



**St. John's Chapel  
United Church  
of Christ**

4344 S. Fremont  
Avenue  
Springfield, MO  
65804-7306

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[sec@stjohnschapel.org](mailto:sec@stjohnschapel.org)

Sunday School -  
9:15 AM

Worship - 10:30 AM

Pastor  
Rev. Becky Hebert

Associate Pastor  
Stephan Scharf

Pastor Emeritus  
Rev. Robert M. Dohm

Council President  
Dennis Gromer

Council Vice President  
Jim May

Board of Christian  
Education Chair  
Stephan Scharf

Board of Service  
Ministries Chair  
Elaine Tebbenkamp

**Our Mission Statement:**

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



# THE MESSENGER

## Pastoral Reflections

by Pastor Becky Hebert

April 2011  
Volume 67  
Number 28

Today's my birthday, and there's snow on the ground! My mother told me it snowed the year I was born. So it feels like the day of my birth is repeating itself. Since my birthday falls in spring, the day is usually "Spring" in nature. My mother used to always plan a big celebration on our front lawn with egg hunts and musical chairs, for which she baked small cakes for the winners. Interesting how many memories surface on birthdays.

The book, *Unbinding the Gospel*, we are reading in our Unbinding Group, speaks to us of being "focused, minds engaged and open to see patterns, details, opportunities, changes and miracles."<sup>1</sup> So I guess I'm trying to see the pattern, the detail—the miracle of snow in the midst of spring. It was truly a miracle to have snow on the day I was born, for I was born in southern Louisiana. It hardly ever snows in Louisiana. In all those years of growing up there, I bet I did not experience snow more than twice—and never in the spring.

I'm sure most of you did not perceive the snow we received on the 28th of March as a miracle. Why? Because we normally think of miracles as a welcomed event. I doubt many of us welcomed this snow. It's spring we want. Spring feels long overdue. We want to get outside and dig in our gardens. Plant things and watch them grow!

Yet, the weather continues to carry the gloom of the Lenten season—and I find myself wondering if miracles are just to be discovered in the peak moments of life. Do miracles occur all around us in the barren desert of our Lenten journeys? Or are we to only wait for the Easter miracles?

What is a miracle anyway? I was taught that a miracle is the manifestation of the power or the grace of God at work. In the Greek text of the bible, miracle is the word used for "powerful deeds," "wonders," and "signs." "As the Greek idea of NATURAL LAW took firm hold of the Christian mind during the first centuries after Christ, these three terms increasingly became merged into the concept of *miracles*," which was increasingly defined as the supernatural activity of God working contrary to the known laws of nature.<sup>2</sup>

I tend to prefer the original intent behind the word, as a manifestation of the power, or the grace of God at work. If this is the case, then God has shown up more often in the Lenten wonderings of my life. I have experienced the miracle of God's grace when my heart was breaking, and the power of God standing me up when I could not manage it on my own. Haven't you?

The day that I was born my mother danced close to death. As snow covered the ground, my father walked the hospital hallways praying. My birth, I'm told, was nothing short of a miracle. So when it snows in the spring, I have to wonder if another miracle is soon to follow.

Miracle blessings,  
Pastor Becky

<sup>1</sup>Martha Grace Reese, *Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism*, p.106.

<sup>2</sup>Van a. Harvey, *the Handbook of Theological Terms*, p.151

**COUNCIL MINUTES****April 12, 2011**

## FEBRUARY MINUTES

Members present:

Jim May, Dennis Gromer, Steve Fortner, Shirley Datema, Elaine Tebbenkamp, Curt Bartell, Stephan Scharf, Pastor Becky (Minutes were taken by Elaine Tebbenkamp in Jeanne Kruger's absence.)

Motion was made that we approve the January, 2011, council minutes with noted corrections; motion was seconded; motion carried

**Council Reports.**

Vice President. Jim May had no report.

Financial Secretary. Shirley Datema reported that total offering for the month of January was \$10,541.00, for an average weekly offering of \$2118.20. Sunday School had an average attendance of 13 and worship had an average of 72. It was noted that special envelopes be provided for special offerings so that it is easier to direct contributions to the intended fund.

Treasurer. Steve Fortner gave the financial report for the month of January, 2011, as follows: Total income for January was \$13,379.19. Total expenses were \$11,665.88, for a balanced net income of \$1,713.31, which is net income less than budgeted. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's financial report; motion was seconded; motion carried.

Board of Service Ministries.

Elaine Tebbenkamp reported that there were no issues to present to the council for their consideration at this time. BOSM will coordinate the Farewell Gathering for Becky's Sabbatical

Board of Christian Education. Pastor Stephan Scharf reported that the youth are meeting once a month. He was glad to report that there will be a Children's Sermon and Sunday School during February.

Worship and Music. Curt Bartell reported that the Lenten/Easter schedule is being developed. There will be an all-day Prayer Vigil and an evening service on Ash Wednesday, a Taize' Service on April 3, a Cantata on April 10, an evening Maundy Thursday service that will include a Labyrinth walk, and Easter services will include a Sunrise Service and a regular 10:30 Easter Sunday service.

Library. No report.

Building/Grounds. Shirley Datema reported that the snow blower cannot be fixed as the improper mixture of gas/oil was put into it. It is requested that anyone in the congregation with the ability to secure a replacement snow blower for a good price to please check with Corneil Datema in regard to pursuing that lead. It was also requested that we announce the need for additional funds to cover snow removal for the previous months.

Stewardship. No Report.

Department of Spirituality.  
No Report.

Visioning Committee.  
No report.

Pastor Becky's Report. The Council was asked to sponsor the Welcome Back Party for Becky's return from the Sabbatical, and this was agreed. There was some discussion regarding the salary that we will pay Associate Pastor Stephan for his services as Senior Pastor during the Sabbatical. Rev. Dale Parson will preach on June 19, and Martha Robertson will preach the remaining Sundays until July 23. Associate Pastor Stephan will then take charge from July 24 until September 13.

Pastor Becky proposes that the group that is studying the curriculum of "Unbinding the Gospel" also take a six-week sabbatical, where there will be no meetings, only Sunday morning service during that time.

A packet on the proper steps for staff evaluation and salary negotiations will be printed and distributed at the semi-annual meeting in July. It is also proposed that we move the budget approval date from the month of December to November.

It is necessary for Pastor Stephan to receive regular evaluations for his field education assignment to be accepted in Germany. He will determine who he wants in this group from St. John's.

Efforts are underway to form two new groups in the hopes of engaging more involvement from certain age groups.

It was proposed that the Search Committee begin to meet

and determine the expectations in advance of hiring a new choir director. On that committee are Shirley Datema, Pete Graham, Jeanne Kruger, and Chris Trumbull.

Associate Pastor Stephan's Report. Pastor Stephan desires assistance to develop a job description for himself. He currently attends meetings with the Worship Committee and the Board of Christian Education. He is also involved at the Association level. He will begin preaching at West Plains once a month beginning February 27, and will be in the church office on Friday mornings.

Old Business. Bylaw changes will be submitted at the Semi-annual Congregational Meeting in July, and Jim May will oversee the update of sexual misconduct procedural policy. Steve Fortner will investigate the acquisition of a loan and/or a line of credit should we need to pursue that safety net.

The Pastoral Sabbatical Committee will meet on Sunday, February 13.

New Business. Topics were addressed in the above Council reports. Church opener for the month of March is Shirley Datema. The next Council meeting will be held Tuesday, March 8.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanne Kruger, Council Secretary

### **March 8, 2011, Council Minutes**

Members present:

Dennis Gromer, Steve Fortner,  
Shirley Datema, Elaine Tebbenkamp,  
Curt Bartell, Jeanne Kruger, Stephan  
Scharf, and Pastor Becky

Motion was made that we approve the February 2011, council minutes with noted corrections; motion was seconded; motion carried

### **Council Reports.**

Vice President. Jim May Absent; no report.

Financial Secretary. Shirley Datema reported that total offering for the month of

January was \$10,591.00, for an average weekly offering of \$2,647.75. Sunday School had an average attendance of 12 and worship had an average of 70. Money has been coming in for pass-throughs such as office supplies, snow removal, and janitorial supplies. Motion was made to approve and accept the report as given; motion seconded; motion approved.

Treasurer. Steve Fortner gave the financial report for the month of February 2011, as follows: Total income for February was \$11,593.82. Total expenses were \$10,298.00, for a balanced net income of \$2,903.11, which is net income of \$4.04 less than budgeted for this month. Income and expenses are staying steady, with a savings in labor expenses because of temporary secretarial outgo. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's financial report; motion was seconded; motion carried.

Board of Service Ministries. Plans are being made for the Sabbatical party, attendance pads in the pews are being managed, and calls are being made to visitors.

Board of Christian Education. The BUNCO party will be held on Saturday, March 12, with baking potatoes and chili being provided; each person is to bring a green gift. The Youth groups are meeting, and the Junior Youth will meet Sunday, March 13, with a pizza party. Plans are being made for March and April Children's sermons.

Worship and Music. No Report.

Library. No report.

Building/Grounds. Shirley Datema reported that Corneil has been working on the wall in the garage. He will also blade off the edge of the garden and even it off. If there are more plots that are tilled, Corneil will provide the trailer to haul the debris if someone else will shovel and load the trailer. Pastor Becky said there may be as many as 10 more plots. Pastor Becky also said the west door of the chapel is not shutting properly and needs some attention

Stewardship. Curt Bartell volunteered to be responsible for stewardship activities.

Department of Spirituality. No Report.

Visioning Committee. No report.

Pastor Becky's Report. The Sabbatical Committee has suggested that we pay Pastor Stephan \$300 a week when he is preaching Sunday sermons and \$150 on weeks when we have other speakers do the sermons. Based on Pastor Stephan preaching eight Sundays and being Senior Pastor for two weeks with other ministers preaching on those Sundays, his salary would total \$2,700. Money set aside for travel expenses for supply ministers, workshops, or coaching the "Unbinding the Gospel" curriculum could be used and adjusted as needed to reimburse Pastor Stephan as long as the money is spent on sabbatical expenses.

The Sabbatical Party Send-off for Pastor Becky has been changed to June 12, 2011.

The Lenten special services are as follows:

Ash Wednesday, March 9, 7:30

Lenten Cantata, during Sunday service,  
April 3

Taize' Service, April 10, which is also  
Communion Sunday

Palm Sunday, April 17

Maundy Thursday service, April 21, 7:30  
(2 council members will be needed to assist)

Easter Sunrise Service

Easter Service during regular time (10:30  
a.m.)

We will need to have an evaluation group ready for Pastor Stephan when he begins attending seminary classes this fall.

I recommend that one of the two Council members on the Choir/Music Director Search Committee call together the group and begin meeting and determining expectations in advance of hiring a new director.

Our new secretary Beth is in her second week and is doing well.

Our sponsored church, Grace Church in West Plains will be joining the United Churches of Christ at the Western Association Meeting in California, Missouri, on Saturday, April 2. Registration is at 9:30 and the meeting begins at 10:00. Council members and members of the congregation are encouraged to show in numbers; it is about a 2 hour, 15 minutes drive north of Springfield and we would not be required to

be there until 10 a.m.

The table in the choir room is cracked and needs to be repaired or replaced. The copier in the office is in need of repairs or replacement. Pastor Becky's husband Dean does not have plans to mow the back lot this year, and contributions need to be collected again if we are to hire the mowing done for summer.

The Yahoo Group has met once with a good turnout at the wine-tasting party. Curt Bartell will sponsor the next meeting March 26 with a bonfire and wiener roast.

Associate Pastor Stephan's Report. The Youth Room has not been repaired and needs work. Pastor Stephan will be attending classes one day per week in St. Louis at Eden Seminary, working on his Masters of Divinity. He is still waiting to hear from those in Germany who are determining if the courses at Eden will be sufficient to substitute for courses required in Germany. His required field education will be his pastoral work and sermon writing at St. John's Chapel. An evaluation team will need to be in place to evaluate him and his work and report his work and progress to those in Germany.

Pastor Stephan recommends that St. John's Chapel make a gift, such as a communion set or an altar cross, to the new church in West Plains. We will need approximately \$150 for the gift. Elaine Tebbenkamp and Dennis Gromer will research what products are available and make a to purchase.

Old Business. Steve Fortner checked with UCC Loans of credit and there is a very extensive application process. The UCC Conference would need lots of information about the building and the property, including an appraisal, proof of insurance--including coverage for the possibility of sexual misconduct, and evidence of conference financial support and congregational involvement in conference activities. He also checked with BancorpSouth, the bank with which we do our business, and although their interest is slightly higher than with the UCC Conference, the requirements for the process of getting a line of credit are less and it may be easier to get the line of credit through them.

All Sabbatical information and processing

is up to date.

**New Business.** We will plan for a celebration of our former secretary, Deb's, services, possibly on a Sunday evening. Dennis Gromer said he would get back to us when that happening will occur. Pastor Becky has requested white candles and purple material for decorating the chapel during Lenten services. The meeting ended with the reciting of the Lord's Prayer. Church opener for the month of April is Jim May. The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, April 12.

### **Board of Service Ministries March 7, 2011**

#### **Mar. 7, 2011 BOSM MEETING MINUTES**

The Board of Service Ministries meeting was held on March 7 at 6:00 p.m. and opened with the group reciting St. John's Chapel UCC Mission Statement. Members in attendance were Louise Eggleston, CloElla Leverenz, Pastor Becky Hebert, Kathy Pittman, Elaine Tebbenkamp, & Johna Steinhauer. The February minutes were approved as written, with one correction that Larry Pittman will not be able to serve on the committee. Louise gave the Treasurer's report in Beverly's absence which shows we have \$574.68 in our pass-thru account.

CloElla passed out an instruction sheet for documenting our weekly member & visitor attendance since there has been some confusion in the past. We reviewed the whole procedure so that committee members are clear on the process. We discussed several visitors who have been attending church and encourage everyone to be welcoming and get to know them. Johna is assigned for pew pads for March and Beverly for April.

The subject of the St. John's UCC pictorial directory was discussed. Pastor Becky said that Deb Hall wasn't able to finish it but perhaps we could still put one together. Johna will contact Deb about the possibilities.

It was decided to hold the first Sabbatical meal on Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup>, after worship, with a labyrinth walk to follow the meal. Invitations and

catering services for the dinner were discussed. We are going to contact Tona for more information on both. Pastor Becky has informed us that Mark Wessel will not be able to do the labyrinth workshop that afternoon so we discussed that Becky might do a brief overview after the meal of how to do a labyrinth walk. Pastor Becky will check with the lady who danced at the labyrinth dedication to see if she would be available to perform again. CloElla volunteered to take care of the cake and Johna will pursue special music for the labyrinth walk.

Pastor Becky has sent the press release about the awarding of the Lily endowment money to Linda Leicht at the News Leader. Hopefully they will give us some additional publicity regarding the dinner and sabbatical.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Pastor Becky.

Johna Steinhauer, Secretary

### **WOMEN'S GUILD March 10, 2011**

The Women's Guild met March 10, 2011, with 15 members present.

Stephan Scharf, our associate pastor, gave a very interesting program about the area of Germany where he and his family lived, and about the areas where he attended school.

The treasurer's report had a balance of \$362.24.

The correspondence was read, including thank you notes from our benevolent giving in 2010.

We voted to give \$75.00 to Crosslines for the annual Feinstein Match

Loy Swanson said the Guild would have special speakers every other month, alternating with programs by Guild members.

Cards were sent to Virginia Shean and Flo Valentine.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Refreshments and decorations with a St. Patrick's theme were provided by Jan Hale and Virginia Steury.

Esther Steinhauer, secretary.

# April Birthdays



- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Danetta Cannady      | 14 Kristin Fourie    |
| Taryn Datema           | Ida Weber-84         |
| Jennifer Ruddell       | 16 Brian Gelner      |
| 3 Mike Berger          | 19 Larry Kloppenberg |
| Robert Saylor          | 22 Kristy Nelson     |
| 4 Georgia Gromer       | 24 Pete Datema-80    |
| Mary Margaret Thompson | Bob McMinn           |
| 7 Mark Brazeale        | 25 Kenny Datema      |
| 9 Corneil Datema       | Ashlan Zay           |
| Joel Tebbenkamp        | 26 Lori Graham       |
| 10 Kathie Daume        | Erin Shean           |
| 13 Adam Garcia         | 29 Jeri Shean        |
| Steven Tillery         | 30 Mark Blumenstock  |
|                        | Adam Gannon          |

I would like to thank everyone for being so kind and welcoming to me during the transition from Deb to me. I really appreciate it.—Beth

Thanks to all who worked so hard for the annual Sausage Supper. It takes many hands to make an event like this happen.

Thanks to the many volunteers who help get the job done on all our outreaches and ministries.

*There are many unmentioned Angels who silently perform acts of kindness every day. Tell others about the Angels Among Us at St. John's Chapel by dropping a note by the office.*

## Anniversaries

- 8 Earl & Irene Reed **60 years**
- 10 Steve & Kathie Daume
- 15 Stephan & Jane Scharf
- 17 Brian & Missy Gelner
- 21 Mike & Eleanor Berger
- 22 Elliot & Kara Blosch



SERVICES THIS MONTH

**Sunday, April 3**  
Fourth Sunday In Lent  
Lenten Cantata

**Sunday, April 10**  
Fifth Sunday In Lent  
Lazarus Sunday Taize' Service  
Communion

**Sunday, April 17**  
Sixth Sunday In Lent  
Palm Sunday

**Sunday, April 24**  
Easter  
Communion

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



On our March 8th Crosslines Day, groceries and milk were given to **46 families for a total of 114 people.**

Please bring food items by **Sunday, May 8th** as our next Crosslines Day is **May 10, 2011.** Much appreciation to all who help and provide for our monthly Crosslines Day!



The church will be opened in the month of April by:  
Jim May

## **FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE**

### **March 15, 2011**

Friendship Circle met at the Chapel Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. with 6 members present. Helen Keeton shared some interesting facts from 1984 and then read a devotional from Guideposts.

President Judy Bartell led the meeting. Ida Barry gave the treasurer's report. Jan Rund reported that 46 families for a total of 114 people received food on our March 8<sup>th</sup> Crosslines distribution day. Groceries and milk bought for distribution amounted to \$232.53. Offering and individual donations added \$279.00, bringing our Crosslines balance to \$1,188.75. A sincere thank you to Women's Guild for their donation of \$75.00 and to various individuals for your faithful contributions.

Circle members' upcoming birthdays and anniversaries were read. Helen Keeton and Jan Rund will visit our homebound members this month.

#### Old Business

Friendship Circle is no longer needed to serve the baby shower for Brianna Rahmoeller as individuals will serve it.

#### New Business

Our church kitchen and Circle closet are in need of some spring cleaning. Judy will offer this idea to the April hostesses as a possibility for a project at next month's meeting.

If anyone needs a program for a meeting, Senior Resource Network of the Ozarks (861-6573) could be contacted.

Ida made a motion and carried to participate in the Operation Hope Tote sponsored by Victory Mission. Individuals may donate personal grooming items, etc. which Victory Mission will pack in totes and distribute to the homeless on Easter Sunday. A sample of goods will be displayed and a list of the needed items will be in upcoming bulletins.

A motion was made by Nancy Anderson and approved to send \$100 to Council of Churches for the Feinstein match.

Mia Datema and Alice Shoemaker are April hostesses. The meeting closed with the Mizpah benediction. Refreshments with a St. Patrick's theme were served by Helen Keeton and Jan Rund.

Jan Rund, secretary

## **Board of Christian Education**

### **March 29, 2011**

The Board of Christian Education met Tuesday, March 29, at the Chapel. Present were Butch Stillman, Chuck Andrews, Eleanor Berger, Helen Keeton, Stephan Scharf, and Joyce Datema

The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$671.06. Pastor Stephan reported that the Youth group met March 13<sup>th</sup>, and made plans for a lock-in April 30<sup>th</sup>, an outdoor activity in May at the Datemas', and a swim party in June. The Sr. Youth group will meet April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Plans for Easter Sunday start with the 7:30 Sunrise service, followed by Breakfast at 8:15. Breakfast will be provided the BCE. At 9:00 there will be crafts for the children, and at 9:30 there will be an egg hunt.

The board will provide carnations on Mother's day again this year. We will recognize our graduates on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

A discussion was held about Camp Aurora. In the past, the board has paid half of each camper's fee. Since there is no money budgeted for this, we will ask the congregation for donations.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 26, at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Keeton, secretary.

#### PLEASE HELP!

In the past, the Board of Christian Education has paid half of each camper's fees to Camp Aurora. Since there is no money in the budget for this, we are turning to you, the congregation, to help us with donations. Please give so that as many campers as possible may attend camp this summer. Mark your gift with "Camp Aurora".

Thank you.



### 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..

### Community Garden Time

The time for you to participate in the Community Garden is fast approaching. We received \$1000.00 grant from the Eli Lilly company to establish a Community Garden. A 10 x 18 plot is available for all chapel members who wish to grow their own produce.

This is good way to help save some money, and to help feed the areas' needy by donating your surplus to Crosslines or another organization that feed the hungry.

There is a \$25.00 fee to offset the cost of water usage. Your plot will be tilled and ready to plant. Plots will be offered to the neighbors in our area. This is part of our Outreach program.

So whether you have a green thumb, or are a first time gardener, sign up today. We need to know how many plots to prepare. If you have questions, contact Judith Bartell, a committee member or attend the Community Garden planning meeting on April 12 at 10:00am. You may also call the church office.

Committee Members are: Judith Bartell  
Lea Ann Kruger, Gary Tebbenkamp,  
Kathy Pittman, and Deb Hall

## Dedication Lilies for Easter

Please make your check payable to St. John's Chapel UCC noting "Easter Lily" on the memo line.

**The deadline to order is April 15, 2011.**

Lilies are \$7.00 each.

Please turn in the following form and your check to Beth in the Chapel Office.

Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given in Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given in Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Our Altar Guild thanks you~

**Congratulations to  
Rachel Leigh Thompson for  
receiving the ROSE award.**

### Outstanding scholars honored

Fifty of Springfield Public Schools' top performing seniors were recognized during the 26th annual ROSE Banquet.

The ROSE (Recognition of Scholastic Excellence) Banquet is an annual recognition of the top graduates at each of Springfield's five high schools based on grade point average.

#### Parkview High School



Front row, left to right: Eliza Frances Johnson, Anna Christine Withers, Nicole Danielle Brooks, Emily Anne Akins, Anh Thao Mai

Back row, left to right: Rachel Leigh Thompson, Hanna Rena McLemore, Stephen Patrick Wolters, Breanna Danielle Thompson, Molly Rose Robb

**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2011**

	2010	2010	2011	2011	2011
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
MONTH	INCOME	EXPENSES	INCOME	EXPENSES	EXPENSES
January	\$11,542.07	\$15,118.43	\$13,379.19	\$11,665.88	\$12,703.99
February	\$12,173.28	\$12,995.21	\$11,593.82	\$8,690.71	\$10,302.04
March	\$10,102.13	\$13,221.46			\$11,194.50
April	\$8,999.18	\$13,287.33			\$12,054.00
May	\$12,792.05	\$12,406.72			\$10,040.99
June	\$8,793.29	\$12,779.75			\$11,684.84
July	\$9,994.52	\$12,398.81			\$12,249.99
August	\$13,907.77	\$10,157.08			\$10,463.04
September	\$10,095.71	\$11,579.50			\$11,355.50
October	\$11,035.66	\$12,001.42			\$13,478.99
November	\$13,723.82	\$11,403.51			\$10,463.04
December	\$13,125.51	\$12,256.29			\$11,355.50
YTD Totals	\$136,284.99	\$149,605.51	\$24,973.01	\$20,356.59	\$137,346.42

02/28/2011

Money Market

\$12,384.03

**Please remember** to bring your pledged giving up-to-date. Thank you.

Regular Checking

\$1,886.55

Petty Cash

\$115.00

TOTAL CASH

\$14,385.58

A review of the budget vs. actual may be obtained from the church office, if desired.



**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. Bring the candles in before the 10th, so that we may set up for the service.

Thank you for your help.

- 2nd** **Bread for the World** at Prince of Peace Lutheran, 9:00 am.  
**Western Assoc. Meeting** - to California , MO-leave at 7:45 am
- 3rd** **Lenten Cantata**, Sunday at 10:30 am
- 4th** **Unbinding the Gospel** is Monday at 9:30 am  
**Grace & Weight** is Monday at 5:30 pm.  
**Board of Service Ministries** will meet Monday at 6:00 pm.
- 7th** **Women's Guild** will meet Thursday at 1:00 pm.
- 10th** **Lazarus Sunday Taize' Service**-Sunday at 10:30 am  
Communion  
**Independent Women** will convene on Sunday at 1:00 pm  
**Bring Crosslines food donations today**
- 12th** **Crosslines Fish Day.**  
**Grace & Weight** is Tuesday at 5:30 pm.  
**Council** meets Tuesday at 6:30 pm.
- 16th** **Church Work Day at 8:00 -????**  
**Camp Aurora Work Day** at 9am-????  
**FROGS Youth**
- 17th** **Palm Sunday**.-Sunday at 10:30 am  
**The Kitchen**, serve on Sunday at 4:15 pm.
- 18th** **Grace & Weight** is Monday at 5:30 pm.
- 19th** **Friendship Circle** will meet Tuesday at 7:00 pm.
- 20th** **Seniors & Retirees**, 12 noon  
**Messenger items** are due today.
- 21st** **Maundy Thursday** Service followed by a labyrinth walk at 8:30pm  
**Men's Brotherhood** meets Tuesday at 8 am.  
**Friendship Circle** will meet Tuesday at 7:00 pm.
- 22nd** **Good Friday**-daytime Labyrinth walk 6am-5pm  
Service at North Church- 7:30 pm
- 23rd** **Holy Saturday**  
**Brianna Rahmoeller Baby Shower 2-4pm**
- 24th** **Easter**  
Sunrise Service at 7:30 am  
Breakfast at 8:15am  
Crafts at 9:00 am  
Egg Hunt at 9:30 am  
Service at 10:30 am  
Communion
- 25th** **Grace & Weight** meets Mondays at 5:30 pm
- 26th** **Ozark Cluster** meets today at 10:00 am.  
**Board of Christian Education** meets Tuesday at 6:30 pm
- 30th** **Junior Youth Lock-in**

**MEMBERSHIP  
DIRECTORY  
UPDATES...**

*Membership Directories are available in the office. Inform Beth of errors, changes and updates.  
THANK YOU!*

**The Next  
MESSENGER  
Deadline is...  
May 20  
2011,  
Thank you!**

**Don't forget  
the YAHOOS  
meet on April  
9, at 6:30 pm  
for Bonfire &  
Trivia Night**

**CAMP  
AURORA  
WORK DAY!**

Please help us get ready for camp 2011. The first Camp Aurora work day is April 16, from 9:00 AM until ????. The more hands, the lighter the work. We will get done faster too. Thank you for your participation





# April 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:30 am Bread for the World Library Center Western Association Meeting in California, MO. Leave 8:00 am
<b>3 Lenten Cantata</b> Next week is- Crosslines Fish Day	<b>4</b> Unbinding the Gospel 4:30 pm. G & W 5:30pm BSM 6:00pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Choir 6:00 pm	<b>7</b> Women's Guild @ 1:00 P.M.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> YAHOO'S Bonfire & Trivia Night 26:30 pm
<b>10 Lazarus Sunday</b> <b>Take Service</b> <b>Communion</b> Bring food for Crosslines	<b>11</b> Unbinding the Gospel 4:30 pm	<b>12</b> <b>Fish Day</b> G & W 5:30pm Council 6:30 pm	<b>13</b> Choir 7:00 pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Camp Aurora Work Day 9:00am-? FROGS 4:00-7:00PM Church work day @ 8:00am-?
<b>17 Palm Sunday</b> Last Day to order lilies	<b>18</b> Unbinding the Gospel 4:30 pm. G & W 5:30pm	<b>19</b> Friendship Circle- 7:00pm	<b>20</b> Seniors & Retirees Luncheon—Noon Choir 7:00 pm	<b>21</b> <i>Mandy Thursday</i> Service—8:30 PM followed by Labyrinth walk.	<b>22</b> <i>Good Friday</i> Daytime Labyrinth walk 6am-5pm Evening service at north church @ 7:30	<b>23</b> <i>Holy Saturday</i> Brianna Rahmoller's baby shower 2-4pm
<b>24</b> <i>Easter</i> 7:30 Sunrise Service 8:15 Breakfast 9:00 Crafts 9:30 Egg Hunt 10:30 Service Communion	<b>25</b> G & W 5:30pm	<b>26</b> Oz. Cluster 10:00 am BCE 6:30 pm	<b>27</b> Choir 7:00 pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <i>Junior Youth Lock-in.</i> @ 7:00 RSTP by <b>24th</b>

St. John's Chapel  
United Church of Christ  
4344 South Fremont Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65804-7306

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Return Service Requested  
April 2011

**The Pension Boards**  
United Church of Christ

475 Riverside Drive  
Room 1225  
New York, NY 10115-3059  
P.S.N. 642-6545  
718-759-3722  
www.pbcucc.org

1/31/2011

St. John's Chapel United Church of Christ  
4344 South Fremont Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65804-7306



Dear UCC,

Grace and Peace to you in the Name of the Christ Child!

Your gift to the 2011 Appeal for the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund in the amount of \$298.80 has been received by the Pension Boards. THANK YOU!

A retired pastor who received a grant from the Christmas Fund wrote:

I want to thank the pension boards for the gift that I received from the Christmas Fund. I am grateful for your thoughtful concern for the needs of retired pastors like myself. These gifts of love come as a real blessing, and my gratitude can never be sufficiently expressed.

Throughout the year we receive numerous requests for assistance from retired and active pastors and lay employees of the United Church of Christ. Your gift helps us to be able to say yes to such requests more often than not. Help has been provided in many ways, including:

- ✓ A young pastor just beginning their ministry with very high unexpected medical expenses
- ✓ A retired pastor's widow who needed help for extensive dental work
- ✓ A pastor who was the victim of crime

Does your gift matter? You can be sure that it does! Let me express the sincere gratitude of the more than 1600 persons who are helped each year when they receive some form of financial assistance made possible by gifts like yours to the Christmas Fund. The Christmas Fund is at work throughout the year, not just during the Christmas season.

In Christ's Service,

The Reverend Dr. M. Douglas Borko  
Director, Ministerial Assistance

**Thank you  
from the  
Pension  
board for  
your gift to  
the  
Christmas  
Fund**

**Lenten Calendar 2011**

Sunday, April 3	Lenten Cantata	10:30 AM
Sunday, April 10	Taize' Service & Lazarus Sunday Communion	10:30 AM
Sunday, April 17	Palm Sunday	10:30 AM
Thursday, April 21	Maundy Thursday Stripping the Altar, & Labyrinth Walk	8:30 PM
Friday, April 22	Good Friday Stations of the Cross & Daytime Labyrinth Walk	6AM-5PM
	Good Friday Service at St. John's Church	7:30 pm
<b>Easter, April 24</b>	Sunrise Service	7:30AM
	Breakfast	8:15AM
	Children's Craft	9:00AM
	Egg Hunt	9:30 AM
	Worship Celebration Communion	10:30 AM