



***The Visitor***  
**September - 2025**

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### **Pastor's Reflection**

#### Building a Bright and Wonderful Church!

Another school shooting, two children have died, and more are in critical condition. I will not attempt to make sense of this tragedy at this time. What I will say is that the work we do to build a loving and caring community is very relevant to our children's future. This community has a long history of being good neighbors who go beyond what society would expect. It seems to be built into your DNA. I would never want to take this gift for granted. The best response to this tragedy is to get busy building. Pick up the good work that this church has been doing for generations. We teach our children to look out for neighbors and strangers, we teach our children to be true to their word, and teach them that a good day's work not only makes them and their family stronger but makes it possible to help others in need. We work to care for and provide for the ones we love and the ones we know need a little help. Our kids have a deep sense of purpose and character; that is what they see in their parents and grandparents. I am so grateful that we are building a faith community that will provide a clear understanding for our children of what it means to love God and neighbor. Soon we will see full Sunday School classes with lots of children coming down the aisle on Sunday morning, a full Confirmation program with twelve youth, an active Youth Group, and a very robust After School Program that reaches children beyond our congregation. We are building a beautiful, bright church for our families and members to thrive.

Thank you all so very much for your deep commitment and many efforts that make this church so wonderful!

Blessings

Pastor

## Church Financial

Visitor report: July 2025.  
Beginning balance: \$30,382.83  
Income: \$32,800.25  
Expenses: \$31,656.78  
Ending balance \$31,526.30

### Visitor

Beginning Balance - \$460.33  
Income - \$0.00  
Expense - \$60.00  
U.S. Postmaster - \$60.00

Ending Balance - \$400.33  
Faye Birk, Treasurer

### Sunday School Checking Account

Beginning Balance - \$202.22  
Income - \$1024.00  
\$24.00 – Offering  
\$1000.00 – Transfer from Savings  
  
Expenses - \$367.09  
\$267.09 – St. John UCC – Reimbursement of Fall Curriculum  
\$100.00 – Kindercottage – July, August, September Donation

Ending Balance - \$859.13

### Sunday School Savings Account

Beginning Balance - \$4745.10  
Income - \$0.00  
Expense - \$1000.00  
\$1000.00 – Transfer to Checking

Ending Balance - \$3745.10

Faye Birk, Treasurer

## Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship **change of meeting time:** The October 2nd meeting will be at **7:00 pm** in the Fellowship hall.  
Look forward to seeing you all then.

## Coat Drive 2025

The women's Fellowship is sponsoring a coat drive this year, with the coats to-be delivered in October of 2025.  
We will accept gently used or new coats.

This serves as a heads-up to anyone planning on getting rid of any of your coats between now and September/October. We would appreciate it if you could save any of your gently-used coats for our coat drive this coming fall.

We will NOT be collecting the coats until after the summer, so please keep them to donate. We will start collecting coats from September 1-30, 2025.

More information will be available later on when and where to drop them off.

Thank you. ~The Women's Fellowship

## **RECENT GRADUATES**

**Lillian Carron**, daughter of Lisa Carron and Brent Carron, graduated from Valmeyer High School and plans to attend SWIC in the fall. When she completes her study there, she plans to transfer to SIU as she studies to be a Physical Therapist.

**Caden Huddleston**, son of Bill and Becky Huddleston, also graduated from Valmeyer High School. He is employed at Baxmeyer Construction in Waterloo.

**Rowan Schilling**, son of Tom and Stacey Schilling graduated from Waterloo High School. He is employed in an apprenticeship with Jatho Plumbing as he learns to become a plumber. He is also a drummer with the band, Bad Influence, and enjoys performing with the band frequently.

Congratulations to these young people, and our wishes for success in

their education, training and careers!

## **This and That**

- **St. John's Day** will be Sunday, September 21 immediately following church in the Fellowship Hall. Food will be provided but desserts are always welcome!
- **Save the Date:** Christkindlmarkt will be Sunday, December 7.

### **Prayer List:**

- Kim Hicks found out she has cancer. She is having a scan in August, then they will come up with a plan.
- Keep John Bueschel in your prayers as he struggles to find a treatment that works for his cancer.
- Please keep Glen Coats in your prayers as he finds his footing.
- Please keep Brent Langsdorf in your prayers as he recovers from a successful prostate surgery.
- Please keep Cathy Hoffmann in your prayers as she struggles with eye control and sight.
- Please keep Pam Coplin in your prayers as she struggles with Bell's Palsy
- Debbie Barnes for heart concerns.
- Rose Schultheis, a 23-year-old, is now on the active kidney list for a transplant and on daily dialysis.
- Please pray for Bob Barnes, whose feet are healing, and who has significant heart issues.

- Gideon, infant son of Chris and Amanda Schweigert, as he receives therapy for a dislocated jaw.
- Willie Krebel has a new tumor in the lymph node under his liver. Please continue praying.
- Mary Ann Lutz, Julie Birk's aunt, needs a Kidney Transplant.
- Kaylee is getting stronger every day but still needs our prayers.
- Tim Branson in his battle with cancer.

**BirthDay Shoutouts:**

- Linda Green will turn 73 on August 8.
- Paul Hoffmann will turn 75 on August 13.
- Nancy Schilling will turn 78 on August 15.
- Eric Peiper will turn 72 on August 16.
- Sharon Glessner will turn 68 on August 19.
- Ginny Borcharding will turn 78 on August 20.
- BJ Henerfauth will turn 71 on August 25.
- Brenda Johnson will turn 74 on September 2.
- Cathay Hoffmann will turn 67 and Laurie Manning & Jay Mueller will turn 65 on September 3.
- Wallace Altes will turn 84 on September 9.
- Ben Yancey will turn 97 years young on September 10 and Elaine Hoerr will turn 72 years old the same day.
- Peg Johner will turn 85 on September 11.
- Barb Wischmeyer will turn 79 on September 13.
- Sue Taylor will turn 71 on September 14.
- Morris Brandt turns 70 on September 16.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...**

BRENDA JOHNSON	Sept 2
SHERRY STITZEL	Sept 2
JONATHAN WOLF	Sept 2
DOMINIC RICHESON	Sept 2
MADISYN HUDDLESTON	Sept 2
CATHY HOFFMANN	Sept 3
LAURIE MANNING	Sept 3
JAY MUELLER	Sept 3
KRISTY EDLER	Sept 3
ALLY ANN COATS	Sept 3
NOAH RUSTEBERG	Sept 6
JENNA HEIDENREICH	Sept 7
LEVI EDLER	Sept 7
KARLEIGH WILSON	Sept 7
AMBER BRANSON	Sept 8
TRISTAN STEIBEL	Sept 8
TEAGAN ROHLFING	Sept 8
WALLACE ALTES	Sept 9
NOLAN FINCH	Sept 9
MASON HICKS	Sept 9

- Bob Barnes turns 71 and Don Edler turns 74 on September 18.
- Pat Berry will turn 75 on September 20.
- Maggie Schwarze will turn 69 on September 22.
- Nadine Feldker turns 83 on September 24.
- Paul Faus turns 73 on September 30.

**Special Anniversaries:**

- Danny & Rita Hoffmann will celebrate 42 years of marriage on September 2.
- James & Connie Matzenbacher will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on September 5, while David & Lauren Hesterberg will celebrate 44 years of marriage the same day.
- John & Juanita Roland will celebrate 40 years of marriage on September 14.
- Dave & BJ Henerfauth will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on September 20.
- Randall & Kay Floarke will celebrate 49 years of marriage on September 25.
- Robert & Linda Schmidt will celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary on September 27, while Dennis & Elaine Knobloch will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary the same day.
- John & Phyllisa Hoeftt will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on October 10.

WILLIAM NIEBRUEGGE	Sept 9
BEN YANCEY	Sept 10
ELAINE HOERR	Sept 10
SUSAN ROSEMAN	Sept 10
GUY TYBERENDT	Sept 11
PEG JOHNER	Sept 11
PAM MUERTZ	Sept 12
BARB WISCHMEYER	Sept 13
MALLORY BAKKEN	Sept 13
JULIA MUERTZ	Sept 13
SUE TAYLOR	Sept 14
KADENCE KELLER	Sept 14
ADLEIGH WILSON	Sept 15
MORRIS BRANDT	Sept 16
SPENCER KIPPING	Sept 17
BOB BARNES	Sept 18
BRANDT MUELLER	Sept 18
MAREN BIRK	Sept 18
DON EDLER	Sept 18
PAT BERRY	Sept 20
DR. KATE LARSON	Sept 20
AURA HICKS	Sept 20

JOSEPHINE JACKSON	Sept 20	ROBERT & KELLY MATHEWS	Sept 10
MAGGIE SCHWARZE	Sept 22	BRETT & KATE MUELLER	Sept 12
JULIE SCHMITZ	Sept 22	DAVID & SANDRA BERG	Sept 13
JARED ROEVER	Sept 22	SCOTT & DR. KATE LARSON	Sept 13
LILLIAN HICKS	Sept 22	JOEL & MICHELLE VOGT	Sept 13
EVAN HILL	Sept 22	JOHN & JUANITA ROLAND	Sept 14
STEVEN HICKS	Sept 24	CHRISTOPHER & CHRISTINA MUERTZ	Sept 15
CLAYTON BRAUN	Sept 24	DAN & JACKIE GILBERT	Sept 16
NADINE FELDKER	Sept 24	DAVID & B.J. HENERFAUTH	Sept 20
SCOTT UPCHURCH	Sept 25	JACOB & CARRIE GRUENINGER	Sept 21
HARPER ROHLFING	Sept 25	RYAN & KATLYN NOLAN	Sept 21
AYLA JEAN ESKER	Sept 27	RODNEY & ANNETTE MORWICK	Sept 22
MIKI SKAGGS	Sept 28	LLOYD & MARGARET SCHWARZE	Sept 22
AFTON SCHWARZE	Sept 28	COREY & ANDREA BLACKWELL	Sept 23
TYLER KOESTER	Sept 28	STEVE & ALAINA LAWRENCE	Sept 23
WAYNE STITZEL	Sept 29	DONALD & PAM MUERTZ	Sept 24
PAUL FAUS	Sept 30	NATHAN & AMANDA HOFFMANN	Sept 24
BRADLEY KOESTERER	Oct 1	LUCAS AND VANESSA SMOTHERS	Sept 24
BRYLEE ROHLFING	Oct 1	RANDALL & KAY FLOARKE	Sept 25
ADAM ECKART	Oct 2	CHRIS & LISA KOESTER	Sept 26
KELSEY SCHMITZ	Oct 2	ROBERT & LINDA SCHMIDT	Sept 27
WYATT SCHREDER	Oct 3	DENNIS & ELAINE KNOBLOCH	Sept 27
ALEX KNOLL	Oct 5	WADE & KATHY GOLDSCHMIDT	Sept 27
MATTHEW BRANDT	Oct 5	BILL & BECKY HUDDLESTON	Sept 27
LEVI WITTENBRINK	Oct 5	TRAVIS & KRISTIN BUSCH	Sept 27
DALLEN EDLER	Oct 5	WAYNE & SHERRY STITZEL	Oct 3
NANCY VOELKER	Oct 6	ALAN & DEBBIE WISCHMEYER	Oct 4
SHERI A DILLEY	Oct 6	BRANDON & EMILY KRUSE	Oct 4
MIKE KREBEL	Oct 6	JON & BECKY MATZENBACHER	Oct 6
VANESSA SMOTHERS	Oct 6	JUSTIN & KRISTIN KNOBLOCH	Oct 6
WHITNEY STITZEL	Oct 6	BETTY & TODD LEVIN	Oct 6
JANEY KAY BERG	Oct 7	JOHN & PHYLLIS HOEFFT	Oct 10
STEVE LAWLER	Oct 8	JARED & REBECCA COATS	Oct 10
JENNIFER COATS	Oct 8	BRIAN & SHANNON ECKART	Oct 10
GRAHAM KNOBLOCH	Oct 8	DAVID & ANITA MUERTZ	Oct 12
ROSS MUELLER	Oct 9	GRANT & JENNIFER COATS	Oct 13
CONNIE ESKER	Oct 9	MADELYN & DYLAN SMITH	Oct 15
HATTIE HORN	Oct 11		
NICK LEY	Oct 13		
TREY ROHLFING	Oct 13		
OWEN CARRON	Oct 14		
KAIDEN WILSON	Oct 14		
LINDA SCHMIDT	Oct 15		
ELAINE KNOBLOCH	Oct 15		

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...**

DANNY & RITA HOFFMANN	Sept 3
JAMES & CONNIE MATZENBACHER	Sept 5
DAVID & LAUREN HESTERBERG	Sept 5
NATHAN & STEPHANIE KELLER	Sept 8



**St. John United Church of Christ**  
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***Thought for the day***

***"One small positive thought can change your whole day"***