

THE OBSERVER

OCTOBER 2023

LoveJoy United
Presbyterian Church



The light shines.

There is a artwork of beauty.

The cross is pictured to remind us
that our sins are forgiven.

The colors tells us, we are all
different, and yet we are Christians.

He died for our sins. Look at the
cross. It is our symbol.

It is our Rose Window.



Poet Laureate
Herbert J. Peel

Throughout 2023, LoveJoy United's Poet Laureate, Herbert Peel, is sharing a poem to go along with each of the seven stained glass windows in the sanctuary.

LCY

LoveJoy Children & Youth

Youth Participation in Morning Worship

LoveJoy Children and Youth has resumed. Join us the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided!



Happy Birthday

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

Announcements

LoveJoy Lyceum Book Club:



Lyceum Book Club is currently reading *FORDLANDIA* by Greg Grande. We will Zoom together on October 18 at 7:15 pm for lively discussions. Our next book is *WEST WITH GIRAFFES* by Lynda Rutledge.

Aug. 2023 LUPC Financial Notes

Checking Account Balance as of 8/31/2023 \$ 78,816.13
 Savings Account Balance as of 8/31/2023 \$ 9,868.49
 Ending Balance as of 8/31/2023 \$ 88,684.62
 Pledge Income Received: YTD Pledge total \$114,577.25
 Mission Market Fund: The current amount in the fund \$182,205.56. The interest rate is holding at 2.00 %

Many Ways to Worship

We 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 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) Hybrid Adult Sunday School meets at 9 – 10 AM. Connect online or by phone according to the instructions above. Tech Deacons are available to help you get connected online or by phone.



Blessing of the Pets

COME & GET YOUR PET BLESSED & ENJOY OUR FREE ACTIVITIES



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7
2-4 PM

GROUP PET BLESSING AT 2:30 PM



LOVEJOY UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2550 ROCK HILL ROAD
WOOD RIVER, IL



ALL PETS MUST BE LEASHED.

WOMEN OF FAITH

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN GATHERING

*Hear from Faithful Women Serving in our Midst:
A Panel of Pastors on What Sustains Them in their Journey.*

The Presbytery of
Giddings Lovejoy



Saturday, October 21, 2023

FAITH DES PERES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
11155 CLAYTON ROAD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63131

9 AM REGISTRATION

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM PROGRAM

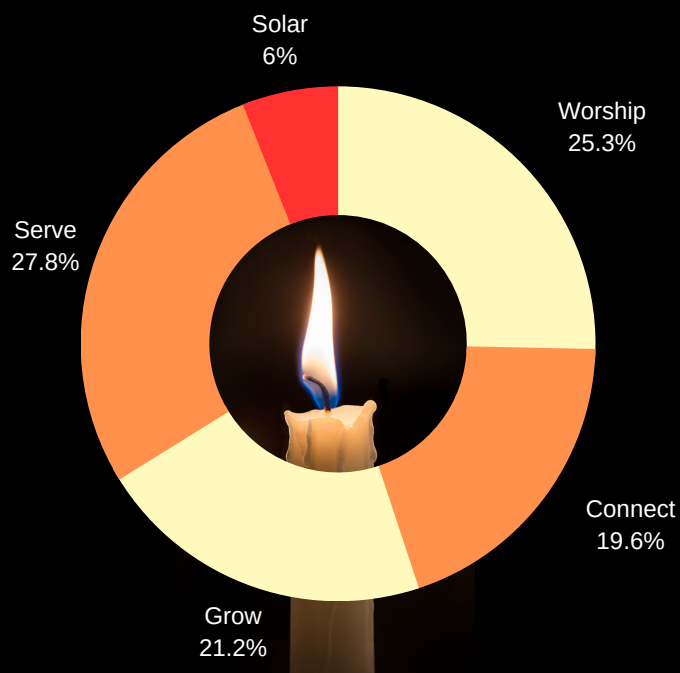
REGISTRATION: \$15.00, INCLUDES LUNCH
MAIL CHECKS TO: DEANNA VINCENT, TREASURER
1101 WEST 5TH STREET, WASHINGTON, MO 63090
OR EMAIL YOUR RSVP TO:
VINCENTDEANNA83@GMAIL.COM



Let your

LIGHT

shine!



Shining to Worship (\$54,550)

Worship is the heartbeat of the church. When we worship, we encounter the Triune God who nourishes us with grace and shapes us as people who carry God's love into the world. Money in this area pays our pastor and musician for their gifts, time, and energy. It also pays for a sanctuary where we can gather, bread and wine to celebrate communion, music for our choir and handbells, and other supplies to make worship meaningful.

Shining to Connect (\$43,250)

A congregation is a collection of people who have decided their lives are richer when they are together. Money in this area provides for Congregational Care events, homebound and hospital visitation, and welcoming spaces to gather for fellowship within the church. As a church, we laugh together, cry together, eat together, stand together, and commit to simply being together through all life's moments.

Shining to Grow (\$45,750)

Shaping and nurturing our faith is a lifelong commitment. Jesus calls his followers "disciples," learners of God's truth. Money in this area provides for clean spaces to learn, curricula for all ages, formation events, and safety-trained children and youth volunteers. We are committed to providing opportunities to grow and deepen our faith at every stage of life.

Shining to Serve (\$59,750)

Scripture calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves, to alleviate suffering, and stand for justice. Money in this area enables to provide a food pantry and give emergency support to our neighbors in need. It also helps maintain our building to house our food pantry, mission supplies, and to host community groups in our space. Through our per capita and mission giving, we support the local mission of our Presbytery and global mission of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

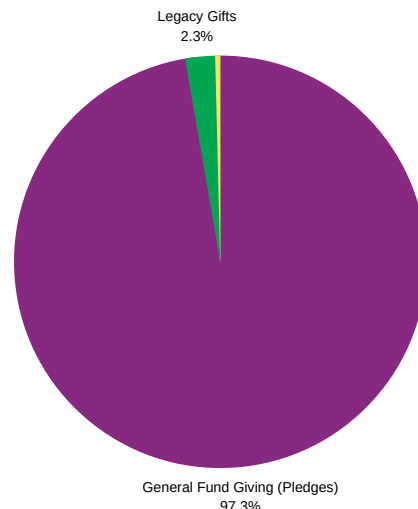
Catching God's Light with Solar (\$13,000)

As an Earth Care Congregation, we celebrate God's gift of creation, but we also take seriously God's commandment to care for it. In 2024, we plan on installing solar panels at the church that will capture God's gift of light to provide enough electricity to power our church building. This will not only reduce our reliance on dirty energy, it will also save us a considerable amount of money that we can put directly to work in mission and ministry

*Numbers are approximated and reflect the 2023 budget. Narrative budgets tell the story of a church's mission by discerning how the church lives out God's purpose for it and then determining how each dollar given supports that mission. Building, salary, administration, and finance costs are divided into the area of ministry they support. Traditional budgets are available from our treasurer.

Where does LoveJoy United get its money?

97% of the money in our yearly budget comes directly from you, the financial supporters of LoveJoy United. 3% comes from outside sources: legacy gifts given to the church and interest earned on our mission market account. While we are grateful for these alternate revenue streams, it is truly YOU who makes our ministries happen. Thank you!



Why pledge? Why not just donate like I do everywhere else?

Simply put, pledging allows us to plan! When you make your pledge, you are promising to donate a certain amount of money over the year. Knowing what will come in allows us to create responsible budgets for our ministries. A pledge is not legally binding; if you find you need to adjust your pledge as the year goes on, simply contact the church office at admin@lovejoyupc.org.

I'm in! How can I make my best gift?

The pledging process should begin with prayer. How is God's Spirit calling you to direct your money? Pledging is a spiritual practice of trust: trusting that God will enable you to fulfill your promise to give, and trusting that the church will use your gifts to serve God and God's world.

If you have never pledged before, consider adding pledging and giving to your spiritual practices alongside prayer, worship, and service. To give is to participate in God's work and ministry at LoveJoy United.

If you do regularly pledge, consider increasing your pledge this year. ANY increase in giving allows us to dream about what your generosity might enable us to do!

How do I submit my pledge?

- **Online** - go to lovejoyupc.org/pledge and fill out the pledge form.
- **Pledge Card** - return the pledge card mailed to you to the church office or put it in the offering basket.
- **Call** the Church office at 618-254-5880

What else can I offer?

There's no way around it: we need money to make our ministries happen. But the most valuable treasure you have to offer is yourself! All these numbers mean nothing without you committing to worship, grow, serve, and connect with us. Our church runs off the wisdom, time, talents, energy, prayers, and presence of its congregation. So in addition to your financial pledge, pledge to be all-in to this community of faith. We pledge in turn to treasure you like the gift you are!

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ~ Matthew 5:15



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30a Stewardship Meeting (Prep Mailing) 6p "The Land is Not Empty" Small Group</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1:30p Good Samaritan</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9a Bell Choir Rehearsal 9:30a Nominating Committee Meeting 6:30p Mission and Outreach Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:15a Lectionary Bible Study (Hybrid) 2p Sewing and Craft Circle 7p Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>2p Blessing of the Animals</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Party 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30a Bldg & Grounds Meeting 11:30a LoveJoy Children & Youth 6p "The Land is Not Empty" Small Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day 9a Food Pantry 12:15p PEO Women's Meeting 1:30p Good Samaritan</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9a Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30p Worship Committee</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:15a Lectionary Bible Study (Hybrid) 2p Sewing and Craft Circle 7p Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:30p Children & Youth Christian Ed Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Jed Koball and others from Peru Visit 8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30 Church Potluck 6p "The Land is Not Empty" Small Group</p>	<p>16</p> <p>1:30p Good Samaritan</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9a Bell Choir Rehearsal 6p Finance Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:15a Lectionary Bible Study (Hybrid) 2p Sewing and Craft Circle 7p Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>1p ACE Committee Meeting</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 11:30a LoveJoy Children & Youth 6p "The Land is Not Empty" Small Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9a Food Pantry 1:30p Good Samaritan</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9a Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:15a Lectionary Bible Study (Hybrid) 2p Sewing and Craft Circle 7p Evening Prayer (Zoom)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30p Session Meeting</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:45a Choir Rehearsal 9a Hybrid Adult Sunday School 10:15a Hybrid Worship 6p "The Land is Not Empty" Small Group</p>	<p>30</p> <p>1:30p Good Samaritan</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Halloween 9a Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>				



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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

