



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

September 21, 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: "All I have seen teaches me to trust the creator for all I have not seen." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We gather together to celebrate the joy in our lives.

ALL: God's love fills our hearts to overflowing with laughter.

ONE: We gather, in God's presence, to find comfort and hope for our pain.

ALL: God's grace wipes away our tears and knits us together as one people.

ONE: We gather together, in God's presence, to worship God in faith and truth.

ALL: Alleluia! Amen!

* HYMN

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

439

CALL TO CONFESSION

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CHURCH ATTENDANCE, September 14, 2025

St. John's – 19 St. Jacob – 30

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

George Anderson

Accompanist:

Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Kenzie Barker, Nancy McCaw, 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

- Zion UCC, Central City Rev. Nancy Peebles

- Immanuel UCC, Carlyle- Pastor Ken (Barbara) Schafer

Retired Pastors

- Rev. Elmer (Linda) Bowman

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

Cathy & Ken Frutiger, 52 years, Sept. 22

Audrey & Don Yann, 49 years, Sept. 25

Julie & Wayne Loehring, 17 years, Sept. 26

CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUESDAY: “Horse Hooky” trip to Fairmount Park, meet at 1:30 p.m., St. Jacob UCC

OCT. 1: Adult Bible Study, 10 a.m., Heritage Hall or 7 p.m., in the office meeting space

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

“HORSE HOOKY” TRIP TO THE TRACK TUESDAY

The ELFs have planned a “Horse Hooky” trip to Fairmount Park TUESDAY. All church members are invited to attend. Meet at the church at 1:30 p.m., to form car-pools, 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.

WURSTMARKT DINNER & COUNTRY STORE OCT. 4 & 5

St. John UCC (21 N. Walnut Street, Trenton) Country Store sale with applesauce, pork sausage and quilt raffle tickets for sale, Oct. 4, from 9 a.m. to noon. On Oct. 5, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. they will have a drive-thru Wurstmarkt dinner (pork sausage, roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, sauerkraut, green beans and pie). Price per dinner is \$15.

FRIEDENS SAUSAGE DINNER OCT. 12

Friedens UCC (207 E. Center St., Troy) annual sausage dinner (drive-thru only) will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Oct. 12. The menu includes grilled pork sausage, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, sauerkraut & dessert for \$15.

ST. JOHN UCC WURSTMARKT DINNER OCT. 15

St. John UCC (307 W. Clay Street, Collinsville) Wurstmakt dinner (drive-thru only) will be held from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., meal includes one-pound sausage link, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes & gravy, creamed peas, applesauce, horseradish & dessert for \$15. Uncooked sausage can be ordered for \$5 per one-pound link; to place an order call 618-344-2526 by Oct. 6. Order pick-up, 1-6 p.m. Oct. 14, via drive-thru at the west portico.

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 or for more information, contact the church office at 618-644-2142 or e-mail: stjucc@hometel.com.



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

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

No healing, only grief; my heart is broken.

Listen to the weeping of my people all across the land: "Isn't the Lord in Zion? Is her king no longer there?"

Why then did they anger me with their images, with pointless foreign gods?

"The harvest is past, the summer has ended, yet we aren't saved."

Because my people are crushed, I am crushed; darkness and despair overwhelm me.

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?

Why then have my people not been restored to health?

If only my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears,

I would weep day and night for the wounds of my people.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I ask that requests, prayers, petitions, and thanksgiving be made for all people. Pray for kings and everyone who is in authority so that we can live a quiet and peaceful life in complete godliness and dignity. This is right and it pleases God our savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. There is one God and one mediator between God and humanity, the human Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a payment to set all people free. This was a testimony that was given at the right time. I was appointed to be a preacher and apostle of this testimony – I'm telling the truth and I'm not lying! I'm a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus also said to the disciples, "A certain rich man heard that his household manager was wasting his estate. He called the manager in and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give me a report of your administration because you can no longer serve as my manager.'"

"The household manager said to himself, What will I do now that my master is firing me as his manager? I'm not strong enough to dig and too proud to beg. I know what I'll do so that, when I am removed from my management position, people will welcome me into their houses.

"One by one, the manager sent for each person who owed his master money. He said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'Nine hundred gallons of olive oil.' The manager said to him, 'Take your contract, sit down quickly, and write four hundred fifty gallons.' Then the manager said to another, 'How much do you owe?' He said, 'One thousand bushels of wheat.' He said, 'Take your contract and write eight hundred.'

"The master commended the dishonest manager because he acted cleverly. People who belong to this world are more clever in dealing with their peers than are people who belong to the light. I tell you, use worldly wealth to make friends for yourselves so that when it's gone, you will be welcomed into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful with little is also faithful with much, and the one who is dishonest with little is also dishonest with much. If you haven't been faithful with worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? If you haven't been faithful with someone else's property, who will give you your own? No household servant can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be loyal to the one and have contempt for the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

O God, we have not managed well the wealth of the earth, which is our trust from you. We have modified your commands to suit our own egos and desires. We have wasted resources while hoarding for our own use what is meant for all to enjoy. Our concerns are narrow and our compassion is weak. Forgive us and heal our brokenness. Make us well so that by our healing, we might be the hope and love others need in their lives. Call us forth as your faithful children to share the grace, peace, and joy you have entrusted to 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 8:18-9:1

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

HYMN

Jesus Call Us o'er the Tumult

345

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED – After Sermon before following song

HYMN

For the Healing of the Nations

621

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INVITATION TO OFFERING

GIVE THANKS:

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. And now let the weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

We give, loving God, because of your generosity to us. We share because this is your will for us. In faithfulness to your call, we seek to manage the resources you provide for the greatest benefit to humankind. May they bring a bit closer an awareness of your intentions for us and your rule among us. We worship and serve you with all we have. 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	Sent Forth By God's Blessing	712
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the universal Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen.

