

The Voice of Billingsville

April 2024

St. Johns United Church of Christ
14191 Billingsville Road, Boonville, MO 65233-3408
Email: stjohnsbillingsville@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.stjohnsbillingsville.org/>
Facebook: [facebook.com/stjohnsbillingsville](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsbillingsville) IG: [st_johns_bville](https://www.instagram.com/st_johns_bville)



A TIME OF RENEWAL

We are in full swing of the spring season! The trees, plants and flowers are green and colorful. Nature has renewed itself once again. This season can bring to one's mind ideas of personal renewal, a time to start fresh and new. As believers we have the great blessing of renewal in times of spiritual difficulty or weakness. When we first come to Christ the scriptures say that we put off the old man (person) and are renewed in the spirit of our mind (Ephesians 4: 22-24) but it doesn't stop there. We'll still struggle with worldly desires and thoughts but have the continued opportunity to avoid conforming to this world but rather being transformed by the renewing of our mind (Romans 12:2). Living the life of a Christian can be overwhelming at times, especially when combined with the physical and mental stresses of everyday life. But our confidence can be found in the following verse. *"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day."* (2 Corinthians 4:16). Just as the tree puts out new leaves, the birds build new nests and the grass grows green again, we have the great blessing of spiritual renewal!



Jay Launius – 2020

For lo, the winter is past,
The rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth;
The time of singing has come,
And the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.
Song of Solomon 2:11-12

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, April 3: Men's Breakfast
at Main Street Diner at 8:00 am

Thursday, April 4: Friends, Fellowship
and Fun from 1:00-3:30 pm

Wednesday, April 10: Church Board
meeting at 6:00 pm

Sunday, April 14: Penny Sunday for
ECH; collection of Benevolence
Offering

Thursday, April 18: Financial Reports
due in the office

Sunday, April 21: Quarterly
Congregational Meeting after
Morning Worship

Thursday, April 25: Newsletter
articles due

Sunday, April 28: Special guest
speaker and joint service with EUCC
at St. Johns; carry-in dinner following
the service

CONTACT US

Church

Phone: 660-838-6457

Email: stjohnsbillingsville@gmail.com

Julie Kueckelhan, Editor

Cell: 660-888-2370

Email: jkueckel@gmail.com

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES March 6, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Jared Kueckelhan; all members were present.

The minutes of the February meeting were reviewed and approved.

The treasurers' reports were presented and approved.

Scott gave a report on the progress of the new shed; it is up, and we only have the doors and the electrical service to be installed. Thank you, Scott, for taking this project on!

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Hilden, Secretary

HEALTH FACTS Listeria

Listeria is a foodborne bacterial illness that can be fatal to unborn babies, newborns, and people with weakened immune systems.

Symptoms can occur a few days or even up to 30 days after eating contaminated food. The bacteria can be found in soil, water, and animal feces. People can get infected by eating raw vegetables from contaminated soil, contaminated meat, unpasteurized milk or milk products, certain processed foods such as soft cheeses, hot dogs, deli meats that have been contaminated after processing.

Symptoms of infection are fever, chills, muscle aches, nausea, diarrhea. If you have these symptoms after eating recalled food, call your doctor. Blood and urine samples can diagnosis Listeria infection. Serious infections are treated with antibiotics.

To prevent Listeria, simply use food safety guidelines such as washing hands before and after handling food; use hot, soapy water to clean dishes, cutting boards, and work surfaces. Clean raw vegetables with scrub brush and running water. Cook food to designated proper temperature.

Nancy Meyer,
Health Minister

Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. —*Zechariah 10:1*

FRIENDS, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!

Our monthly gathering of Friends, Fellowship, And Fun will meet April 4 at 12:30 pm, at the church, to carpool to Charles and Holly's house off Belair Road on south Highway 5. Please bring any cards, games, and snacks. Rhea will bring bottled water, ice, and a jug of sweet tea. Tableware, cups, etc. will be provided by St. Johns. Please email Rhea at rhlreich@gmail.com or call at 660-909-1685 if you have questions.



Thank You

To Joyce & Steve Salzman for their donation to the Voice of Billingsville.

To Marty & Kim Graves for their donation to the Cemetery Fund in honor of the 70th Anniversary of Oscar and Arlene Friedrich

To Danny & Connie Lee for their donation to the Memorial Fund in honor of Ed & Lynnd's 50th Wedding Anniversary

To the Wassmann Family for their donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Gus & Bernadine Wassmann

PRAYER WORKS!
This is Charles' God Story

All week I was trying to get Dave Muntzel's phone number to ask him about some trees. Finally, I decided to just get it from him at church on Sunday. He wasn't there, but Holly got it from Julie (the secretary). Anyway, the day was very nice, and Holly got Dave's number in my phone before going to KC around 3 pm to help her 98 yr. old mother. I talked with Dave sometime later that afternoon. Holly called to say good night around 6:30, all was fine. I went in to go to bed between 7:30-8, when I laid down, I noticed something was really wrong. The paintings on the wall didn't lineup and were all out of focus. I thought I should try to call someone, my daughter, Christie was closest, so I thought to try her. The phone signal is poor in that room, but I decided to try to call anyway. My first attempt was at 8:12, but it didn't work. I kept trying over and over nothing went through. Fifteen calls and 34 minutes later I finally cried out, "Please, God, help me call anybody!" The next time I tried, the phone rang, and Dave answered it. Then I knew for sure God was listening and helping.

Dave had been my 'most recent' call, and he was the best person. He recognized immediately that I needed help and took charge. He reached out to Eddie Wassmann, who got the ambulance on the way and reached out to Julie for Holly and Christie's phone numbers to get them on the way. Dave and his wife, Ann, hopped in their truck to meet the ambulance on Bellair. I, meanwhile, thought I could call other people, I couldn't see the phone, but I kept trying. That's when I found out for sure that the phone didn't work, but God did! Seemed like lots of help came right away, and all at the same time. I recognized Christie and my grandson, Jacob, and Dave, but no one else. Both the Pilot Grove Fire Department and the Boonville Ambulance had come. When they asked how I felt, I started puking everywhere, so they knew I wasn't ok. Somehow, they put me in a chair and got me upstairs. It was cold and bumpy. They got me on a bed in the ambulance and gave me some stuff like in the movies. I felt us going down the driveway onto the gravel road, then to HWY 5, and off we went. When I was laying there, I was just thinking about how I didn't have talk with the dumb phone anymore. They got me to the hospital. Christie and Jacob were there, and Holly was on the way. I felt safe and I knew for sure **GOD ANSWERED MY PRAYER**. I want to thank everyone that has helped me in so many ways during my illness and the many people that have sent prayers. Every day I am getting better and stronger. **Thank you, God! Prayers Work!**

By Charles Stegner

Dear friends from St Johns United Church of Christ,

Thank you for your generous gift to the CWS Blankets program. As families and communities around the world recover from emergencies and struggle in the face of unprecedented challenges, you are standing with them. Now more than ever, we are so grateful for your generous support.

Your contribution provides warmth, comfort, and hope to neighbors near and far. It provides a tangible reminder to migrant families that they are not alone as they seek safety. It wraps refugees in warmth as they arrive in the United States to build a new future. It provides comfort for our neighbors who have lost homes or are struggling in the face of extreme challenges. Around the world, your support means relief and hope.

Because of you, Church World Service is able to respond when disasters occur, and support is needed. Thanks to your compassion, we can--and will--change lives.

Sincerely,
Rick Santos
President and CEO
Church World Service

(St. Johns contributed \$715 to CWS in 2023!)

EASTER MEMORIALS

Lillies

In memory of **Forrest and Kitty Kenney and other loved ones** from Steve & Sharon Smith, Doug & Barb Ayers, and Families.

In memory of **Brett Geiger, Charles, Dorothea & Anne** by Bill and Marilyn Geiger.

In memory of **Ernest, Dennis & Andy Herigon** by Bill and Marilyn Geiger.

In memory of **Peter & Tessie Muntzel and Lawrence & Ruth Muntzel** by Louis, Joyce & David

In memory of **Huebert Koenig** by David Muntzel

In loving memory of our parents, **August & Bernadine Wassmann** by Eddie, Brenda, Darlene, and Families

In memory of our parents, **Marvin & Kathryn Schupp**, from Nancy Meyer and Shirley Schupp.

Cemetery Fund Donations

In memory of **Rowdy and Wilma Cary and all loved ones** from Susan and Mike Hayes

In memory of **loved ones** by Jason, Melissa, Garrett, Kamrynn, and Derrick Hundley.

In memory of our parents, **John & Mary Ann Hilden and Laverne & Shirley Schmidt**, by Pat & Vicki Hilden

In loving memory of **Don Bail** by Mary Bail & family

In memory of **Bob Simmons** from Linda, Jamie, Shawn, Brooklyn, Kevin, Heather, Macsen, Remi, Lisa, Cedric, Lachlen & Kyler

In memory of **Charles Schler** from Leola Schler & Family

In memory of **Loved Ones** from Donnie & Kathy Wilmsmeyer

FROM THE MAY 2004 ISSUE OF *THE VOICE OF BILLINGSVILLE*



I had the opportunity to meet Mrs. Horst the other day. A drive down Speed Road will take you to what was the Horst Farm. (I always thought people were saying the horse farm). Well, Mrs. Horst reminded me of my mother in appearance. She, years ago, received some special Daffodil bulbs. She was given just a handful. She planted them and the next year she dug them up, separated the bulbs and planted them one bulb at a time. There is now a row of daffodils that stretches for over a mile. More can be seen if one drives up to the old homestead. I was told today that Mrs. Horst is planting one bulb at a time at her new place of residence and they too are multiplying "one bulb at a time" she told me, "That is how it is done." That is the message, is it not? One bulb at a time is how we can plant God's Reign on Earth. We teach one Sunday school class at a time; we plant one acre at a time for the Food Resource Bank. We fill one shoebox at a time for the Festival of Sharing and the Children's Christmas offering. We visit one shut-in at a time. We welcome one visitor at a time into our community. Beauty comes one bulb at a time. Children's mission comes one penny at a time on our second Sunday. When someone says to you the need is more than I or you can handle, just tell them to drive down Speed Road and see Mrs. Horst's "one bulb at a time" project. -Pastor Mary

Submitted by Birdie Kueckelhan

In Christian Sympathy

Nancy Kueckelhan passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, March 30. Please keep Shelley, Stacia, Shauna, and their families in your prayers.

The visitation will be Friday, April 5 from 4-7 pm at Howard Funeral Home. The funeral service will be Saturday, April 6 at 10 am, also at Howard, with burial to follow at the Old Lamine Cemetery.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP	
Church Council	
Jared Kueckelhan, President jkueckelhan1@gmail.com	
Scott Grissum, Vice Pres/Schler Fund Treas smgrissum@gmail.com	
Vicki Hilden, Secretary pthilden01@gmail.com	
Linda Burnett, Treasurer ljburnett@live.com	
Ed Schler, Memorial/Benevolence Treasurer lynndoras@yahoo.com	
Board of Christian Education	
Melissa Hundley, Superintendent mhundley77@gmail.com	
Tracy Pannell, Secretary queenofcrockpots@gmail.com	
Angie Hackman, Treasurer ahackman@bpsk12.net	
Abigail Pannell, Youth Director apannell1473@gmail.com	
Cemetery Board	
Kenneth Stegner jestegner@yahoo.com	
Ed Wassmann lindawassman@yahoo.com	
Tim Kueckelhan speekcreek@gmail.com	
St. Johns Search Committee	
Abigail Pannell, Co-Chair apannell1473@gmail.com	
Keith Bail kclcbail@gmail.com	
Rhea Helmreich rhlreich@gmail.com	
Ginger Wenger gingerwenger@yahoo.com	

MARCH STATISTICS			
	Offering	Benevolence	Attendance
03	\$2,510	\$0	26
10	\$1,230	\$210	38
17	\$1,236	\$50	37
24	\$1,268	\$25	50
31	\$2,019	\$0	67



On Sunday, April 28, we will have a guest speaker, Guangyu Lou, who is a missionary with the Global Ministries of UCC.

This will be a joint service with EUCC at St. Johns at our normal time.

There will be a carry-in Fellowship Dinner following the service; Committee #2 is in charge of the meal: Linda Burnett, Jessica Grathwohl, Laura Grathwohl, Carol Fowler, Pat & Vicki Hilden, Wayne & Rita Kanenbley, Jared Kueckelhan, Justin Kueckelhan, Tim & Julie Kueckelhan, Ed & Lynnd Schler, Linda Simmons, Charles Stegner & Holly Hughes, and Don & Ruth Ann Warnke.

	Worship Leader	Greeters & Ushers	Messenger
07	Rita Kanenbley	Scott Grissum & Volunteer	Vicki Hilden
14	Laura Grathwohl	Melissa & Jason Hundley	Nancy Meyer
21	Rhea Helmreich	Donald & Ruth Ann Warnke	Pastor Kurt Grathwohl
28	Jason Hundley	Ted & Billie Litton	Cathy Bail

APRIL BIRTHDAYS	
Dalton Pannell	04
Abigail Pannell	05
Shane Jennings	10
Brittany Woods	11
Jill Helmreich	12
Janice Cooper	17
Cathy Bail	20
Tucker Floyd	21
Tim Kueckelhan	21
Cate Smith	23
O. C. (Sonny) Friedrich	24
Andrew Grissum	24
Heather Simmons	24
Caleb Smith	25
Susan Forst	26
Kaylee Naylor	26

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES	
Jamie & Shawn Swalwell	03
Tami & Ben Rold	05
Deanamarie & Daniel Naylor	16

✠ BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES ✠	
Teresa Kueckelhan Carlson	09
Cora Louise Stegner Wisdom	09
Noel Katherine Schler	10
Linda Anne Atkinson Potter	13
Mary Jane Atkinson Fudge	13
Jaden Michael Keller	13
Douglas Eugene Johnston	14
Stacy Lynn Million Reuter	14
Karen Hibbard Johnston	20
Melinda Edwards Richardson	25
Sophia Ruth Carmichael	28

Please let these homebound and nursing home friends know you are thinking about them with a visit or a card.
Arlene & Sonny Friedrich
Katy Manor P.O. Box 8, Pilot Grove, MO 65276
Ruth Searfoss
Katy Manor P.O. Box 8, Pilot Grove, MO 65276
Dorothy Vieth
Lenoir 3710 Lenoir St, Columbia, MO 65201

PRAYER CHAIN

Avery Beach, brain cancer
Amy Boyer (Andrew Inskeep's sister) cancer
Angie Carmichael, cancer
Jack Deuschle, Parkinson's disease
Jim & Sharon Elliott
John Ferguson, heart issues
Courtney Franklin, brain cancer
Ayla (Pat Friedrich's niece), recovering from surgeries
Marilyn Geiger, shoulder surgery
Iris Gerhardt
Dalton Hazlett, recovering from TBI
Jim & Sandy Helm (Stacy Friedrich's parents), health issues
Betty (Vicki's cousin), cancer
Todi Hughes (Holly's mom)
Holly's brother, open heart surgery
Kim Hutchison (Julie's cousin), foot amputation
Shelley Jennings, cancer treatments
Nancy Kueckelhan
Ava LeCave
Don & Mary Neckermann
Marilyn Rethemeyer, cancer
Clifford Richey (Charles' friend)
Karen Schnetzler
Hunter Simmons, Leukemia (in remission!)
Vicki Simmons, cancer
Charles Stegner, recovering from stroke
Lincoln (Ginger's grandson), digestive issues
Shelly (Ginger's daughter), recovering from accident
Shawn (Ginger's son), recovering from accident
Darin Walker, cancer
Cora Louise Wisdom

Serving in our military:
Landon Bail Jeff Burgoyne Tony Davis
Natalie Meng Blayne Vickery James Walker



Feeling Grateful

Word Search

What are YOU thankful for on Thanksgiving Day and all the other days of the year? Here are a few ideas to get you started.

- ANIMALS
- BED
- BIRTHDAY
- BOOKS
- CARS
- CHALLENGES
- DAD
- EARTH
- FAMILY
- FLOWERS
- GRANDPARENTS
- HEALTH
- HEARING
- HEART
- HOME
- ICE CREAM
- JOKES
- LAUGHTER
- LUNGS
- MOM
- MOON
- MUSIC
- NATURE
- OXYGEN
- POPCORN



- RAIN
- READING
- SCHOOL
- SHOES
- SIGHT
- SMELL
- STARS
- SUNSHINE
- TASTE
- TEACHER
- TOUCH
- VACATION



LECTIONARY READINGS

	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
2 nd Sunday of Easter April 7, 2024	*Acts 4:32-35	Psalm 133	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
3 rd Sunday of Easter April 14, 2024	*Acts 3:12-19	Psalm 4	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
4 th Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024	*Acts 4:5-12	Psalm 23	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
5 th Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024	*Acts 8:26-40	Psalm 22:25-31	1 John 4:7-21	John 15:1-8

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St. Johns United Church of Christ
"Billingsville"
14191 Billingsville Rd.
Boonville, MO 65233
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Return Service Requested