December 2026 NEWSLETTER



St. John United Church of Christ-Appleton, WI

Mark Your Calendar

Thursday, December 3
Missionary Services
Luncheon-Good Company
11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 8
Church Council Meeting
on Zoom
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 9
~~Breakfast Club~~
~~Mary's Family Restaurant~~
Canceled

Sunday, December 13
Joint Special Music Worship Service at Immanuel
10:15 a.m.
No 8:30 service @ The Tauber Center

Monday, December 14
Book Discussion on Zoom
Theo of Golden
by Allen Levi
6:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 24
Christmas Eve Worship Service
6:30 p.m.



From the Pastor

It's almost here and all the opportunities and emotions that come along. On Sunday it will be Advent. What a blessed time as we begin the new church year once again! We have all the preparation for Christmas sometimes it is even preparing for things we don't even know about as December begins! We prepare by shopping, addressing cards, baking cookies and making candy. We set up the tree and get it decorated and then it seems that we have forgotten that one ornament that means the most or we just have to find the right place for the newest holiday decor.

I have been thinking about matters of the spirit instead. For Thanksgiving I mentioned that we are thankful for "things" but what about love, joy, peace, faith, hope, loyalty, endurance, the ability to wonder? Maybe it would make for a meaningful Advent if we thought about the matters of the spirit/Spirit! Maybe our hearts would be ready to receive the Christ child if our hearts were also prepared?

May you have a blessed Advent and a joy filled nativity!

Peace,
Pastor

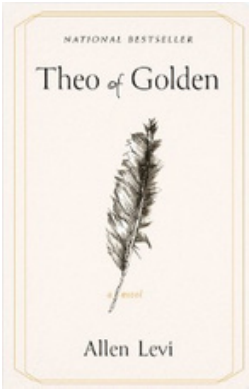


St. John United Church of Christ

P. O. Box 1261
Appleton WI 54912-1261
st.johnucc.appleton@gmail.com
Website: st.john-ucc.org

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
AT THE TAUBER FAMILY CENTER
2211 N. RICHMOND ST., APPLETON, WI
SUNDAY MORNINGS-8:30 A.M.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Our December book discussion is on the book, *I Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. We will meet on Monday, December 14th on Zoom at 6:00 p.m. Please try to read the whole book for our meeting.
Join Zoom Meeting:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82572479780
Meeting ID: 825 7247 9780



Christmas Eve Service
Thursday, December 24, 2026
6:30 p.m.
Immanuel UCC, Kaukauna



Needs for Blessing Bags:

- Hats, gloves and socks for adults and children
- Wash cloths and wipes
- Toothpaste and brushes
- Hygiene items (deodorant, shampoo, hand sanitizer)
- Healthy snacks
- Kleenex packs
- Small notebooks
- Feminine items
- Hand warmers

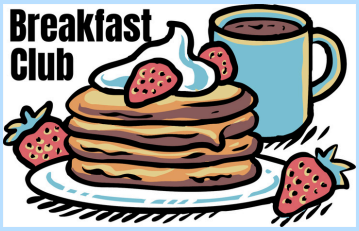


We are still collecting food donations on Sunday mornings! This month we are doing a Reverse Advent Calendar (see below!) Our donations are taken to the St. Joseph Food Program. Their mission is to supplement nutritional needs, free of charge, for the economically distressed within our local communities.

SCRIP

Whatever you desire, SCRIP can delight you with a gift card that gives money back to the church with every purchase.
Ask about a business, gas, clothing, food, travel; we might have it or be able to get it, with more than 500 brands available.
Come see us at church, text, or call, for all your SCRIP card needs -
Jeanne Senner (920-213-0748)
Linda De Bruin (920-359-0010)







There will be **no** breakfast club in December. We will resume on Wednesday, January 13th.

Prayer List

- Joyce
- Jack-Alzheimer's
- Carl Reimers
- Leroy & Arlene
- Brett Jedwabny
- Stacey-recurrence of breast cancer
- Bob Knapp
- Mack
- Julieann
- Carla Z.
- Fred & Nancy
- Kevin
- Jeannie-from Manawa-multiple cancers
- John-cancer
- Julie's brother
- Hazel
- John
- Fletcher-leukemia
- Carol-hip & knee
- John
- Amy melanoma
- Clancy
- Stacy-chronic pain and leukemia
- Neil and Lavonne
- Julie-cancer
- Eric-lung cancer
- Jim-broken hip
- Ashley Rabe
- Carmelyn - gum cancer
- Bob Nehring - wound care
- Haley & Angelo
- Amy-surgery
- Tony - esophageal cancer
- Cheryl - broken leg and hip
- Barb Williams
- Yvonne
- Pam
- Ali-34 year-old with Guillain-Barre Syndrome
- Mike Weaver
- Jon & Lindsey Brown-newly married
- Kendrick-missing
- Jeff-Jeanne's brother injured
- John-lumbar fracture
- Emily-prayer of thanksgiving
- Brittany-loss of infant
- Ken Koester
- Sue Scheidt-The Landings-Kaukauna
- Steve Jones-stroke
- Patty Frank-pancreatic cancer
- Bob-cancer
- Robert B-melanoma
- Recovery from addiction
- Monks and Aloka for Peace
- Those who are near the end of life
- Families struggling with elderly parents
- All who mourn
- Ukraine, Gaza, Iraq, Nepal
- All struggling in body, mind, and spirit
- Our country
- Those recovering from tornado

Birthdays & Anniversaries



12/21 Dave Kuhn
12/23 Pam Kennedy
12/31 Jerry Sullivan

12/31 Pam & William Kennedy (20 years)

Let us know if we are missing your birthday or anniversary!

Vets & Friends

We are collecting the following items for Vets & Friends. Requested Items:

- Pickled beets
- Chocolate milk
- Ice cream
- Cool Whip
- Oyster Crackers

Missionary Services

- Our December meeting will be a luncheon at Good Company in Appleton on **Thursday, December 3rd at 11:30 a.m.** Please let Jeanette Johnson know if you plan to attend. All are welcome!!!

- No meetings in January or February.







REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR DECEMBER 2026



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
CAN YOU HELP? ALL ITEMS GO TO ST. JOE'S FOOD PANTRY		1 Sugar-Free Item	2 Gluten-Free Item	3 Shelf Stable Milk	4 Instant Oatmeal	5 Ramen/ Soup Noodle Cups
6 Fruit/ Applesauce Cups	7 Pudding Cups	8 Canned Potatoes (Sweet & White)	9 Canned Baked Beans	10 Can Opener	11 Velveeta Cheese	12 Spam
13 Dinty Moore Beef Stew	14 Plastic Utensils	15 Basic spices	16 Canned Gravy	17 Bagged Beans	18 Nuts	19 Sugar
20 Protein/ Granola Bars	21 Pre-cooked Bacon	22 Toilet Paper	23 Coffee	24 Creamer	25 Birthday Cake Kit*	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOTE:

*A STANDARD FOOD PANTRY BIRTHDAY CAKE KITPACKS EVERY ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT INTO A SINGLE, READY-TO-BAKE CONTAINER, FEATURING A 9X13 DISPOSABLE ALUMINUM FOIL PAN WITH A LID, A BOXED CAKE MIX, A MATCHING CAN OF FROSTING, BIRTHDAY CANDLES, AND A 12 OZ CAN OF LEMON-LIME SODA (LIKE SPRITE OR STARRY) TO REPLACE EGGS, OIL, AND WATER.

DECEMBER 2026

CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	January 2027 S M T W T F S 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	1	2 10am-12pm-Vets and Friends lunch @ St. James UMC, Appleton	3 11:30 a.m.-Mission Services Luncheon Good Company	4 8am-10am-Vets and Friends breakfast @ St. James UMC, Appleton	5
6 8:30 a.m. Worship Second Sunday of Advent	7	8 6:00pm-Church Council meeting on Zoom	9 ~~10:00am-Breakfast Club @ Mary's Family Restaurant~~ 10am-12pm-Vets and Friends lunch	10 5pm-Immanuel Dorcas Group Christmas Party at the Out o Town Club	11 8am-10am-Vets and Friends breakfast @ St. James UMC, Appleton	12
13 10:15am-Joint Worship @ Immanuel,Kaukauna Third Sunday of Advent	14 6:00pm-Book Discussion on Zoom	15	16 10am-12pm-Vets and Friends lunch @ St. James UMC, Appleton	17	18 8am-10am-Vets and Friends breakfast @ St. James UMC, Appleton	19
20 8:30am-Worship Fourth Sunday of Advent	21	22	23 10am-12pm-Vets and Friends lunch @ St. James UMC, Appleton	24  6:30 p.m.-Christmas Eve Worship Service at Immanuel UCC	25 Christmas Day	26
27 8:30am-Worship	28	29	30 10am-12pm-Vets and Friends lunch @ St. James UMC, Appleton	31 New Year's Eve		