



Pastor's Corner ~continued~	2 3
A Message from Our Lay Leader	4
A Message from Our Finance Director	5
Worship; Special Sundays; Rehearsals	6
Bible Studies Team Meetings	7
'Sunday' Worship on Thursday	8
Bible Studies	9
Women's Bible Study	10
Women's Fellowship	11
Vacation Bible School	12
Tiny Talk News from Grace Neal Preschool	13
Nana's Pantry	14
Prayers	15
FYI: Deadlines; N/A Meetings; Other Groups Meeting at St. John's	16
Daily Bible Readings; April Birthdays & Anniversaries	17
Calendar—Part 1	18
Calendar—Part 2	19
Office Hours/Staff	20

Pastor's Corner

The calendar makes it clear. We are in the year 2024. And yet we are holding the 2020 General Conference from April 23 – May 3, 2024. What gives? To make it more confusing, let me share word for word the General Conference delegate report from last year's annual conference:

DSC Delegation Report 2023

Dan: Bishop Carlo, members of the annual conference and friends, I am here representing the 2024 delegation to General Conference

Paul: (interrupting) Excuse me, Dan we are the 2020 delegation.

Dan: But we are scheduled to go to the 2024 General Conference.

Paul: It is actually the 2020 General Conference it just happening in 2024,

Dan: The 2020 General Conference in Minneapolis?

Paul: No, the 2020 General Conference will be held in Charlotte North Carolina.

Dan: So, we are going to North Carolina in 2020?

Paul: No, we are going in 2024.

Dan: For General Conference 2024?

Paul: No for General Conference 2020 just being held in 2024.

Dan: Wait a second, we went to Salt Lake City for Jurisdictional conference in November of 2022?

Paul: That's right.

Dan: And we elected 3 bishops?

Paul: Yes.

Dan: Jurisdictional conference happens after the General Conference.

Paul: Except for the jurisdictional conference 2022 which happened before General Conference 2020 which will be held in 2024.

Dan: Will there be a Jurisdictional conference in 2024?

Paul: Yes, it is scheduled to happen after the General Conference 2020.

Dan: In 2024.

Paul: Naturally

Dan: Let me get this straight 2024 is a General Conference year?

Paul: Yes.

Dan: And we are having a General Conference?

Paul: Yes.

Dan: General Conference edits the Book of Discipline

Paul: That's right.

Dan: When we are done with that in 2024 and the Publishing Company prints the book what date will be on the cover?

Paul: Presumably 2020.

Dan: Will there be a General Conference 2024?

Paul: That is scheduled for 2026.

Dan: Will there be jurisdictional conference in 2026?

Paul: No one has said either way.

Dan: When will General Conference 2028 happen?

Paul: In 2028 of course.

Dan: So, we had jurisdictional conference in 2022 which shall be forever known as 2022 even though it happened before General Conference 2020 which is scheduled for 2024 to be followed by Jurisdictional conference 2024. Then in 2026 they have scheduled General Conference 2024 which may or may not be followed by Jurisdictional conference 2026. Then in 2028 General and jurisdictional conferences will happen in the usual way.

Paul: it is just that simple.

Dan: Thank you for explaining it so clearly.

Now that you have the clear picture of how we will proceed with General Conferences over the next few years, I want to take some time to talk about what will take place there. Apologies in advance if this is a snooze fest.

The theme for this General Conference is "...and know that I am God." This is taken from Psalm 46:10. This event will bring together 862 delegates from 13 different jurisdictions and 139 Annual Conferences. Here's what the ethnic make-up of our delegates looks like:

US – 55.9%
Africa – 32%
Philippines – 6%
Europe – 4.6%
Others – 1.5%

The total number of churches and church members determines the number of delegates an annual conference may send. The delegates of a conference are evenly divided between clergy and lay people. From our Desert Southwest Conference, we will send 2 delegates. Rev. Dan Hurlbert of Prescott United Methodist Church is our clergy delegate and Paul Gomez is our lay delegate. Although Bishops will be in attendance, none of them are able to vote.

The format of this General Conference will look a lot like our own Annual Conference. Worship services, memorials, breakout sessions, committee reports, meals, and (the part you've been wondering about) legislation.

It is no secret that one of the hottest topics to be discussed is around the inclusion of our LGBTQ siblings. Allowing United Methodist churches and clergy to preside over same-sex marriages and considering our LGBTQ siblings worthy of exploring a call to ministry will be, without a doubt, the weightiest topics covered. But these aren't the only topics to be discussed. I am going to simply list the topics today. Over the next few weeks, I will explore in depth each of them.

- Revised Social Principles
- Ecumenical Relationships
- Clergy Focus
- Responses to Sexual Misconduct
- Students and Special Sundays
- Treatment of Girls and Women
- Young People's Ministries
- Older Adult Concerns
- Wespath (Clergy Benefits)

This is an invitation for you as part of the connection with all other United Methodist siblings to participate as much as possible in the events of our General Conference. All sessions will be available online. Here is the main website to access all General Conference resources:

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020>

Conferencing is an historic part of being a Methodist. In the United States we've been observing General Conferences since Christmas of 1784. It is by these conferences that we ensure that our Book of Discipline continues to represent the Wesleyan Quadrilateral of Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience. Let us be in prayer for all of our delegates as they faithfully commit to this important work.

Pastor Amy

A Message from Our Lay Leader

Points to Ponder

He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Matthew 28:6

The season of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter have ended. For some, this time was one of intense introspection and outward spiritual growth. For others, it was a time to re-connect with our beliefs and our friends and family. I'm sure that for some, it was more of a time to plan. What's ahead?

Whether the last few months resonated with your journey of faith or whether it was more about getting meals planned and new outfits set out, the story of Jesus' death and resurrection has been at the forefront of Christian theology for the last two thousand years. Even from the beginning, there were groups, loosely called the Gnostics, who taught that it didn't matter if Jesus had actually risen from the dead. To them, it was more important to follow the teachings of Jesus for the lessons in morality and how to live a life pleasing to God. These teachings were officially "purged" by church leaders in the 2nd and 3rd century, but the ideas lingered on, even today.

It's easy to see the draw of this idea. We can all understand the sacrifice of Jesus. The idea that Jesus suffered and died for us is painful, but relatable. Who among us does not have at least one person whom we love so much that we would gladly die for, if it meant giving them life? The resurrection is tougher. I think it is safe to say that none of us have known anyone, or heard of anyone, who has been declared dead for three days, and then came back to life.

In 1932, Presbyterian minister Alfred Ackley was preparing to head to church for Easter services. As he dressed, he listened to a radio preacher who declared that it didn't matter if Jesus had actually risen from the dead, that his truths and message still lived on. This statement made Ackley so angry that he almost threw the radio across the room. He went to church and preached an impassioned message about the importance of the Resurrection. Still, he couldn't shake his anger. His wife suggested that he put his thoughts into a song, and to put his ideas into a positive way, not dwelling on the negative feelings. Almost immediately, Ackley began to write the words to one of our most loved Easter hymns, He Lives. "I serve a risen savior, He's in the world today. I know that He is living, whatever men may say." And the chorus, which ends with, "You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart!"

Friends, the Resurrection does matter. Jesus was not only paid the debt for our sins on the cross, but his resurrection showed his victory over sin and over death. It gives us the assurance that we too will live again after this time on Earth has ended. There is a reason why Protestant churches do not show Christ on the cross. It's an emphasis on the fact that the cross was not the end of things, but the beginning of new things. It's an anchor that should give us all strength, courage, and hope as we live out lives and as we serve God in this turbulent and challenging world.

Blessings,

Dave Kopecky
Lay Leader

A Message from Our Finance Director

A Message from Our Finance Director

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Just wanted to give you a quick update on our year to date and monthly income to expenses. Giving for the month of March through the 19th is \$8,459.22 and other income is \$209, totaling \$8,668.22. Our expenses for the month so far are \$16,955.51, giving us a negative net income of -\$8,287.29. As a reminder, our weekly budgetary needs are \$6956.25. Our weekly spending so far this month is slightly below our budget at \$5651.83, which is a positive, but our giving still needs to increase to meet our budgetary needs.

Giving for the year to date through March 19 is \$36,863.06 and other income is \$5620.55, totaling \$42,483.61. Our expenses through March 19th are \$65,505.81, giving us a negative net income of -\$23,022.20 for the year so far.

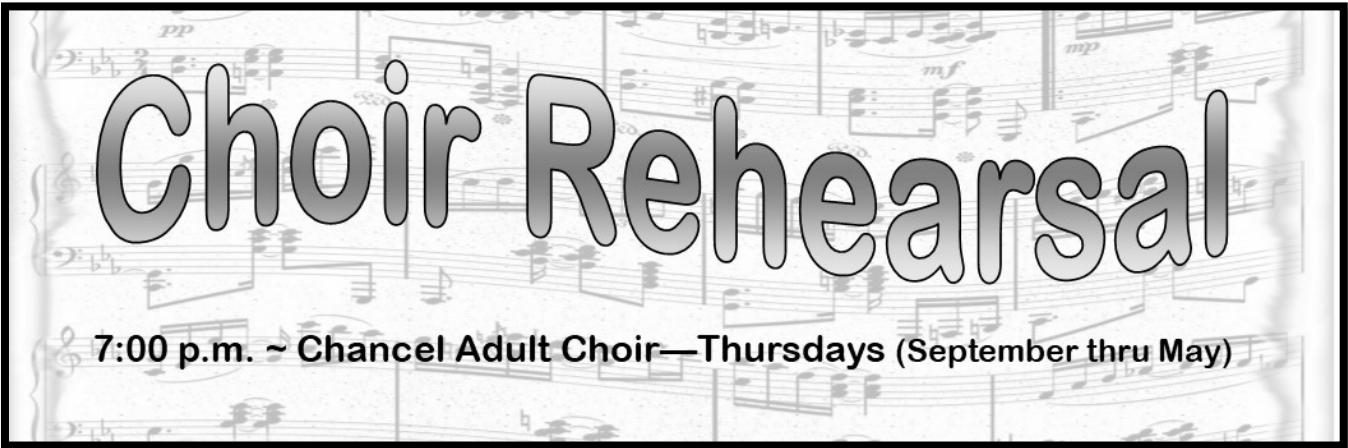
We ended up with a negative net income of -\$15,121.56 for the month of February. Total income for the month of February was \$11,596.74 and expenses were -\$26,718.30.

We have a new online giving platform, check it out on the church website. This is an easy way to set up your ongoing weekly or monthly giving.

Tracy Sheehy
Finance Director



April 7th	<i>Guest Speaker: Rev. Maria Lunawolfe</i> <i>Communion</i>
April 14th	<i>Lettuce Pray ~ A Spiritual Salad</i> Sermon: Romaine in Daily Life—The Serenity Prayer Scripture: James 1:1-8 NRSVUE
April 21st	<i>Lettuce Pray ~ A Spiritual Salad</i> Sermon: Daikon of Dedication—Jeremiah’s Field Dedication Scripture: Jeremiah 32:17-25 NRSVUE
April 28th	<i>Lettuce Pray ~ A Spiritual Salad</i> Sermon: Radish of Repentance—Jonah’s Prayer from the Deep Scripture: Jonah 2 NRSVUE





ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesdays at 8 a.m.

Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesdays at 11 a.m.

Adult Bible Study

Wednesday Bible Study

Potluck at 5:30 p.m. followed by Study at 6 p.m.



Board of Trustees ~ Meets 1st Tuesday of Each Quarter at 5:30 p.m.

(January, April, July, October)

Next meeting is: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 in the Resource Center

Nurture Team ~ 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting is: Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Finance Team ~ Meets the 4th Tuesday of Each Quarter at 5:00 p.m.

(January, April, July, October)

Next meeting is: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 in the Resource Center

Church Council ~ Meets the 4th Tuesday of Each Quarter at 5:30 p.m.

(January, April, July, October)

Next meeting is: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 in the Resource Center

Sunday Worship on Thursday



Can't make it to Church on Sunday?

Well we have the answer...

Sunday Worship on Thursday

Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

we have a 'Sunday'

Worship Service here at St. John's UMC

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US!



Men's Bible Study

Men of ALL ages are invited to come and discover the truths of God's word.
Join us on Wednesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. for Fellowship followed by Bible Study at 8:30 a.m.
All Men are Welcome!



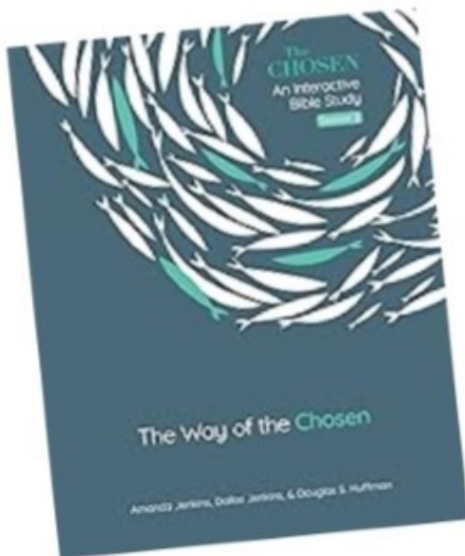
Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 11 a.m.



Wednesday Night Bible Study

Potluck at 5:30 p.m. followed by study at 6 p.m.
Everyone is invited to join us!



The Women's Bible Study is starting a new study on April 24th.

*They will be studying:
'The Way of the Chosen'
Season 3 of The Chosen series.*

Please contact Heidi in the Church Office if you are interested in purchasing the study guide for this study.

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship is taking a break for the month of April

Women's Fellowship

Saturday, May 4, 2024 ~ 10:30 a.m.

*Everyone is invited to join us as we
Celebrate the Mother's in our lives
with an English Tea Potluck*

*Please bring English Tea Sandwiches
or Bite-Sized Desserts to Share.*

*A variety of Teas, Coffee, Cold Teas
and Water will be provided.*



**Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School
Is Coming to St. John's UMC
June 24 thru June 27!**

**We are currently looking for Volunteers to assist
with all areas of this event including Director.
Please contact Pastor Amy if you are interested.**

***Mark Your Calendars!!!
VBS Kick-Off Meeting
Friday, April 19, 2024 at 3 p.m.***

Tiny Talk

News from
Grace Neal Preschool



During the month of March the Children at Grace Neal Preschool had a special visit from the Easter Bunny!



Nana's Pantry located here at St. John's UMC is:

***OPEN FRIDAYS FROM
9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.***

St. John's UMC also has a small clothing closet that is open on Fridays during our Food Box distributions

If you know someone that is in need,
please let them know about us.

If you are interested in being part of this
ministry here at St. John's,
please contact Heidi in the Church Office at: (928) 692-8828 or st.johns@citlink.net

***Please see the Giving Tree in the Lobby of the Worship Center
for Tags with the needs of the Pantry if you would like to donate.
Thank you!***

Prayers for our North District Churches

As part of the United Methodist connection we pray to support one another in ministry. During the month of April please pray for these churches, ministries, pastors, congregations, and communities.

- 1) First UMC, Winslow, Arizona
- 2) Global Community UMF, Las Vegas, Nevada
- 3) Grace Fil-Am Ministry, Las Vegas, Nevada

Pray Every Day for our Military Members—

Devin Arrants, Brian Barnacle, Justin Bayles, John Belcher, Chris Bradley, Greg Brewer, Dan Brocklehurst, Stacie Brown, Brady Burr, Ryan Burr, Erik Burris, Lucas James Butler, Clint Caldwell, Bobby Carlson, Charles Carroll, Nathaniel Castor, Amber Caswell, Richard Cole, Anthony Costa, Jenny Dalton, Colin Dyer, Daniel Eagan, Karen Eagan, Anthony Elliot, Adam Ernesti, Austin Ernesti, Ben Ferrell, Christie Francis, Adam Georges, Ethan Granger, Holly Gibbons, Joey Gormany, Brenton Green, George Hatchell Jr., Colin Arno Henry; Camerron Higbee, Jessica Huffer, Isaiah Huynh, Brian Illes, Jeremiah Johnson, Travis Johnson, David Kent, Jeffery Lederhouse, Tyrell Manakaja, Ryan Miller, Danny Morales, Jennifer Parker, Jonathan Parker, Katrina Powell, Tyler Radcliffe, Will Ray, William Ritchie, Juan Roman, Jamuel Ruiz, Bryson Salazar, Ben Schwartfigure, Sean Schwartfigure, Jared Shulpa, Matthew Simone, Troy Smith, Daniel Travis, Jeff Vicario, Ashley Caswell Walker, Andrew Weatherford, Jason Williams, Chad Wright, Dillon Zorn

Long Term Prayer List

To make changes to this list, please call the church office at (928) 692-8828 Monday thru Thursday from 8 a.m. —4 p.m. or email us at stjohnsprayerchain@citlink.net. We make every effort to keep the names on this list current, and we have a quarterly meeting to do so. Your help is appreciated so please do not hesitate to contact us.

Lois Baker; Jennifer Casey; Kristen Coates; Family & Friends of Lula Deering; Sally Diehl; Debra Eberly; Gary Forde; Steven Frazine; Arno & Vera Gates; Patty George; Carol Halen; Paula Hupp; Julie Jensen; Ed Krause; Amy Lunsford; Renita McElhaney; Betty Mixon; Krista Nielson; Family & Friends of Donni Rincon; Betty Rowe; Nandhini Sankar; Gert Schacht; Marc Schacht; Debbie Scott; Rodney Shutts; Karran Smith; Pam Smith; Rod Smith; Karen Spira; Jeremy Thomas; Don Waller; Lois Waller; John Walls; Pam Wally; Scott White; Zoe Wober; Bob Womack

For Your Information

Publication Deadlines

Bulletin Announcements for church events are due to the church office by **Tuesdays at 2:00 PM.** Bulletins are printed on Tuesday afternoons.

St. John's Connection for church events and happenings are due to the church office no later than **Tuesdays at 12 p.m.**

The Connection Email is sent out on Wednesday mornings.



The **May 2024 Newsletter** deadline is:
Wednesday, April 19, 2024 by 4:00 PM.

You can e-mail your submissions, with Bulletin, Newsletter, or Connection in the subject line to Heidi at:
st.johns@citlink.net.



Group meetings Saturday mornings at
10:30 a.m. in the
St. John's UMC Multi-Purpose Room

Other Groups that meet here at St. John's UMC

Morning Glories

Third Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. (September-June)

T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

Friday mornings:

Weigh-In begins at 8 a.m.

Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

Cerbat Garden Club

Second Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. (August-June)

Bible Readings; Birthdays; Anniversaries



<i>April Daily Bible Readings</i>	
April 1	Luke 9:28-30; Psalm 73:1-28
April 2	Luke 9:51-10:12; Psalm 74:1-23
April 3	Luke 10:13-37; Psalm 75:1-10
April 4	Luke 10:38-11:13; Psalm 76:1-12
April 5	Luke 11:14-36; Psalm 77:1-20
April 6	Luke 11:37-12:7; Psalm 78:1-31
April 7	Luke 12:8-34; Psalm 78:32-55
April 8	Luke 12:35-59; Psalm 78:56-64
April 9	Luke 13:1-21; Psalm 78:65-72
April 10	Luke 13:22-14:6; Psalm 79:1-13
April 11	Luke 14:7-35; Psalm 80:1-19
April 12	Luke 15:1-32; Psalm 81:1-16
April 13	Luke 16:1-18; Psalm 82:1-8
April 14	Luke 16:19-17:10; Psalm 83:1-18
April 15	Luke 17:11-37; Psalm 84:1-12
April 16	Luke 18:1-17; Psalm 85:1-13
April 17	Luke 18:18-43; Psalm 86:1-17
April 18	Luke 19:1-27; Psalm 87:1-7
April 19	Luke 19:28-48; Psalm 88:1-18
April 20	Luke 20: 1-26; Psalm 89:1-13
April 21	Luke 20:27-47; Psalm 89:14-37
April 22	Luke 21:1-28; Psalm 89:38-52
April 23	Luke 21:29-22:13; Psalm 90:1-91:16
April 24	Luke 22:14-34; Psalm 92:1-93:5
April 25	Luke 22:35-53; Psalm 94:1-23
April 26	Luke 22:54-23:12
April 27	Luke 23:13-43; Psalm 97:1-98:9
April 28	Luke 23:44-24:12; Psalm 99:1-9
April 29	Luke 24:13-53; Psalm 100:1-5
April 30	John 1:1-28; Psalm 101:1-8

April Birthdays

April 3—Tara Chavez; Adam Kopecky

April 8—Lorraine Deatherage;
Penny Glenn

April 10—Pat Heinze

April 11—Kerry Deering

April 13—Ginny Patterson

April 20—Everett Burge

April 24—Alana Smart; April Tuomi

April 25—Roy Brackett; Chad Burge

April 27—Tiffany Odér



**Trudy & Mike Mixon
April 26, 2008 (16 years)**

April 2024 Calendar

Monday, April 1	
Tuesday, April 2	<i>12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline</i> 4:00 PM Community Book Club
Wednesday, April 3	Cornerstone Pick-Up 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study; 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study
Thursday, April 4	5:30 PM 'Sunday Worship' on Thursday 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, April 5	8:00 AM TOPS; 9:00 AM Mission 'Food Boxes'
Saturday, April 6	10:00 AM NA Meeting; 5:00 PM NA 1st Saturday
Sunday, April 7	8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship
Monday, April 8	6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 2074
Tuesday, April 9	<i>12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline</i> 5:30 PM Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, April 10	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study; 10:00 AM Cerbat Garden Club 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study; 5:30 PM Potluck 6:00 PM Bible Study; 6:30 PM Dad Matters 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, April 11	5:30 PM 'Sunday Worship' on Thursday
Friday, April 12	8:00 AM TOPS; 9:00 AM Mission 'Food Boxes' Healthy Families Parent Group
Saturday, April 13	10:00 AM NA Meeting
Sunday, April 14	8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship
Monday, April 15	5:30 PM AA Meeting

Save the Date

Vacation Bible School is Coming
June 24 thru June 27!
Volunteers Needed!
If interested, please see Pastor Amy

April 2024 Calendar

Tuesday, April 16	10:00 AM Coffee with Friends <i>12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline</i> 5:30 PM Nurture Team Meetings
Wednesday, April 17	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study; 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Potluck; 6:00 PM Bible Study
Thursday, April 18	Cornerstone Pick-Up 9:00 AM Morning Glories 5:30 PM 'Sunday Worship' on Thursday 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, April 19	8:00 AM TOPS; 9:00 AM Mission 'Food Boxes' 3:00 PM VBS KICK-OFF MEETING
Saturday, April 20	10:00 AM NA Meeting
Sunday, April 21	8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship
Monday, April 22	5:30 PM AA Meeting; 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 2074
Tuesday, April 23	<i>12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline</i> 4:30 PM Preschool Board; 5:00 PM Finance Team 5:30 PM Church Council
Wednesday, April 24	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study; 11:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Potluck; 6:00 PM Bible Study
Thursday, April 25	5:30 PM 'Sunday Worship' on Thursday 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, April 26	Cornerstone Pick-Up 8:00 AM TOPS; 9:00 AM Mission 'Food Boxes'
Saturday, April 27	10:00 AM NA Meeting; 2:00 PM Health Fair
Sunday, April 28	8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship
Monday, April 29	5:30 PM AA Meeting
Tuesday, April 30	<i>12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline</i>

St. John's United Methodist Church
1730 Kino Avenue
Kingman, Arizona 86409

Church Staff

Senior Pastor	Pastor Amy Kalm
Office Administrator	Heidi Heer
Treasurer	Tracy Sheehy
Contemporary Music Director	Chris Commisso
Traditional Music Director	Karin Kopecky
Preschool Director	Mande Padilla

Connection Staff

District Superintendent	Rev. Timote Piukala
Resident Bishop	Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-4:00 pm
Friday 8 am-2:00 pm
(928) 692-8828/Fax (928) 692-8799

Worship at St. John's UMC

Sundays:

*9:00 AM ~ Modern Praise
10:30 AM Traditional Worship*

*'Sunday' Worship on Thursday
Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.*

Email: st.johns@citlink.net
Website: stjohnsumc.com