



Dear friends,

God created the church to be the intersection where our lives and the life of God meet. In this holy community we become aware of the tremendous grace God showers upon us, and we are invited to respond to that grace with generosity in our living.

Last month I (Daniel) got to have lunch with Della, an Elder in the church that raised me. She reached out to me while in town for a Cardinals game. I have never not know Della. She was my kindergarten Sunday school teacher. She was my high school youth group leader. Many years later, she stood with me at the baptismal font when I was ordained as a pastor. And just last month at lunch, she prayed for me and my ministry.

Della is one of those people through whom I have experienced the abundant grace of God. I cannot help but be grateful for Della, and especially to the God who brought Della into my life though the church.

I wonder how - or in whom - you have experienced the abundant grace of God? And I wonder how you feel called to respond to that grace with gratitude?

Our church is full of meeting places where the grace of God joins us and blesses our lives and our community. I (Herbert) can think of so many different ways that God invites us to contribute our gifts to God's work here at LoveJoy United. The gifts we are giving go to the most beautiful and wonderful programs. For example, YouthQuest, Lunch Bunch, Food Pantry, and Adult Sunday School are places where we respond to God's grace.

YouthQuest takes the young children of the church and teaches God's ways through activities and storytelling. Lunch Bunch is a group from the church that comes and fellowships together for lunch. The Food Pantry

buys food and receives donated food to feed God's children - adult and small. And lastly, the adult class comes together to learn God's ways in the world and how to be better Christians.

These programs, along with so many others, are here to help and do the work of the Lord.

As we begin our Fall Stewardship season this month, we invite you to look at God's abundant grace in your life, and consider how you might respond with gratitude and generosity. Your gifts of time, energy, and money enable the church to be a joyful meeting place where all people can encounter the love of God and join in God's work.

Later this month, you will receive a letter from the Stewardship team that includes an 'estimate of giving' card. We invite you to consider how you will respond to God's grace with the gifts of your life and labor - and to return that card to the church.

In Christ,

Herbert Peel, Poet Laureate

Daniel Ervin, Pastor



# Come Home For Youth Quest



Like with many things, Youth Quest has declined significantly during the COVID pandemic. It is now time to rebuild and get back in the swing of things. The Christian Education Committee for Children & Youth will be trying new things to make our program better. For starters, we will try meeting at a new time: **11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** This will allow students and volunteers to attend worship if they wish, and not have to make another trip back in the evening.



## ATTENTION PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, AND GUARDIANS

You may have noticed that before COVID, there were often children of various ages who came to worship with parents and grandparents. This is a good opportunity to resume having the kids back. Those who wish to attend worship, could come to YQ with the kids, or take some time for shopping and such, and leave the kids. **LUNCH WILL ALWAYS BE SERVED.**

Presently, we are having two groups – elementary and teens; however, we can add other groups as more children come. *IF YOU CAN PROVIDE A MEAL OR TWO, CONTACT [TACOMA MONROE](#).*

**OR** – if you choose not to attend worship, just bring the kids at 11:30, and let us help plant seeds of faith. Just as going to school regularly shapes minds with skills for living, children and youth who attend regularly for Christian Education will grow in spirit and faith. The seeds of faith planted now will flourish as they grow into adults.

**Christian Education is an important component of LUPC's ministry. Just imagine a church that does not establish programs for our youngest family members - a real void. Do what you can to help get the kids on board.**



Altitude Trampoline Park

# Announcements

## LoveJoy Lyceum Book Club:

The LoveJoy Lyceum Book Club selects and reads a book together each month. They meet via Zoom at 7:15 PM after evening prayer.

**October 19 - Empire Of Pain by Patrick Radden Keefe.**



## SUNDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES - October 9 at 6:30 PM

The Adult Christian Education Committee is sponsoring another movie night at LUPC. We will be watching October Sky. Based on a true story, October Sky tells us about four high school boys in a little coal mining town in West Virginia in 1957. Seeing Sputnik streaking across the sky, Homer Hickam, Jr. (Jake Gyllenhaal) sets out to build his own rocket with the help of his science teacher (Laura Dern) and four buddies. This movie is well made, well acted and filled with classic 1957 rock 'n roll tunes!

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for movie goers to find their seat and get their drink (soda or water) and a bowl of popcorn. The movie begins promptly at 7:00. Come help us celebrate Autumn, education and good times with friends!



## Volunteer Opportunity

### Booth House

The Booth House is a shelter operated by the Salvation Army in Alton. They are no longer housed at the site on Alby in Alton but employees take "Individual To-Go" meals to their locations. We have been providing them a meal on the 2nd Sunday of even months for many years, but we get little participation with this effort. We have already completed the first half of this year and have August, October, and December remaining. So, to get more involvement in this "Mission Opportunity" we are going to try something new! We will ask the congregation on the Sunday before to provide supplies. By this time we know how many are currently at the shelter(s). Then on Sunday, August 14th, October 9th, and December 11th we will assemble these "To-Go" meals in our kitchen and transport them to the Salvation Army location immediately following church service. We will provide approximately 15-20 meals. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Donohoo at 618-444-9190.

## August 2022 LUPC Financial Notes

Checking Account Balance as of 8/31/2022	\$69,034.35
Savings Account Balance as of 8/31/2022	\$2,243.15
Ending Balance as of 8/31/2022	\$71,277.50

- ❖ The August financial report reflects that the Expenses for the month exceeded the Income by 1959.56
- ❖ Pledges: YTD Pledge total \$125,658.21
- ❖ Mission Market Fund: The current amount in the fund \$180,200.28. The interest rate is holding at .50%.

# MISSION AND OUTREACH

Anyone who's been to the grocery store or filled their gas tank recently, knows that prices have risen. I, like most of you I'm sure, don't like it but haven't missed any meals because of it. There are some in our community, however, who are really struggling. Prior to these conditions, many have barely been able to keep their heads above water. But now, they are needing help.

Our food pantry tries to be there for those needing additional help with having enough food to feed their families. Our Good Samaritan Fund finds people needing help filling their gas tanks to get to work or to get to a doctor appointment. Or they may need help with a utility bill or whatever.

Both our food pantry and Good Samaritan Fund are hurting right now. So far this year our expenses have exceeded our income for both of these funds. So, if you can help, we, and those needing our assistance, would be most grateful. You can purchase an additional item or more when you're at the grocery store and put that in the grocery cart in the narthex when you're in the building. Or an amount for either fund can be added to your check if that's your preference. Another easy option is to go to [www.lovejoyupc.org](http://www.lovejoyupc.org) and click on the "give" button. It gives the option of how you want LUPC to designate your funds. Both the food pantry and Good Samaritan Fund are options you can choose. There are options to use your credit card or funds can be deducted from your bank account. It's just that simple.

We are, after all, a Matthew 25 congregation. If you are able, this is one way you can live into the Matthew 25 way of life. Thank you.

## Food Pantry

You can drop off non-perishable items for the food pantry on Monday mornings between 9 am and 1 pm. The cart is by the front door. Thanks so much to those of you who continue to support our food pantry even though we're not in the building on Sunday mornings.

**The Pantry is in need of laundry detergent and canned pasta this month.**

## Good Samaritan Fund

As we all know, these are not normal times. If you need some extra help meeting your bills or a gas voucher to make those necessary trips, please know that you can come on Mondays at 1:30 pm and we can help you.

Everything will be confidential. And if you can help support this fund, just mark your check for Good Samaritan Fund. We are here to help one another and those most vulnerable in our community.

## Booth House and Saturday Café

If you have a heart for feeding the hungry, as Jesus taught that we should, helping with meals at the Booth House and/or Saturday Café is a great opportunity for you. The Booth House is a homeless shelter operated by the Salvation Army in Alton. They do not have a meal prepared for them on Sundays. Six times a year we have agreed to prepare the Sunday evening meal to feed the approximately 20 people they may have. During these pandemic times, meals are dropped off and they serve themselves. Saturday Café is a ministry of First Presbyterian in Alton, serving anyone needing a meal. We handle this meal on the first Saturday of March, June, September, and December. Let Brenda Donohoo or Karen Wilson know if you'd be willing to help with this.



## Happy Birthday

1 Heather Frank	15 Craig Uttnage
2 Carl Russell	16 Carole Abraham
3 Linda Allen	18 Sydnee Jacquin
4 Benson Bauer	Courtney Russell
Paxton Andrew Belchik	20 Barb Pitt
Jack Kleinert	Dottie Kleinert
Jordan White	Sydney Slayden
Jordan White Blair	21 Eric Uttnage
Lisa Kerr	23 Nikki Russell
5 Shane Lindquist	Zachary Llewelyn
Shirley Martin	25 Amanda
6 Jennifer Wyatt	Overstreet
7 Dan Donohoo	Jim Suerig
8 Brenda Donohoo	26 John Gremli
9 Larry King	John Rain
10 Adam LaMarsh	Melodee Mazur-Plummer
11 Andrea Frankford	Thomas Ballard
13 Ken Webster	28 Jim Holt
14 Cyndy Shumway	29 Bev Hayes
Jason Lynn	Gavin Shelton
	31 Scott Shelton

## The Tiny Seed

Look down and you shall see a seed  
 It is tiny, it is a child  
 For we are all seeds, we are planted  
 Through teaching, education, the telling of the  
 teaching of the son, we grow.  
 We shall follow the word of the father  
 As the tree we shall grow and grow  
 taller and taller.  
 We are trained and given gifts.  
 We shall do Gods works  
 The seed grows into a mustard tree  
 We shall grow into Gods Christians

Herbert J. Peel  
 Poet Laureate

## Many Ways to Worship

We continue to gather in several ways at 10:15 AM on Sunday mornings as God's worshipping people. We hope you will join us online, by phone, or in-person. All three are good and faithful ways of worshipping. Online: Go to [lovejoyupc.org/live](http://lovejoyupc.org/live) and click 'connect Via Zoom.' Phone: Dial +1 (669) 900-6833 and then at the prompt enter: 611 784 858# long distance rates may apply) in Person: Participants are asked to remain masked and refrain from singing during the service. We can accommodate up to 50 people in-person. Zoom Adult Sunday School meets at 9 – 9:45 AM. Connect online or by phone according to the instructions above. Tech Deacons are available to help you get connected online or by phone. Call the church office for information.

# October 2022

October

November

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1			1	2	3	4	5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
30	31												

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	10/1
2 9a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30 a YouthQuest	3 1:30p Good Samaritan	4 6:30p Mission and Outreach	5 10:15a Bible Study (Hybrid) 11:30a Lunch Bunch 7p Evening Prayer (Zoom)	6	7 Office Closed - Daniel is available by appointment	8
9 9a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30a YouthQuest 6:30p Movie Night - October Skies	10 9a Food Pantry 1:30p Good Samaritan Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day	11	12 10:15a Bible Study (Hybrid) 11:30a Lunch Bunch 7p Evening Prayer (Zoom)	13	14 Office Closed - Daniel is available by appointment	15
16 9a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30 a YouthQuest	17 1:30p Good Samaritan	18 6p Finance Meeting	19 10:15a Bible Study (Hybrid) 11:30a Lunch Bunch 7p Evening Prayer (Zoom) 7:15p LoveJoy Lyceum: Empire of Pain	20	21 Office Closed - Daniel is available by appointment	22 Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering
23 9a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30a YouthQuest	24 9a Food Pantry 1:30p Good Samaritan	25	26 10:15a Bible Study (Hybrid) 11:30a Lunch Bunch 7p Evening Prayer (Zoom)	27 6:30p Session Meeting	28 Office Closed - Daniel is available by appointment	29
30 9a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30a YouthQuest	31 Halloween 1:30p Good Samaritan	11/1	2	3	4	5





**LoveJoy United**  
**Presbyterian Church**  
A WELCOMING, NURTURING,  
PRAYING COMMUNITY OF FAITH

---

2550 Rock Hill  
Road Wood River,  
IL 62095 Phone:  
618-254-5880  
Fax: 618-254-1288

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

