

the messenger

ST JOHN'S EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT CHURCH • UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
September 2010 • ISSUE #9

OUR CORE VALUES

LOVE • God's love for all persons inspires us to love others. We will value respect and lift up all persons as children of God.

ACCEPTANCE • Just as God's acceptance of us is unconditional, so is our acceptance of others. God has created each person with unique spiritual gifts that are of God and to be used for God's work.

FAITH • Faith allows us to face the future with confidence in God and each other. We will make decisions based on our faith, and we will nurture faith in others.

MISSION & OUTREACH • We will love and care for our neighbors in this city and around the world. We will generously share with others all the talents and gifts that God has given us.

CHILDREN • We will celebrate, educate, and nurture all children of God. We will provide unparalleled care and spiritual formation for children.

WELCOME STATEMENT

St John's Evangelical Protestant Church, United Church of Christ, welcomes into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every age, economic or marital status, gender, language, nationality, physical or mental ability, race, or sexual orientation. We welcome all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our congregation and Christ's Church. We embrace diversity in our congregation and community, and affirm the dignity and worth of every person. Following the example of Jesus Christ, we hereby declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming Church.



CHURCH PICNIC and RALLY DAY!

We'll gather in Fellowship Hall following worship **Sunday, September 12**. There will be lots of time for fellowship, games and eating. We'll play Bingo (of course!) so bring your white elephants and prizes! **Ham, drinks, and tableware will be provided.** Please bring a dish (based on the first letter of your last name) to share.

A-G: Side Dish

H-O: Dessert

P-Z: Main Dish

Plan on attending and wear your picnic clothes to church; you won't want to miss a minute!



Music Notes

May Schwarz • Minister of Music

This is your personal invitation.

We are at that time of year when we start thinking about fall. How will I grow in my faith journey? How will I be inspired? What steps can I take to share God's beauty and love? Perhaps you will consider a new direction in your faith journey. Why not consider singing in a choir, being part of the *Taizé* ministry, helping with *Java & Jazz*, maybe inviting a friend to be with you on the journey. Music is an important part of who we are at St John's. I hope you will give these opportunities your prayerful consideration—and sign-up. See the related article (p 2) and sign up (p 4). Please call or email me (MaySchwarz@aol.com, 614.499.1047) if you have questions!

Choir rehearsals

Thursday, September 9 7:15 pm Chancel Choir first rehearsal

Sunday, September 12 10:00 am Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, September 16 6:30 pm Carillon Bell Choir

Sunday, September 19 11:40 am Cherub Choir; Cecilia Adams, director

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME IN ALL CHOIRS

SEPTEMBER MUSIC

September 5 **Laura Kuntz, preaching**

Melinda Green will sing a new arrangement of *There's A Wideness in God's Mercy*.

September 12 **Rev Botts, preaching**

Meredith Reece will sing *Canticle of the Turning*.

The Chancel Choir returns! Rehearsals are Thursdays, 7:15 pm and Sundays at 10 am.

September 19 **Rev Botts, preaching**

Tim Becker will sing from the Psalms: *Let the Words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.*

Bible Quiz: Can you tell in which Psalm this text appears?

Madeline, Jacob and Samantha Garrett will sing **God Made It So!** Following is the text of this song which offers thanks to God. You may wish to use it for your daily devotion:

God Made It So!

Once the world was dark as the night,
So our God said, "Let there be light!"
Sunlight set the heavens aglow!
Alleluia! God made it so!

God then made the land and the sea,
rocks and mountains, meadows and trees,
grass and flow'rs and rivers that flow!
Alleluia! God made it so!

Next God made all creatures appear;
Dogs and cats and cattle and deer,
Birds above and fishes below!
Alleluia! God made it so!

God loves! God cares! Earth now sings in
thankful prayer.
Sun, moon, stars, sky, sing to God on high.

Then God made us; woman and man~
Loving us is all in God's plan.
God is always helping us grow,
Alleluia! God made it so!

We thank you, God, for loving us so!

Java & Jazz



Arnett Howard Trio

Friday, October 15, 2010

7:00 pm

The Arnett Howard Trio returns by popular demand to play in St John's 7th Annual **Java & Jazz Series**. The Trio will appear on Friday, October 15 at 7:00 pm.

Coffee will be provided by Cup O'Joe, the concert and parking are free and the church will receive a freewill offering.

Get on the phone (or email) now and invite several friends for an enjoyable evening!

For further information please visit St John's website: www.stjohnscolumbus.org, or call the church office at 614.224.8634.

Cherub Choir



Cherub Choir rehearsals will begin Sunday, September 19, following the 10:30 am worship service!

Please note the new time. Practice will be 15-20 minutes in length. This will give parents time to get coffee and cookies, as well as chat with friends in the lovely Schoedinger ArtSpace.

**All children are welcome!
See you there!**

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

September, 2010

Introductions are always a good beginning point in any relationship. This is especially true when a church welcomes a new pastor.

I am very pleased to serve as your minister for this interim period. I truly believe that God brings people together, and trust that a higher guidance is evident here as well. As I begin to spend time in our building and with members of St John's, I am feeling more and more at home. The church has a strong tradition of nurture, worship, and service, and this is a sturdy base on which to build as we move into the future.

A little about me: My wife Antonia Carroll and I reside in the Eastmoor section of Columbus along with our three cats. Toni directs the Franklin County Office on Aging. We have lived in our present home for the last 14 years and have restored much of it to the original 1941 look. When you stop in you'll see that our furnishings reflect this time period as well.

After teaching high school briefly, I entered the Methodist Theological School in Ohio. My initial call was to First Congregational Church in Marysville, and I have subsequently served three congregations in Columbus—St Paul, Trinity, and First Congregational—and interims at Mt Vernon and Chillicothe. I also spent several years as a staff member with the Ohio Council of Churches.

My non-parish career includes leading the Alzheimer's Association of Central Ohio, being Associate Executive Director of the American Lung Association of Ohio, and Ohio Director for Common Cause. I find that everything I have done in my varied career has helped prepare me with experiences and skills to minister in today's complex world.

I hope that you can soon begin to look upon me as your pastor and to freely call on me for spiritual and other resources you

need. You've heard a bit about me, and now I am very interested in learning about you. Together we are St John's... with all its diversity, delights, discoveries, and dreams. I'm glad to share this journey of ministry with you.

Blessings!



Ron Botts

Candlelight Evening Prayer with Music of

Taizé



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 6:00 PM

What is Taizé?

Taizé is a tiny village in the Burgundy region of southern France where an ecumenical community gathers three times daily throughout the year to pray.

Taizé refers to a distinct style of singing and praying together that has grown out of this community. The songs of Taizé are simple, short, easy to learn, and repeated many times. At the same time, the music is beautiful and full of hope and joy. Worshipers are able to free their minds and worship God with their hearts. For many, it has become a new way to listen to God.

Please put these Taizé dates on your calendar: October 7, November 4, December 2, January 6, February 3 and Ash Wednesday, March 9; remember to tell your friends!

We hope that you will want to be a part of the Taizé Team.

SHARE YOUR GIFTS

Vocalists, instrumentalists and volunteers
are needed!

Name _____

Email _____

Cell Phone _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Address _____

I plan to share in the following ministries:

___ **Taizé** • 6–6:30 pm, Oct-March
___ Instrumental ___ Singer ___ Hospitality

___ **Java & Jazz** • Friday, October 15
___ Greeter ___ Hospitality ___ Publicity

___ **Triune Concert Series** • Jan, Feb, Mar
___ Tickets ___ Publicity ___ Cookies
___ Greeter ___ Set-up ___ Reception

___ **Cherub Choir** • through grade 5
Sundays, 11:40 am • resumes September 19

___ **Carillon Choir** • Thursdays 6:30-7:00 pm
resumes September 16

___ **St John's Brass** • to be announced

___ **Casual Choir** • after worship

___ **Chancel Choir** • Thursdays 7:15-8:30 pm
Rehearsals resume September 9

___ **St John's Friends of the Music Ministry** •
Your financial support is greatly appreciated and vital for the success of the Music Ministry of St John's Church.

Please drop this in the mail or contact May Schwarz directly at MaySchwarz@aol.com or 614.499.1047

COME • SHARE • REJOICE
ALL ARE WELCOME

UPDATE: PASTOR SEARCH!



Thanks to so many of you who have shared your ideas and thoughts about the search committee members and mission. As I gather the last of the messages, I will begin prayerfully selecting members and organizing the committee. I consider this one of the most important tasks of my presidency and I take it very seriously. I ask that you keep me in your prayers during this time.

Thank you,
Karen Corcoran
Consistory President

SHARE THE EXPERIENCE



Did you know that you can view a video of the past week's sermon by visiting our web-site: www.stjohnscolumbus.org?

CDs and DVDs of most services are also available (a donation to cover production costs will be gratefully received).

Hard copies of selected sermons are available from the church office (614.224.8634, office@stjohnscmh.org).

If you would like to assist with the Audio/Visual ministry, please contact Alex Knoblauch at aknob_94@yahoo.com or 614.275.4983.

FINAL REFLECTIONS

"I need to steal you away. We are about to be serenaded."

Those were Dale's words to me when the program was about to begin at the farewell dinner held at the Maennerchor on August 3. I broke away from one of many cherished conversations that night, I took Dale's arm, and we stood together as Katie Hart Teixeira sang *Simple Gifts*:

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free. 'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be; and when we find ourselves in the place just right, 'Twill be in the valley of love and delight. When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed; to turn, turn will be our delight, till by turning, turning we come out right.

The tears came immediately. This was the song I selected for my processional when I married Dale in St John's sanctuary. Then, I had felt as though the words poignantly captured the delight brought to my life by our relationship and the growth I had experienced. Listening to these lyrics immediately brought to mind the fondness of that special day we celebrated with you. However, more so, I found myself listening to the song through the lens of my experience at St John's.

'Tis the gift to be gentle, 'tis the gift to be fair, 'tis the gift to wake and breathe the morning air; and every-day to walk in the path we choose, 'tis the gift we pray we may ne'er come to lose.

'Tis the gift to be loving, 'tis the best gift of all, Like a quiet rain, it blesses where it falls; and if we have the gift, we will truly believe 'tis better to give than it is to receive.

When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed; to turn, turn will be our delight, till by turning, turning we come out right.

With every turn over the past nine years, I have grown. You have helped me become a better pastor and a better person. I could write books about all we have done and experienced together, but it is really quite simple: we have loved one another. To love you, and to have been loved by you has been one of the great blessings of my life.

Yesterday I finished packing up my office. I left my keys on Bonnie's desk and took a last stroll through the building. It was difficult to see things that needed to be done and know that I wouldn't be the one sending emails or making calls to attend to them, nor would I be coming back to attend to other inevitable loose ends.

As I climbed the stairs to the Jack Davies lobby where I punched in my security code for the last time, the tears began to flow. Dale and Courtney were waiting for me in the parking lot, and we stood there holding one another and crying together for quite some time. I know you have rarely seen me shed a tear, but it feels important for me to let you know that there were plenty of them as I departed this place as your pastor.

The tears are tears of grief, but they are also tears of gratitude for each of you and all we have shared. Even more, they are tears that form a prayer. My prayer is that with every turn, you, too, are able to discover God's most simple gifts, and help others do the same.

God be with you.



Kathy
August 15, 2010



Rev Dr Kathy Dwyer
served as pastor
of St John's Church
June 1, 2001—August 9, 2010



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Friends~

Many people have asked me to put the speech I made at Kathy's dinner in the *Messenger*. Although I do not have the exact words used that evening, hopefully I have captured the essence of my message.

As a church we are looking to the future with mixed feelings. Our world has been shaken up a bit and now we are beginning the path toward a new chapter at St John's with a new spiritual leader. Making such a change is scary, individually and corporately. Some of us might think: will it be as great? Some might think: will it be better? It is all unknown right now, but we can be assured in some basic truths.

First, we can be assured that St John's core values and welcome statement will guide us into the future. They are a foundation for us to work from and build on. They are a guide for our decisions and actions.

Also, we can be assured in each other. We have each other to turn to and lean on. We are, all together, one team here by the grace of God and working for the glory of God.

Most of all, we can be assured that God is with us. God is with us now and in the future. In Exodus God told Moses "I am that I am." Some Biblical versions say "I will be what I will be." God was in the past, God is now, God is in the future. God touches each era in a way that speaks to the people of that time and reaches the needs of the community of that time. We can look back and see what God led our forefathers to be and achieve for their time. We have reminisced about what God led us to be and achieve over the last nine years. We are on the edge of a new chapter now. It is our challenge

today to have a listening ear for God's still-speaking voice to learn what God wants us to be and do in the future. It is our challenge to purposefully consider how God wants us to have a greater impact, a greater welcome, and a greater openness in the future.

God is there - in our future! What do we need to do to be the church God wants us to be in that future? It is a great challenge, isn't it? And one that I am sure we can achieve together!

Peace,
Karen Corcoran
Consistory President

THE Largest Table

The Largest Table is an outreach ministry of St John's Church. Each Wednesday members and friends of the church gather to prepare a meal to share with neighbors—business professionals, state and county employees, folks who live on the streets or in the apartments and condos nearby.

Volunteers welcome! Wednesday Teams include set-up, food prep, serving line, and clean-up. These teams are coordinated by Joan Stromeier (614.885.4178).

On the third Wednesday of each month, Nancy Dietz (614.268.2750) coordinates the menu and food prep team with times scheduled on Tuesday evenings or Wednesday mornings.

Food prep teams are also scheduled for the second Tuesday morning of each month and are coordinated by Suzanne Kull (smkull@wowway.com, 614.374.3935).

Joan Stromeier (614.885.4178) coordinates the evening prep team on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Each Wednesday, an ecumenical worship service with communion is offered at noon in the sanctuary.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Join us for the next

CURRENTS

The August CURRENTS postponed to

September 27.

Join us for a light meal at 5:30 pm; the program begins at 6:30 pm. Our topic, **Where do we as a country go from here? What should be in our immediate future?**, will be debated by Joseph Mas, Ohio Hispanic Coalition; Omar Tarazi, Council on American-Islamic Relations; and by Harvey Wasserman, Senior Editor, *Columbus Free Press*, and author of six books, will share their respective views about the national priorities of our government.

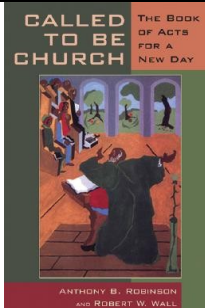
STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry training begins this month! For additional information, please contact any member of the Stephen Ministry team: Marilyn Potts (mjpotts2000@insight.rr.com), Norm Lawton (nrmlnwtlaw@aol.com), Karen Mitchell (614.875.2878, kmitch5550@yahoo.com), or John Yakscoe (yakscoe1@gmail.com, 614.457.7883).

SENIOR CHRISTIAN FALL TOUR
ALL ARE WELCOME

St John's Senior Christians are heading to Cambridge, Ohio on Thursday, November 11. The tour includes Dickens' Victorian Village (www.dickensvictorianvillage.com) display as well as the Guernsey County Courthouse Christmas light display which is coordinated to music. You're invited to share tea at the Colonel Taylor Mansion.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE TOUR please RSVP not later than **October 11** to Virginia Niemann (614.279.2931), Bill Reiner (614.837.1905) or Joan Stromeier (614.885.4178). **The cost is \$49.**

THE BOOK OF ACTS
Called to be the Church: The book of Acts for a new daya Sunday morning
9:00 am study

Jim Wallis, founder and editor of *Sojourners* magazine and community once said, "The greatest need in our time is not simply for kerygma, the preaching of the gospel; not for diakonia, service on behalf of justice; nor for charisma, the experience of the Spirit's gifts; nor even for propheteia, the challenging of the king. The greatest need for our time is koinonia, the call simply to be the church, to love one another, and to offer our lives for the sake of the world."

Simply "being church" doesn't seem so simple! Many people attest to feeling "spiritual, but not religious"; others have been turned off by the church because they have felt judged or ostracized. So, what does it mean to "be church"? The book of Acts sheds some light on both the challenges and gifts of "being church" and will be the focus the Sunday morning study session.

Join John Yakscoe and Dixie Lauer beginning September 19, at 9:00 am, to receive a guide written by Anthony Robinson, also the author of *The Book of Acts for a New Day*. In his book Robinson writes, "In Acts we find those whose lives have been transformed participating in a visible, public community of faith, one that is characterized by *resurrection practices*. Acts portrays the life of those who have experienced God's grace as one of sharing of goods, of bold witness, of turning away from idols, and of sharing in the life of the community of resurrection – which is itself a visible witness to the world."

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

St John's youth, grades 6-12, will begin meeting again on Sunday, September 19, at a time to be determined. It's time for fun, learning, and service. Contact Laura Kuntz (330.803.6152, lauralek9@gmail.com).

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER

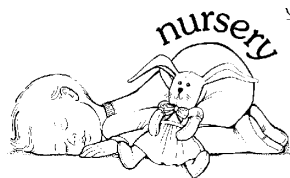
OFFICE	OFFERING
5 Dixie Lauer	Gary Hahn
12 Christa Markus	Lisa Knoblauch
19 Gary Baas	Karen Corcoran
26 Joanna Atwood	Barbara McClure

GREETERS: Narthex, West Ramp, Lobby Doors

5 Agnes Wolfe Burton Briess	Jerry Phalan
12 Phil Beach Doug Davies	Joan Stromeier
19 Joanna Atwood Sallee Netto	Brenda Burris
26 Garrett Family Alex Knoblauch	Alexis Campbell

NURSERY

5 Alise Connell
12 Alise Connell
19 Alise Connell
26 Alise Connell

**CELEBRATION STATION**

5 Laura Kuntz	Scott Davies
12 Laura Kuntz	Dixie Lauer
19 Laura Kuntz	Robin Knaup
26 Laura Kuntz	Lynda Murden

LITURGIST

5 Sara Cogsil
12 Marilyn Potts
19 Bill Reiner
26 Earl Wurdlow

ACOLYTES

Mya McClure
Julianna Sutliff
Madeline Garrett
Mya McClure

AVTECHS:

5 Burton Griess Eric Fritz	Jerry Phalan
12 Eric Fritz Scott Davies	Alex Knoblauch
19 Bill Dietz Nathan Campbell	Tim Snively
26 Laura Kenyon Scott Davies	Alex Knoblauch


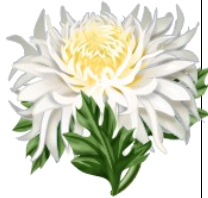

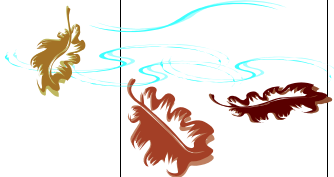
CALENDAR NOTES

- 1 Rev Ronald Botts' first day
The Largest Table (p 6)
Maintenance Committee (p 12)
- 2 Calendar Planning w/Rev Botts
- 5 Worship (p 2)
- 6 Labor Day: Church Office Closed
- 7 Open Arms Circle Meeting
Stephen Ministry Group (p 7)
- 8 The Largest Table (p 6)
- 9 Choir Rehearsal (p 1, 2)
- 12 Choir Rehearsal (p 1, 2)
Worship (p 2)
Church Picnic & Welcome for Ron (p 1)
- 13 Consistory Meeting (p 13)
- 14 The Largest Table Prep Team (p 6)
Stephen Ministry Group (p 7)
- 15 The Largest Table (p 6)
- 16 Choir Rehearsals (p 1, 2)
- 19 Choir Rehearsals (p 1, 2)
Worship (p 2)
Messenger Deadline
- 21 Leadership Staff Meeting (p 13)
Stephen Ministry Group (p 7)
- 22 The Largest Table (p 6)
- 23 Choir Rehearsals (p 1, 2)
- 26 Choir Rehearsals (p 1, 2)
Worship (p 2)
- 28 Stephen Ministry Group (p 7)
- 29 The Largest Table (p 6)
- 30 Choir Rehearsals (p 1, 2)

OCTOBER EVENTS

- 3 World Communion Sunday
Sauerkraut Luncheon
- 7 Taizé: meditative, candlelit service
- 10 CROP Walk
- 11 Church Office Closed
- 15 Java & Jazz w/Arnett Howard
- 17 Columbus Marathon
- 21 Messiah Choir Rehearsals begin
- 31 All Saints' Day

September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Walt Adams Rev Ron Bott's first day The Largest Table Noon—2 pm 7 pm Maintenance Committee	2 Carl Raidiger 6:30 Leadership w/ Rev Botts (planning)	3 Joanna Atwood	4
						
5 10:30 Worship Laura Kuntz Preaching	6 <i>Labor Day</i> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	7 Marilyn Potts 10 am TLT Prep 6 pm Open Arms Circle @ D Baker's 6:30-9 pm Stephen Ministry Group	8 Walt Adams The Largest Table Noon—2 pm	9 Tim Snively 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	10 Joanna Atwood	11 9:30-11:30 Stephen Ministry Group
12 10 am Chancel Choir 10:30 Worship RON BOTTS Preaching PICNIC after worship	13 7:00 pm Consistory Meeting	14 Marguerite Whiteman 6:30-9 pm Stephen Ministry Group	15 Walt Adams The Largest Table Noon—2 pm	16 VOLUNTEER NEEDED 6:30 Carillion Choir 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsals	17 Joanna Atwood	18 
19 9:00 am Acts Class 10 am Chancel Choir 10:30 Worship 11:40 Cherub Choir MESSENGER DEADLINE	20 	21 VOLUNTEER NEEDED 5:30 Leadership 6:30-9 pm Stephen Ministry Group	22 Walt Adams The Largest Table Noon—2 pm	23 VOLUNTEER NEEDED 6:30 Carillion Choir 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsals	24 Joanna Atwood	25
26 9:00 am Acts Class 10 am Chancel Choir 10:30 Worship	27	28 Marty Becker 6:30-9 pm Stephen Ministry Group	29 Walt Adams The Largest Table Noon—2 pm	30 Eva Schrecengost 6:30 Carillion Choir 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsals		

MISSION & OUTREACH

MISSION OF THE MONTH
Seeds May Grow & CUE**That Seeds May Grow**

That Seeds May Grow is a special offering that provides scholarships for men and women from the Ohio Conference who are now in seminary preparing for the Christian ministry.

Tomorrow's ministers need . . .

Nurture • Encouragement • Training •
Support • Scholarships

You can help by challenging and encouraging someone to consider the Christian ministry as a vocation. And, by giving to *That Seeds May Grow*, you help to provide the financial support many students need to complete their seminary training.

A three- or four-year theological education can cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000. Many graduating seminarians begin their new ministries with great joy, faith and commitment—and a debt of up to \$20,000.

In the Ohio Conference, through the offering called *That Seeds May Grow*, we offer financial support to help men and women become the clergypersons they are called to be. Our gifts go directly to UCC students all over Ohio through scholarship grants.

Seminaries are like seedbeds where new pastors are nurtured.

Please give, and give gladly, that these seeds may grow.

CHICAGO UNITED EDEN

The CUE Regional Seminary Support Program brings together over 2,000 United Church of Christ churches in mid-America, Local Church Ministries, and Chicago, United and Eden Theological Seminaries, our three United Church of Christ seminaries in this region.

Our mission is to:

- Strengthen the relationship between our churches and our seminaries
- Further the mission and work of these seminaries
- Provide financial support for seminaries

We live in challenging times and we recognize the vital impact of our seminaries:

- Prepare leaders for church and society
- Increase theological thought/scholarship
- Provide multiple resources to the local churches

Current seminary statistics show that:

- Tuition and scholarships currently pay for about 32% of the total costs of seminary education each year
- The CUE Seminary Support Program raised over \$755,000 in 2009, covering another seven percent of these costs

What does "CUE" stand for? CUE is an acronym for:

Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago, Illinois

United Theological Seminary, St Paul, Minnesota

Eden Theological Seminary, St Louis, Missouri

How many students are currently attending these seminaries?

For the 2009-10 academic year:

Chicago: Total enrollment, 223 students

United: Total enrollment, 186 students

Eden: Total enrollment, 210 students

What is the current tuition at each seminary?

For the 2009-10 academic year:

Chicago: \$11,496

United: \$12,069

Eden: \$12,200

How do I know if God might be calling me to be ordained or to specialized leadership in the church?

Discerning a call to ministry is exciting and sometimes confusing! Seek God's guidance through prayer. Share your questions with your pastor or another trusted mentor or friend. Visit the seminary websites to learn more about preparation for ministry. Visit the following websites for insights and information from other recent seminary graduates:

www.exploreministry.org—Stories and information provided through the Fund for Theological Education.

www.askthequestion.org/index5.html—Exploring God's Call to Ministry in the United Church of Christ.

**Gloria Mock Family Fund**

St John's Gloria Mock Family Fund is a very important St. John's Ministry. This special fund is used confidentially and at the pastor's discretion, to help members with emergency funds when they have no other means to cover their needs. It has been used to pay for prescriptions, rent, and utility bills for those in immediate need.

Gloria Mock was a beloved member of St John's who would do anything she could for others. Her positive attitude and smile would light up the church on Sunday morning. The Family Fund was renamed to honor Gloria and her life and the example she set for others.

Consider making a donation to the Gloria Mock Family Fund to help this great ministry. The yellow envelopes in the pews have a place to mark your donation to the *Family Fund*. Thank you for your generosity!

STILLSPEAKING DEVOTIONAL

August 18, 2010

Taking Sides

Bible Excerpt from [Psalm 124](#): *If it had not been the Lord who was on our side—let Israel now say...*

Reflection by Felix Carrion

Taking sides: we've been doing it ever since childhood. Really: how far back does this practice go?

The most beautiful claim is: God is on our side. The most dangerous claim is: God is on our side.

It is a beautiful claim when we know that "if it had not been the Lord who was on our side," we would have been lost and without hope in our world; tragedy or loss would have swallowed us up. Let each of us now say how this is true in our lives.

It is the most beautiful claim when we know that "if it had not been the Lord who was on our side" means on the side of all of humanity, not just on the side of one part of the human family. God is on the side of all people everywhere, no matter their faith expression or religious affiliation.

It is the most dangerous claim when "if it had not been the Lord who was on our side" means that God is on my side because of my religion or because of the nation I belong to. God is not the sole property or possession of one people or one nation or one nationality. (Multiple wars have been fought in the name of this claim.)

Let us once and forever know that God is only on one side: the side of humanity, living in God's creation, as one human family. Let us now say, "God bless the whole world."

Prayer

O God, now teach me to be on your side.

**About the Author**

Felix Carrion is Coordinator of The Stillspeaking Ministry, United Church of Christ

Sewer Project Part II

During the Sunday, August 22 worship announcements, Dick Teeters said we were in day 40 of "The Disaster in the Ditch". He gave it that name when part of the 140-some-year-old city sewer collapsed when we were working in the ground next to it. The city had to replace about 45 feet of their sewer system, mostly in the county parking lot, behind the church.

Inside the building, a trench was dug the entire length of the Fellowship Hall and kitchen, and all the pipes were replaced. One small section of the kitchen piping looked good and it was determined that it did not need to be replaced at this time. There were a few surprises, as in any project when you can't see what is there until you dig it up, but nothing that Dave Wolfe and his crew couldn't figure out how to make work.

The restrooms were open in time for the wedding on August 7, which was a relief. I am sure that The Open Shelter was just as pleased to have restrooms and water on their level. The belly dancing class is meeting at another location and we look for their return when the project is completed.

The city said that we could not backfill with the same dirt, so the old dirt had to be hauled out and new dirt hauled in. (I guess there is such a thing as dirty-dirt and clean-dirt). The city inspector took more than a week to make it here, which cost us some time, but the good news is when he did show up we passed the inspection. Great job, Dave Wolfe and crew!

The heating system for the Fellowship Hall is radiant heat, which is under the floor. It was necessary to cut into those lines to get to the drainpipes. Speer Mechanical will be out soon to test the heating system to see if it works. If it does we can pour the cement, replace the tiles, and clean-up will begin. If it doesn't we will have to install a new heating system.

Thanks to JoEllen and Gary Hahn who ordered and donated the cost for the floor

tiles. Last month I said that the congregation had approved \$75,000.00 for this project, that was incorrect, we actually approved \$65,000.00. Gary Baas is working with our insurance company to determine what will be covered by our insurance.

We thank The Largest Table volunteers and guests, and our church staff, for putting up with the dirt, time delays and extra work this has caused. You've been real troopers. Please continue to keep St John's and the work crew in your prayers for a safe completion of this project.

Barbara McClure
Stewardship Department Chair
Co-Chair of Maintenance Committee

RIBFEST/CHICKEN DINNER

Join the members and friends of St Paul's Church, United Church of Christ, for its Annual Ribfest and Chicken Dinner on Saturday, September 25. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. St Paul's is located at 225 East Gates Street, between Bruck and Jaeger Streets.

FINANCIAL REPORT Year-to-Date as of June 2010

Pledges & Offerings	
Budgeted	\$ 98,500.00
Actual	<u>97,895.12</u>
Difference	\$ 604.88
Total Income	
Budgeted	\$ 166,796.00
Actual	<u>155,529.09</u>
Difference	\$ 11,266.91
Total Expenses	
Budgeted	\$ 168,927.00
Actual	<u>168,371.16</u>
Difference	555.84

The total *actual* income includes a \$17,500 cash infusion from Foundation Fund; total *budgeted* income had included Foundation Fund infusions totaling \$25,000.

SECRETARY'S NOTEPAD



from the August 9 2010

Consistory Meeting

- Consistory Vice-President Susan Olson gave notice of her departure in September. Her career path has taken her to Florida; she will be missed. Due to scheduling conflicts, Diane Powell must surrender her position as a Consistory member as well. Both resignations were accepted with regret.
- The disarray in the kitchen and Fellowship Hall was a popular topic at this meeting. Work is proceeding well and all of the restrooms are usable again.
- Members voted to approve the amount of \$50.00, payable to Alex Knoblauch, each time he provides technical services at a church wedding.
- Consistory approved the extension of The Open Shelter lease for another three years.
- A Building Use Guide has been approved by the maintenance committee. They recommended Consistory adopt the guide as policy so that tenants will be made formally aware of our guidelines. Consistory members agreed and approved the policy.
- Want to know more? A full copy of the Consistory minutes and the financial report are available in the church office.

Respectfully submitted 8/18/10
Joanna Atwood
Secretary

LEADERSHIP STAFF

Department heads and full-time paid staff members meet each month on the third Tuesday, 5:30—7:00 pm, to discuss and plan upcoming church events.

WE'VE GOT MAIL

Dear Members and Friends of St. John's,

Dale, Courtney, Drew and I want to share our deepest gratitude for a week of farewells we will never forget.

Each day of our final week was marked with special memories, lovely gifts, and cherished words and cards.

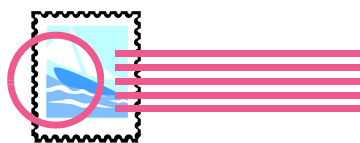
I am eager to add the Tiffany cross charm to my "God is still speaking" bracelet, and we have already made good use of the Starbucks card.

I was incredibly moved by *The Largest Table* tablecloth and haven't decided whether I will use it or hang it up so I can always look up and remember my friends at *The Largest Table*.

Perhaps my favorite gift is the "Box" that I have stood on every week in the pulpit and on which so many of you signed your names. I plan to take the "Box" directly to Arlington where I will be supported by you every time I stand up to preach!

Grace and peace,

Kathy
Kathy



Received via email August 18:

Hi all,

Our temporary address (beginning September 7 and throughout the renovation) is:

851 North Glebe Rd #1920
Arlington VA 22203

Our permanent address (not sure when! but things can be sent there) is:

4969 Rock Spring Road
Arlington VA 22207

Thanks,
Kathy Dwyer

IN OUR PRAYERS

Shirley Atwood	Suzanne Baas
Ray Bell	Bob Brauer
Gini Busser	Evert Burchett
Morine Castle	Connie Cordova
Elmoun Davies	Walter Frank
Melanie Green	Gary Hahn
JoEllen Hahn	Tyson Harper
Sally Harris	Carl Hingst
Marilyn Hingst	Betty Hughes
Ralph Hughes	Susan Johns
Heather Jones	Helen Jones
Tina Kline	Dorothy Knight
Barbara Koele	John Lay
Kelly Leibermann	Marilyn Lindig
Merritt Lindig	Craig Luzader
Milburn Miller	Karen Mitchell
Rita Nowacki	Rita Robinson
Lori Seeger	John & Marjorie Sedlock
Betsy Shewmon	Joann Short
Evelyn Skinner	Tina Swords
Stephen Ministry Team	
all those working on our drainage system	

OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS IN THE MILITARY

Steven Betts	Garrett Becker
Eric Brooker	Christopher Dauer
Mike Hanson	Zach Hust
Joshua Kuhnt	Justin Lecklider
Andrew Long	John Pappas
Dale Paul	Kay Fischer Paul
Ken Pompili	Ben Potts
Dustin Stainer	Ryan Stout
Matthew Teeters	Chris Vetere

St John's remembered the life of

Herbert P Uhlig

October 14, 1920—August 6, 2010
with the ringing of the bells during worship
on Sunday, August 22, 2010.



St John's remembers the life of

Frank Marzetti

May 5, 1929—July 18, 2010

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Donna Doellinger Jerry Bickel
2	Ray Bell
3	Garrett Becker
4	Mark Hawks Sr Rick Schultz
5	Stephanie Baughman Trenten Shull
6	Rick Mock Sally Murphy
7	Alma Bautler Kathy Markus
8	Yvonne Teeters Anne Urton Douglas Davies Eric Miller Scott Doellinger Jamie Nicole Isom Jayden Brooks
9	Betsy Shewmon Eliza Blythe Amber Davis
10	Kathy Dwyer David Leman
11	Rosemarie Salyer
13	Virginia Niemann
16	Sandra Davis Dan Bickel Mary Yost
17	Willard Hamilton Carol Scheiblich Jenifer Reynolds
20	Nancy Dietz
22	Jim Williams Mary Ann Wirsching Douglas Biegler
24	Mary Ann Uhlig Scott Davies
26	Courtney Klamar
27	Betty Hughes Jean Lewis Jim Beaver Elizabeth Griffin
28	Nancy Beach
29	Julia Manifold

ST JOHN'S FOUNDATION FUND

(The Endowment Fund for St John's
Evangelical Protestant Church)

**Remember your Church when preserving
the memory of your Loved Ones!**

An Endowment Fund consists of contributions whose principal is to be kept intact indefinitely, the earnings on that principal being available to finance areas of need in your church. This gives the church endowment committee the flexibility to meet urgent and changing needs for generations to come. We recognize that endowment giving is all about people... people with a dream to make this a better church.

Unrestricted endowment funds to your church may receive the following gifts, but are not limited to, estates, wills, stocks, bond, mutual funds, trusts and memorial funds. Memorials and celebration contributions give you or your family and friends an avenue to preserve the memory of a dear one and the good that flowed from his or her life. Contributions may also be made to the fund to honor or celebrate special occasions, such as birthdays, anniversaries, retirement, etc.

Should you be continuing a long tradition of philanthropy or just getting started, please call one of the following committee members for help or to answer questions.

Gary Baas • President
Richard Teeters • Vice President
JoEllen Hahn • Secretary
Marguerite Whiteman • Treasurer
Charles Wesley • Trustee

LEADERSHIP STAFF

Ronald Botts • Pastor
614.224.8634
pastor@stjohnscmh.org

May Schwarz • Minister of Music
614.499.1047
MaySchwarz@aol.com

Laura Kuntz • Assistant Staff:
Children & Youth • 330.803.6152
lauralek9@gmail.com

Bonnie Vallette • Office Manager
614.224.8634
office@stjohnscmh.org

John Yakscoe • Pastoral Assistant
614.256.2490
yakscoe1@gmail.com

Karen Corcoran • President
614.279.3964
kcorcoran147@gmail.com

Dixie Lauer • Christian Education
614.851.0714
lauerdixie@gmail.com

Christa Markus • Mission & Outreach
614.475.5675
kmarkus2@columbus.rr.com

Lisa Knoblauch • Church & Ministry
614.275.4983
lrk63me@yahoo.com

Barbara McClure • Stewardship Ministries
614.546.9239
mcclurbjo@yahoo.com

CHURCH STAFF

Jim Davies	Doorkeeper
Nancy Dietz	Money Counter
Agnes Wolfe	Clerk

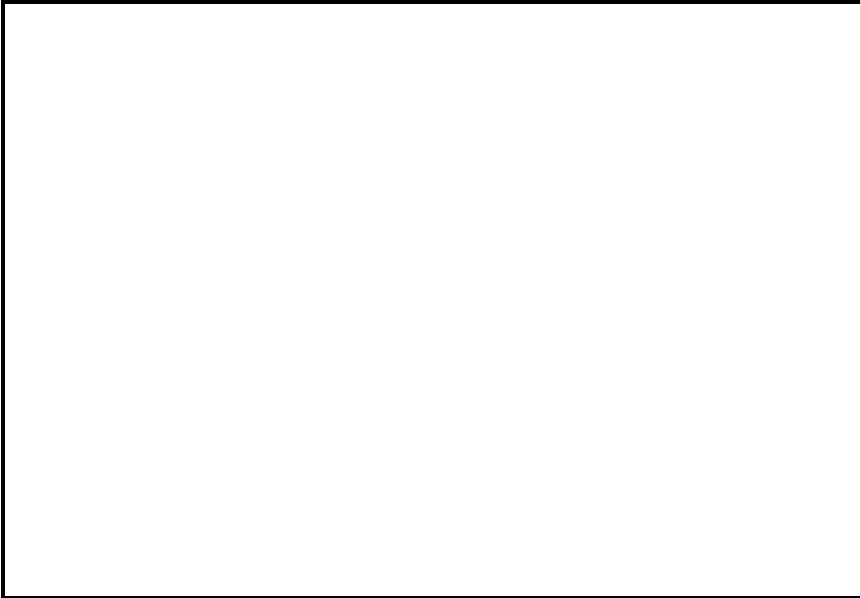
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ST JOHN'S

CHURCH

St John's Evangelical Protestant Church
United Church of Christ
59 East Mound Street
Columbus OH 43215
www.stjohnscolumbus.org

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ORGANIZATION
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COLUMBUS OH
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TIME VALUE MAIL
PLEASE DELIVER BY
SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

Worship • 10:30 am • Sunday
Go deeper • 9:00 am • Sunday
Worship • noon • Wednesday



"Never place a period
where God has placed a comma"
— Gracie Allen

FIND YOUR CHURCH. FIND YOURSELF.

UCC.ORG

 find us on **facebook**