 2:00 am. Ok, maybe just do it the night before. **SPRING AHEAD**, and think spring.



Coffee Hour

1st and 3rd Sundays following service.



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 stjohnpalatine.org and click on the Donate button on the home page OR click on the link below to go right to our home page.
<http://stjohnpalatine.org>

– Thank you.

St. John Church

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