



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

September 14, 2025

We welcome all who are visiting with us today.

It is good to have you in worship with us. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Phil this morning and let us know if there is any way we might be of service to you or your family.

Silent Reflection: “Like sheep that get lost nibbling away at the grass because they never look up, we often focus so much on ourselves and our problems that we get lost.”

~ Allen Klein

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The foolish say, “There is no God.”

ALL: We come, trusting in Jesus, the face, the voice, the presence of the God who loves us.

ONE: The scoffers of our age ask, “Why do you seek after God?”

ALL: We come, in this time, because God’s grace has spilled over into our lives.

ONE: The hopeless around us think, “No one cares about me.”

ALL: We come, in this time, to this place, because Jesus has found us and brought us home.

* HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

469

© Words: 1931, 1982 Oxford University Press; Music: 1989 Hope Publishing Company

CALL TO CONFESSION

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CHURCH ATTENDANCE, September 14, 2025

St. John's – 15 St. Jacob – 27

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor's office hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Secretary's office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Jacob Phone: 618-644-2142 / St. Jacob E-mail: stjucc@hometel.com

Website: stjacobucc.org

Pastor Phil Barbier: Phone: 314-312-2347 / E-mail: pastor@hometel.com

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person

Dian Gansmann

Liturgist

Angela Imming

Accompanist:

Melissa Anderson Taylor

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Kenzie Barker, Nancy McCaw; Debbie Missey and Sean and Dustin, sons of Margie & Wally Foxworthy

St. Jacob: Carol Casperson, Lori Foley, Cathy Frutiger, Norma Logsdon, Jackie Miller, Vernon Mendrip, Joanne Meyer, Kathy Ritter, and Olin Zweck

IL South Conference: Each week the churches of the Illinois South Conference are asked to pray for congregations and their pastors and other ministries of the UCC. This week we are asked to pray for:

Church & Pastors

- St. Paul UCC, Carlinville- Pastor Eddie Burton, Jr.

- Church of the Good Shepherd UCC, Carbondale

Rev. Kim (Dr. Aaron Newcomb) Magwire

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Gary (Joyce) Kniepkamp

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Carol Kynion, Sept. 14
Don Hanser, Sept. 15
Cathy Frutiger, Sept. 18
Audrey Yann, Sept. 18
Amy Zbinden Sullivan, Sept. 19

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY: St. Jacob Council meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY: St. John's Council meeting, 7:15 p.m.

OCT. 5: Dubois Fall Festival, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"HORSE HOOKY" TRIP TO THE TRACK SEPT. 23

The ELF's have planned a "Horse Hooky" trip to Fairmount Park Tuesday, Sept. 23. All church members are invited to attend. Meet at the church at 1:30 p.m., to form carpools, and then proceed to Fairmount Park. Lunch and snacks are available for purchase at the racetrack if desired.

ST. JACOB UCC SUNDAY SCHOOL RETURNS SEPT. 28

St. Jacob UCC Sunday School begins at 9 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 28. Class will be held from 9-10 a.m. every second and fourth Sunday thereafter. All children from pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join the fun. To register, fill out the online form at: <https://forms.gle/eW6KTtPzSm4DkVtx5> or call the office at 618-644-2142.

DUBOIS FALL FESTIVAL SWEET SHOP DESSERT DONATIONS

The Sweet Shop staff requests donations of desserts, snacks, breads, cookies, trail mix, etc., for the DuBois Fall Festival Oct. 5. All proceeds go to the DuBois Scholarship Fund, to help cover camp fees for our young campers needing financial assistance. The Sweet Shop will be in Oak Lodge. If you get your goody donations to the St. Jacob UCC by 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, Pastor Phill will take them with him. Otherwise, there will be a drop-off location close to the entrance of the DuBois Center that morning. If you have any questions, contact Joyce Kniepkamp at (618) 567-6276.

WALK WITH GOD

Come join our St. Jacob UCC walking group, called “Walk with God.” Anyone who likes to take walks, be in nature and share in unity is encouraged to join us. We hope to get members of the church together a couple times a week to walk and be visible in the community. We will meet at the church and decide from there where we would like to walk. Days and times are to be determined by the participants. If you’re interested in participating and would like more information, contact the church office at 618-644-2142 or e-mail: stjucc@hometel.com.

VOLUNTEER LITURGISTS AT ST. JACOB

We are looking for volunteers willing to read scripture, no long-term commitment, just one Sunday at a time. Everyone from the congregation is invited to take part in helping lead worship. There is a sign-up sheet located on the table in the Narthex, or you may call the office at 618-644-2142 to sign up.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

With the inflation these past few months, use of local food pantries has been high, and donations have been low. To help our communities we have a donation tub/box for food pantry donations in the sanctuary at St. John’s and St. Jacob.

Items for St. John's (For Lebanon Matthew 25:40 Ministries): Canned goods including: green beans, corns, carrots, mixed vegetables, stew, chili, soup, fruit, spaghetti sauce, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, potatoes (boxed/bags), Rice a Roni, macaroni and cheese, pasta, Ramen noodles, Jello, pudding, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, oatmeal, powdered sugar, brown sugar, oil, Crisco, dish soap, laundry detergent (quart bottles/sheets/pods), dryer sheets, paper towels, toilet paper, baggies (sandwich/qt./gal.) plastic wrap, toilet bowl cleaner, and cleaning solution

Items for St. Jacob (Ministries Unlimited): Pop-tarts, oatmeal, cheese cracker sandwiches, beef jerky, fruit cups, Vienna sausages, ketchup, mustard, broth, cooked ham, pasta sauce, jelly, pancake mix, & syrup

BLESSING BOX LOCATED AT ST. JACOB UCC

The “Blessing Box” (located on the east side of St. Jacob UCC) can use donations of non-perishable food, hygiene products, and other items for those in need. Anyone can donate -- items are anonymously given and received. Please consider blessing our neighbors in need, and if you are in need, please feel free to stop by.

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

At that time, this people and Jerusalem will be told:

A blistering wind from the bare heights; it rages in the desert toward my people,
not merely to winnow or cleanse. This wind is too devastating for that.

Now I, even I, will pronounce my sentence against them.

My people are foolish. They don't even know me!

They are thoughtless children without understanding; they are skilled at doing wrong,
inept at doing right.

I looked at the earth, and it was without shape or form; at the heavens and there was no light.

I looked at the mountains and they were quaking; all the hills were rocking back and forth.

I looked and there was no one left; every bird in the sky had taken flight.

I looked and the fertile land was a desert; all its towns were in ruins before the Lord, before his fury.

The Lord proclaims: The whole earth will become a desolation, but I will not destroy it completely.

Therefore, the earth will grieve and the heavens grow dark because I have declared my plan
and will neither change my mind nor cancel the plan.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength because he considered me faithful. So he appointed me to ministry even though I used to speak against him, attack his people, and I was proud. But I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and without faith. Our Lord's favor poured all over me along with the faithfulness and love that are in Christ Jesus. This saying is reliable and deserves full acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" – and I'm the biggest sinner of all. But this is why I was shown mercy, so that Christ Jesus could show his endless patience to me first of all. So I'm an example for those who are going to believe in him for eternal life. Now to the king of the ages, to the immortal, invisible, and only God, may honor and glory be given to him forever and always! Amen.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose someone among you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them. Wouldn't he leave the other ninety-nine in the pasture and search for the lost one until he finds it? And when he finds it, he is thrilled and places it on his shoulders. When he arrives home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost sheep.' In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes both heart and life than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to change their hearts and lives.

"Or what woman, if she owns ten silver coins and loses one of them, won't light a lamp and sweep the house, searching her home carefully until she finds it? When she finds it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, joy breaks out in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who changes both heart and life."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Holy God, although we believe we are experts at faithfulness, we must confess we are unskilled workers at doing good for others. Too often, we turn a deaf ear to the cries of people we have judged to be fools. We easily scoff at those we believe have nothing to teach us or share with us. How foolish we are! Forgive us, O God, and restore us to your goodness. Then send us forth to search for all who linger in the shadowed corners of our world, yearning for someone, anyone, to come and find them, even as Christ came to find us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI

734

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US *(Skip if no children are in attendance)*

Prayer for the children *(unison)*:

We send blessings upon our children for all God's love,
all Christ's friendship and all the caring of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Song Response

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power,
send us grace.*

SCRIPTURE:

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

HYMN

Such Perfect Love My Shepherd Shows

INSERT

SERMON

HYMN

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

82

INVITATION TO OFFERING

DOXOLOGY:

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly hosts; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(unison)*

Because we have been blessed by you, O God, we are delighted to share. Because there are many who do not enjoy your bounty, we search for ways to help them. Thank you for showing us the way of mercy and patient example, the way of generosity and self-forgetful service, the way of faithfulness and joyous celebration. Bless us and our offerings, we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH/SILENT PRAYERS/LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE	Make Me a Servant	576
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*Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord let me lift up those who are weak;
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.*

* HYMN	<i>To God be the Glory</i>	66
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Bulletin Cover Attribution:

Hochhalter, Cara B. A Parable - The Lost Sheep, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58947>. Original source: Cara B. Hochhalter.

Such Perfect Love My Shepherd Shows

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Henry W. Baker, 1868; alt.

Ps. 23

1 Such per - fect love my Shep - herd shows, whose
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
 3 When vain and fool - ish oft I strayed, you,
 4 I do not fear death's shad - owed vale when

good - ness fails me nev - er, Whose hand all things I
 lov - ing Shep-herd leads me, And where the ver - dant
 faith - ful Shep-herd, sought me, And on your shoul - der
 you are here be - side me; Your rod and staff and

need be - stows and watch - es me for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow with food from heav - en feeds me.
 gent - ly laid, then home re - joic - ing brought me.
 strength pre - vail to com - fort and to guide me.

5 You spread a ta-ble in my sight,
 your gifts of grace be-stow-ing;
 And from your chal-ice I de-light
 to taste your mer-cy flow-ing.

6 And so through all the length of days
 your good-ness fails me nev-er;
 Good Shep-herd, may I sing your praise
 with-in your house for-ev-er.

English clergyman Henry Baker greatly influenced hymnody in England and the United States through his leadership in preparing *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861). Baker's hymn is a recast of a George Herbert poem.

Tune: DOMINUS REGIT ME 8.7.8.7.
 John B. Dykes, 1868
 Alternate tune: ST. COLUMBA

FALL FESTIVAL

DuBois Center

Sunday, Oct 5
from 11-5



Family-Friendly Event FREE Parking FREE Admission



Great Food Trucks!

Tater Headz Fry, Dizzy's Wheels, and more!
Plus local non-profits with Kettle Corn, Spiral Potatoes, & Sweet Treats!

Activities for EVERYONE!

Pony Rides, Hay Rides, Crafts @ the Kids Korner,
Pontoon Boat Rides, Rope Making, Silent Auction, and...

Over 40 Crafters & Artisans



Live Music

1:00 Sheltered Reality (on the BB Court)
2:15 Emery Bass (on the main stage)
3:30 Venedy Band (on the BB Court)

No ATM on site! Cash only for DuBois Center activities
We love pets, but only service animals are welcome



DuBois Center

The Camp and Retreat Center of the Illinois South
Conference of the United Church of Christ



2651 Quarry Rd. DuBois, IL



www.DuBoisCenter.org

