

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

Return Service Requested
February

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

4344 S. Fremont
Avenue
Springfield, MO
65804-7306

(417) 881-5175
fax (417) 881-1647

www.stjohnschapel.org
pastor@stjohnschapel.org
sec@stjohnschapel.org

Sunday School—9 AM
Worship - 10:30 AM

Pastor
Rev. Becky Hebert

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Robert M. Dohm

Council President
Tona Griggs

Vice President
Dennis Gromer

Board of Christian
Education Chair
Joyce Burton

Board of Service
Ministries Chair
Elaine Tebbenkamp

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.



THE MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 2009
Volume 42,
Number 2

Pastoral Reflections
by Pastor Becky Hebert

**DUE TO THE ICE
STORM, PASTOR BECKY
WAS NOT ABLE
TO GET IN,**



**WHICH WAS HER LAST
DAY TO WRITE A
NEWS ARTICLE BEFORE
HER VACATION.**

February

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2008

| MONTH | 2007 INCOME | 2007 EXPENSES | 2008 INCOME | 2008 EXPENSES | 2008 BUDGET |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| January | \$12,157.00 | \$19,064.63 | \$12,843.28 | \$14,105.78 | \$14,917.00 |
| February | \$15,435.73 | \$13,250.23 | \$10,352.93 | \$11,486.45 | \$12,836.00 |
| March | \$22,900.00 | \$30,873.54 | \$18,535.07 | \$16,499.27 | \$18,560.00 |
| April | \$13,278.00 | \$10,779.05 | \$15,517.71 | \$13,557.35 | \$18,924.00 |
| May | \$12,454.24 | \$22,999.01 | \$16,555.88 | \$29,607.56 | \$12,055.00 |
| June | \$11,700.50 | \$12,307.08 | \$13,100.00 | \$16,269.75 | \$13,840.00 |
| July | \$15,925.00 | \$12,307.08 | \$12,217.89 | \$13,664.47 | \$13,524.00 |
| August | \$9,973.50 | \$11,540.70 | \$14,110.42 | \$12,599.08 | \$12,038.00 |
| September | \$14,516.92 | \$17,158.34 | \$9,886.00 | \$14,575.30 | \$14,715.00 |
| October | \$10,552.83 | \$11,276.67 | \$12,814.48 | \$13,423.81 | \$13,964.00 |
| November | \$15,461.95 | \$12,193.44 | \$15,640.00 | \$11,683.90 | \$12,538.00 |
| December | 19067.30\$ | \$12,0860.48 | \$22,717.17 | \$21,175.19 | \$13,907.00 |

OTHER FUNDS

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Money Market | \$65,349.46 | |
| | <u>- 10,000.00</u> | Debit |
| | \$55,349.46 | |
| Building Fund CD | \$ 3,467.58 | Matured 8/08 |
| Other CD | \$44,803.19 | |
| | <u>166.45</u> | Interest |
| | \$44,969.64 | |

TOTAL ASSETS: \$109,275.54

NOTE: Income and Expenses include the total income and expenses for the month.

Please remember to bring your pledged giving up-to-date.

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



FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP

Please note: Price Cutter Floral can provide a pair of two altar arrangements for \$40, including delivery to the church. The flower chart is on the easel in the narthex.

When you sign up, please note whether you wish to order them through the church or get the flowers on your own. If you order flowers through the church, please make a check to the church and write "Flowers" on the memo line and enclose in an envelope marked "Flowers".



Special Prayer Requests

UPDATE ON SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

David Rahmoeller: The kidney donor is not eligible to continue to be a donor for David. It is back to square one. If you know of anyone who would like to be a donor, please let us know, and we will give you the name and number of our coordinator. Please continue to keep us in your prayers. David and Debbie

clause, changing the compassionate leave clause and clarifying paid holiday for the pastor. These changes are all listed on p. 17 of the annual meeting packet.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM and was followed by a carry-in dinner.

Mary Lou Datema, Secretary

**COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of January 8, 2009**

Roll Call: Members present: Tona Griggs, Nancy Anderson, Clo Ella Leverenz, Mike Berger, Rita Allen, Mary Lou Datema, Vanessa Gonzenbach,. Members absent: Dennis Gromer. Two guests present: Bob Eggleston and Paul Blackwell.

Pastor Becky opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:30 PM.

Before committee reports began, guest Bob Eggleston gave us an update on his work with Dale's Roofing. Bob was able to get a 5% price reduction in the cost of the roof, from \$33,615 to \$31,362. After choosing a shingle color, the contract will be signed by Tona and returned to Dale's. Payment will be due when work is completed.

Paul Blackwell reported he is working on a routine maintenance schedule. He will present a needs list to council, with safety needs as first priority.

The dry powder extinguisher in the kitchen stove hood is out of date and, for insurance reasons, needs to be replaced as soon as possible, Paul has secured two bids, one for \$2,000 and one for \$1200. Council voted to approve \$1200 for the repair of the system.

Paul will look into servicing our fire extinguishers with the same company and will work with Lee on repairing any emergency lights that are not working.

Secretary's Minutes: Minutes from the December meeting were reviewed and approved.

Vice President: No report. Tona reported that Linda Marshak has resigned from council.

Financial Secretary: (Mike Berger) Mike reported total deposits of \$8940 for the month of December. This includes \$7894.50 in offering and pass-throughs of \$1045.50. Average weekly offering for the month was \$1973.63. Average Sunday attendance was 92. Mike reported that for 2008, we ended about \$8000 short of the amount actually pledged.

Treasurer's Report: (Vanessa Gonzenbach) Total income for the month of December was \$22,717, which includes a money market transfer into the

checking account. The checking account balance for the end of December was \$5488.86. Total spending for the month was \$21,175.19. Although spending for the year came in \$2977.98 less than the actual amount budgeted, we still spent about \$14,000 more than was taken in, almost exactly the cost of the HVAC units installed this spring.

Board of Service Ministries: (Clo Ella Leverenz) Clo Ella stated that the Board of Service Ministries may look into a separate account for holding their funds. They are currently looking into different types of advertising.

Board of Christian Education: (Tona) Hitched and Happy relationship classes begin on January 12.

Worship: (Rita Allen) After some discussion, it was suggested that council members find ushers in advance for the months they are opening the church. These potential ushers can then be responsible for finding their own replacements, if necessary.

Library: No report.

Bookkeeping: No report.

Building/Grounds: No report.

Stewardship: No report.

Department of Spirituality: (Nancy Anderson) Nancy reported that discernment prayer time every other Tuesday at 12:00 will be beginning with a focus on prayer about where God is calling us as a congregation. All are invited to come as they can.

Visioning committee: No report.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Becky reported that on Jan 25 we will be hosting a congregation from West Plains interested in affiliating with the UCC. All who are interested may join for lunch afterwards.

Bread for the World is sponsoring a poverty simulation put on by OACAC on January 22.

Council approved changing communion from the first Sunday in February to the second one, due to having a guest preacher on Feb. 1.

Rosemary Witt and Tona will work on looking for a substitute organist.

Old Business: Tona hopes to get personnel/job description files from Linda so that work can continue.

The labyrinth pavers are defective and need to be replaced before work can proceed. Kris from Wickman's is to get in touch with Tona about the work needing to be done. Vanessa has agreed to videotape church contents for insurance purposes.

An agenda was set for the January 11 congregational meeting.

(Continued from page 3)

Tona continues to work on the possibility of a consultant working with our congregation. She will be speaking with members of other congregations that have used the consultant recommended by Dale Parson.

New Business: Tona has received an official resignation from Tom Richards. Interim director Chris Brammer will begin January 14 on a trial basis, and if that goes well, he may start the following week.

We will host guest preacher Gloria Jones from Pitts Chapel UMC on January 18. Pastor Becky will be preaching there that day.

Changes to the current pastoral call agreement were reviewed for presentation to the congregation on Sunday, Jan. 11 at the congregational meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Mary Lou Datema, Secretary

**BOARD OF SERVICE
MINISTRIES MEETING
Minutes of January 6, 2009**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Service Ministries (BOSM) was called to order at 7:10 by Chairperson Elaine Tebbenkamp at the Chapel. In attendance were Beverly Graham, Pastor Becky, Clo Ella Leverenz, Johna Steinhauer, Elaine and Gary Tebbenkamp. Pastor Becky opened the meeting with prayer. Minutes of the December 2, 2008 meeting were approved.

The treasurer's report was given by Johna. Her summary noted an expense of \$32.00 for newspaper ads leaving a budget balance of \$315.86, a pass-through balance of \$597.76 for a total balance of \$913.62. Johna will pursue getting an individual bank account for BOSM if a no charge account can be arranged.

The Pastor's report included discussion about a possible fellowship dinner in January and a summary of health concerns regarding members and friends of the Chapel. Pastor Becky noted that a group from West Plains were interested in forming a UCC congregation in their community and would visit us during worship on January 25, 2008. The care ministry model that the Chapel currently uses does not seem to be effective and a suggestion for considering the Stephen Ministries model was made. A meeting of

those interested in this form of ministry will be held at Brentwood Christian Church in the near future.

Focus Group reports: A brief report was given about attendance, visitors and arranging transportation for Butch to attend choir practice and worship after Chrissy leaves and until he can regain his drivers license.

Membership Care: No report.

Mission/Outreach: A tentative schedule of Chapel volunteers to serve at the Kitchen has been prepared. At this time it appears that all dates will be filled. The assignment list will be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway by the church office.

Publicity: The current radio ads for the Chapel are expensive and their overall effectiveness is questionable. The BOSM voted to suspend radio ads for the time being. Alternative forms of advertising will be considered.

A report of nominees for the BOSM was given. Louise Eggleston has agreed to a nomination for a one year term and Gary has agreed to extend his term for an additional year. Clo Ella Leverenz agreed to be nominated for a three year term (although she would not be the Council representative). There are still two openings for the 3 year terms. Election of officers for the coming year was tabled until the February meeting.

Consideration of a change in meeting times and dates will be given after the new board is seated. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3 at 7 p.m. at the Chapel. The meeting closed at 8:54 PM by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Gary Tebbenkamp, Secretary

WOMEN'S GUILD

No meeting in January.



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Minutes of January 20, 2009

No minutes to report at the time of printing.



February Anniversaries



- 1 **Ed & Nancy Anderson 50**
Steve and Annette Barry
- 2 **Pete and Beverly Graham 45**
- 10 Jack & Vanessa Gonzenbach
- 11 Stephen & Lori Graham
- 14 **Bob & Louise Eggleston 26**
David & Debbie Rahmoeller
- Robert & Marlene Saylor 39**
- John & Judy Wood 39**
- 15 **Gary & Elaine Tebbenkamp 33**

Special recognition is noted for birthdays over 80 years and anniversaries over 25 years.

February Birthdays

- 1 Brin Datema
Derek Griggs
- 2 Ben Datema
Tony Diullo
Ted Hillhouse
Nancy Schlueter
- 4 Zach Rehagen
Charles Schatz
- 5 Diane Kaicher
- 6 Jan Hale
- 8 Stephen Graham
Linda Hines
- 12 Rita Allen
Bill Brazeale
Emily Russell
- 14 Maya Welde
Traci Zay
- 17 Jonathan Scully
Christopher Scully
- 19 Anthony Hunt
Pat Weber
- 20 Gert Klobuchar
- 21 **Aileen Dohm 83**
- 22 Curt Bartell
- 23 **Ken Swanson 81**
- 24 **Sue Davis 84**
- 25 Sherri Jordan
Rev. Nelson Parnell
- 27 Jeremy Cannady
John Scafe 81
Kent Weber





CROSSLINES REPORT

On our January 13th Crosslines Fish Day, food was provided to 68 families for a total of 181 people. The workers said it was the busiest Crosslines day they had ever worked. They had to close at 1:15 PM when the shelves were completely empty!

Please remember to bring food donations by **Sunday, February 8**, for our next Crosslines Day. Some of the items needed are spaghetti sauce and spaghetti, peanut butter, jelly, soup, Ramen noodles, crackers, jello and pudding, dried beans, cornbread mix, canned luncheon loaf, tuna, pork 'n' beans, canned vegetables and fruit, soap, shampoo, toilet paper, and bags.

Thank you for all the generous donations which allow us to continue helping those in need!

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to Me." Matthew 25:40

DEADLINE!
The Messenger
Items Due

Friday, February 20th



The church will be opened in
The month of February by:
Judith Bartell

YOU CAN HELP BY SAVING the following items for various worthwhile causes. Collection containers are on the narthex tables. Best Choice UPC bar codes, Campbell Soup labels, General Mills Box Tops for Education, and printer cartridges. (Board of Service Ministries earns money for publicity.)



SERVICES THIS MONTH

Sunday, February 1

Rev. Bill Longman, Guest Speaker

Sunday, February 8

Communion

4 pm — Ozark Cluster Meeting with Laity in Billings

Wednesday, February 25

7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service with Communion



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE AT THE KITCHEN

As part of our church's outreach project, four people are needed to serve on the 3rd Sunday of each month at The Kitchen, 424 E. Commercial. The sign-up sheet through 2009 is on the church activities' bulletin board between the secretary's office and the confirmation pictures. Thank you to those people who have already signed up. There is still room for others. Volunteers should arrive at The Kitchen at 4:15 PM and will be finished by 6 PM. For more information, please contact Nancy Anderson 863-7309.

CHAPEL ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS

If you wish your memorial to go to the Endowment Fund, please make sure to write your wish in the memo line of your check. If you do not specify, the funds will be placed in the general memorial fund.

Fund List — Memorial, Endowment, Christian Education, Evangelism, Music Scholarship, Building and Grounds, and Unrestricted.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Minutes of January 27, 2009

No minutes to report at the time of printing.



I wanted to thank everyone there for all the help they have given my family and I, financially, spiritually, and otherwise in our time of need. You will never know how appreciated it has been.

Thank You So Much,
Vickie Russell

Thank you for your prayers, cards, and calls concerning the loss of my mother-in-law, Alberta Hale. I appreciated them very much. Your caring meant so much to me.

Thank you,
Jan Hale

1/9/09. Thank you for your recent gift in support of the Council of Churches Annual Fund.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, our staff and the thousands we serve each day, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your faithful support of the work of the Council of Churches.

Sincerely,
The Rev. David Hockensmith, Jr., D. Min.,
Executive Director

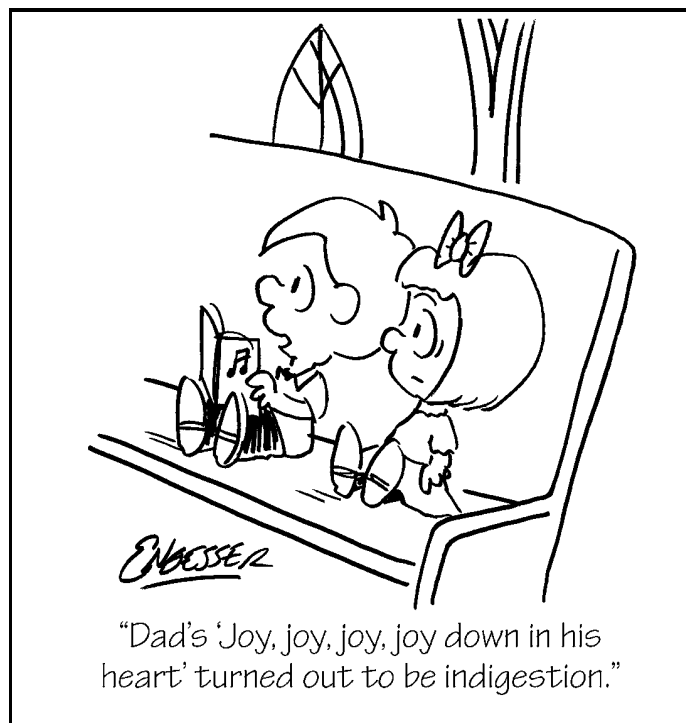
12/22. Thank you for your congregations recent gift for our Campus Ministry @ The House. Christian ministry with college students matters.

It matters because the "campus":


- * has such great influence on our culture.
- * is where tomorrow's leaders are being formed and influenced.
- * is where innovation and new ideas that benefit our world are hatched.
- * is populated by gifted people who are responding to God's call to lend a helping hand to those in need.
- * is often a lonely place where people need the saving grace of a loving God.

For these reasons and more, we are grateful that you believe in what we do at Missouri State University in Christ's name.

Best Wishes, Rev. Howard C. Cavner
Campus Minister



We don't change the message,
The message changes us.

 I just wanted to say, "Goodbye". I will be moving soon. My last day will be Friday, Feb. 6th. My husband, Glendon, has taken the pastorate of the Temple Baptist Church in Muskogee, OK. It was really nice getting to know those of you I did get to meet, as well as others that I "met" on the phone. You are all a very nice bunch of people! We are looking forward to our new adventure! Take care!
—Martha Gray

ADDRESS CHANGES

Matt & Jamie Gromer
 1344 S. Prince Ln.
 Springfield, MO 65804-0561
 Matt's Cell: 207-7741
 Jamie's Cell: 207-3613



DIRECTORY ADDRESS CHANGES

Each time the post office notifies us of an address change, it costs 50¢. Please help the church save money by notifying the office of any address changes before the Post Office does. Thank you!

The OZARK CLUSTER GROUP will have a meeting with the laity on Sunday, Feb. 8th. It will be in Billings at the St. Peter's Evangelical UCC. The church is located at 303 NE Pine. Paul Osgood, in the Justice and Witness Ministries of the Missouri Mid-South Conference will be at the meeting. The meeting is from 4-6 PM with a carry-in dinner to follow.

The Clusters have all met once to look at priorities for the Missouri Mid-South Conference and have identified twelve: Church Growth, Clarifying Covenantal Relationships and Understanding the UCC, Clergy Support and Development, Communication and Connection, Conference Budget, Engaging Youth and Young Adults, Evangelism, Helping Churches in Crisis, Lay Leadership Development, New Church Starts, Nurturing Safe Diversity, and Outdoor Ministries. This meeting will be to review the priorities and set goals and procedures for accomplishing them.

This process will work only if members from the churches share in the process, and pass on their goals and desires. So, plan to attend this meeting and let your voice be heard.

*The children of
 Nancy and Eddie Anderson
 invite you to share
 in celebrating their parents'
 50th Wedding Anniversary
 during a special open house
 Saturday, the seventh of February
 Two thousand and nine
 from three o'clock thru five
 o'clock in the afternoon*
*St. John's Chapel U. C. C.
 4344 South Fremont Avenue
 Springfield, Missouri*
Your presence is your gift

**THE ANNUAL ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
 SAUSAGE SUPPER IS
 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH,
 FROM 4:30 - 7:30 PM
 IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.**

**ADVANCE TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED
 FROM A BROTHERHOOD OR KOINONIA MEMBER,
 OR YOU MAY BUY TICKETS AT THE DOOR.**

**ADULT TICKETS ARE \$6 AND
 CHILDREN, AGES 6-10, ARE \$3.**

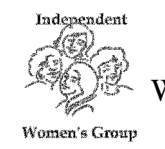
UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



HITCHED AND HAPPY WORKSHOP
 Will meet every Monday at 5:30 PM, except the 16th.



BREAD FOR THE WORLD
 Will meet on Saturday, February 7th at 9 AM. The meeting will be at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church located at 815 E. Farm Road 182.



INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S GROUP
 Will meet on Sunday, February 8th at 1 PM.



WOMEN'S GUILD
 Will meet on Thursday, February 12th at 1 PM. The Executive Council will meet for a short meeting at 12:30 before the regular meeting. The program will be United Ministries in Higher Education. It should be educational and entertaining. Delicious refreshments will be served—so, come one, come all for a delightful afternoon.



MEN'S BROTHERHOOD
 Will meet at 7:30 AM on Tuesday, February 17th at Scrambler's on E. Republic Rd. All men are invited.



THE VISIONING COMMITTEE
 Will meet on Tuesday, February 17th at 6 PM.



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE
 Will meet on Tuesday, February 17th at 7 PM.



GATHERING OF SENIORS AND RETIREES
 Will meet at noon for a potluck carry-in lunch on Wednesday, February 18th.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Board of Service Ministries will meet on Tuesday, February 3rd at 7 PM.
Council will meet on Thursday, February 12th at 6:30 PM.
Board of Christian Education will meet on Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30 PM.



DISCERNMENT PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH.
 You are invited to come to the church to pray for discernment on where God is calling us as a congregation. The group is presently learning about and doing Centering Prayer as its means of discerning the call of our congregation. We will have prayer time on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at noon. The prayer meeting times for this month are Tuesday, February 10th and 24th.