



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.

Ten Traits of Thriving Congregations

#8 Thriving congregations understand rest. “Thriving faith communities practice restfulness. Pastors are allowed time and space to recharge; lay leaders are rotated in and out of positions of responsibilities. Ministries are allowed to end. Rest creates renewed energy and give space for fresh ideas to grow.”

Rev. Dr. Erin C. Cash, Lexington Theological Seminary

Spear-Its

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

~ Ecclesiastes 3: 1

My friends, life has its seasons and our season together is coming to a close. My last Sunday with you is September 8th. This time of being with you and worshipping with you has been a true joy. My last Sunday as your Bridge Pastor will be bittersweet.

I will miss you and yet, I am so very pleased to see all that you do and your commitment to serving God. Know that Sojourners will always have a place in my heart. Your kindness and welcome meant so much. Know that I will continue to lift you up in prayer.

Please continue to remember Pastor Colleen, the church, the Board and committees, and the Life Together Team in your prayers. You are blessed with a committed leadership group. Trust in them and continue to work as a community of love and support for one another. Remember that God is walking with you each day, so draw the Holy into yourselves for guidance and wisdom. Always remember that all the seasons of your lives are in God’s care.

With gratitude and blessings~

Teresa

Pastor Teresa’s Remaining Sermons

September 1 - John 10:2-5 & 14-16 - “Shepherd Voices”

September 8 - Matthew 5:13-15 - “Salt and Light”

WORSHIP SERIES



"Under the Microscope: Faith Forensics for Today's Disciples." Using suggested scriptures from Jim Wallis' book, *White Christian Nationalism*, we will explore key passages and concepts to ground our practices and refresh our commitment as followers of Christ.

Sept. 15 Humanity; Genesis 1:26

Sept. 22 Neighbors; Luke 10:25-37

Sept. 29 Truth; John 8:32

Oct. 6 (World Communion Sunday) Bread of Life John 6:27-35

Oct. 13 Discipleship; Matthew 25:31-46

Oct. 20 Peacemakers; Matthew 5:9

Oct. 27 Community; Galatians 3:28

Joplin Pride Coming

September 6th, 7th, and 8th

Joplin Pride 2024 activities will start with a Parade on Main Street Friday (the 6th) at 6:30 pm, followed by downtown booths and activities on Saturday. The weekend will conclude with an afternoon of activities Sunday from noon to 7:00 pm at Landreth Park.

Everyone is invited to walk or drive with us as a group in Friday’s parade. We’ll also be assisting James Knudtson with his booth at Landreth Park on Sunday. Additional details and a sign-up sheet are coming soon, but until then, Don Smith will be happy to visit about any ideas you have or questions.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join the fun!

EVENTS/OTHER

Life Together Task Force

Updates from the Life Together Task Force:

- Worship & Wonder space is now complete, although several W&W cabinets from the new choir room need to be relocated; office items temporarily stored in the classroom will be moved when the W&W cabinets are relocated.
- Peace Lutheran has graciously cleaned 2 bookcases from the classroom, providing space for some of the SJCC books in storage. Expect to see books and kitchen materials held in SJCC storage to be brought over and either used or made available.
- SJCC's property team is compiling a list of property maintenance issues, including projected costs.
- Individuals from both congregations received software training for the new exterior LED sign in late August.

Jim Cullumber
Life Together Task Force

COFFEE WITH COLLEEN



Please join Pastor Colleen in the Faith Formation room adjacent to the fellowship hall on Sunday, September 15 at 9:30 am to visit with her on her first Sunday back from Sabbatical. This is an informal opportunity to ask her questions about her time away and to fill her in on any of your summer activities or current concerns, or chat about the *Think Again* book. There will not be an adult Faith Formation class that morning.

Request For Cookies

PLC has asked for our assistance with providing cookies for the Car Show, which is October 12th.

This will be considered a Crosslines fundraiser.

For questions, contact Jeanie Morrison.



Christian Women's Fellowship

The new year for CWF will start Sept 4, meeting in the church fellowship hall, 9:30 am. Pat and Susan Wolfenbarger will be hostesses. Study is from our study book, Psalms, and will cover Songs of Praise. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Fellowship Meal Sept. 18th

On Sunday Aug 18th, 50 people stayed after worship and went to the beach.

On Sept 15th, we will enjoy an afternoon of Black & White Elegance. Please follow the suggested meal items to provide food for the event.

Main dish, C

Sides and salads D-G, H-P, Q-V

Desserts W, A-B.

CROSSLINES MINISTRIES

September Challenge is:

60 pkgs of Pasta

Crosslines day for Sept 26

9:45 am - 2:00 pm.

438 items of underwear or socks were provided for the August Challenge

BOBBY JO VALENTINE

HEART-OPENING, AWARD-WINNING FOLK/POP
bobbyjovalentine.com

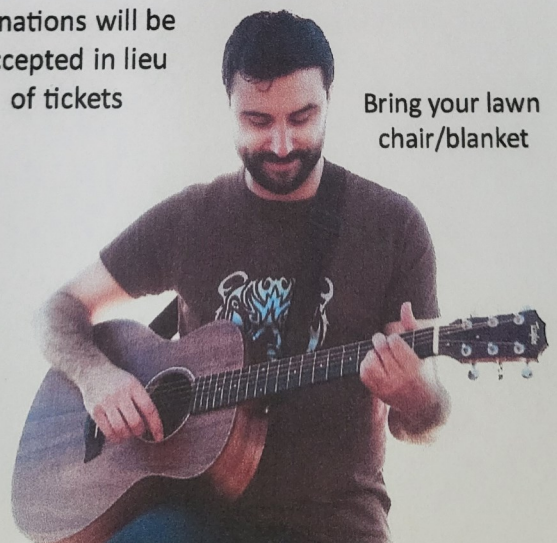
SEPT. 27TH
7PM
(RAIN OR SHINE)

SOJOURNERS
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH/ PEACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

3100 N. SAINT
LOUIS AVE.
JOPLIN, MO

Donations will be
accepted in lieu
of tickets

Bring your lawn
chair/blanket



Fall Cleaning

There are several things that need attention around the church and property.

Please join us for two scheduled workdays. Many hands make lightwork.

September 21st 8:00 am until Noon

October 5th - 8:00 until Noon.

| Prayer Requests | |
|--|--|
| Medical: Betty Coan; Rachel Eckhardt; Micah Evans (Cogbill); Jacob Goswick (Meadows); Heather Kemp; Jocelyn Korsch; Brett McCreary (Cogbill); Carolyn Theil | |
| Military: Michael Crofford; Corey Irwin; Josh Robb; Gary Wald | |
| Ongoing: Connie Abraham; John Asher; Carol Bach; Judy Ballard; Kittie Blankenship; Kellie Blanton (Davenport/Plossl); Gloria Brady (Abraham); Betty Coan; Dayton and Daislee Cohen; Timicia Curtis; Lois Demaree; Rachel Eckhardt; Bailee Evans; Margie Fitterling; Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Alyxis Hefty; Darius Hughlett (Wilson); Daryl Hughlett; Roland Hughlett; Bethany James; 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; Jayne Sanders; Sue Smith; Lou Starks; Connie Sullivan; Mike Tesh; Roger Traver; Michelle Vorhees; Michael Wallace (Randall); Tova Wallace-Lee; Karen Patchin Watson; Birdie Woods; Mary Lou York, and all unspoken requests. | |
| Global Ministries Focus: Sept. 1 Zambia Sept. 8 Hungary Sept. 15 Philippines Sept. 22 Indonesia Sept. 29 Middle East Region | |



This verse says it best. I leave SCC with wonderful memories and hopefully lasting friendships. It has been a blessing working for such a loving congregation.

~ Bonnie J. Powers

| <u>RESPONSIBILITIES</u> | |
|---|--|
| <u>Elders</u> Sept. 1 Patt Hinds Sept. 8 Mike Fitterling Sept. 15 Betsy Wheeler Sept. 22 Leanna Carrol Sept. 29 Ellen Broglio | |
| <u>Diaconate</u> Sept. 1 Communion Prep—Jessica Fletcher-Fierro and Sherry Crumbliss Homebound—Sherry Crumbliss Sept. 8 Communion Prep—Les Davenport and Terry Plossl; Homebound—Susan Wolfenbarger Sept. 15 Communion Prep—Connie Abraham and Judy Akeman; Homebound—Tom Wheeler Sept. 22 Communion Prep—Megan Bever and Susan Wolfenbarger Homebound—Judy Akeman Sept. 29 Communion Prep—Jessica Fletcher-Fierro and Sherry Crumbliss; Homebound—Sherry Crumbliss | |
| <u>Camera & Sound</u> Sept. 1 Terry Plossl and Ken Moser Sept. 8 Jennifer Reaves and Darryl Coit Sept. 15 Judy Schneider and Don Smith Sept. 22 Sandy Meadows and Ken Moser Sept. 29 Jennifer Reaves and Ray Reaves | |
| <u>Kid’s Church Preschool thru 6th Grades</u> Sept. 1 Darlene Coit & Margie Fitterling Sept. 8 Karen Kemp & Karen McKenzie Sept. 15 Children in Family Worship Sept. 22 Daniell Sanders & Anita Frieze Sept. 29 Robb Jones & Sandy Meadows | |
| <u>Children Worship & Wonder</u> Sept. 1 Karen Kemp & Judy Schneider Sept. 8 Karen Fitterling & Taylor Reaves Sept. 15 Children in Family Worship Sept. 22 Alecia Ratliff & Leanna Carrol Sept. 29 Children in Family Worship | |



- Birthdays**
3 Tom Wheeler
4 David Nickols
12 Raymond Reaves
14 Mary Lou York
16 Benjamin Cullumber
22 Ellen Traver

- Anniversaries**
1 Les Davenport and Terry Plossl
4 Timicia Curtis and Malik Taylor
12 Roger and Ellen Traver
14 Donna Fuller and Shirley Martin
24 Sean and Kathy Nicodemus
25 Mike and Judy Schneider

September

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|--|-----|--|
| 1 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship/CW&W/ Kid's Church 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection | 2 Labor Day Offices Closed | 3 5:30 pm WW 6:30 pm Worship Team Mtg. (Theil/ Umphenour) | 4 9:00 am- Noon CWF 6:30 pm Choir | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation 10:20 am Fellowship 10:20 am PLC WGS Mtg. 10:45 am Worship/CW&W/ Kid's Church 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection | 9 Board Reports Due | 10 Pastor Colleen Returns 5:30 pm WW 6:30 In- Person Board Mtg. | 11 6:30 pm Choir | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 9:30 am Coffee w/ Colleen 10:15 am Children' Bells 10:20 am Fellowship 10:20 am PLC Council Mtg. 10:45 am Worship Noon Fellowship Dinner 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection | 16 3:00 pm Life Together Task Force | 17 9:00 am-4:00 pm Quilters 5:30 pm WW | 18 6:30 pm Choir | 19 | 20 | 21 8:00 am - Noon Fall Cleaning- Workday at the Church |
| 22 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship/CW&W/ Kid's Church 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection | 23 | 24 5:30 pm WW | 25 6:30 pm Choir | 26 9:45 am - 2:00 pm @ Crosslines | 27 | 28 Good Neighbor Day |
| 29 Reconciliation Day - Offering No. 1 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship/Kid's Church/ No CW&W 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connection | 30 | All activities at Sojourners Christian Church unless specified otherwise. | | | | |

Our new website address is: www.sojournerschristianchurch.org