



A Word From The Pastor

On the first Sunday back at church after an August vacation, a member of the church I was then serving, greeted me with the words - "Happy New Year." It was a timely and appropriate greeting.

Late August and early September is a time of beginnings. It is a new year opening before us. The church program year really begins in September, not January. By the time you read this, public schools will have resumed classes. On Sunday, SEPTEMBER 12, RALLY DAY, a new year of Sunday School for children begins. The Chancel Choir will resume singing on Rally Day Sunday. Bibles will be presented to 3rd graders and confirmands on Rally Day.

The Confirmation Class will begin their studies on Wednesday, September 1, and the confirmands will be introduced to the congregation on Rally Day.

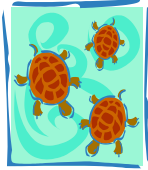
This fall an evening Bible Study experience will be offered as well as the day opportunity. The day Bible Study group will resume their sessions on Wednesday, September 8, at 10:00. The new evening Bible Study group will commence on Monday, September 13, at 7:00. There is a feeling of beginnings in the air at St. Johns Church. A new year begins.

Of course, theologically, every day is the beginning of a new year. We need not wait for Labor Day or January 1 or a birthday to turn a page and make a new beginning. "This is the day the Lord has made" - this very day. The time for serving God is always now. In every now, God gives us a new point of beginning.

Wouldn't it be a grand beginning if on Sunday, September 12, RALLY DAY, there were 300+ folks gathered together in worship? With your presence, that goal can be a reality. Can I count on you?.

Let me wish you all a Happy New Year! See you in church.

Pastor Hale



DIRECTOR OF YOUTH and YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES...

Debby Harness

Youth Web site: www.stjohnsyouth.weebly.com

MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

SEPTEMBER:

Sun – 12th Youth Group Meeting 6-7:30 pm
Sun – 26th Volleyball 6:30 – 8:30 pm

OCTOBER:

Sun – 3rd Work games and activities at Harvest Fest
Sun – 10th Youth Group Meeting 6 – 7:30 pm
Sun – 24th Volleyball 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Sun – 31st Usher and take food to food bank.

MIDDLE/SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

We meet each Sunday morning (except the 1st Sunday of the month) at 9:00 a.m. in the youth room located on the 3rd floor. All are welcome.

September 5 th	No Class – First Sunday
September 12 th	Class after children's message
September 19 th	Class
September 26 th	Class



Workcamp June 18 – 26, 2011 - Back Bay Mission, Biloxi, Miss. www.thebackbaymission.org



The focus of this work camp is on disaster recovery work following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Current work includes insulation, drywall, painting, roofing, flooring and some demolition. Cost per person is \$150 – which includes everything except spending money. 50% deposit is due by September 19, 2010 and final payment is due by February 6, 2011. See Debby Harness to sign up. Limit of 10 people.

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH
and YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES...** page 2
Debby Harness

FAMILY MINISTRIES

The goal of Family Ministries is to support families of all shapes and sizes in their journey to raise children in a Christian community.

2nd Saturday Movies

6:00 p.m. we eat, 6:30 p.m. movie begins in the Dining Hall at church. We will supply the popcorn and movie—you bring the kids, a drink food and a friend. Kids—bring your sleeping bag or a blanket to put on the floor to watch the movie.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Movie</i>
September 11 th	Narnia
October 9 th	Lion King
November 13 th	Toy Story



ADULTS NEEDED TO WORK WITH YOUTH



I am looking for adults who would like to work with youth to come join the fun. We meet once a month on Sunday's from 6 – 7:30 p. m. This is a great opportunity to get to know the youth and the special gifts they bring to this church. Please call Debby Harness if you are interested in talking about this adventure, one that will change your life

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is open to all youth 7th grade and older. We meet in the Youth Room on the 3rd floor.



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|------------------------------|--|
| Wed., Sept. 1 st | Class from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. |
| Sun., Sept 6 th | Sermon report in worship |
| Wed., Sept. 8 th | Class from 6: 30 – 8:00 p.m. |
| Fri/Sat, Sept 10/11 | Retreat at Mo-Val 7:00 pm on Friday
until 7:00 pm on Saturday |
| Sun., Sept 12 th | Receive Bible in Church. |
| Wed., Sept 15 th | Class from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. |
| Wed., Sept 22 nd | Class 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. |
| Wed., Sept. 29 th | Class from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. |

Bible Study

This fall there will be two different opportunities for Bible Study. The Day Bible Study group will resume on Wednesday, Sept. 8, at 10:00 a.m. A new Evening Bible Study group will begin on Monday, September 13, at 7:00. Both groups will study the Prologue of the Bible, Genesis 1-11. All sessions are 75 minutes in length. There was a time when Protestants were known as People of the Book – meaning, people who knew the Bible. Here are two opportunities to expand and deepen your understanding of Scripture.

LANDSCAPE TASK FORCE UPDATE

The Crossing is finally taking shape. The major dirt movement is done, the asphalt in front of the warehouse building has been resurfaced, some trees have been planted and now we patiently wait for cooler temperatures to plant the grass seed. The current plan is to sow the seed and straw the week of September 6th. We still have some rocks to remove before the seeding takes place. In your spare time wander up to church and pick up a bucket of rocks. Rocks should be deposited in the rock area in front of the cell tower. You are encouraged to walk the Crossing property before the seeding, see how large the area is and of course pick up a few rocks! The Task Force is still in need of hoses, sprinklers and volunteers to help move the hoses during the watering phase.

Contact any member of the task force (Dennis Earley, Marilyn King, Fred Mueller, Pam Nazzoli, Marie Roth), to volunteer your assistance. It will take many hands to water 3 acres of ground. The Landscape Task Force has been active for 2 years, thanks to all that have supported us and continue to support our efforts.

ST. JOHNS APPLE BUTTER

“Be A Part of the Tradition”

It is that time of year where preparation for making the annual Apple Butter for the Harvest Festival is taking place. The making of St. Johns Apple Butter has been an on-going part of the church heritage for many decades, and there have been some changes made this year to make this exciting and fun-filled **2 day event** available to more of the congregation.



Sunday, September 26 is the day to make the applesauce (that’s right – not store bought). The fires will begin at 6:00AM. At 7:00AM, the apples will be sorted (bad spots removed) and cut using “French Fry Cutters”. The cut apples will then be cooked to “mush” outside in kettles then brought back inside to grind out the skin and seeds leaving – applesauce! We will need help operating the french fry cutters, stirring the apples in the kettles and cranking the grinders.



Monday, September 27 the applesauce made the day before will be transformed (cooked) into the famous St. Johns Apple Butter. This process includes spices and sugar being added and several hours to cook to the correct consistency. The cooking process requires lots of individuals to stir so bring lawn chairs and lots of stories to share. After the cooking is complete the apple butter (no longer applesauce) is canned and ready for the Harvest Festival!

We need your empty jars from last year, especially half pints, and wide mouth pints and regular size lids and bands. Donations of sugar or cash will be accepted to defray the cost of the apples, spices, lids, etc and are needed by September 19. Everyone is encouraged to participate and learn about the “art of apple butter making” in this St. Johns Tradition and to help carry it on as it has for generations. This is also a great time of fun and fellowship!

If you have any questions, please call Micki Jegel at (314) 941-9733.




FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is available for children 3 years old through 5th grade during both services. The children are invited to be a part of worship and go forward during the Children's Message.

Date	9:00 Class	10:30 Class
September 5 th	Class	Class
September 12 th	Class	Class
September 19 th	Class	Class
September 26 th	Class	Class

BIBLE SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 12TH

 Children in 3rd grade will receive their Bibles on September 12th at both services. If you have an older child who did not receive a bible, please let the office know so we can make sure they also receive one. All parents of 3rd graders will receive a letter about this special day (for spelling of child's name) – if you did not receive one, contact Debby Harness at the church.

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE ITEMS FOR THE NURSERY!



What a joy to have our Nursery look so good for our little ones. The Nursery is an entry point for young families to join our congregation. It is where children will start to learn about God's love and that church is about being cared for and nurtured. We would like to thank everyone who made it all possible!!

CEREAL DRIVE –SEPTEMBER 19TH

We are once again collecting cereal for the food pantries. Please bring a box of cereal to church on any Sunday in September and help us fill up the pantry!





FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION (page 2)

NURSERY HELPERS NEEDED



We need to have two people in our nursery each week to stay in line with our "Safe Church policy" so we are asking members to sign up for one Sunday each month as a helper. That is only 12 times a year, or if you choose the 5th Sunday of the month it is only 4 times a year!

The signup sheet is located on the door to the Nursery.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

DAY: Day Adult Bible Study class meets each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. beginning September 8 – November 17. They will begin by studying Genesis 1-11.



Day class meets in the Dining Hall

EVENING: Evening Adult Bible Study begins on Mondays starting September 13 – Oct 11 (5 weeks) and they will also be studying Genesis 1-11.

Evening class meets in the Wintermeyer Room

LOOKING AHEAD...



HARVEST FEST - OCTOBER 3, 2010

Our children's corner will have a number of booths for children. We will have offer a Food Booth - Kids Meal Deal (a Hot Dog, Chips and a drink) and all types of games and crafts. Come and enjoy!

GRANDPARENTS DAY in Sunday School – October 10th

All Grandparents are welcome to come down to Sunday school with their grandchildren on Sunday, Oct. 10th to create a project together.



BERTT'S BELLS SCHEDULE



Children of all ages are welcome to play the bells. We practice each Sunday at both services during Sunday School. Our schedule for the year:

November 21st "We Gather Together"
December 12th "Silent Night"



Women's Fellowship

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME...

Well, Women's Fellowship didn't actually go to the ballgame, but for our August meeting, we wore red and white and Cardinal shirts. We were treated with Cracker Jacks and Popcorn by our team hostesses: Dottie Bleitz, Loretta Boemler, Pat Rettinger and Marie Roth. They also provided delicious desserts on a bug free table (I think I did see a coup of ants around the picnic basket). We played trivia baseball games. We didn't know a lot of the answers but it was fun guessing. The entertainment was a reading of "Casey At The Bat" by our very own player, Terry, our rookie, Rupp.

One of our members, Betty Todtenhaupt, made a surprise visit and she was welcomed by all. Keep improving Betty. Sadly, another of our group, Ellie Stampfer, had a mishap. She fell and broke her hip while walking her dog. Our get well wishes go out to Ellie. We also send our sympathy to Ruth Hauck, on the passing of her husband, Harold.

One of our members, Pat Rettinger, will be on the Pastoral Search Committee.

Our September 2nd meeting will be a Salad Luncheon. Everyone bring a dish of your favorite salad. This will be one of our grand buffets. Lots of goodies to chose from. Our hostesses are: Billie Kraemer, LaVerne Moersch, Gloria Whitson and Ginny Woehrle.



Ladies, if you like to sample all kinds of salads, come to our meeting on September 2, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. in the Dining Hall. We will have plenty of good eats and a speaker to follow.

Marilyn Stegmann, Secretary

FIT FOR LIFE

Who says you can't get something for nothing? In the month of September, all fit for Life classes are **FREE!** A wide variety will be offered, and yes, we employ all the methods of exercise that are listed. Bring a mat or towel, hand weights, and join us at 6:30 in the dining hall.

Mondays

September 13—Cardio combo
(step, aerobics, and floor)

September 20—Kickboxing

September 27—Aerobics interval

Thursdays

September 9—Strength Class

September 16—Pilates/Yoga

September 23—Core/balance

September 30—Stability ball
(bring your own)

Teresa has been teaching exercise classes for more than 15 years. She has numerous group exercise certifications from the YMCA.



**Please join us during our trial period.
You'll be glad you did!**

Mo-Val Benefit Concert

This is a concert (of all drums) you won't want to miss. Sheltered Reality will be playing a benefit concert for Camp Mo-Val on Sunday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Kirkwood Park Amphitheater, 111 S. Geyer, Kirkwood, MO. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. For tickets to the concert call 314-607-5026 or go to <http://kirkwooducc.org/moval>. There will be a raffle and attendance prizes will be given. Enjoy an evening of music and support Camp Mo-Val by coming to the concert!



MISSION COMMISSION

“Remember there’s no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end.”

--Scott Adams

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU: For all the toys for the kids for BRO to brighten Christmas for those in need. Thanks for all the school supplies for Isaiah 58, Joint Neighborhood Ministry, and Neighborhood Houses, We collected more than 21 boxes of school supplies that we divided equally among the three missions. Thanks, also, for the food for Feed My People. Quantities remain extremely low. We are in need of cereal, mac and cheese, dry pasta, and peanut butter or anything that you would like to donate. We are a most generous congregations and the Missions Commission is deeply grateful.

MANNA MARCH: On Sunday, September 19, Feed My People will be sponsoring the Annual Manna March at Jefferson Barracks. Sign Ups will begin next week.

SPUD SUNDAY: Please mark your calendars. On Sunday, October 31 we will be sponsoring our third annual Spud Sunday. We will be serving “really” large baked potatoes with all the “trimmings”, salad, and dessert. The proceeds will benefit the food pantries we support.

PINK PIGGIES: Please don’t forget to feed the “piggies” for Heifer International. The Sunday school Kids and the Missions Commission are co-sponsoring a project to purchase the “Joy to the World” Collection in December 2010. It includes two sheep, four goats, one heifer, and two llamas. This collection costs \$1,500. Please help us toward this goal and thanks.

ALLOCATIONS:

Feed My People	\$200
Isaiah 58	\$225
St. John’s North Grand	\$275
Joint Neighborhood Ministry	\$225
Neighborhood Houses	\$275

THANK YOU: As always, thanks for all you do to help Missions. It takes all of us to help.

***Thanks and Blessings,
Kathie Spross***

LIBRARY NEWS

Recently the library has received donations from several sources. Caroline Rombach has given us Three from Galilee by Marjorie Holmes and The Shack by Young. From Sylvia Neizert: Tea Time with God (A Devotional); Agless (Remarkable St. Louisans); Inside My Heart by Robin McGraw; and Discovering Laws of Life by John Templeton. Laurie Smith added to our Karen Kingsbury collection with Take Four, the last in the "Above the Line" series. Thanks to all of you for your generosity.

New purchases include four additional Karen Kingsbury titles: Halfway to Forever; Where Yesterday Lives; On Every Side; and This Side of Heaven.



We've also added two new titles in the fiction section by Maggie Brendan. The first, No Place for a Lady relates the story of Crystal Clark, who after her father's death, is forced to leave her Georgia home to live with her aunt on her Colorado ranch. Having been raised as a proper Southern belle, she is determined to hold her own in this wild land—even though some doubt her ability to do so.

The Jewel of His Heart also by Maggie Brendan is the story of Juliana Brady, alone in an 1980's Montana mining town, has few prospects of making life there for herself. But she is determined to make it on her own! At the same time, Josh McBride toils to scrape up a living from his sheep herd while he builds his ranch. But a sudden discover on his property tempts him to veer from his goal. When their paths cross, Juliana and Josh must make a choice—the world's riches and promises, or the external value of love.

Another new author, Stephanie Grace Whitson's Sixteen Brides, tells of a group of courageous war widows in 1981 who arrive by train in a small Nebraska town searching for a new life on the prairies of Nebraska.

Be sure to visit the library between services every Sunday. We have something to interest everyone.

JoAn Alspach, Librarian

CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMISSION

We need your help!!! If there is someone in our church, who we are not aware of, that is homebound, please let us know by calling the church office. We would be honored to call on them, if they wish, send cards or anything we can do to show them that they are still part of our church family. You are helping us do God's work as He has commanded us to do.



Congregational Care meets every three months. However, we are in contact at all times with Pastor Hale and our contact people, as needed. Maybe you have been thinking about working with this commission? We never have too many contact people. St. Johns has many shut-ins. We can assign one person to a contact person or more if you like. It can be a fun thing to do and we invite you to give it a try. Most times it is what you have time for. Sometimes it is a short visit, sometimes taking a few cookies (always thinking of their diet), watching a TV show with them, or using your imagination about what they might like. They usually like to talk about their times with St. Johns. All we have to do is be a good listener. Some prefer only a card or occasional phone call. Most have some limitations. But in a strange kind of way, they have something to teach us about life. We always try to respect their wishes and the wishes of their family. Please give me (Jane Roeper) a call at 544-4159 if you would like to be a contact person.

No matter what we face, God understands what you are going through. Bring anything to Him in prayer. He understands!

MARYS AND MARTHAS

We will be holding a meeting on September 9th to plan next year. We will not be giving out names for Christmas gifts for Isaiah 58 Ministries as they would like to have new gifts that their clients can purchase at a small price for one another, so it doesn't seem like charity. We will send them a donation and you can give us an un-wrapped gift or a monetary gift, if you wish.

The trailer is almost full already for the rummage sale, so keep October 16th and the week after in mind for the sale on October 23rd.

I'm still looking for someone to take over running the sale.
Call me if you have questions.

Thanks.
Caroline Rombach (314-892-3990)



FURNITURE SALE

My shed is overflowing. We have lots of great items to sell. The sale will be on Saturday, September 11th at 8:00 am. To 2:00 p.m. Please, I need good strong arms to help arrange the furniture and clean them on Saturday, September 4th at 8:00 a.m. We have to get right chairs with the right tables and make everything look great. We have some very nice items and some gently used items. On the day of the sale I will also need strong arms to move stuff outside.

Lunch will be served to workers on sale day. Call me if you have questions.

Thanks.
Caroline Rombach (314-892-3990)

ST. JOHNS HARVEST FEST 2010 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd

School has begun, autumn decorations are in the stores, and cooler weather is on its way. With the onset of fall, St. Johns celebrates with an annual tradition – **St. Johns Harvest Fest**.

The celebration begins with delicious food, of course. Chicken dinners, consisting of ½ chicken (fried or baked), mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, coleslaw, rolls, homemade dessert, and beverage, will be served from **11:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

The gymnasium will open at 11:00 a.m. following one worship service. It will hold a variety of items and activities such as apple butter, homemade harvest goods, mission vendors, a silent basket auction, and games for all ages.

For your entertainment pleasure, several groups will provide music in the sanctuary. Music by Button Box Club, Junior Banjos, and choirs from Oakville Senior High, Oakville Middle School and Mehlville High School will be performing throughout the day. Watch for flyers with performance schedules.

To be successful this church-wide event needs your help. **Volunteer signup will begin on Sunday, September 12**, so please consider giving a few hours of your time to help our church.



Advance ticket sales will also begin on Sunday, September 12. Price for an adult meal is \$8.00 (\$9.00 at the door) with a child's (10 years and under) ticket being \$5.00. There is a bonus for buying your tickets early! With each advanced ticket purchased, your name will go into a hat for an opportunity to win a "Harvest Fest Basket".

*Hope to see you and your friends at
St. Johns Harvest Fest on Sunday, October 3!*

20+



The place to be was at the Holsteins beautiful home when we had our family swim party and dinner together. The weather cooperated and we had a fantastic day!

Thank you to Tom and Nancy for opening their lovely home and pool to us. Our next activity will be dinner at Cunetto's on Saturday, August 28 at 6:30. August is such a busy month with our kids going back to college, and some still going on vacations, a dinner out sounds great. We are looking forward to going to the Sach's farm on Saturday, September 18. More details on this activity later, but remember to put this date on your calendar, we have such a good time each year!!

20+ is hosting our first Bean Soup and Corn Bread lunch on Sunday, October 24. Look for ticket sales soon. Please keep Lorrie Nipper in your prayers as she is still in rehab, but doing so much better. We are praying that she will be home very soon. We want to celebrate the birth of Blake Michael Scott, grandchild of Mike and Teri Sachs and son of Louie and Allison Scott. Congratulations to all of you and may God bless you always!!!

Donna Hylton. Secretary

Worship & Music Commission SING A NEW SONG!

Or, even an old song, but make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Choir practices will begin at 7:00 p.m., Thursday September 2nd. Bob Fletcher and choir members have organized the music library and choir room, and Bob Bailey has buffed up the floor. Music is one of many ways to praise God; in fact it is a very important way. The more voices raised in song the greater the celebration. So...it's time to loosen up those vocal chords and get ready to hit those high notes – even if you've never thought about joining the choir, think about it now -- because the choir returns to the worship service on Sunday, September 12th.



MEMORIALS

Any memorials given to pay off the debt of the crossing is called the Crossing Loan Fund. If your memorials say Crossing Fund it will go to the Crossing Improvement Fund.

OCTOBER'S COOL WEATHER LUNCH

Circle Sunday, October 24th on your calendar and enjoy a ham and bean vegetable soup luncheon with salad, cornbread, dessert and beverage in the dining hall. Additional information in next month's Messenger.

CONGRATULATIONS

Teri and Michael Sachs on the birth of their grandson, Blake Michael Scott born on July 28th, 2010 (parents of Louis and Allison Scott)



Dear Friends of St. Johns,

Thank you for all the beautiful cards and prayers for me during this long illness. Thanks to Reverend Schroer for all his hospital visits, and to friends who also visited. We thank God for all of you and your prayers.

Herb & Sally Richter

P.S. I am home now doing re-hab.



Thank you to the Prayer Group and the Prayer Shawl Group for all your prayers and the beautiful Prayer Shawl that I received and thank you to Women's Fellowship and our Church Family for your prayers and cards. A special thank you to Pastor Hale for all his visits and phone calls. I am truly blessed to have so many wonderful friends. I miss church and hope to be back soon.

Love, Betty Todtenhaupt

St. Johns Evangelical United Church of Christ

11333 St. Johns Church Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63123-7811

Next "Messenger" Articles
Due September 14th, 2010
Reminder that you can "E-mail"
articles to church at
stjohneuc@stjucc.org
or save the article to a
disc and turn it into the office!

St. Johns Staff
The Reverend Dr. A. Hale Schroer, Interim Pastor
Debby Harness, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries
Bob Fletcher, Director of Music
Ralph Peck, Business Manager
Donna Bay, Office Manager
Bob Bailey, Custodian
Laurie Kraft – Wedding Coordinator
Jeff Rapp, Assistant Organist
Bob Killen, Sound Technician
Terry Rupp, Cemetery Superintendent
Marilyn Barton, C.E. Curriculum Director
JoAn Alspach, Librarian

