

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

July 14, 2024

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



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@StJohnsUCCGR



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



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Vacation Bible School Sign Ups

VBS begins tomorrow and we are super excited. Spread the word and sign up at <https://stjohnsuccgr.org/vbs> so we can get an

accurate head count. Vacation Bible School at St. John's will be July 15-19 from 5:30—8:30 p.m. A free dinner is included each night.

Wednesday Evening Prayer

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

sacred music is included.

For the Zoom link, see the weekly email to members or the church calendar on the St. John's home page stjohnsuccgr.org.

Renucci House

Please join us in serving a backyard BBQ to the guests at Renucci House on July 31 from 5:00—8:00 p.m. Please donate, volunteer, or gift a monetary donation to help. If you have any questions please send them the jen.reyers.berg@gmail.com.

[St. John's UCC: Backyard BBQ \(signupgenius.com\)](http://St.John's.UCC:BackyardBBQ(signupgenius.com))



CHURCH CAMP OUT

Join us the weekend of July 27/July 28, for the annual St. John's camp out at Camp Lily, Howard Christensen Nature Center. This is a great opportunity for fellowship and to get to know your fellow church members better. In the past, we have had folks who joined us overnight for the full camp out, those who came just on Saturday evening, those who came just for Sunday morning worship, and those who joined us both days but preferred to go home and sleep in their own cozy beds. You are welcome, no matter what works best for you and your family!

Following are the details:

1. Join us at Camp Lily anytime after 3:00pm on Saturday, July 27th.
2. The address is 530 20 Mile Kent City, MI 49330. There is another entrance for Howard Christensen Nature Center but you want to enter Camp Lily at the entrance on 20 mile.
3. There is a building with electricity, running water, a full kitchen and bunk beds (no mattress or bedding). You are welcome to stay in the building with bunk beds or to tent camp on the Camp Lily property.
4. Dinner will be provided on Saturday. Bring a dish to pass.
5. Bring camp chairs, yard games or anything else to play and have fun together.
6. Barb Huitema will be leading us in worship at 10am Sunday morning at Camp Lily, with campfire fellowship to follow.
7. There will be a service at church at 10am for those not joining us at Camp Lily.

Contact Heidi Armock with questions and an RSVP. You can talk to Heidi at coffee hour or call/text at 616-516-2025.



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 July 30 thru August 5 as Sally will be on vacation.

Meetings

Council Meeting, tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Team Leads Meeting, July 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Mission

Outreach Touches

This Month:
364

Year to Date:
46,756

Since Inception
357,635

Prayers.....

Prayers for the best outcome for Jenna's family member who has a court hearing and peace for all involved.

Prayers of joy for Teresa and Greg for watching Jenna and Chris' daughters while Chris went to urgent care.

Prayers for the healing of Chris' foot.

Prayers of joy for Ellen spending time with her neighbor.

Prayers of joy for Sharon and Larry's 63rd wedding anniversary.

Prayers for Bren's brother-in-law who has been struggling after her sister's death.

Prayers of thanks for everyone at St. John's and for Renee's new job.

Prayers for a helpful second opinion for Laura's partner after her unhelpful surgery.

Hymn Sing, August 18

On Sunday, August 18, we will have a Hymn Sing as part of our worship service. If you would like to request a favorite hymn or religious song that is appropriate for worship, please email me at music@stjohnsuccgr.org. I would like to avoid secular or popular music. Hymns do not have to come from our hymnal (New Century Hymnal). Please submit your requests by August 9.

Derek's Place

Derek's Place is raising money to get an inspection done of the church kitchen. They are selling homemade soaps for \$10.00.

Homemade lotion for \$5.00

Soap and lotion set for \$12.00

We are also accepting donations of underwear, bras, socks, shoes, blankets, pillows and hygiene items.

If you are interested in purchasing or donating, please contact Theresa at 616-477-3919.



"Girlfriends"

Girlfriends will meet via zoom on August 6, at 6:30 PM. (zoom information to come) We will be reading and discussing "The Bible Tells Me So....Why defending scripture has made us unable to read it" by Peter Enns. This book comes to us recommended by Susan and Bill Newsom and by some of my favorite authors: Rachel Held Evans, Brian McLaren, Rob Bell and Phyllis Tickle. I find this book quite intriguing and once again makes me reconsider. On Page 163, the author says, "The Bible "partners" with us (so to speak), modeling for us our walk with God in discovering greater depth and maturity on our journey of faith, not by telling us what to do at each step, but by showing us a journey of hills and valleys, straight lanes and difficult curves, of new discoveries and insights, of movement and change--with God by our side every step of the way." I love that and hope that you will join us on Tuesday nights, checking in, reading and thinking about the Bible. If you need a book call or text me --616.438-1336. Barb Huitema.

Lectionary Reading for Next Week
July 21, 2024

2 Sam 7:1-14a
 Psalm 89:20-37
 Eph 2:11-22
 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56



Coffee Hour

July 14
The Tiedts
July 21
Open
July 28
Open



July 14
Bill and Susan
Newsom
July 21
Judy Merrills
July 28
Open



July 14
Jen Berg
July 21
Spencer Hoffmann
July 28
Dan Busman



Summer Sundays at St. John's

Date	Nursery	Pieces of Church Teacher	Floater
July 14	Teresa Markoski	Tarah and Lisa VBS Planning/ Set up	Becky Tiedt
July 21	Lindsey Kremer	Sing VBS Songs during service Tarah and Lisa	Becky Tiedt
July 28 Church Camping		Kids in service—church Camping	??

He Has Chosen Us!

Ephesians 1:3-14

Word Search Puzzle

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

BELIEVE	SECRET	PLAN	PLEASURE	BLESSED
PRAISE	FAMILY	TRUST	SPIRITUAL	GUARANTEE
PURCHASED	PROMISED	CHOSE	INHERITANCE	KINDNESS
BELONG	ADOPT	FREEDOM	WISDOM	HEAVENLY

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