



JUNE 2025

THE LIGHT

**Monthly Newsletter of
St. John United Church of Christ
Strasburg, Ohio**

**ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
516 N. WOOSTER AVE.
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**WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 AM
ONSITE AND ONLINE
FACEBOOK
YOUTUBE
@STJOHNSTRASBURG**

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:45 AM

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY
9:00 AM - 5:00PM**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

By Jason Rissler

Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever." John 14:15-16

One of the greatest gifts I received as a young pastor was that of a mentor. My mentor Henry, served many years as a pastor and offered me much wisdom. He also served as an advocate for me. He was in my corner, looking out for me. He spoke on my behalf. I knew that I could count on him for support and strength.

I love that Jesus used this word, advocate, to describe the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit whose presence we celebrate at Pentecost is an advocate for us today. The world can be a tough place. There is a lot of hurt and pain. Things are unfair and unclear. Yet God has given us an advocate who is in our corner, working for us. Some translations use the world comforter instead. This is an important role of the advocate. Find strength and encouragement in this today!

God is in your corner! God is for you, not against you!



Pastor's Report - A scout has asked to rebuild the fire pit on the hill for an Eagle Project. GriefShare has one more week to go. Eleven people are going to Washington UCC in Cincinnati May 16-18. Possible new members class will take place.

BOCE - Gift cards will be purchased for Sunday School teachers.

Congregational Care - Thirty-five geraniums are ordered for Pentecost Sunday. Meals were delivered. The last Senior Luncheon for the season was successful.

Fellowship - The Ladies Gathering was successful. Sanctuary and Historical committees will provide cookies on June 1st.

Missions - No Meeting

Finance - A committee may be needed to review what is needed in the kitchen and possibly writing grants to assist with funding.

Music and Worship - Twila Lampe will serve as interim choir director.

Outreach - Finished Tiger Paw Packs. Current coordinators, Mary and George Bitikofer will step down and Linda and Pete Salom will coordinate beginning September 2025.

Property - Sanitizer is running fine. Edging has been done. B&H donated the mulch that will be spread on May 24. Power washing is scheduled for May 29th.

Sanctuary - Red paraments and geraniums will be out for Pentecost Sunday.

Old Business - All Sundays in August are covered during Pastor Jason's sabbatical. Wedding pictures will go into cabinet in the month of June.

New Business - Discussed covering gas and meal expenses for May Washington UCC trip. We will serve pie at the Summer Festival again. The adult classroom will be painted this summer.

Next Council Meeting - June 19, 2025

****We communicate regularly through e-mail and text messages. If you are not receiving these and would like to, please let the church office know.**



The Strasburg American Legion will hold a Chicken BBQ on June 8th from 10:00am-12:00pm in Malcuit's parking lot.

June 7th Youth car wash fundraiser 9:00-12:00 . Please come support our youth.

Youth Summer Service Trip

July 20-24

Serving at Camp Washington with Washington UCC.

If you are interested in attending, please see Heather or Jason Rissler.

Pastor Jason will be away on a sabbatical leave July 28 - August 31. Pastoral coverage is being arranged. There will be more information closer to the time.

The Board of Christian Education offers financial assistance for students K-12 who are planning to attend camp this year. Please turn in paid receipts to the church office by June 15th to get reimbursed. Reimbursement amounts will be determined by the number of applications and available funds. If you have any questions, please see Heather Rissler.

We will hold a new members class for anyone interested in learning about membership at St. John. The class will be one hour long. If you are interested, please see Pastor Jason. He will schedule something that works for the group.

thank you

June 2025

"You do so many things for so many people, I'm grateful to be one of them. Thank You."

-Cook & McPherson Family

St John UCC Family,

"Thank you does not seem like it is enough. I truly appreciate the cards, visits, hugs, soup, and prayers. What a blessing for me to be part of this loving and caring church family. Blessings to all."

-Connie and Courtney Chaney

ACOLYTES

June 1 - Everett Shaner
June 8 - Hannah Rissler
June 15 - Brennan Rissler
June 22 - Nora Sexton
June 29 - Hannah Rissler

LAY LEADERS

June 1 - Jeanette King
June 8 - Abbey Hutchison
June 15 - Donna George
June 22 - Cole Hutchison
June 29 - Derek Rissler

SPECIAL MUSIC

June 1 - Twila Lampe
June 8 - Denise Borter
June 15 - TBD
June 22 - Laura Smith
June 29 - Vickki Hinebaugh
& Elaine Scatizzi

GREETERS

Linda Beck
Cheryl Feutz

USHERS

Richard Beck
Mark Ogg
Charles Wahl
Connie Wahl



(75 and over)

June 1 - Linda Marburger
June 7 - Nancy Harvey
June 12 - Jo-Anne Schie
June 23 - Bill Hensel



Did you know that we have an online giving option?
To give online, go to stjohnstrasburg.org or use the QR code. Thanks for your generosity!



A big congratulations to our 2025 graduates!
May God bless you on your future endeavors.



On Saturday, May 3, 2025, John H. Vallos graduated from the Citadel Military College of South Carolina with a Master of Business Administration (MBA). John originally graduated from The Citadel in 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. John is currently working as a Project Manager for Donley's, a structural concrete company. Donley's headquarters is in Cleveland, however, John is based in Greenville, South Carolina. John is the son of Bethany and Tony Vallos, and the grandson of Bill Hensel and the late Beulah Hensel.





Parents: Kevin & Kristen
Grandparents' Names: Lowell & Jean Thomas;
 Don & Nancy Harvey
Sibling: Andrew
Highlights: Valedictorian, 4-Year Scholastic Letter,
 FCA Leadership Team, Vice President of National
 Honor Society, Big Brothers Big Sisters, 4-Year
 Member of the Volleyball, Basketball, & Softball
 Teams, 3-Time State Softball Champion, Lions Club
 Rose Queen, Strasburg High School
 Homecoming Queen.

Future Plans: Attend The Ohio State University
 studying either Occupational Therapy or
 Pediatric Nursing.

Lauren Harvey
 Strasburg-Franklin



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am - Worship	2	3 9pm - BOCE	4 2:30pm - Action Now 6pm - Music & Worship	5	6	7 9am - Car Wash Fundraiser
8 9:30am - Worship/Pentecost	9	10 2pm - Park Village Service	11	12	13 11am - Macheille Miller	14 2pm - Social Hall Rental-Doug
15 Father's Day 9:30am - Worship	16 Vacation Bible School at First Lutheran	17 9am - Congregational Care	18 9:30am - Finance Mtg.	19 Juneteenth 6pm - Missions Meeting 8:30pm - Church Council	20	21
22 9:30am - Worship	23	24	25	26	27 11am - Macheille Miller	28
29 9:30am - Worship	30	1	2	3	4	5