

2022 Guide Book & Directory



We are here to
SERVE,
not to condemn-
to *WELCOME*,
not to exclude-
to *LOVE*,
not to judge.

*Intentional Faith Development • Passionate Worship • Risk-taking Mission & Service
Committed Generosity • Extraordinary Hospitality*

St. John United Church of Christ

405 S Fifth Street Saint Charles, MO 63301-2632
636.724.1015 636.946.0961 www.stjohnucc.org

St. John United Church of Christ

405 South Fifth Street, Saint Charles, MO 63301-2632

Worship Services

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Children begin in worship at 9:00 a.m. before going to their classes.

Communion is served on the first Sunday of every month.

The 10:30 a.m. worship service is broadcast on KWRE-AM 730.

Worship is streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

Mission Statement

We are here to serve, not to condemn – to welcome, not to exclude – to love, not to judge.

Guiding Practices

Intentional Faith Development

Passionate Worship

Risk-Taking Mission and Service

Committed Generosity

Extraordinary Hospitality

Church Office Hours

8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Wednesday

Church Office

Telephone 636.724.1015

..... 636.946.0961

Fax 636.949.6760

Website www.stjohnucc.org

*Pastoral Staff**

Rev. Dr. Lisa Martin lmartin@stjohnucc.org
Senior Pastor Ext. 308

*Office Staff**

Karsen Brazil Muise kmuise@stjohnucc.org
Financial Administrator Ext. 302
Karen Toti ktoti@stjohnucc.org
Office Administrator Ext. 301

*Program Staff**

Bentley Caughlan bcaughlan@stjohnucc.org
Director of Children and Youth Ministries Ext. 306
Katie Harting kharting@stjohnucc.org
Youth Coordinator Ext. 304
Stephenie Mokriakow smokriakow@stjohnucc.org
Children Coordinator Ext. 303

*Music Staff**

Anna DiVesta adivesta@stjohnucc.org
Director of Music Ext. 307
Christy Kessler christy@ltcam.com
Director of Handbell Choirs

** Please see directory for addresses and phone numbers.*

Please Call

The church is here to help God's love become real in your life. Many people hesitate to call the church office because they think their issue is not critical. The staff of St. John wants you to know that we are here to serve. We believe strongly in ministering to all people in our community.

We would like to serve you...

When someone is in the hospital: Hospital calls are made as needed. Hospitals seldom call the church, however. If you or a family member is hospitalized for any reason, please call the church office.

When a baptism or wedding is desired: The church should be contacted when a date is being selected. The church office will take the information and make proper arrangements.

When someone needs to be visited: Our pastor routinely calls on our senior and shut-in members. If at any time anyone desires a home visit, please call the church office.

When you or someone you know needs to talk: Many people carry their problems inside, all alone, not knowing where to turn. The staff stands ready to listen and to share as we can. We also know our limitations and can recognize situations where other help is needed.

*2022 Church Council Members**

Cindy Birkner.....	Recording Secretary
Dan Beauchamp.....	Representative
Bligg Bliggenstorfer.....	Representative
Eric Bodine.....	Representative
Karla Drysdale.....	Representative
Mark Goecke.....	Representative
Dennis Holtgraewe.....	Treasurer
Christy Kessler	1st Vice President
Jeff King.....	Representative
Shirley Lohmar	Representative
Sheila Schuette	2nd Vice President
Sharon Sofian	Representative
Dave Trauterman	President
Doug Wallin	Representative
Ron Wepprich.....	Representative

* Please see directory for addresses and phone numbers.

Ministries of the Church

Children and Youth Ministries

St. John offers a variety of programs specifically designed for children and youth to help them grow in their faith and become active members of our Christian family, enjoying fellowship with one another. We teach the students that we are all a part of the St. John family and we need to treat each other as family. We share in each other's joys and sorrows. We do not judge each other; we accept everyone for who they are. Programs offered to children and youth are balanced between service, learning, and fun.

Children's Ministries

Sunday morning classes

- Nursery: Birth through Age 2
- Preschool Sunday School: 3-5 years old. Preschool children explore Bible stories and Christian traditions through creative play.
- Faith Quest: Kindergarten through Fifth Grade students. Faith Quest uses the workshop rotation model which includes stations such as art, cooking, drama, games, movies, music, and storytelling. In a rotational setting the same Bible story or theme is taught for several weeks. Experiencing the same story in a variety of learning situations reinforces it in the children's memories. Children begin in worship at 9:00 a.m., and leave for their classes after a children's message.

Wednesday Night Kids RAP (Reaching All People)

This experience group is for children in Kindergarten through Fifth grade and meets on Wednesday evenings. This group's focus includes prayer time, service projects, and Bible lessons that emphasize how to LIVE OUT the message. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join us at any time.

Children and Family Ministries

St. John United Church of Christ is committed to families of all kinds. Through an emphasis on relationship building, intergenerational engagement, service, and inspired worship, we are committed to nurturing and supporting the faith formation of children and the adults who love them as they embark on a spiritual journey over a lifetime. We understand that families have many shapes, sizes, and configurations. All are welcome here! Family life is busy and complex these days. We offer multiple opportunities each year for intergenerational spiritual formation experiences. Most activities for children are inclusive of a parent or caring adult's presence as part of the experience with an effort to encourage and empower families to make faith formation integral to their family life. Check the website or call the office for specific event information.

Whatever it takes.SM



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Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a one-week, morning program offered in summer for children, preschool through fifth grade. The week includes games, snacks, crafts, Bible lessons, and lots of fun. The children experience and discover God in many new and unique ways. VBS week is also an opportunity for our youth and adults of all ages to support the program in a variety of volunteer roles. Check with the church office or the church calendar for the specific week for Vacation Bible School. As parents, you are encouraged to join us as a volunteer during the program, giving you a unique opportunity to experience, with your child/children, God's awesome presence and to bring the message home.

Summer Camps

We have the wonderful opportunity to offer Outdoor Ministry experiences for children, youth, and adults of all ages. Summer Camp for the children at Camp MoVal in Union, MO offers a variety of one-week experiences where campers have a chance to be part of a Christian community, explore, touch, and learn in the outdoors, and participate in programs that teach care and respect for our natural environment. There are many opportunities for age-appropriate spiritual growth and development, and campers often come away with many AHA! God moments – some they can articulate, and others are simply heartfelt. Contact the church office for more information.

Family Camp

St. John offers a two-night Family Camp experience for ALL AGES at Camp MoVal. This is open to anyone in the church. Come experience outdoor ministry, relationship building, games, music, crafts, Bible study, hiking, campfires, archery, canoeing, and kayaking.

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Youth Ministries

Sunday Morning Classes

- High School Bible Study: ninth through twelfth grades
- Middle School Bible Study: seventh and eighth grades

Wednesday Night 56s, 78s, and High School Small Groups

The groups are arranged by grade levels: 56s (fifth and sixth grades), 78s (seventh and eighth grades), and High School (ninth through twelfth grades). It gives the youth a chance to take their faith further than they could in a regular Sunday school class by allowing them to speak their minds and ask questions that they might hesitate to ask in a larger group. They are also blessed with small group leaders who invest in their group. Two adults become like spiritual parents for the group, facilitating the group discussion and making sure the group stays open and welcoming to all members.

- Confirmation Class: seventh and eighth grade, taught by pastors on alternating years

Youth Groups

Youth Groups are arranged similar to small groups: Middle and High school. We do fun events such as our Annual Picture Scavenger Hunt, Progressive Dinner, and Lock-ins, and service projects such as the OASIS Youth Food Challenge.

Retreats

Throughout the year, we have retreats to continue on our spiritual journey through a different setting other than church. Many of our retreats are at Camp MoVal in Union, MO. We talk about our faith, have fun, and worship. We also have retreats to prepare for big events such as Confirmation and mission trips.

Camps

- High School Conference Youth Event (CYE) at Camp MoVal for High School students
- Middle School Conference Youth Event (MSCYE) at Camp MoVal for Middle School students
- Middle and High School Summer Camps at Camp MoVal

Mission Trips

We offer a mission trip experience in the summer for Middle School, High School, and Young Adults. An Adult mission trip is offered at various times throughout the year.

Adult Ministries

There are many opportunities for adults to get involved and connected here at St. John. Here are some of those opportunities:

Adult Education

Adult education classes are offered throughout the year. Some are on Sunday mornings, others are on Wednesday evenings. Watch the Messenger (St. John's monthly newsletter) for more details on upcoming classes.



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Athletics

St. John a volleyball league which meets on Sunday evenings seasonally for fun but competitive play. All abilities welcome!

Transportation Ministry

Members volunteer provide transportation to Sunday services, for those who are in retirement communities or who cannot drive themselves. If you need transportation or would like to become a driver, please call the church office.

Community Meals

A free meal is offered to all children, youth, and adults participating in Wednesday night activities.

Food Pantry Ministry

Members bring donations of nonperishable food items and/or paper products to the designated black wicker baskets with red liners on the second Sunday of each month. Food placed in these baskets is given to FISH and OASIS food pantries to replenish their shelves. Since our baskets are out 365 days/year, ANY non-perishable item on any day of the week is always welcome. Cash donations are also accepted through the church office or offering plate. All donations are given to local food pantries.

Meals on Wheels

Members deliver meals to those in need every Wednesday and Thursday. Volunteers pick up the meals at the Senior Center and deliver to about 20 individuals each week.

Out & About

Out & About is an adult travel group that has many activities throughout the year, such as local and over-the-road trips, theater, dinner, shows, etc.

Prayer Team

The Prayer Team is the prayer chain of St. John. This group of individuals is committed to praying for the concerns of the church and for specific prayer requests. The group meets for a time of sharing and devotion the second Sunday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in the lounge. (Individual prayer requests are kept confidential.)

Sharing Meals

Members prepare and serve meals for the homeless and individuals in need. Meals are served each Saturday of every month.

Small Groups and Bible Studies

Small groups meet in various times and places around a common interest like dining, movies, or outdoor activities. The groups are also intentional about prayer, Bible study, and relationship building. Ideas for new groups are always welcome.

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Social Service Sewing Group

This group meets on Thursday mornings to quilt and sew for several mission projects. They also are very involved in supporting different mission projects throughout the St. Charles community.

Timely Topics

This group meets once a month for conversation about matters of justice.

Women's Retreat

The annual Women's Retreat invites women of the church to get away for a weekend and focus on different spiritual aspects of their lives.

Music and Worship

St. John offers musical and worship arts opportunities in a fully graded program that includes choral, vocal, and instrumental music, along with visual and dramatic arts.

Music Ministry



Youth Hand Bell Choir

Hand Bell choir for Middle School and High School youth.

Jubilation Choir

Vocal choir for students in ninth through twelfth grades.

St. Charles Children's Choir

Pre-K – 5th grade. Open to the public.

Chancel Choir

Vocal choir for adults and select high school students.

Chamber Choir

Vocal choir for select adults.

Adult Hand Bell Choir

Open to adults, high school and older.

Ensembles

Members of our music ministry in smaller vocal and instrumental groups.

Worship

Worship Planning Team

This rotating group of volunteers assists in worship series planning.

Radio Room

Technicians who run the sanctuary sound system and transmit service to radio.

Altar Guild

Places visual enhancements on the chancel including flowers and paraments.

Fine Arts Team

Places visual enhancements in the sanctuary and around the facility such as decorations, banners, Advent and Lenten candles, and other liturgical items.

Usher/Greeter (St. John's first face to visitors)

These faithful members help people get seated, hand out bulletins, and assist in emergency situations.

Communion Server

Members who serve pew communion to the congregation on the first Sunday of each month.

Drama/Reader's Theatre

Presenting the message, scripture, or worship theme in creative ways through storytelling, dramatic readings, and skits.

Boards and Committees

Advisory Board

Altar Guild

Auditing

Board of Christian Education

Buildings and Grounds

Cemetery Board

Church Council

Children's Ministry

Connection & Fellowship Team

Evangelism

Fine Arts

Justice & Witness

Mission and Outreach

Personnel

Stewardship and Finance

Technology

Worship and Music

Youth Ministry

For additional information on any group, please feel free to contact the church office.