

JUNE/JULY NEWSLETTER 2024

Visitation Sunday



Pastor Tarrah will be away officiating her best friend's wedding on **June 23rd**, there will be no services held at either of our church locations. Please prayerfully consider attending a neighboring church.

NEW WORSHIP SERIES: "HERE I AM, SEND ME!"

5 And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" 6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. 7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." 8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" – Isaiah 6:5–8

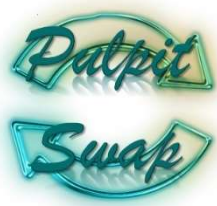
NRSVue



The season After Pentecost affords us an opportunity to focus on the joys and costs of discipleship. The overarching theme for the season is "Here I Am" based on the call of the prophet Isaiah. Before he can hear and respond to the call, Isaiah first acknowledges the need of the people, which is ultimately the distance between who they are and the Holy One in whose image they are created. Isaiah receives the gift of grace and responds enthusiastically to share that grace with others. This is the calling of the church—to be recipients and messengers of the good news that an encounter with the Holy One gives hope, reconciliation, and new life.

This series is an invitation to renewal for the body of Christ to respond to the call to public witness, loving presence, and hope-filled ministry with an enthusiastic and resounding...Here I Am.

Guest Preacher



Sometimes in ministry life, there comes an opportunity for pastor's to "swap pulpits" with each other for a bit of variety. On Sunday, July 14th, we will have such an opportunity! Pastor Tarrah has been invited to preach at St. John UCC in Mascoutah the Sunday prior to the arrival of their newly called pastor. St. John's has been blessed with the interim leadership of Rev. Bob Goddard as they searched for their newly called pastor, and he will be "swapping" and preaching for our congregation while Pastor Tarrah preaches in Mascoutah. Please extend to him the loving and extravagant welcome that Holy Ghost and Trinity United Churches of Christ is known by!

Scripture Readers

Scripture readers are always encouraged and welcomed to take part in our worship services. Please sign-up to be a reader of our sacred scriptures on any given Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet on the information table. Thank you!!

Special Music Offerings

Are you interested in providing special music for one of our upcoming services? Do you know someone or a group that you think would be a terrific addition to one of our upcoming services? Please reach out to Pastor Tarrah so we can get you/them on the worship schedule. Thank you!!

WE ARE UPDATING OUR DIRECTORY

It's been 5 years since our membership directory has been formally updated, and with the inclusion of so many new members, now is a great time to do this! Kim has updated some members already and has placed the directory list on the sharing table for all to check. Please put an ok next to your name if info is correct, if not make corrections next to your name. If you would like to submit your information via email, please submit to: holyghost@wisperhome.com Please give name, address, home phone and cell phone and email. Also indicate if you want to be on an email list, text message list and prayer chain list.

CONFIRMATION 2024-2026

A new confirmation class will begin in September 2024. Traditionally, confirmation is extended to youth in 8th grade for a 1 year program. While this is the "way we've always done it", Pastor Tarrah recognizes that it is time for a "new way" to allow and encourage youth to engage their faith and denomination towards confirmation. This new confirmation program welcomes all youth beginning 5th grade for a 2 year program that will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month immediately following worship. The first year of the program will dive into our treasured bible stories and build their biblical literacy. The second year of the program will expand to include confirmation curriculum to explore their beliefs, our denomination, and our local church. If you have any questions, or are interested in assisting Pastor Tarrah with this new program, please let her know as soon as possible. If you an interest in having your child participate in confirmation in the fall, please let Pastor Tarrah know no later than August 1st, 2024.

"W.O.W." Retreat: September 17th – 19th, 2024



We have an amazing group of women that will be attending the W.O.W. Retreat to Branson this Fall! If your name is NOT on this list, and you are wanting to join us, you must let Pastor Tarrah know no later than Sunday, June 30th.

***Ginny W.
Cathy H. (and friend)
Verleen B.
Diane V.
Gracelynn N.***

***Frieda F. (and friend)
Kim W.
Sue T.
Debby S.
Pastor Tarrah***

One of the activities during the retreat will be a night out to the Sight and Sound Theatre to see the live stage production of "Queen Esther". Throughout the retreat, there will be time for spiritual growth, rest, fellowship, creativity, and fun. And, of course, no trip to Branson would be complete without some "shopping therapy!"

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Sue Triefenbach is the proud great grandmother of a new baby girl named June Marie Triefenbach. June's parents are Josh and Kayla Triefenbach. Her grandparents are Rodney and Sheila Triefenbach.



GRADUATE RECOGNITION



Join us for worship on Sunday, July 21st for Graduate Recognition Sunday! If you have a child, grandchild, niece, nephew, etc. that has graduated from Pre-K, Kindergarten, 8th grade, High School, College or Post-College, please join to celebrate with them and with you!

CONGRATULATIONS 2024 GRADUATES!

College Graduates

Logan Jones from McKendree with a degree in Business

Son of Lyle Jones, Grandson of Jim Jones

Elizabeth Root from Rend Lake Nursing School

Daughter of Pam & Darrin Root,
Granddaughter of Susan Middendorf,
Great-Granddaughter of June Vandiver.
She plans to attend McKendree

High School Graduates

Tanner Middendorf from Marissa Jr./Sr. High School

Son of Travis & Melody Middendorf,
Grandson of Susan Middendorf and
Diane & Bruce Peebles, Great-Grandson of
June Vandiver. He plans to attend SWIC
Pacey Harms from Triad High School
Son of Toby & Juli Harms, Grandson of
Lee & Cathy Harms

He plans to attend Oregon State University
majoring in Marine Biology

Shane Klasing from Okawville High School
Son of Darlene & Neil Klasing, Grandson of
Daryl & Verleen Bollmeier and Alice
Klasing.

He plans to attend Rend Lake College this
fall on a Golf Scholarship.

Charli and Katelyn Kunz from Triad High School

Daughters of Nicole & Chad Kunz,
Great-Granddaughters of Jeanette Funk
They plan to attend The College of the
Ozarks where they will begin their goal of
becoming Veterinarians

Becca Root from Marissa Jr./Sr. High School

Daughter of Pam & Darrin Root,
Granddaughter of Susan Middendorf,
Great-Granddaughter of June Vandiver.
She plans to attend McKendree

Emily Wagner from Jordon High School in
Fulshear, TX

Daughter of John & Stephanie Wagner,
Granddaughter of Larry & Martha Wagner
She plans on attending Texas A & M

Jr. High School Graduates

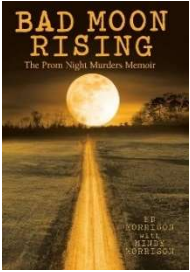
Andrew Wagner from Belleville West Junior High

Son of Kenny Wagner, Grandson of Larry & Martha Wagner



BOOK CLUB

Our Book Club is growing and blooming with new reads for the summer! We will get together at **Machete's in New Athens on Wednesday, July 10th at 6pm** for our next discussion. There are THREE options to choose from for our next meeting. Choose to read as many as you'd like 😊



***Bad Moon Rising* by Ed and Mindy Morrison**

Ed Morrison's brother, Michael, and his spunky girlfriend, Debra Means, never made it home from the Mascoutah Community High School prom held on May 3, 1969. Two days later, their bodies were discovered near an abandoned strip mine on the outskirts of town. After taking his victims at gunpoint, Marshall Wayne Stauffer raped and strangled fifteen-year-old Debbie and dispatched eighteen-year-old Mike with three shots to the back of his head. In this true crime memoir, Ed Morrison chronicles his journey nearly fifty years after that fateful night to learn the truth of what happened, illuminate the evil within a murderer, and find resolution.

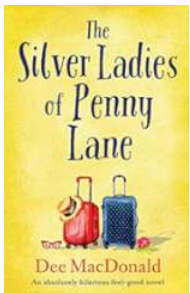
***The Ministry of Time* by Kalliane Bradley**

A time travel romance, a spy thriller, a workplace comedy, and an ingenious exploration of the nature of power and the potential for love to change it all: Welcome to The Ministry of Time, the exhilarating debut novel by Kalliane Bradley.

An exquisitely original and feverishly fun fusion of genres and ideas, The Ministry of Time asks: What does it mean to defy history, when history is living in your house? Kalliane Bradley's answer is a blazing, unforgettable testament to what we owe each other in a changing world.



***The Silver Ladies of Penny Lane* by Dee MacDonald**



Tess and Orla have been best friends throughout most of their adult lives. So when life gave them lemons and their loved ones let them down, they pooled their resources and bought a dressmakers shop on the corner of Penny Lane. And they've been doing just fine ever since.

But one day, while studying her tired eyes and shapeless figure in the mirror, 62-year-old Tess realized that she doesn't want her life to be just fine anymore. She wants it to be extraordinary. For as long as she can remember she's put everyone else first. Now she wants to rediscover herself - and experience the kind of whirlwind adventure that will have the power make her smile when she's confined to the armchair of a retirement home. With the encouragement of fun-loving and quirky Orla, Tess joins an over-the-hill dating agency, and the two friends book a singles cruise around the Mediterranean. And that's when their adventure of a lifetime really begins. A totally uplifting, heartwarming, hilarious listen about embracing the moment, learning to love again and the joy of second chances. Perfect for fans of The Kicking the Bucket List and The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor Tarrah is exploring the possibility of offering a program to encourage spiritual growth and study ONE SUNDAY each month beginning in the fall. This program will be available to any adults, young adults, and teens. To develop a program that touches on YOUR interests, please circle as many of the subjects below that you would be interested in learning more about. You may also fill in your own preferences as well.

“Who is Jesus to YOU?”

“History of the Bible”

“Traditions and Rituals”

“The Book of Revelation”

“Mean Girls of the Bible”

“Bad Boys of the Bible”

“Biblical Customs and Times”

“Divine Self-Care”

“Spiritual Practices”

“History of our Denomination”

“History of Christianity”

“Names of God”

Your own interests: _____

VISIONING / FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE



It is from the rootedness of our history and traditions, that we glean the wisdom to move into the future with the Spirit's guidance. If you are interested in adding your voice to the conversation about the direction of our congregation and ministry, please prayerfully consider being a part of our Visioning Committee. This new committee will work alongside Pastor Tarrah and the Joint Church Council in an effort to keep their finger on the pulse of the congregation, as well as face the realities of the changing

world our church is thriving and forging into. Please let Pastor Tarrah know if this is something you are interested in being a part of and stay tuned for more information upcoming about ways to get involved.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Calling all men! You've likely seen when you are out and about in neighboring communities, "Little Library" boxes in front of schools, churches, businesses, etc. Wouldn't it be a wonderful gift to the community to have a place where children (and adults) were able to choose a free book to read?

If you are interested in bringing one of these inspirational libraries to life in front of our Holy Ghost Darmstadt location, please speak with Pastor Tarrah to learn more!

All skill levels welcome and needed 😊



An informational meeting about this opportunity will be held on Sunday, June 30th immediately following worship. Let's build something together, y'all!!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are blessed beyond measure to be a growing, thriving, congregation! There are many different ways to “get involved” and serve on Sunday mornings and beyond! If you are interested in ANY of the following areas, please let Pastor Tarrah know. See a need in our congregation that isn’t listed below? Let’s chat about ways of making it happen!



Sound System Tech	Videography Tech	Ushering
Communion Steward	Website Maintenance	YouTube Integration
Hospitality	Social Events	Decorating Committee
Groundskeeping	Mowing	Fundraising
Building Maintenance	Special Events Committee	
Community Outreach	Ministry Partnership Committee	
WISE Mental Health Ministry	Children/Youth Programming	
Adult Programming/Education	Advertising/Marketing	Church Life Committee



PRAYER LIST (long term)

Richard Juenger, Dorothy Herzog, Bradley Funk, Skip Horton, Lucas (5-year-old with leukemia in Darmstadt), and Charlie Darrigrand.

PRAYER LIST (short term)

People of Ukraine, People of Maui, People of Israel and Palestine,

Matt Reidy, Les Erb, Frank Lee, Kenneth Erb, Jim Asinger, Martha Wagner, Jeff Leonhardt, Peace UCC in Jerseyville, Clarence Hayes, Czessie Wojtkowski, Victims of recent Tornados and Storms, Bob Schwiffer, Wilbur (Rusty) Schiefer, Otto Lickenbrock, and Family and Friends of Jane Schaeffer.

Please contact Pastor Tarrah, Kim Weekley, or Frieda Feig if you wish to add someone to our prayer list. If you have a private prayer request, please contact Pastor Tarrah directly.

NEW HYMNALS

During our Annual Meeting this February, there was a desire mentioned, by some, for a return to hymnal singing. Pastor Tarrah has been researching the possibility of obtaining the same, new hymnals for both of our worship locations. Pew hymnals cost, on average, \$20-\$50 each. As you can imagine, a hefty price tag will accompany a purchase of this type. It’s also reasonable to mention that our pews are in need of bibles as well. There are a couple of different ways for us to consider that we can go about meeting these goals for our worship locations.

Hymnals- The New Century Hymnal is the hymnal of the UCC. While there are many traditional songs in this hymnal edition, there are also many treasured hymns that aren’t in this hymnal. And to be quite honest, there isn’t a single hymnal that contains ALL of the hymns in one compilation. We can, however, create our own hymnal to reflect the worship style of our faith community. In order to complete a project as large as this, we will need volunteers to assist with the project. We will also need to compile a list of YOUR favorite hymns to ensure that we don’t inadvertently leave any out. If you are interested in assisting creating our own hymnal, please let Pastor Tarrah know.

Bibles- The New Revised Standard Version translation of the Bible is the most accurate translation available. Pew bibles are available to be purchased in bulk to fit alongside our hymnals so people have an opportunity to engage in biblical literacy during our worship services. The cost of pew bibles in this translation ranges from \$10.99-\$12.99 each.

One of the ways that churches typically fund projects such as these (hymnals and bibles) is to have families or individuals purchase one or more in honor, memory, or celebration of a loved one or event. The dedication will then be printed and affixed inside the hymnal or bible in commemoration. If you are interested in being a part of a committee to explore and facilitate these projects, please let Pastor Tarrah know.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June

1 Rachel Weekley
4 Gina Schifferdecker
5 June Vandiver
8 Laurie Bingel
10 Kaitlyn Triefenbach
12 Heather Rhodes
16 Dorothy Herzog
18 Janet Dietrich
18 Amanda Juenger
22 Lyle Jones
24 Larry Kinzel



June

15 Kim & Lennie Sinn
18 Cathy & Mike Juenger
26 Virginia & Dale Wojtkowski

July

5 Rev. Tarrah Vaupel
9 Connor Diecker
11 Lauren Triefenbach
21 Shane Weekley
22 Gloria Schifferdecker
22 Carrie Rhodes



July

11 Barbara & John Schwartz
16 Kim & Joe Weekley
18 Gloria & Gene Schifferdecker



JUNE AND JULY FUN DAYS

June 17

June 16

National Fudge Day

Eat Your Vegetables Day

June 18

Go Fishing Day

International Picnic Day

June 19

Juneteenth

June 20

Summer Solstice

Ice Cream Soda Day

National Bald Eagle Day



<u>June 21</u>	International Yoga Day	Take a Road Trip Day
<u>June 22</u>	National Chocolate Eclair Day	World Rainforest Day
<u>June 25</u>	National Catfish Day	
<u>June 26</u>	Beautician's Day	Forgiveness Day
<u>June 27</u>	Sun Glasses Day	
<u>June 28</u>	Insurance Awareness Day	National Food Truck Day
<u>June 29</u>	Camera Day	Hug Holiday
<u>June 30</u>	Meteor Day	Waffle Iron Day



<u>July 1</u>	Creative Ice Cream Flavors Day	
<u>July 3</u>	Eat Beans Day	
	<u>July 4</u>	National Country Music Day
	<u>July 5</u>	National Apple Turnover Day
	<u>July 6</u>	National Fried Chicken Day
	<u>July 7</u>	Chocolate Day
		National Strawberry Sundae Day
<u>July 8</u>	National Blueberry Day	Video Games Day
<u>July 9</u>	National Sugar Cookie Day	
<u>July 10</u>	Pick Blueberries Day	Pina Colada Day
<u>July 11</u>	Cheer up the Lonely Day	Make Your Own Sundae Day
<u>July 12</u>	National Motorcycle Day	Pecan Pie Day
<u>July 13</u>	National French Fries Day	
<u>July 14</u>	National Macaroni and Cheese Day	
<u>July 15</u>	Cow Appreciation Day– Go out and give a cow a hug.	
	National Give Something Away Day	Tapioca Pudding Day
<u>July 16</u>	Fresh Spinach Day	
<u>July 17</u>	National Hot Dog Day	Peach Ice Cream Day
<u>July 18</u>	World Listening Day	



INTERNATIONAL JOKE DAY
1st JULY



<u>July 19</u>	National Raspberry Cake Day	
<u>July 20</u>	Ice Cream Soda Day	Ugly Truck Day – It's a guy thing.
<u>July 21</u>	National Ice Cream Day	National Junk Food Day
<u>July 24</u>	Amelia Earhart Day	National Drive-Thru Day
<u>July 25</u>	National Chili Dog Day	

<u>July 26</u>	Summer Olympics 2024 – Let the games begin!	
<u>July 28</u>	National Milk Chocolate Day	National Waterpark Day
<u>July 29</u>	National Chicken Wing Day	Lasagna Day
<u>July 30</u>	International Day of Friendship	National Cheesecake Day
	Paperback Book Day	
<u>July 31</u>	Mutt's Day	National Watermelon Day

