



# St. John UMC Satellite

## Invite \* Relate \* Nurture \* Send forth

**Your Gifts Were Made for God and Others**

**By Jamie Ivey**

**May 2025**

Your Gifts...	2-3
Summer Hours	3
Help Office	4
Garage Sale	4
Recipes	5
Family Life	6
Choir Notes	6
Supper Club Dates	7
Methodist Men	7
Word Search	8
Important Dates	9

***“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” 1 Peter 4:10-11 (ESV)***

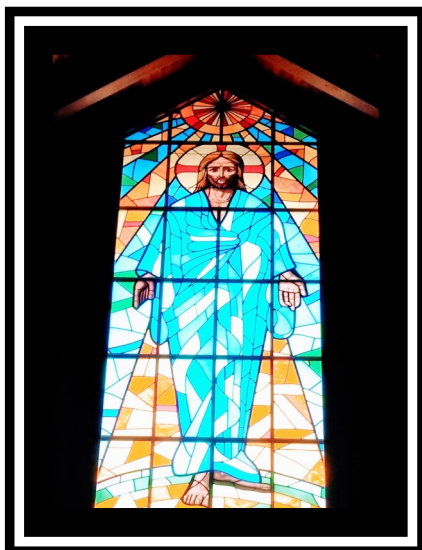
I try every single year to grow vegetables in my garden. And every year, the results are quite sad. But this year, I was home because of the quarantine, and I got a head start on my garden. I'm happy to report I grew more tomatoes than ever before! I was truly so proud of my little garden ... until I saw my friend's garden.

She not only produced tons of tomatoes, but also

okra, peppers, onions, spinach, kale and a bunch of other vegetables I didn't even know existed. All of a sudden, my tomatoes — as awesome as I thought they were — suddenly didn't seem like much when compared to all of her vegetables.

It's laughable to feel this way over tomatoes — I know! But it's a small and real example of something we've all felt over and over in life: envy and jealousy.

God blesses and entrusts each of us with influence, talent, power and spiritual gifts to glorify Him and build His Kingdom. But sometimes we look around at our friends, communities, neighborhoods or small groups and wonder why we got the JV giftings when everyone else seems to have varsity-level giftings.



## Devotion (cont.)

As women, we struggle with comparison, and this often leads us to envy. It's so hard, especially when we see so many truly faithful and inspiring women around us!

One day, I realized God didn't give me these gifts for me. He gave me these gifts for Him! Our gifts are given to us by God in order to serve those around us. My thinking totally shifted. I began to truly see how God has blessed me, and then I began to trust Him with my giftings and value them — no matter how they compare to the gifts or talents of others.

***“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace ... ” (1 Peter 4:10).***

God calls you to use all your gifts, talents and influence to serve others. Fight the lie that her talents are better than yours. Fight the lie that God can't use you for His Kingdom. Take inventory of your life, and prayerfully consider all the things God has given you to steward: your gifts, talents, influence, power and resources.

You are meant to serve others with these. And you know what? That gifting you love ... it's meant to serve others. That gifting you aren't sure is good enough ... it's meant to serve others.

I might never grow okra, but I'm certainly going to keep using my specific giftings to serve God and those around me. And my tomatoes sure were tasty!

### **TRUTH FOR TODAY**

***Ephesians 2:10, “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,***

***which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” (ESV)***

***Matthew 5:16, “In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” (ESV)***

As I thought about the devotion for this month and the things coming up in the church, I thought about our gifts God has given us and how we can use them for God's kingdom.

Some of us have gifts like Aaron for singing and leading the choir. There are many in our choir who are so talented. Some have gifts like Marty and Ila to play the piano and organ so beautifully and bless us each week. Then we have others who have the gift of decorations and an eye for beauty with flowers and color, like Miss Jane, Miss Dorothy, and Miss Patsy. Kathy Brey and Kathy Sherman do this in the Fellowship Hall, as well. Others have a real heart for children, like Miss Star. How excited the children are to hear her on Sunday's!!

Our church is blessed with many who do so much in front of and behind the scenes to keep things going! There is no way to list them and I know I have left out all the ones who have drilled holes, worked on toilets, hung wires, climbed ladders to replace light-bulbs and batteries, replaced landscaping, pulled dead shrubs, sprayed for weeds, done the techie things, planned craft fair and car show, cooked and cleaned-up for meals, served on committees, etc.

Maybe you think you don't have a special gift to use for God's kingdom or don't think you are using your gift for God. I've thought

## Devotion (cont.)

about this too. You don't have to be doing things in front of people at church. You don't have to be serving on a committee, leading the choir, doing the children's sermon, preaching, or making flower arrangements to put in the front. (No one would want to see one of mine!) You can just pray! Pray for members, pray for our church, pray for our Pastor, pray for our growth. This is a gift you can give without anyone knowing but will make a world of difference in our church community. This is the kind of gift that can have an impact on our Owensboro community if we reach out and grow in our area.

What a beautiful gift! God's kingdom will be continually blessed by that gift, for sure.

Blessings,  
Sondra

## SONDRA'S HOURS FOR SUMMER

Woohoo!! Summer for me is right around the corner. School is out on May 20th. My office schedule this year has been so strange because my school schedule was in the afternoons on Monday and Wednesday and then I got a new class on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

For summer I will work Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9 am—2 pm. I will be gone for my nephew's wedding and a family vacation May 15th-May 26th.

Next fall my schedule will be easier because our school schedule is changing to an everyday schedule. I don't know exactly what my schedule will be yet but I will be able to work daily on a set schedule.

Remember I am just a phone call and email away, as well. 270-316-0709 or [sondragjones12@gmail.com](mailto:sondragjones12@gmail.com)

I really appreciate your patience this last year. Hope these new hours help.

Sondra

# Garage Sale

The St. John Garage Sale is June 6th and 7th. Be gathering your treasures and dropping them off at the church! As the different sayings go:

1. Put our junk in your trunk.
2. We've got gadgets and gizmos a-plenty!
3. I like BIG sales, and I cannot LIE!
4. Life is like a yard sale. You never know what you're gonna get.

5. Almost as cheap as dumpster diving!

And my personal favorite...

6. "Take my Ex's stuff" yard sale. It's all gotta go, just like him! (We won't use this one.)

You can talk to Beverly Plain. She will be working at church during May to get ready. I am here on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well. Please no clothing items.

## ST Benedict's and Help Office News

Thank you for your support of St. Benedict's Homeless Shelter. Because of your donations and support we are funded through July. St John is able to feed about 50 men on the first Monday of each month. It takes about \$125 to serve ham and cheese sandwiches, lettuce and tomatoes, potato salad, beans and ice cream. The meal is very well received by the men and it is always a blessing for those who serve the meal. Thanks to everyone who serves a meal, donates monetarily, or prays for these men.

The Help Office is continuing to see increased levels of need. I am part of the Monday crew that works filling food orders in the food bank. Any food or hygiene items left in the cloak room will be taken to the Help office. There

is always a need for crackers, baked beans, instant potatoes, laundry pods and dish soap.

Thank you for your support of St Benedict's and the Help Office.

Vicki Hast

The dates we serve at St. Benedict's are

May 5	June 2	July 7	Aug. 4
Sept. 1	Oct. 6	Nov. 3	Dec. 1

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



# RECIPES

## Marry Me Chicken

### Ingredients:

**8 oz dried pasta (penne, fettuccine, or your choice)**

**1 tbsp olive oil**

**3-4 cloves garlic, minced**

**1 Tbsp butter**

**1 Lb. chicken breasts chopped**

**1/2 tsp each Italian seasoning  
Smoked paprika, salt, garlic powder and pepper**

**1 Cup heavy cream**

**1 Cup Parmesan cheese grated**

**Half cup dried sun-dried tomatoes, chopped**

**Leafy basil fresh to garnish**

### Directions:

- 1. Cook the pasta according to directions until al dente. Set aside. (Save a 1/2 cup of pasta water.)**
- 2. In a pan over medium heat, add olive oil and butter and cook minced garlic until fragrant. In a bowl, mix chopped chicken with spices and then place in pan and cook until golden.**
- 3. Incorporate the heavy cream, grated Parmesan, 1/2 cup of pasta water, and sun-dried tomatoes. Allow sauce to simmer 3-4 minutes.**
- 4. Add pasta and garnish with basil, if desired.**





# FAMILY LIFE

Happy Spring to all—

- Bowling night is still in the works—Watch for details.
- Cinco de Mayo potluck—bring your favorite dish. We eat at 11 am on Sunday, May 4th. (Sorry about the mix-up on the date in the bulletin. I was gently reminded we don't want anyone to miss it if they show up on the wrong day.)
- June is quite busy—Garage Sale and Annual Conference but later in the month another Game Night is

planned for June 29th. Watch for details.

- We are gearing up for Bible School to held July 13-16. Stay tuned for more details. Again, we are planning a time or two “decoration creation days” TBA. If you didn't come last year you will want to get in on the fun this year!

Have a wonderful and safe summer!

Dorothy Koepplinger

270-401-8702

## CHOIR NOTES

May has finally arrived!! Dogwood is blooming. The Tamarack carnival is being set up and will open this weekend. The Kentucky Derby is on the same weekend. It is a long-time tradition! The “run for the roses” and the Tamarack Carnival have been coexisting for almost 60 years. In those years, many have come with lots of rain! The rain dampens the spirits of the carnival goers but rarely dampens the spirits of all who attend or watch the Derby. It is an extremely exciting time in our State, even if you are not someone who follows horse racing. How can you not get excited about the beauty of the magnificent creatures God made and the power and discipline they exhibit at the race?

Easter was a busy time for our church and the choir. Worthy is the Lamb, indeed!! What a powerful message the cantata and choir delivered on Easter morning about our Risen

Savior! I hope you enjoyed the music as much as we enjoyed singing it. That is one of my favorite cantatas we have done. I love the songs and the words in them. Celebrating with the choir and joining with them in praising God on Easter was a highlight of the season for me.

Hope you are excited about the upcoming summer months and warm weather. Please come join us for fellowship, singing and fun on Sunday mornings at 9 am. You will enjoy your time singing and worshipping the Lord before your week starts, I promise. Aaron has great music chosen that blesses us and I learn something about music each week too!

Have a merry month of May!

Blessings

Sondra Jones

# Food & Fellowship

Here it is ... the schedule for the 2025 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](http://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.

**May 27 Olive Garden**

**June 24 O'Charley's**

**July 22 New China**

**Aug. 26 Briar Patch**

**Sept. 23 Old Hickory**

**Oct. 28 Cracker Barrel**

**Nov. 25 Moonlite**

**No meeting in December**

*Supper Club*  
FOOD & FRIENDS

*Love one another*  
as I have loved you.  
John 15:12

## Methodist Men's News

We were pleased to have 30 in attendance at our April breakfast meeting. Thanks to all who spent part of their Easter weekend with us. Our next meeting will be May 17th at 8:30 am. Come and be with us for a great breakfast and wonderful fellowship.

Thanks  
Jim



# Memorial Day Word Search

Q A O T V O O B W R K B A C E M E T E R Y D M I  
 A S F F M S I T O I R T A P F P Y R A T I L I M  
 N W I N F A N T R Y J W O R L D W A R I I H B M  
 A G F E D B G R F P N O I T I D A R T L V P X F  
 S G N I H C R A M P W O R L D W A R I M N N O Q  
 L U K S O L D I E R S B Y L F T C S O V K S G L  
 K D J M Z O M Y C A R C O M E D T M I A Y X Y E  
 E C R O F R I A D T G Q Y J G Y R O L G D L O S  
 U S P O R V H I G Y G E C I V R E S H G B H T M  
 C E E F G I Q P G V T F R T V M U E N T H Z M A  
 M T Q A K D X B U A S A C R I F I C E C T T N Y  
 E A A R M Y V M I N Z L R Z S S E X D E A V Q F  
 I T P U N N P E R A D K F S R H K O W P E F H B  
 R S X K F P D D S G E I I W U C G H G S R R V Y  
 O D K T E U I A I F C G C U F F Z F O E W E K Q  
 N E W I N R G L C V O M U F G G J W R R A E V T  
 O T G A I P N O Y L R M O T O B S E R V E D A N  
 H I N N L L I F V Z A A Y R O K T B O A M O W V  
 A N M A P E T H U R T R W S A Q S W I G K M K R  
 O U P J I H Y O Z C E I I S K U B J J I D O P E  
 S Z E R C E Y N V E N N X X S W X I X Z B S Y F  
 W Z X Q S A E O O Q B E J V I E T N A M Y C U X  
 S I O Q I R R R V M Q S J D Y O F N O J I U T R  
 T L U N D T E S E P I R T S D N A S R A T S C M

starsandstripes	medalofhonor	UnitedStates	PurpleHeart	discipline
patriotism	WorldWarII	Democracy	Sacrifice	tradition
WorldWarI	AirForce	cemetery	decorate	infantry
marching	Military	OldGlory	soldiers	dignity
Freedom	Marines	observe	respect	service
Vietnam	wreath	Honor	Army	Navy





Open hearts.  
Open minds.  
Open doors.

**Chris Toney, Pastor**  
St. John United Methodist  
Church  
2160 Griffith Ave  
Owensboro, KY 42301  
(270)683-6326  
E-mail:  
office@stjohnum.org  
Editor: Sondra Jones  
Editor

We're on the Web!  
[www.stjohnum.org](http://www.stjohnum.org)

Check us out on Facebook!

Twitter: stjohnumc1

*May 4, 11 am Cinco de Mayo  
Potluck*

*May 5, 7:45 pm Serving @ St.  
Benedict's*

*May 6, 4 pm UWF Mtg.*

*May 11, Mother's Day*

*May 17, 8:30 am M. Men's  
Breakfast*

*May 19, 5 pm Fam. Life Mtg.*

*May 26, Mem. Day*

*May 27, 5 pm Supper Club @  
Olive Garden*

