

*Call to Celebration

Pastor: The love of the faithful Creator, the peace of the wounded Healer, the joy of the challenging Spirit, be with us all.

All: We come to worship in the joy and hope of the Three in One who surrounds and encourages us.

Pastor: We come to celebrate God's steadfast love.

All: We seek to be transformed into the people our Creator envisioned us to be; to own our talents, and to use our gifts to their full blossom.

Pastor: In this Church, God has gathered us, in the holy community of common folk and complainers, prophets and puzzled people. God has called us and made a place for us.

All: God has given each a special voice, no two the same. So let our prayer and our actions, all we ponder and decide, be real for us and honest to God. That we are given the power to live our life, filled with joy and meaning, through God's blessing.

***Hymn of Celebration** "Holy God We Praise Thy Name" No. 12

*Prayer of Confession

Pastor: Come Holy Spirit descend on us and enliven us. Open our hearts and minds. Help us to embrace our uniqueness, not being more than we are at the cost of putting others down, wearing masks, or worrying ourselves to death. Show us how not to make ourselves small and neglect the talents you have given us.

All: We bring to you, O God, our faults and weaknesses as well as our talents and abilities. Help us to sort through defeats and triumphs Align all we are to Your wondrous being, that we bring to light our authentic self, the self You intend for us to be.

Silent Meditation and Personal Confession

During this time of inward reflection and repentance, you may want to use "Examen," which simply means an examining of our lives in a prayerful way. It is different from a prayer of confession in that it reviews both the good and the bad of our lives. You pause to look back over your week, or as many days as you wish to examine, and notice where you have partnered with God. In other words, when were you trying to do it alone and when did you ask God to assist you? You can also remember the events, encounters or insights that felt like gifts from God



We Need White Candles for our Taize' Service on April 10th.

Please bring white candles of any shape or size to the church to help illumine our Taize' Service on April 10th. Please bring the candles in before the 10th, so that we may set up for the service.
Thank you for your help.

Trip To Western Association Meeting

Don't forget to sign up for the Western Association Meeting on April 2., in California , MO. .We are going to support the Church we sponsor in West Plains, as they are being received into the denomination. We would like a big group to attend. We will be leaving the Church at 8:00 A.M. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board and in the Narthex.

March YAHOO Event

All are invited to attend the March YAHOO event, at Curt & Sheri Bartell's house. on Saturday the 26th There will be a Bonfire and Trivia night. They are a having a cook-out with hamburgers and hot dogs. This is a fund raiser for the church, so bring \$6.00 to "gamble" with. Who knows, you may make a little money while having a great time of fellowship.

Please bring:

- Your meat **or** a dessert
- Bring your beverage of choice.

(Buns, condiments, tea, soda, and blenders will be provided.)

•**When: Saturday 3/26 at 6:30 pm**

•**Where: Curt and Sheri Bartell's House**

•**1811 Cody Ave, Nixa, MO.65714**

Please RSVP to 714-4124

(There are maps on the bulletin board)



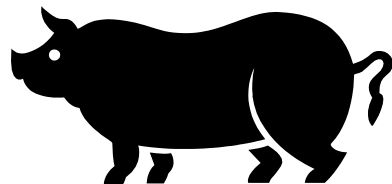
Koinonia" March Fellowship

The Koinonias will meet at the Church on March 26, for Food , Fun , and Games. The fun starts at 5:30 P.M.. Please contact Judith Bartell for more information

881-8007 - 861-2682-cell - or by e-mail

Sausage Supper

Thanks to everyone who took part in the Sausage Supper this year. We raised \$1,391.57. We had plenty of workers for the entire event. We also had a wonderful supply of pies and desserts. Thanks go out to all who sold tickets, and those who came to eat. We received many compliments on our food. We expect many to return next year, and for the event to grow even larger by word of mouth.



Net proceeds ; \$1901.16'
Expenses: \$578.59

Submitted by Judith Bartell

BCE Meeting Change

The March Meeting of the BCE has been changed from the 22nd to March 29, at 6:30 PM.

Feinstein \$1 Million Challenge

The annual Feinstein Fund, which matches funds for Crosslines, and other non profits, is going on now. Funds and in kind food donations will be matched from March 1st through April 30, 2011. Please see a Friendship Circle member or read the letter on the bulletin board to see how you can help

Thanks to all of you who sent prayers or cards of condolence for the loss of my father. Your outpouring of sympathy helped me get through this time of grief. Thank you again for your comfort and compassion.
Eleanor Berger



Operation Hope Tote

The Friendship Circle is taking part in the Springfield Victory Mission's Operation Hope Tote. Operation Hope Tote provides basic hygiene items to our city's poorest residents, as well as individuals, schools, churches, and other organizations. We are collecting these items in a tote in the Narthex. Please support this outreach with your donation of these items.

Volunteer Opportunities

We need people: The Kitchen service

Liturgists

Mowing the Grass in back.

We have sign up sheets for each service.

Won't you sign up today?

The Grace and Weight Meetings have been changed to Tuesday at 5:30 PM

and those that did not. Or remember the times in the day when you gave and received love, and when you did not give or receive love. Once your days are reviewed and examined, you may journal what you have uncovered, or simply imagine offering your insight up to God to let God love you just as you are.

*Words of Assurance

*Gloria Patri

("Glory Be to the Father" No. 9 in *Sing to the Lord*)

Children's Time

Pastor Stephan Scharf

(Children may exit for Sunday School)

Anthem

"Savior's Lament"

By Susan & Lee Dengler

Reading of Holy Scripture Matthew 16: 13-28

p.893

Sermon

"To De-self or Not To De-Self?" The Rev. Becky Hebert

*Hymn

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

No. 458

Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Choral Response

Offertory

"Seek Ye First"

by Lafferty

*Doxology

("Praise God" No. 7 in *Sing to the Lord*)

*Offering Prayer

All: God, we thank you for the gift of life. Thank you for what seems ordinary to us, waking, sleeping, eating, drinking and breathing. We thank for Your for our special gifts and talents, as well as our frailties, which make us unique human beings. In our offering, see our thanks take form, that it may be used to enrich the lives of many. Amen.

*Hymn

"We All Are One in Mission"

No. 717

***UCC Statement of Faith** (page 1 of *Worship Resources* in pew rack)

***Benediction**

Congregational Response "Song of Simeon" NCH 805

Ho - ly One, now let your ser - vant go in peace; your
word has been ful - filled: my own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which
you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - ery peo - ple: a
light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

***Postlude** "Near To The Heart Of God" by McAfee

Keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Members:

Jan Hale— Had surgery for her Gall Bladder and hernia repair. She is recovering nicely

Family and Friends:

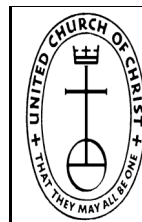
Peggy Gilbert: (Friend of Tona Griggs & friend & colleague of Melissa Burnett) thanks the congregation for our continued prayers as she takes oral chemotherapy during remission of her breast cancer.

Josephine Walker: (Jeanne Kruger's mother) is in Manor Square, Room 612.

You, whether a member or guest, are an important and valuable part of this St. John's Chapel Community. Your participation in this worship service is a blessing. May you always know God's gift of unending love.

A nursery is available during worship for children up through three years of age. If you need help locating the nursery, please ask an usher.

Hearing-assistance devices are available for use during worship. If you would like to use one, please ask an usher to get one for you.



Sunday School — 9:15 AM
Worship — 10:30 AM
Pastor's Day Off — Friday

Secretary's Office Hours: 8:30 AM 1:00 PM
Monday-Friday

**This week's "special offering basket" in the Narthex is for~
OCWM
Our Church's Wider Mission**

Our Stewardship for Sunday, March 13, 2011

Worship: 81 Offering: \$3,221.00
Sunday School: 13 Offering: \$47.00

The average weekly offering needed to meet annual budget is \$2,423.00

Our Mission Statement

St. John's Chapel UCC is called to love unconditionally, seek justice, foster spiritual growth, and embrace diversity of thought and body as taught by Jesus Christ.