



October, November, December 2018

## St. Jacob and St. John Summerfield News and Notes

Hello Fellow Congregational Members,

We thought it appropriate to include in this quarter's newsletter an update from The Search & Find Committee as we continue to seek a settled pastor to replace Pastor Gary. We've been on this "journey" for a little over a year now and unfortunately haven't made huge progress. It's one of the most time-consuming tasks I've ever served on and we've all quickly learned, the required attention to detail to make sure you have the "right fit" is sometimes overwhelming.

The Committee is a group of 8 (5 from St. Jacob UCC and 3 from Summerfield). We've reviewed numerous profiles/resumes that upcoming pastors have submitted to the Illinois South Conference Board as they seek pastoral positions. We've held phone interviews with 17 of these candidates and have done personal on-line/video conferencing with a handful of those.

We were very encouraged by 2 candidates which led us to do Neutral Pulpit settings with each of them. Neutral Pulpit is when you have the candidate conduct the service/preach in a church that is neutral to both the candidate and the Search Committee. One of those candidates looked VERY promising so an offer was presented. After a few rounds of negotiating, unfortunately we couldn't work out the housing portion of the contract, so the candidate withdrew.

Although we're back to square one, the Committee is not discouraged, rather we feel it's God's way of telling us the right candidate is still out there and we're ready to seek them out. We're in the process of negotiating a Bridge Pastor that we're hoping will cover our pastoral needs over the next several months. The upcoming season is a busy one for all churches, so a Bridge Pastor will remove any angst about finding a settled pastor ASAP. It's not the type of project that can be hurried or forced, so we're grateful to have peace of mind that timing is no longer the driving factor. Hopefully our next Newsletter update will be more positive; in the meantime, we'll appreciate your prayers for all involved in this mission and each member of our UCC congregations.

Carol Kynion  
Committee Chair and Council President, St. Jacob UCC

**'We've always done it that way!' is more poisonous than ever.  
Innovation isn't just a virtue, it's a requirement.'**

Service of Farewell for Rev. Gary Kniepkamp  
Sunday, July 8, 2018, St. John's Summerfield  
A Time with the Children  
Remembrance and Recognition  
Recognition of the Ending of Ministry  
Vows of Release



Service of Farewell for Rev. Gary Kniepkamp  
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Youth Group Mission trip to Back Bay Mission,  
Biloxi, MS July 28th through August 4, 2018

Church services with the Iowa Youth Group



## Sunday School resumed on September 9th



St. Jacob Homecoming Parade featured 2 of our Lil Miss Strawberry Contest winners as well as our youth group



# October 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
		6	7	8	9	10
		11	12	13	14	15
		16	17	18	19	20
		21	22	23	24	25
		26	27	28	29	30
		31				

6 Have Desserts for Sweet Shoppe to Heritage Hall by 7 pm

11 Spirit of Sharing  
Soup Kitchen—Youth Group 3 pm

10 ELF Meeting  
10 a.m.

17 St. Jacob Council  
Mtg 7pm

16 St. John Mtgs  
Sunday School 7pm  
Council 7:30 p.m.

25 St. Jacob Town-  
ship Health Fair 3—6 pm

27 Fellowship Breakfast  
8 am Youth & Brotherhood

22 Youth Group Maz-  
zio's Night Fundraiser  
Fall Festival

## NOVEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Ingathering of Harvest Home food bags for Hoyleton kids	5	6	7 ELF Meeting 10 a.m.	8	9	10
11 Totenfest	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 St. John's Mtgs S School 7pm Council 7:30 pm	21 St. Jacob Council Meeting 7pm	22 Thanksgiving	23	24 Fellowship Breakfast 8 am Hanging of the Greens 9 am
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 St. John's Mtg S School 7pm Council 7:30 pm	19 St. Jacob Council Mtg 7pm	20	21	22
23	24 Christmas Eve 4 pm St Jacob 7 pm Summerfield 10 pm St Jacob	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve					

St. Jacob United Church of Christ  
207 West Main Street  
St. Jacob, IL 62281-1531

St. John United Church of Christ  
109 West Kavanaugh  
Summerfield, IL 62289

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**POINSETTIA'S FOR CHRISTMAS**

Order your Poinsettia(s) to decorate your church sanctuary  
during the Holiday Season below:

Cost: \$9 Each

Make checks payable to: ST. JACOB U.C.C.

Return this form along with payment to the St. Jacob Church office by mail  
or drop in the offering plate at your church by Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Poinsettia's may be taken home after last worship service on Christmas Eve.

Put the # of Poinsettia's next to the name of your church:

St. Jacob \_\_\_\_\_ St. John's \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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