



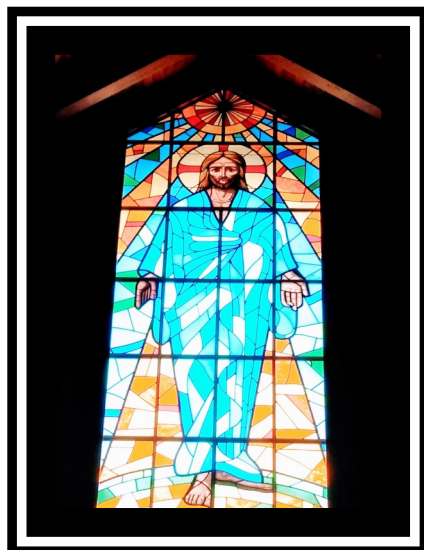
St. John UMC Satellite

Invite * Relate * Nurture * Send forth

A Note From Your Pastor

July 2026

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Greetings from Your Pastor,

If you haven't noticed, we have been updating the technology around our church. In recent years, we have added a new sound system, installed new cameras, and just this past month we added new hearing devices for those of you who use hearing aids. We are trying to keep up with advances in technology so that we can provide you with a better worship experience.

Technology is advancing by leaps and bounds these days. While there are many good things about it that allow us to better serve our church, there is also a darker side that I want to warn you about.

I'm sure you have all heard about how much artificial intelligence (AI) has advanced. It has many beneficial uses that have helped countless people. However, there are also individuals who are using it to commit crimes, and some of that criminal activity could easily affect you.

I was recently listening to a podcast about people who became victims of extortion through the use of artificial

intelligence. Many of them shared stories about receiving phone calls in which they heard the voice of a loved one saying they were being held against their will and that something terrible would happen to them if the family did not do what the kidnapper demanded. The reality was that their loved ones had never been kidnapped. The caller was using AI to replicate the loved one's voice in an attempt to extort money from the family.

As your pastor, I feel it is my duty to warn you about scams like this. If someone can use AI to replicate a family member's voice, they could also use my voice in an attempt to deceive you. You may remember that a few years ago I warned you about scammers who were sending emails and text messages in my name asking for money. Now, criminals have the ability to call you using a voice that sounds just like mine.

Please remember this: **I will never call, text, or email you asking for money.** If you ever receive a message or phone call that seems suspicious, please call me directly using the number printed in the church bulletin.

Note (cont.)

I will be happy to verify whether the communication actually came from me. But again, I will never ask you for money.

The podcast also recommended that families establish a "safe word"—a word or phrase known only to family members. If you ever receive a distress call that seems suspicious, asking for the safe word can help you determine whether you are really speaking to your loved one.

Technology is advancing at an incredible pace, and unfortunately, so are the methods criminals use to take advantage of others for financial gain. Please be cautious, stay alert, and don't become a victim of scams like these.

Blessings,

Pastor Chris



CHOIR NOTES

Studies show singing is a natural therapy—quickly lifting mood and lowering stress hormones like cortisol. It releases feel-good chemicals (endorphins and dopamine), exercises respiratory muscles, and can strengthen the immune system. Singing is even used therapeutically for patients with dementia or stroke. You don't have to sing perfectly on pitch to gain these benefits—though being "on key" might please those around you. Group singing appears to amplify the effects, so here's an extra reason to join the choir this month.

Summer choir is lighter while many travel, and Marty is out sick for a time—please keep him in your prayers for a speedy recovery. Mary Cook was ill last week as well; we're glad to have her

back. We look forward to everyone returning healthy and together.

Personally, I didn't need the studies to tell me singing helps—I always feel uplifted when I sing (and often dance) along with the music. If you'd like those same health benefits, consider joining us soon.

Also: if you know someone who might lead the choir, please send them our way—we're still looking for a director.

Enjoy July!

Blessings, Sondra

VBS NOTE

July is one of the most exciting months of the year at our church because it's time for **Vacation Bible School!** This is truly an *all-hands-on-deck event*, and we would love for everyone to be part of it in some way.

First and foremost, we ask for your prayers. Pray that God will bring children and families who need to hear His love. Pray that hearts will be open to volunteer wherever they're needed. Every role matters! Whether you can teach, cut out materials, glue, paint, wrap boxes, hang decorations, tape things together, scoop ice, or simply lend a helping hand, there's a place for you before, during, or after VBS

One thing is guaranteed—you'll be blessed! You may get a little tired (okay...maybe a lot!), but you'll also laugh, make wonderful memories, and experience the joy that comes from serving together. As the saying goes, kids really do say the funniest things!

This year's **Snowball Mountain Challenge** is packed with incredible Bible adventures! Kids will discover how Joseph trusted God as he inter-

preted dreams, how Esther found the courage to stand up for her people, and how the widow's two small coins meant more to Jesus than the largest offerings. Through these and many other amazing stories, they'll learn that they can **find strength in God** no matter what challenges they face.

Who wouldn't want to be part of that?

Come catch the excitement, hear the laughter, and see the smiles on the children's faces as they experience the love of Jesus through each of us. VBS is exhausting, exhilarating, rewarding, and filled with joy—and we wouldn't have it any other way!

Come join the adventure at **Snowball Mountain Challenge** and be part of another unforgettable St. John VBS!

Blessings,

Sondra

ST Benedict's and Help Office News

The Help Office continues to serve the homeless and hungry in the city of Owensboro. The need is great. I work in the food bank each Monday. Any food or hygiene products can be brought to church and I can deliver to the Help Office. Monetary donations and grocery gift cards are needed. Immediate needs are crackers, hearty soups, canned fruit, dish soap and laundry pods.

Thank you for your continued support of St Benedict's homeless shelter for men. We feed 50-60 men for about \$125. We will not be serving in the month of July. But starting

back in August, serving starts at 7:45 pm on the first Monday night of each month. Come join us. You will be blessed. Vicki Hast

The dates we serve at St. Benedict's are:

Aug. 3 Sept. 7 Oct. 5 Nov. 2
Dec. 7

Not sure about the dates, check out calendar feature our website,

stjohnnum.org .



the
on

RECIPES

4th of JULY Swirl Pie

Ingredients:

- 1 pre-made pie crust**
- 1 cup strawberries, pureed**
- 1 cup blueberries, pureed**
- 1 1/2 cups sweetened condensed milk**
- 1 pkg. cream cheese, softened**
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract**
- 1/4 cup lemon juice**

Optional: whipped cream for topping

Directions:

- Preheat your oven to 350.
- In a medium-sized bowl, blend the softened cream cheese and sweetened condensed milk until smooth.
- Add in the vanilla extract and lemon juice to the mixture, continuing to mix until creamy and well combined.
- Divide the batter evenly into two bowls. In the first bowl, add the pureed strawberries and stir until incorporated. In the second bowl, mix in the pureed blueberries until fully blended.
- Pour a layer of the strawberry mixture into the bottom of the pre-made pie crust, smoothing it out evenly.
- Next, spoon the blueberry mixture over the top in dollops, creating a marbled effect using a knife or toothpick to swirl the two layers together.
- Repeat the layering process with the remaining strawberry and blueberry mixtures, finishing off with a swirly patten on top.
- Bake in the preheated oven for 25-30 minutes or until the center is set.
- Remove from the oven and let it cool at room temperature for at least an hour before refrigerating for at least 2 hours, or until chilled.
- When ready to serve, garnish with whipped cream and fresh berries, as desired.



Methodist Men's News

We were blessed with a beautiful day for our June breakfast meeting. Over 25 ladies and gentlemen, including local candidates for political office, enjoyed some wonderful food and fellowship. The group voted to donate to the church hearing assistance program that is be-



ing promoted at this time. Everyone is invited to our breakfast, and we look forward to seeing there. Our July

meeting will be July 18, at 8:30 am.

Blessings.

Jim

UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

The United Women in Faith will not meet in July but will see you again in August! We are however still collecting books or money to purchase them for the Mary Kendall Home. We are look-

ing for books with diverse characters & possibly Spanish speaking text. The boys @ MKH are between the ages of 13-18.

VBS 2026
JULY 22-24
9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

ST. JOHN SINGLES

St. John Singles will meet in July at Gusto's Italian Restaurant on Frederica for some good fun and good food! This is the new Italian place that went in to the old Tumbleweed lo-

cation. The food is authentic and delicious! Be there on July 15th at 11:30 am for some wonderful food and fellowship! See you there!

Food & Fellowship

Come join us for Supper Club. We meet once a month for dinner at a local restaurant. Food and fellowship is had by those who attend! Here are the dates and locations for this year. You will also find the restaurant choices in our bulletins and on the calendar on our website

stjohnnum.org.

See you soon!!

Make sure to get these on your calendar and be ready to have some FUN! All times are 5:00 pm.

July 28 New China

Aug. 25 Briarpatch

Sept. 22 Old Hickory

Oct. 27 Cracker Barrel

Nov. 24 Moonlite

No meeting in December



FAMILY LIFE/VBS

July is a big celebration for the 250th birthday of our country! We are so blessed to live where we have the freedom to practice our religion. Let's stop for a moment to thank God for this and all our blessings. Happy 4th of July!

July is also a big month for the children. It's Bible School. It is scheduled for July 22-24 from 9 am to 12 pm. Be sure to register your children, grandchildren, and neighborhood kids. And sign up yourself—

Again we ask: Can you Read a Bible Story? Sing? Paint scenery? Cut out snowflakes? Do crafts? Play/lead games? There are so many ways you can help make VBS a success. It's not necessary to attend during actual Bible School, but even a volunteer

hour of prep time is so helpful. We meet on July 1st to continue our planning. Please join us to make the **Snowball Mountain Challenge** the best it can be to teach children to *find their strength in God*.

Who's looking forward to Back to School? Pack your backpacks and bring them to church on Sunday, August 9th for the "Blessing of the Backpacks" during the service and a potluck meal after church.

Happy & Healthy 4th of July,

Dorothy K.

270-401-8702

Happy 4th of July!

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 flag

equality
 hotdogs
 nation
 eagle
 blue



Open hearts.
Open minds.
Open doors.

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July 1, VBS Mtg. @ 5 pm

*July 15, St. John Singles @
Gusto's @ 11:30 am*

July 15, VBS Mtg. @ 5 pm

*July 18, Methodist Men's
Breakfast @ 8:30 am*

July 20-July 24 VBS

*July 28, Supper Club @ New
China @ 5 pm*

