



WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

“Welcoming and accepting all people” – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. “*along*” – is an invitation to join together side by side. “*journey of faith*” – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing “*service*” – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.

We want to hear from YOU!

By the time you read this newsletter, we hope you have already heard that our leadership is committed to listening to congregational input before making strategic decisions regarding facilities and programing for ministry in the immediate future. Before we rush into long term commitments for property and maintenance, are we able to project future trends in our attendance and leadership potential and plan accordingly? Is it time for us to reconfigure our structure and programmatic offerings to better reflect our current reality, or should we work harder to improve our offerings in hopes of stimulating growth? These and other questions await your input and prayerful consideration.

Please make every effort to attend one of the three remaining Listening Circles at Peace Lutheran Church if you have not already attended the first. Notify Pastor Colleen if you need childcare.

Tuesday, October 3 at 10AM

Saturday, October 7 at 10AM

Sunday, October 8 following morning worship

Name Change Recommendation

A task force consisting of Megan Bever (chair), Clayton Bowman, James Knudston, Terry Plossl, and Daniell Sanders with Pastor Colleen as ex-officio put forth a recommendation to the church board last week for a new name for the church.

In their report, the group considered a name that:

- reflects the values and priorities of the congregation;
- provides continuity with our current acronym and logo so that we are recognizable;
- is not tied to a location, such as “Joplin” or “south”;
- does not contain known associations that are opposed to our values.

The task force recommended and the board approved the name **Sojourners Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**. Upon board discussion, it was further recommended that the “J” in SoJourners be capitalized to maintain a visual continuity to SJCC, especially in graphic depictions included with our current logo.

The task force report explained that, “a sojourner is one who lives temporarily, possibly as a stranger, in a place. It reminds us that we are temporary stewards and members of our community while also welcoming others who join us as we all journey through life. The name specifically includes as a part of our congregation people who may feel as if they are sojourning (read: are strangers) in Jasper County due to marginalization. It also reminds us that on our faith journey as well, we move through different stages.”

Helpful scripture references to sojourners are found in Job 31:32, Psalm 39:12, Psalm 146:9, and Hebrews 11:9. Known association with the word in American culture include Sojourners Magazine (a progressive Christian publication); Sojourner Truth (a 19th century abolitionist and feminist); Sojourner Project (a Minnesota-based shelter for victims of domestic abuse); SoJourney Bags.

The adoption of this recommended name change will be voted on at the annual congregational meeting to be held in November. Deep appreciation to the members of the task force for their faithful and insightful recommendation for our pathway forward together.

EVENTS/OTHER



Christian Women's Fellowship extends an invitation to all women in the church to join them for a morning fellowship, Bible study, and light refreshments. They normally meet the first Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am in PLC Fellowship Hall. **HOWEVER**, this month the meeting has been re-scheduled to October 11 instead of October 4. Their theme for the year is "Friends Gather Here," and they are currently studying the Twelve Disciples. For more information please call Ellen Traver 417-439-3274.

Blood Pressure Clinic Sunday, October 1 9:30AM-12PM; PLC

Nursing students from Crowder College will be on hand to offer blood pressure readings and provide information on follow-up care if needed. This helps them fulfill requirements for graduation, so let's support their education!

2023 Stewardship Emphasis

"Dayenu"

In Hebrew, the word "Dayenu" means "it would have been enough." The word is used prominently in the Passover recitation of the deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt as a repeated refrain, recalling each act of God in the Exodus story. Each refrain states an act of God and recites that it would have been enough, but God went on to do even more. This way of telling the story magnifies the grace of God and the gratitude of the people in worship.

We will be using the concept of Dayenu in personal testimony and in worship during our fall stewardship emphasis on October 8, 15, and 22. October 22 will be Commitment Sunday when SJCC participants will be invited to turn in Estimate of Giving cards for 2024 to assist our financial considerations for the coming year. Letters and estimate cards will be mailed the first week of October. Extra copies of the letter and card will be available at PLC for those who we may miss in the mailing.

We invite you to make a list or timeline of all the ways or occasions God has blessed you and our congregation and give thanks for God's compounding and abounding provision and grace. We invite you to share them with us through the CareMail (send them to Pastor Colleen's email pastor@southjoplin-disciples.org) or around the cookout on Saturday, October 14 at PLC.

Welcome, New Members



We rejoice to welcome David and Lois Nickols and Kim Wood and Paula George into fellowship at SJCC on September 3. David and Lois were members at SJCC years ago and renewed their fellowship upon returning to Joplin. Kim and Paula are school teachers in the area, and well known to many of our congregation already. Please add them to your church directories at the following addresses:

David and Lois Nickols
1431 Rex Ave. #113F
Joplin, MO 64801
(956)777-0818

Kim Wood and Paula George
2619 E. Sadie Ct.
Joplin, MO 64801
Kim (417) 825-4844; Paula (510) 794-9954



Kittie Blankenship will be celebrating her **90th birthday** on October 28th. The family suggests cards be sent to her at **Foxberry Terrace, 4316 N St Louis St, Webb City MO 64870**.

Saturday, October 14



Instead of our monthly Fellowship Dinner we will be hosting another Cookout at PLC for Saturday, October beginning at 6:00 pm.

Those with the last name starting with “Q-W”, please provide two packages of hotdogs and matching buns. “A-G” please provide sides and salads. “H-P” are asked to bring picnic friendly desserts. Please bring your own lawn chairs and dinnerware.

See you there!

October Adult Faith Formation

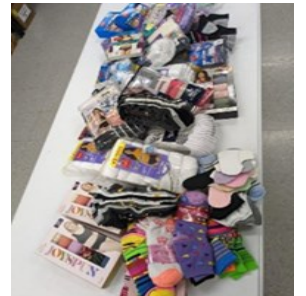
We will begin using short chapters from a collection of readings edited by Daniel P. Horan in the book, *God Is Not Fair, and Other Reasons for Gratitude*. We will read and discuss one reading each week. Books will be on hand for the weekly readings and need not be purchased. See you at 9:30AM in the fellowship hall at PLC.

October Scripture Readings

Oct 1 World Communion Sunday Philippians 2:1-13
Oct 8 Dayenu – Stewardship Psalm 34:1-10
Oct 15 Dayenu – Stewardship Psalm 145
Oct 22 Dayenu – Commitment Sunday Psalm 96
Oct 29 Deuteronomy 34:1-1

Bright Futures Contribution:

Thank you for your generous donations of socks and underwear for older female students through Bright Futures. Leanna delivered four sacks of items (roughly 150 pairs) which were received and acknowledged gratefully with a “shout out” on Facebook.



Crosslines Appreciation Fellowship

October 21st 2-5pm

First Baptist Church, Webb City
102 N. Roane St, Webb City

2-3:45pm-

come early to fellowship over yard games

4-5pm -

**Join us for food, raffle, photo booth, and a
candy table**

Desserts are welcome!

RSVP: name, organization/church and the number in
your party by Oct. 18th
email: carrie@crosslinesjoplin.org
text: (417) 434-3734

If you would like to help,
contact: Pat Tamburrino (417) 781-4324

CROSSLINES MINISTRIES

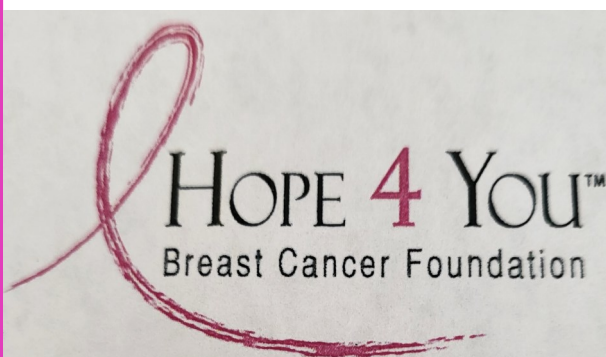
SJCC contributed 55 cans of pasta products for Crosslines in September – Thank you!

For the month of October our goal is 75 breakfast cereal products (hot or cold).

Please bring your donations to PLC and put them on the cart by the welcome table by October 22.

SJCC Workday: October 26, 9:45am-2pm

New volunteers always appreciated.



14th Annual HOPE 4 YOU Breast Cancer 5K Run/1 Mile Walk is scheduled for Saturday, October 28, 2023. 6:30 am Registration; 7:30 am Survivor Ceremony; 8:00 am RACE4HOPE Downtown Joplin Spiva Park, 4th & Main, Joplin, MO.

Register: hope4yourbcf.org
5k Certified Course—Chip Timing

Prayer Requests

Medical:
Brad Courtney (Kemp); Joan Fitterling; Pat Hinds; Ian Lynam (Fitterling); Alexis Prater; Alice Richardson; Janice Ratliff (Delehanty); Roger Traver; JoHelen Umphenour;

Sympathy:
Brenda Baert (Carrol); Ginny Reaves (Powers)

Military:
Michael Crofford; Corey Irwin; Josh Robb; Gary Wald

Ongoing:
Connie Abraham; John Asher; Carol Bach; Judy Ballard; Kittie Blankenship; Dani Bowen (Meadows); Gloria Brady (Abraham); Ellen Broglio; Janet Burns; Veronica Carnahan; Betty Coan; Dayton and Daislee Cohen; Timicia Curtis; Lois Demaree; Bailee Evans; Margie Fitterling; Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Alyxis Hefty; Patt Hinds; Darius Hughlett (Wilson); Daryl Hughlett; Roland Hughlett; Bethany James; Betty Kemp; James Knudtson; Lamley Family; Shirley Martin; Sara Metts; Missionary families (Huff, Reaves, Wilson); Arlene Nash; Nancy Nauser (Fitterling); Bethany Newman; Jim Owen; Matthew Paulda; Josh Petty; Reese Prater; Todd Prater; Cameron Ransom; Nancy Righthouse; Judy Schneider; Brady, Baylee and Calvin Shafer; Sue Smith; Lou Starks; Connie Sullivan; Mike Tesh; Roger Traver; Michelle Vorhees; Michael Wallace (Randall); Tova Wallace-Lee; Karen Patchin Watson; Charles Wilson; Birdie Woods; Mary Lou York, and all unspoken requests.

Other:
SJCC Listening Circles

Global Ministries Focus:
Oct. 1—Mexico
Oct. 8—Nepal
Oct 15—Democratic Republic of Congo (DDRC)
Oct 22—Japan
Oct 29—Italy

RESPONSIBILITIES

Elders
Oct. 1: Leanna Carrol
Oct. 8: Margie Fitterling
Oct. 15: Jim Cullumber
Oct. 22: Mike Fitterling
Oct. 29: Darlene Coit

Diaconate
Oct. 1: Communion Prep—Sherry Crumbliss and Carolyn Theil;
Homebound—Tom Hamm
Oct. 8: Communion Prep—Taylor Reaves and Sherry Crumbliss;
Homebound—Susan Wolfenbarger
Oct. 15: Communion Prep—Les Davenport and Sherry Crumbliss;
Homebound—Don Smith;
Oct. 22: Communion Prep—Megan Bever and Susan Wolfenbarger;
Homebound—Tom Wheeler
October 29: Communion Prep—Charlotte Quarles and Connie Abraham;
Homebound—Tom Hamm

Camera & Sound
Oct. 1: Sandy Meadows and Don Smith
Oct. 8: Jenn Reaves and Ken Moser
Oct. 15: Judy Schneider and Darryl Coit
Oct. 22: Sandy Meadows and Ray Reaves
Oct. 29: Jenn Reaves and Ken Moser

Sunday School (K thru 5)
Oct. 1: Karen Kemp and Anita Frieze
Oct. 8: Darlene Coit and Karen Kemp
Oct. 15: Leanna Carrol and Anita Frieze
Oct. 22: Daniell Sanders and Karen Kemp
Oct. 29: Darlene Coit and Karen Kemp

Children Worship & Wonder
Oct. 1: Karen Kemp and Judy Schneider
Oct. 8: Karen Kemp and Taylor Reaves
Oct. 15: Laney Reaves and Leanna Carrol
Oct. 22: No CW&W
Oct. 29: No CW&W



Birthdays

2	Jessica Fletcher-Fierro	18	Keaton Simmons
3	Donna Fuller	22	Jim Cullumber
4	Lexi Evans	25	Megan Bever
8	Becci Godsey	28	Sean Nicodemus
13	Mike Schneider	28	Kittie Blankenship
14	Joyce Crumbliss		

Anniversaries

5	Alecia & Daniell Sanders
22	Spenser & Dawn Cullumber
31	Paula George and Kim Wood



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 World Communion Sunday Reconciliation Sunday #2 9:30 am—Noon Blood Pressure Clinic 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/CW&W 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connections	2 7:00 pm Wor-ship Team Mtg	3 10:00 am Lis-tening Circle	4 7:00 pm Choir	5 12:30—2:00 pm Clergy Cluster 3 (Joplin-Finn's) 7:00 pm Book Club (Zoom)	6	7 10:00 am Lis-tening Circle
8 Stewardship Sunday #1 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am SS 10:15 am Children's Bells 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/CW&W Noon Listening Circle 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connections	9 Board Re-ports Due	10 5:30 pm EDI Courageous Conversa-tions (Joplin Avenue Cof-fee Co.)	11 9:30 am—Noon CWF 7:00 pm Choir	12 7:00 pm Book Club (Zoom)	13	14 6:00 pm Cookout
15 Stewardship Sun-day #2 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/CW&W 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connections	16	17	18 Deadline to RSVP for Crosslines Fellowship 7:00 pm Choir	19 Pastor Out 7:00 pm Book Club (Zoom)	20 Bonnie Out	21 2:00—5:00 pm Crosslines Appreciation Fellowship (1st Baptist Church—Webb City)
22 Commitment Sun-day 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am SS 10:45 Worship 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connections	23	24	25 7:00 pm Choir	26 9:45 am—2:00 pm Crosslines 7:00 pm Book Club (Zoom)	27	28 Kittie Blank-enship's 90th Birth-day Card Shower
29 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connections	23	31	All activities at Peace Lutheran Church unless specified otherwise.			