

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. **Reject Racism.**
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.



Saint John's Journal

March 17, 2024

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!



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616.453.2497



www.stjohnsuccgr.org



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@StJohnsUCCGR



<http://alturl.9-16com/etrte>

9 a.m. Pastor Class—Sunday Mornings

Join Rev. Dannison for a time of spirit-filled (and spirited) conversation on Sunday mornings before worship. Each Sunday we will gather in the conference room (just behind the sanctuary) for a brief presentation and conversation about some of the more challenging aspects of our faith, traditions, and history. Bring your doubts and challenges! Join a lecture/discussion series on pressing social issues and the history and fu-

ture of Christian thought. 30 minute lecture followed by a brief discussion. Choir members will be dismissed on time for worship.

This class is open to *everybody*. You are not required to attend every session - come as frequently or infrequently as you're able. Simple breakfast snacks and food provided.

Feel free to recommend a discussion topic to Nathan by emailing him at pastor@stjohnsuccgr.org or texting him at 269.547.9622

Our Easter Garden

Again this year everyone is invited to help create an Easter garden by bringing in potted spring flowers to place on and around the altar Easter morning.

We are just asking that you loan your tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, lilies, or other beauties to the church for the length of our Easter service, after which you are encouraged to take them home to enjoy.

Help us create a beautiful resurrection garden to celebrate this most joyous day!

Wednesday Evening Prayer/Discussion Offered

Join us for our Evening Prayer Service on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. It's an opportunity to share joys and concerns, pray together and catch up with each other in the middle of the week.

8:00-9:00pm – Lecture and discussion of The Apostolic Fathers featuring Dr. Bart Ehrman. At each evening session we will listen to a video lecture by Prof. Ehrman and then discuss the content. There is no cost and no book is

required. Both Wednesday evening opportunities use the same Zoom connection. For the link, see the weekly email to members, or the calendar on the St. John's home page stjohnsuccgr.org.

Easter Egg Hunt



Join us on Easter Sunday—March 31, 2024 for the Annual

Easter Egg Hunt after the service. Easter morning we will scatter/hide the Eggs for the kiddos to find. They can turn the eggs in for small gifts/prizes to adults that morning. We would like your help with this project.

1. We need volun-

- teers to help scatter/ hide the eggs
2. We need volunteers to help award the finders of the eggs.
3. We need gifts/prizes for the finders.

We are looking for small items. They do not have to fit into an egg. The adults will have a selection of items for the kiddos to hopefully choose from. We are thinking:

1. Pencils, erasers, stickers,

some candy, small stuffed animals, washable tattoo's small cars, bubble wands, puzzles, chips, crackers, pretzels, and books. Tarah has a basket in Fellowship Hall ready to receive your generous donations. Any questions, please contact Tarah or Diana. The education and membership teams greatly thank and appreciate you for your help with this project.



Pastor Nathan Dannison
pastor@stjohnsuccgr.org

Joel Gary,
Director of Music
music@stjohnsuccgr.org

Sally Oracz,
Administrative Assistant
office@stjohnsuccgr.org



Tuesday 8:00—1:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:00—2:00 p.m.
Thursday 8:00—2:00 p.m..
Friday 8:00—2:00 p.m.

You may email Sally at:
office@stjohnsuccgr.org
or call 453-2497.

Pastoral Care

If you would like to speak with the Pastor or there is a pastoral emergency, feel free to reach out to Pastor Nathan Dannison at his email, pastor@stjohnsuccgr.org or by phone at 1-269-547-9622

**Thursday
Handbell Choir
6:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir
7:30 p.m.**

Prayers

Prayers for Amy’s friend who has been hospitalized for a cardiac issues and cancer.

Prayers for Ellen’s friend, Carol, who is going through rehabilitation.

Prayers of healing for Jacob and Christina who were hit by a car that ran a red light while crossing a street in Chicago.

Prayers for the Branigan family as they prepare for another wedding.

Prayers of joy for Jeffrey’s sister’s daughter Ashley, who gave birth to twin boys (Oscar and Ziggy)

Prayers for Heidi’s dad’s twin, Ken, who had a cardiac arrest and is hoping to recover to be able to go to Hawaii. Prayers of thanks to the doctors that treated him and prayers for a safe trip.

Prayers for clarity and a path forward for Heidi’s friend, Janelle, who was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Prayers of thanksgiving for Ashley’s grandpa being approved to have surgery.

Prayers of praise for Laura’s friends who thought they couldn’t have children but have had children.

Prayers for Laura’s mother who needs help and prayers for Laura and her sister who cannot provide that help.



Girlfriends discussion group meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. We are reading “The Four Agreements”, A Toltec Wisdom Book by Don Miguel Ruiz. The cover calls the book, “A practical guide to personal freedom.



Fellowship has begun planning for the Mother’s Day brunch buffet. There will be gluten free and vegetarian options available. Fellowship Hall will be all set in anticipation of the event—but we need some volunteers to help in the kitchen (getting the hot entrees ready and then getting the food onto the buffet table when the brunch begins. No special kitchen skill is required.

We also need some help cleaning up, bussing tables, cleaning dishes, and loading the dishwasher. Again, no special skill is required and a hardy apron will be supplied. Any questions, please see Dave B. or Todd Krupp.

Hosting Coffee Hour

Hosting Coffee Hour in 5 easy steps:

- 1)Pick a date and if you want pick a co-host to help with the fun.
- 2)Set up before church service. Fellowship tries to have the coffee urn filled and on place. You will also find coffee cups, etc., place and ready to serve.
Make certain to plug the coffee urn in before going up for the service. There is drink mix in the kitchen for those who prefer something cold. Usually two pitchers is a good amount.
- 3)Coffee hour doesn't re-

quire any baking on your part as there is an abundance of cookies in the kitchen freezer. The freezer door holds gluten free treats.
Serving options: chips and salsa, chips and hummus.
Fruit, crackers and cheese, etc.
4)You can monitor the supplies set out or sit down and enjoy some conversation with friends.
5)Clean up: Most people place their dirty cups, etc. in the bus tub located at the kitchen door. Empty the coffee urn of

leftover coffee and dump or compost the coffee grounds. You can recruit volunteers to bus the tables as people finish.
Load the dishwasher—and start them before you leave.
Any questions, contact Todd Krupp

Meetings....

**Council Meeting,
Monday at 6:30 p.m.
via Zoom
Team Leads Meeting,
March 25 at 7:00 p.m.
via Zoom
Worship Team
Meeting April 1 at
6:30 p.m. via Zoom**

**Lectionary
Reading for Next
Week
March 24, 2024**

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Phil 2:5-11
Mark 14:1-15:47

Education
Volunteer
Schedule


| | Nursery | Worship Center 1 | Worship Center 2 | Bridge | Floater | Choir |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| March 24 | Pam | Amanda | Susan | Margaret | Teresa | |
| March 31 Children Participate In Service | | | | | | |
| April 7 | Jen | Amanda | Tarah | Becky | Casey | |
| April 14 | Heather D. | Lisa | Tarah | Becky | Christine/ Richard | |
| April 21 | Christine/ Richard | Amanda | Tarah | Becky | Jen | Practice |
| April 28 | Heidi | Lisa | Tarah | Becky | Teresa | Practice |



**Coffee
Hour**

March 24
Margaret Hawley-Lowry

March 31
Easter



USHERS
&
GREETERS

March 24
Judy Merrell


March 31
Open

**Liturgist
Schedule
March 2024**

March 24
Christine Johnston

March 31
Pam Maniscalco

Thank You!



The Renucci House
Staff and
Guest

thanks everyone that
came to volunteer pre-

paring the tasty Mexi-
can
Fiesta!

Blessings!
Renucci House Staff

**Mission
Outreach Touches**

This Month:
723

Year to Date:
41,682

Since Inception
352,561

The Power of His Love

John 12:28-33

Word Search Puzzle

R D I E H L T I F E D F M H Q
E N Q T D F I M P W X D Q E D
I J R V L S M S O O M N U M N
M A U E P F E R C G H E A R D
E O S D R A C X K U R X X M Z
W Y X G G W E C L E A P K Z E
M O I J K E T H D D R A W C V
F X R R J T M N S H O W V W H
A W E L B F U E V M V A X C T
T Z W B D H P O N R A O W F B
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E D P E H P W A I V I N G C G
R I W A O I M T V N V K V E E
C A G L O R I F Y E C M V L L
W F G B L I F T E D N E Y Q F

WORLD
ANGEL
VOICE
JUDGEMENT

DIE
HEAVEN
FATHER
DRAW

TIME
MYSELF
GLORIFY
EARTH

HEARD
LIFTED
PRINCE
THUNDER

CROWD
MEN
SHOW
NAME

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

**Jesus didn't reject people.
Neither do we.**

ucc.org