



# THE REMINDER

May 3, 2024



# BREAD

FOR THE WORLD

Because Congress stalled on last year's reauthorization of the farm bill, our Offering of Letters is again focused on this vital legislation. The farm bill sponsors the nutrition programs so vital to hungry people. A few examples are SNAP (formerly called Food Stamps); WIC - for pregnant and nursing mothers, babies and toddlers; the School lunch and Breakfast programs; international emergency food assistance and agricultural development programs; and the McGovern-Dole School Feeding Programs. Sadly, hunger still threatens many of God's children. Millions of Americans live in poverty (\$25,820 for a family of three) and millions more are considered low income. It is common for low-wage jobs to be part-time or temporary with irregular hours, no medical insurance, sick leave or vacation time, and no skills training or pathway to promotion. Across the globe, millions are facing actual starvation due to war and drought. This year's letter asks for continued strong support of the nutrition programs. We seek expansion of a program that provides additional SNAP benefits for fresh fruits and vegetables at farmer's markets, and increased efforts to prevent food waste. (About 1/3 of all food produced in our country is wasted, and the main component of landfills is food!) And international food assistance needs continued strong support in this time of war, drought and famine. Please sign three letters - to both Senators Richard Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, and to your Representative - either Nikki Budzinski or Mary Miller. If you are not sure, we have a laptop and will quickly identify your Rep at [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov). Please read the letter prayerfully, and consider adding a handwritten note at the bottom or on the back, especially if you have personal experience or knowledge of food insecurity. Also, please join Bread for the World yourself and support it financially. And we would joyfully welcome you to the local chapter that meets every third Tuesday at 1:30 pm by Zoom. For more information and the Zoom link, contact Jane Klopfenstein at [jklopf1@gmail.com](mailto:jklopf1@gmail.com) or 618-659-3582.

*The Mission Team*



## Scripture of the Week

### ***Romans 8:28***

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

### ***Galatians 5:13-15***

For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.



Join Us For

# YOUTH SUNDAY

MAY 5, 2024

COMBINED SERVICE

## ALL CHURCH PICNIC

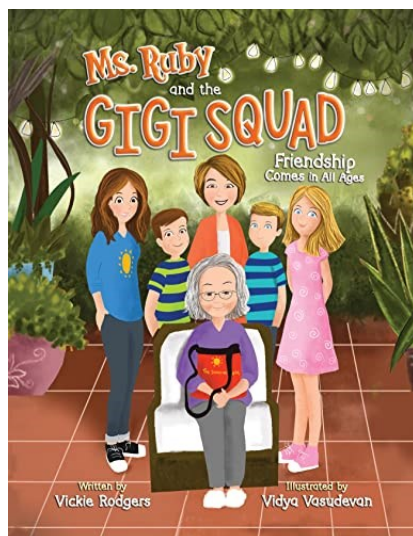


When: Sunday, May 19

Call Hazel Loucks at 618-978-0131 if  
you can help!

Access all happenings @ [thenewstjohns.com/calendar](https://thenewstjohns.com/calendar)

## United Women in Faith Upcoming Tea Saturday, May 4, 2:00pm, Fellowship Hall



An afternoon tea is the format for our May meeting. We will welcome local author, Vickie Rodgers, as our speaker. Her children's book – Ms. Ruby and the Gigi Squad – won the 2022 BIBA (Best Independent Book Award). To quote an online description... "Ms. Ruby and The Gigi Squad is a meaningful and heartwarming look at the power of intergenerational friendships. The book defies stereotypes of age, ability, and capacity and shows how a friendship between Ms. Ruby (an elderly care center resident) and the Gigi Squad (four young children) benefits everyone." Everyone is encouraged to bring a favorite book from childhood or perhaps another vintage item for our display table.

The menu for this intergenerational themed event is assorted tea sandwiches and desserts. While there is no cost to attend, we do **request RSVPs by this Sunday, April 28**, to help with our planning. **Please contact Donna Gardner at ([dmgardner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmgardner@sbcglobal.net), (H)618-656-4425) with your reservation.**



YOUTH GROUP @ 6:30 P.M.

Youth Group meets every Sunday evening for all students in sixth through 12th grades and focuses on growing each student's faith through community and discipleship activities.

JOIN THE ST. JOHN'S UMC TEAM!



**PART TIME DIRECTOR OF  
CONNECTION AND  
DISCIPLESHIP:**

Responsible for facilitating healthy and helpful first steps into the life of the church, following up with guests and visitors, and promoting discipleship through internal and invitational communication. View full job description and apply: [Director of Connections and Discipleship](#)

♦ HEARTLAND CAMPS ♦

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Day Camp

June 10th-14th, 2024



[HeartlandCamps.org/St-Johns-UMC](https://HeartlandCamps.org/St-Johns-UMC)



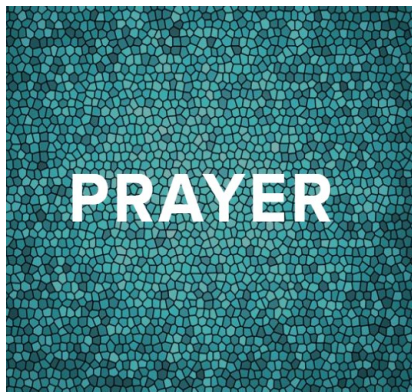
## Prayer & Care

How can we pray for you? Submit a request at [thenewstjohns.com/prayer](https://thenewstjohns.com/prayer)

Prayers and Praises:

- All unspoken prayers and praises of our congregation.

Call (618) 792-0171 for Pastoral Care.



## ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONNECT with us:

The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Monday through Thursday.

7372 Marine Road - Edwardsville, IL  
62025 (618) 656-1853 [thenewstjohns.com](https://thenewstjohns.com)



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St. Johns UMC

Access all happenings @ [thenewstjohns.com/  
calendar](https://thenewstjohns.com/calendar)



St. John's United Methodist Church

# WORSHIP WITH US!

9:00 a.m. Traditional | 11:00 a.m. Contemporary

in-person & online at [thenewstjohns.com/worship](https://thenewstjohns.com/worship)

## Our Vision

to be a beacon of faith and service, focusing our passions and gifts to reflect Christ's love to the world.

## Our Purpose

to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

## Our Values

knowing,  
loving and  
serving God.