

# 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

May 12, 2024

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



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## Mother's Day Brunch



Join us to-  
day after wor-  
ship for our  
Mother's Day  
Brunch. There will be a se-  
lection of fresh fruit, green  
salad, vegetarian entrées,

gluten free entrées, pastries  
and appetizers.  
Happy Mother's Day!  
We hope to see you there!

## 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 confer-  
ence room (just behind  
the sanctuary) for a brief  
presentation and conver-  
sation 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  
future of Christian  
thought. 30 minute lec-

ture followed by a brief  
discussion. Choir mem-  
bers will be dismissed on  
time for worship.

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

Feel free to recom-  
mend a discussion topic  
to Nathan by emailing  
him  
at [pastor@stjohnsuccgr.o](mailto:pastor@stjohnsuccgr.org)  
[rg](mailto:rg) or texting him at  
269.547.9622

## Wednesday Evening Prayer/ Discussion Offered

Join us for our Even-  
ing 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.  
Outstanding sacred mu-  
sic is included.  
8:00—9:00 p.m.—  
Lecture and discussion  
"The Bible Tells Me So"  
featuring Peter Enns.  
Dr. Enns is a noted bib-  
lical scholar who con-

siders such questions as  
What kind of literature  
is the Bible?  
In what sense is it true?  
How is it supposed to  
work for us?  
Both Wednesday even-  
ing opportunities use  
the same Zoom connec-  
tion. For the link, see  
the weekly email to  
members or the church  
calendar on the St.  
John's home  
page [stjohnsuccgr.org](http://stjohnsuccgr.org).

## Meetings....

**Council Meeting** is scheduled  
for May 20 at 6:30 p.m. via  
Zoom

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



**Lectionary  
Reading for Next Week  
May 19, 2024**

Acts 2:1-21  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Rom 8:22-27  
John 15:26-27



**Deep roots.  
Open arms.**



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.

**The office will be closed on May 17.**

### 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

## Prayers

Prayers for Jenna's Dad, Tom, who was diagnosed with a blood disease and is struggling with fatigue.

Prayers of thanks for Pastor's brother's safe trip back home.

Prayer for students on campuses who are struggling to figure out what they should be doing.

Prayers of thanks for Marilyn's friends.

Prayers of thanks for the prayers for Brian's friend, Joe, who is doing well and working on patience.

Prayers of thanksgiving for 123 households/411 individuals served, 4 new volunteers, and to Lindsey who came to help on short notice on Kai's birthday.

Prayers for Christine and Richard who are both doing poorly.

Prayers for Judy that she is stable and strong enough to be on her own.

Prayers of joy for Ellen's sister being sober for 6 days.



## "Girlfriends"

The Girlfriends group will resume on May 21 and will be reading the new book "invisible Lines of Connection, Sacred Stories of the ordinary," by Lawrence Kushner. An interesting book of short stories, where sacred meets the ordinary and above all, where you will meet yourself and find the invisible connections in your own life. Let Diana DeKorte know if you need the Zoom information.

## The Education Team is Looking for Help This Summer

We need your help! Members or visitors... experience with children or none, you can help out our education team this summer. We have 2 main volunteer opportunities we are looking for help.

1. This summer all worship center children will be together in Fellowship Hall during Worship Center time learning about "**Pieces of the Church**". We are looking for volunteers interested in teaching the children about the different pieces of the church. For example the offering plate, the communion table,

the pride flag, etc. The children will then do a craft (if you are not crafty, the education team is happy to come up with a craft for that week). There will be other adults in Fellowship Hall to help. If you feel passionate about or have experience with any "pieces of the church", please reach out to the education team. You would only be committing to ONE day this summer.

- 2 Our theme for Vacation Bible School this year is "**Gifts of the Spirit**". We are looking for volunteers to come one day during

that week (July 15-19) to share their job and how they use their spiritual gifts in their every day life. We are looking for teachers, architects, nurses, retired folks, etc. If this is something you are interested in, please reach out to the education team.

Also, we provide a free dinner at **Vacation Bible School** each night so we are looking for volunteers to provide **dinner** each night. We do have some money in the budget for this purpose; you

would just need to submit your receipts to be reimbursed.

Lastly, we can always use help with the **nursery** and **floater/assistants** to check in both for summer Sundays and for vbs.

If you are interested in helping out with any of the above opportunities, please reach out to the education team at [education@stjohnsuccgr.org](mailto:education@stjohnsuccgr.org)

# Education Volunteer Schedule

	Nursery	Worship Center 1	Worship Center 2	Bridge	Floater	Choir
<b>May 19</b> <b>Pentecost</b> <b>Last Day of Class</b> <b>Confirmation</b> <b>Class Confirmed</b>		Amanda	Susan	Makenzie	Teresa	



**May 19**  
Open

**May 26**  
The Bergs



**May 19**  
Judy Merrill

**May 26**  
Betsy McCoy

## Liturgist Schedule May 2024

**May 19**  
Jen Berg

**May 26**  
Pat Partridge



## Mission Outreach Touches

**This Month:**  
1,772

**Year to Date:**  
44,788

**Since Inception**  
355,667

# Love One Another

John 15:9-17

## Word Search Puzzle

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

FRIENDS	OBEY	LOVE	FRUIT
DOWN	BUSINESS	BEAR	MASTER
LAY	FATHER	LIFE	REMAIN
SERVANTS	GREATER	COMMAND	CHOSE

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



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

[ucc.org](http://ucc.org)