

the INFORMER

Extending God's Love & Grace | An Open & Affirming Congregation

2026 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR "MADE TO GIVE"

Faith Hall at St. John UCC | 307 W Clay St | Collinsville, IL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

10:30 am - 2:30 pm



VENDORS WANTED!

\$25 per 8' table
(chairs provided)

\$50 for a 10' x 10' booth
(table & chairs provided if needed)

To register please contact Amy Rhymer
at the church office at 618-344-2526
or office@stjohnucc-collinsville.org

Totenfest 2026

The church calendar year begins on the first Sunday of Advent. The last Sunday before Advent, November 22nd, we remember our members that have passed away the previous church year.



IT'S TIME TO *Fall Back*

**Daylight Savings Time Ends on
Sunday, November 1st.**

Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday Night.





Veterans DAY

Keep an eye out for the folks from **St. John United Church of Christ's Open & Affirming Committee** on Main Street during the parade!

We'll be sharing **free hot chocolate** and warm smiles as we honor our veterans and celebrate our community.

Parade steps off at 10:30am starting at N. Hesperia and ending at S. Center.

BECAUSE EVERYONE DESERVES A WARM WELCOME. ❤️

November 2026

Do you have pictures of St. John UCC events, programs or one of our missions on your phone?



We'd love to see them! Please send photos to Amy by email, office@stjohnucc-collinsville.org or text 618-973-7771.

To access the St. John UCC Collinsville YouTube channel, search [@st.johnunitedchurchofchris446](https://www.youtube.com/@st.johnunitedchurchofchris446)
Look for: St. John United Church of Christ Collinsville, IL

Home Communion Available
Do you worship from home on livestream or YouTube? If you want to participate in communion at home, there are pre-filled cups available in the church office!




Have you remembered St. John United Church of Christ, Collinsville, in your Will or Final Bequest?



ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY CARE | FIA COLLINSVILLE FAITH IN ACTION | ST. JOHN UCC EXTENDING GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

stjohnscc.org | fiacollinsville.org | stjohnucc-collinsville.org

Free to the Community

St. Matthew Church Senior Choir

For more information about the choir please visit <https://stmatthewchurch.org>

Tuesday, November 17, 1:15 pm

Faith Hall
at St. John UCC
307 W Clay St | Collinsville, IL

250

Sunday



Attendance

September 2026	9:30 am Worship	Digital Views YouTube	Sunday School
September 6 th	60	52	n/a
September 13 th	104	38	27
September 20 th	99	91	14
September 27 th	82	81	10
<u>Average</u>	86	66	17

Council Highlights

- Discussion about a possible future Capital Campaign for Building Maintenance.
- Discussion about the 2027 Budget. Developing an Audit Committee that will begin in 2027.
- Confirmation Retreat scheduled for November 13 & 14.
- Push for new Council members. We need 5 new members to start in 2027.

*Please Note: Final Council and Special Congregational Meeting minutes are available from the church office upon request.

Financial Recap:

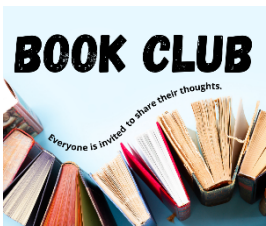
A Word of Thanks as We Enter the Final Months of the Year

Thank you, St. John! Through the end of September, your envelope offerings totaled \$285,342 — about \$25,000 ahead of our plan for the year. September was a strong month, and your faithfulness continues to carry the life and ministry of our church.

We also want to share an honest picture of where we stand. Our expenses so far this year have been higher than our offerings, leaving the General Fund with a shortfall of about \$65,000 through September. That gap is smaller than it was a month ago, and the final months of the year are traditionally when giving is strongest — so how we finish depends on all of us.

If you are able to continue — or increase — your regular offering through the end of the year, it truly helps keep our ministries on solid footing as we head into Advent and Christmas.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and generosity. If you have questions about giving or would like to set up electronic offerings, please reach out to the church office — we are always glad to help.



Our book club has chosen the next book we will be reviewing: **The Vanishing Half** by Britt Bennett.

The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern, black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Many years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same

southern town she once tried to escape. The other secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' storylines intersect? Weaving together multiple strands and generations of this family, from the Deep South to California, from the 1950s to the 1990s, Brit Bennett produces a story that is at once a riveting, emotional family story and a brilliant exploration of the American history of passing. Looking well beyond issues of race, *The Vanishing Half* considers the lasting influence of the past as it shapes a person's decisions, desires, and expectations, and explores some of the multiple reasons and realms in which people sometimes feel pulled to live as something other than their origins.

Everyone is welcome. Plan on reading the book prior to attending the book review. Bring your thoughts and come share in the discussion. We plan to meet on Tuesday afternoon November 24th at 1:00 p.m. We are meeting in the Atrium. We hope you will join us.

CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Our Care Ministry team stays busy reaching out to people through visits, phone calls, and cards. Nobody has to do everything- together we're God's hands!! Let me know if you're willing to get an occasional email from me as a team member helping in ANY of those ways.

Meanwhile, please greet those around you at church. Our new name tags help us greet others by name, whether or not we're on an official "Care Team".



SERMONS ON PARABLES

I'm working on a sermon series about parables, the many teaching stories Jesus told. They have real-life settings and are easy to remember. The shortest is "Parable of the Leaven" (Matthew 13:33). The longest is about the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32).

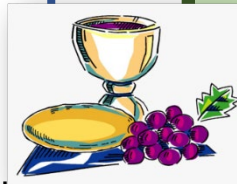
On Nov. 8th I'll preach on my own favorite, a story of Martha and Mary (Luke 10: 38-42). Jenny King will play a little music during my sermon, and others will help with dramatizing the story. One actor will speak without acting, and another actor will act without speaking.

Do you have your own favorite parable? Please call or email me if you do, and I'd like to work on that parable as part of my series.

Carolyn Catalano, 618-381-6411, mccallcarolyn@yahoo.com

Holy Communion Dates

With all of our Special Worship services coming up we are changing the dates that we will receive communion. Communion will be served on the following dates:
Sunday, November 29 at regular worship service and
Wednesday, December 24 at all three Christmas Eve worship services.



ALTAR COMMITTEE

**IS LOOKING FOR NEW
VOLUNTEERS TO HELP
PREPARE SANCTUARY FOR
WORSHIP AND HELP PREPARE
COMMUNION.**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED,
PLEASE CONTACT KAREN TAKE.**

**WE WANT
YOU!
YES, YOU!!**

Have you ever wondered how you can help shape the future of our church?

Serving on Church Council is a meaningful and rewarding way to put your faith into action, share your voice, build relationships, and help guide the ministry and mission of our congregation. We are

currently seeking members to fill one immediate opening for a two-year term, along with several upcoming three-year terms. If you care about our church, our community, and where God is calling us next, we invite you to prayerfully consider this exciting leadership opportunity.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

We are in need of a crib room volunteer on the 4th Sunday of each month and a teacher for the 1st Sunday of each month. If you are interested, please let Leslie, Stephanie or Amy know.

On September 21, members of the Long-Range Planning Team, Church Council, and staff met to discuss the current state of St. John, our pastoral transition, and the needs and vision of our congregation.

As a result of our conversation, we identified several important steps moving forward. We will continue providing pulpit support as needed and will explore increasing the hours of two part-time staff members. Expanding staff hours would allow us to strengthen existing programs, provide greater support for our ministries, and better serve both our congregation and the wider community.

After careful discussion, we agreed to continue with one pastor at this time. We also committed to maintaining clear and consistent communication so that Pastor Miranda has the support she needs and the congregation's needs continue to be met. Church leadership will regularly review how this arrangement is working and assess future staffing needs. If additional pastoral leadership becomes necessary, we will begin the process of researching and evaluating options.

In the months ahead, we will continue to monitor our ministry needs, evaluate our resources, and make decisions that support the long-term health and mission of St. John. We invite members of the congregation to share their thoughts, concerns, and hopes with church leadership, as your input remains an important part of our planning process.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness, patience, and commitment to St. John United Church of Christ as we move forward together.

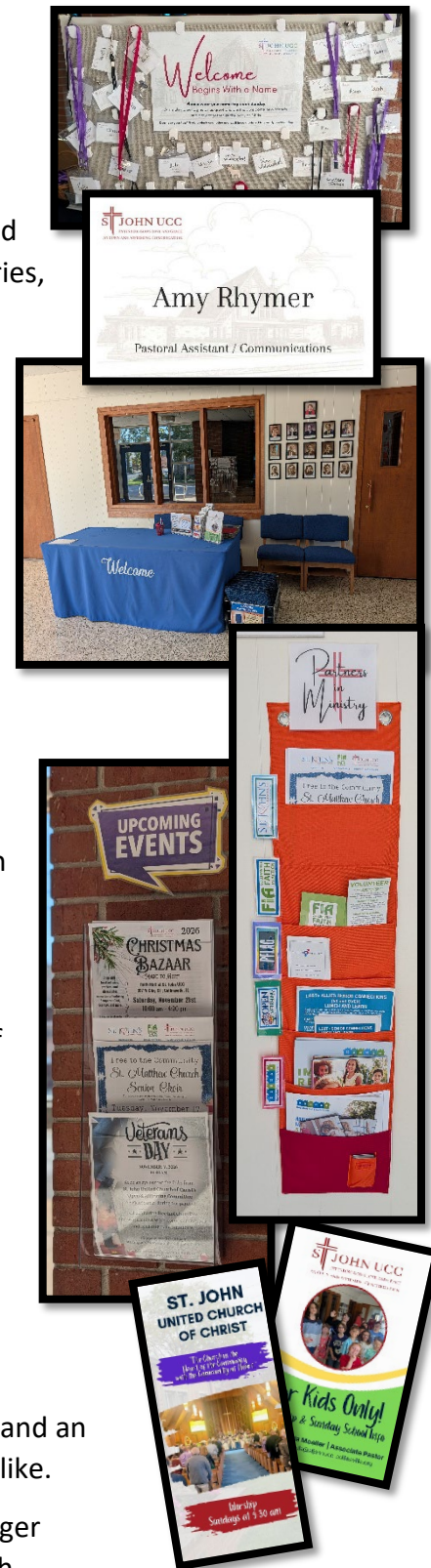
Ginger Schantz, Church Council President

One of the strongest themes to emerge from our meeting was the importance of participation and connection within our church community. As a result, we have already begun taking steps to help create a more welcoming and engaging environment at St. John.

Some of the changes already put in place include:

- **Name tags for everyone** to help members and guests learn names, build relationships, and create a more welcoming atmosphere.
- **A refreshed Narthex layout** designed to provide a more open, inviting space for fellowship and conversation before and after worship.
- **Updated church brochures** featuring current information, vibrant colors, and an improved design to better share who we are with visitors and members alike.

While these may seem like small changes, they are intentional steps toward a larger goal: encouraging participation, strengthening connections, and creating a church environment where everyone feels welcomed, informed, and involved. We believe that a vibrant congregation is built not only through worship, but through the relationships and sense of belonging we foster together.



homework help & hoops



November 2026

UPDATE!

The Fall 2026 semester of HHH afterschool tutoring for children in grades 1 to 6 is well underway! We have 40 students and 40 tutors attending regularly on Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday. Students have time for free play in the gym, snack, and homework help daily. On Tuesday they also participate in enrichment activities. On Wednesday and Thursday they use the Reading Success Center computer and game lab in Faith Hall to access Mindplay software that caters to their specific reading level and academic challenges.



THINGS WE NEED ASAP!*

- A new ANSI certified **WATER FILTER** for our drink dispenser (*On Amazon wish list link below*)
- Individually packaged afterschool **SNACKS** for our kids and high school age tutors
- Gently used **BUTTON DOWN SHIRTS** to replace our worn-out paint smocks (*sizes from child's large to adult medium work best*)
- **VOLUNTEERS** to work the HHH fundraiser booth at the Christmas Bazaar on November 21 and 22, and to help with the Christmas party on December 8

THANK YOU!

NO HHH TUTORING:

- **Wednesday, November 11 - Veteran's Day**
- **Thanksgiving Week, November 24 - 26**

UPCOMING HHH EVENTS:

- **HHH Booth at Christmas Bazaar, November 21 & 22**
(*Free Event Both Days - Shop for Christmas!*)
- **Family Christmas Party, December 8, 5:00 - 7:00 pm**

**If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact program director Mandi Voegelé at HHH@stjohnucc-collinsville.org or by calling 618-405-5831*

SCAN HERE
to order snacks or
supplies from our
Amazon wish list!



Faith Walking

November Prayer Theme: "Give Thanks. Give Freely."
You will be enriched... so that you can be generous.
-2 Corinthians 9:11

6:30 – 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
September Mileage: 540 | Year to Date: 6,733
Greeters help you log your progress!
Free-Will Offering.

Pickleball

Put Your
Game Face On!

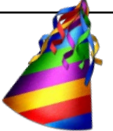
Mondays from
5:30-8:00 P.M.

Learn the game while you play!

A free-will offering will be accepted.

Questions:

Contact Norb Kniepp at 618-830-2621



Join us on **Monday, November 2**, as we celebrate **21 years of Faith Walking!**

The festivities will begin with a **Potluck Luncheon from 11:00-11:45 a.m.** Please bring a side dish to share (chicken & desserts will be provided). At **11:45 a.m.**, we'll gather for a **group photo and award presentations**, followed by everyone's favorite activity, **BINGO!**

We encourage you to invite your friends and fellow walkers. If you have participated in Faith Walking at any time during the past 21 years, we would love for you to join us for lunch and be part of our commemorative group photo, which will be taken promptly at 11:45 a.m. Be sure to check back next month as we share the total miles walked during the past year, as well as the incredible combined mileage accumulated over the program's 21-year history!

As we celebrate the accomplishments of our Faith Walkers, we also want to recognize our dedicated greeters, some of whom have been faithfully volunteering since the program began 21 years ago. Their welcoming smiles, encouragement, and commitment to tracking participants' mileage have played an essential role in the success and longevity of Faith Walking.

To all of our greeters, thank you for your years of faithful service and support. We appreciate everything you do!



Thank you to everyone that prayed for me and sent me cards while I was in the hospital. I am very grateful and appreciate each and every one of them. – Pam Gassmann

Thank you to **EVERYONE** who volunteered at the **2026 Wurstmarkt!** Despite the rain in the morning, we ended up selling 807 meals which was about 50 over last year. We don't have all the numbers calculated including all of our expenses at time of printing but we'll share when they are ready! Thanks again for everyone's efforts, we can't do it without you.

RECOMMENDING "GRIEFSHARE"

If you or someone you care about is grieving the loss of a person, a "Griefshare" group may be very helpful. Hosted by multiple area churches, "Griefshare" (non-denominational Christian) offers mutual support and a 13-week cycle of weekly topics (enter at any point). This website tells which area churches current host Griefshare, when the meetings are, and registration information:

<https://www.griefshare.org>

The United Church of Christ's Illinois South Conference (ISC), of which our church is a member, held an unusual Annual Meeting 10-17-2026 at Salem UCC in Alhambra. The theme Counting the Cost in All Seasons was taken from Luke 14: 27-28: ... suppose one of you wants to build a tower; won't you first sit down and estimate the cost?...



Led by Conference Minister Shana Johnson, this Annual Meeting was held in the spirit of an initial family conversation. We spoke of the many ways our ISC supports local churches and the importance of two vital funds:

- Our Church's Wider Mission (80% stays in the ISC, 20% goes to the national UCC)
- Friends of the ISC (100% stays in the ISC)

Matthew Wagner (of United Church Funds) shared projections about ISC finances with the idea of being proactive. While our funds have benefited in the last 5 years from global stock markets, we cannot indefinitely take large amounts from those funds to make up annual budget deficits.

Our DuBois Center directors shared terrific news about the many ways God is at work in "our big backyard" (our conference camp and conference center). We have a strong slate of willing volunteers for the many committees furthering ISC work. Fruitful suggestions made in small group sessions were noted by event leaders, and we trust they'll be acted on. Together we're planning and moving into a sustainable future.

Our Collinsville St. John attendees were Pastor Miranda Moeller, Abe Cyrus, Kristi Ham and Carolyn Catalano (Delegates) and Joy Honegger (ISC Committee Member). Also on ISC committees are St. John members Mark Waltermire, Darryl Collins, Rev. Lisa Hart, and Anne Miller.

You're Invited!

The next Movie Matinee will be Monday, November 9th at 1:00 pm in the Theater. We will be viewing the next movie in the Bourne series, "Bourne Ultimatum."



The next Thurs-Yay Lunch is on November 19th at 1:00 pm at Fazzi's in Collinsville. Make your reservation by adding your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or calling Amy (618-344-2526). You'll enjoy being part of the group!



November Lessons

Nov. 1	Abram's Call
Nov. 8	A Child Called Immanuel
Nov. 15	Jesus' Baptism
Nov. 22	A Storm
Nov. 29	The Sower

Save the Date:

Sunday, December 13th Birthday Party for Jesus during Coffee Hour

Confirmation Class

November 8 – Images of God
 November 13-14 – Confirmation Retreat
 November 15 – Who is Jesus (Part 1)
 November 22 – Who is Jesus (Part 2)
 November 29 – No Confirmation (Happy Thanksgiving)

Volunteers Needed!

Coffee Hour Hosts for each Sunday in Advent.

The Adult Choir is hosting on December 13th & Youth Ministries is hosting on the 20th but all other Sundays are open. Prayerfully consider hosting one week with your family or church group. We're inviting our neighbors to join us and would love to show them our extravagant hospitality.

Hymn of the Month

Beginning in November, St John will feature a "Hymn of the Month." Would you like to hear a favorite song? Would you like to honor a loved one on their special day? Sign up in the Narthex or the church office to request/dedicate a song of your choice which will be sung during Sunday morning worship. Please consider a donation of \$25 for each request. Thank you for supporting the St. John UCC Music Ministry!



Staff & Leadership

Rev. Miranda Moeller, Pastor,
pastormiranda@stjohnucc-collinsville.org
Amy Rhymer, Pastoral Assistant/
 Communications
office@stjohnucc-collinsville.org
Jenny King, Music Director
music@stjohnucc-collinsville.org
Laurie Voss, Accompanist
Mandi Voegle, HHH Program Director
HHH@stjohnucc-collinsville.org
Leslie Musallam, Christian Education
Ginger Schantz, Council President
churchcouncil@stjohnucc-collinsville.org
Anita Whittington, VP
Paul Ham, Treasurer, Deacons Chair
Nancy Berry, Secretary, Elders Chair
Dena Bieser, Trustee Chair
Jon Hester, bookkeeper
bookkeeper@stjohnucc-collinsville.org
The Learning Tree Preschool,
 618-344-2562
St. John Cemetery, 618-344-0749
St. John's Community Care,
 618-344-5008

A huge thank you to all the individuals and groups who contributed to our bell fund. Thanks to your generosity, ALL octaves of our hand bells and chimes are being refurbished. Our newly refurbished bells will be featured in the November 22 worship service. Thanks for your continued support of the St. John UCC Music Ministry!

The **Bellman** is a mobile, full-time handbell repair and maintenance service operated by 1 family. This mobile workshop travels coast-to-coast to perform on-site service in one day! They travel across 46 states from October through May, and from June to September they receive bells at their permanent facility in Fredericksburg, TX. The mobile workshop professionally cleans and polishes castings, component/spring inspection and replacements, individual bell voicing and pitch balancing. We were very lucky they were in our area in our time of need!



Looking for volunteers to sign Christmas Cards for our friends at The Learning Tree Preschool, St. John's Community Care, and Homework Help & Hoops. We will meet in the Galley after worship on Sunday, November 15th. Please join us!!



Christmas Poinsettias



We will be taking orders for poinsettia plants and/or donations to the Decorating Fund to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. Those wishing to honor or remember friends and loved ones with a poinsettia plant may do so by completing one of the special envelopes found in the pew pockets or stop by the church office during the week. Orders can be placed starting Sunday, November 29 through Sunday, December 13. The cost for each multi-bloom plant is \$13; please make checks payable to "St. John UCC." Thank you!

Giving Tree

So many families in our community are in need of some hope and joy this holiday season. We have the opportunity to bring God's love and joy to our neighbors through Christmas gifts. This year our Giving Tree will be set up by November 15 in the Narthex with gift tags for teens from Hoyleton's Residential Program. These gifts will be due back by November 29. We will also get 5 families from the Collinsville School District.



Mitten Tree

The Learning Tree Preschool will join St. John on filling the mitten tree. A tree will be set up in the Education Building where the preschoolers can watch them get loaded with cold weather gear. All of these gifts will be given to the children of Uni Pres Kindercottage in East St. Louis. **Other everyday essentials that are always in need are: Children's underwear - sizes 2T-3T; Baby bibs - ALL sizes; Socks - toddlers sizes through children's sizes for ages 5-8.** Please send in your donations by December 16 so they can be delivered by Christmas.



St. John UCC Staff Christmas Gifts

Our Council is being very careful with bookkeeping. In order to keep our accounting of gifts and salaries uncomplicated, we kindly request that anyone who wishes to give any of the staff a holiday gift, does so directly, outside of your St. John UCC giving. And remember, pastors and staff agree that a simple heartfelt card and personal note is a priceless gift!



Extra-Step Offering – Sunday, November 22, 2026



For more than a century, **United Church of Christ** congregations and individual members have blessed **The Christmas Fund** with their generosity, displaying that love surpasses all—especially when we give. Every year, The Christmas Fund provides vital support to our UCC community, including emergency assistance for active and retired clergy and lay employees, as well as Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December for retirees in need and their families.

In 2025, our Christmas Fund community continued to strengthen The Christmas Fund's ministry of compassion, and we raised a total of **\$1.7 million**. This allowed us to give **\$211,975** in the form of emergency assistance and **\$253,500** in Christmas "Thank You" gift checks.

These gifts of love demonstrate our appreciation for those who have faithfully served the church and who now find themselves in times of great need. Thank you for embodying the message of "The Greatest of These...Love" with your gifts to The Christmas Fund.

Since June 7, 2012, St. John Church has been instrumental in organizing and hosting the S.O.S. Soup Kitchen focusing on their mission statement, "To be the helping hands that provides the love of God to those who are hungry." We continue to be a host site for the Thursday meals and meals being served at First United Presbyterian Church every Tuesday.

S.O.S. continues to welcome many people in need of food. Each location serves an average of 240 meals weekly – a combined 480 meals per week, or 1,920 over four weeks. May God continue to bless this vital community ministry with the resources and volunteers it needs!



THE GIFT

An Advent, Christmas & Epiphany Series

HOPE • JOY • PEACE



ADVENT | SUNDAYS 9:30 AM

NOV 29 | THE GIFT OF PROMISE

DEC 6 | THE GIFT OF PREPARATION

DEC 13 | THE GIFT OF JOY

DEC 20 | THE GIFT GOES ON

Christmas Cantata

All Are Welcome

FAMILIES • SINGLES • SENIORS • CHILDREN

Everyone has a place here.

SPECIAL SERVICE

DEC 13 | 4:00 PM

THE LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP

A gentle service of comfort & hope for those carrying grief, loss, or difficult circumstances during the holidays.

CHRISTMAS & EPIPHANY | SUNDAYS 9:30 AM

DEC 27 | THE GIFT OF REST

JAN 3 | THE GIFT OF THE MAGI



*Come as you are.
There's a place for you here.*

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Wednesday, December 24



4:30 PM

THE GIFT ARRIVES

A family-friendly celebration for all ages.



7:00 PM

THE GIFT OF EMMANUEL

Choirs, bells, communion and candlelight.



11:00 PM

THE GIFT OF PEACE

A reverent candlelight service as Christmas begins.

ST. JOHN UCC | 307 W CLAY ST | COLLINSVILLE | STJOHNUCC-COLLINSVILLE.ORG



November 2026

A new series called "The Loan Ranger" was "rolled out" on our Facebook page where we will post uncommon equipment we have in our loan closet. Some of these items tend to be tricky to get loaned out and we would love to see them get used by those who need them. The first item was a rolling shower chair with an adjustable back rest as well as the footrest, on wheels, and can be used in the shower! The second item is a multipurpose rolling commode. It can be used as a transport chair around the house, in the shower, or as a bedside commode. If either of these items could make your life easier, please call or email us at 618-344-5008 or info@stjohnscc.org.



Tech Tune-Up for Older Adults

*FREE one-on-one help with your phone, tablet, or laptop
from BTHS Tech Helpers*

AgeSmart Community Resources
7 Bronze Pointe S, Suite B, Swansea, IL 62226

Wednesday, October 28, 2026
1:00pm- 3:00pm

Appointments are required

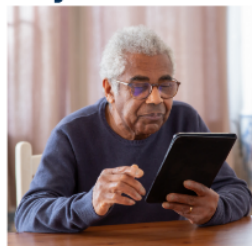
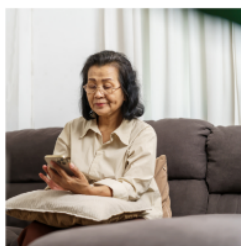
Please call 618-222-2561 for an Appointment

Bring your Device.

Get your questions answered.

Sponsored by:
Spectrum

AGE SMART
COMMUNITY RESOURCES



BTHS Tech Helpers can help with email, texting, photos, video calls, app downloads, settings, and passwords, but cannot assist with hardware repair or cracked screens. For your privacy, student volunteers can't help with banking, financial accounts, or other sensitive records. Be sure to charge your device, bring your charger, and bring your Apple ID or Google/email password written down. All appointments are 20 minutes.

St. John's Community Care
Free Medical Equipment Loan Program



Don't forget about the **Free medical equipment loan program** to help those in need. This program is available at the Collinsville location and is open to anyone who requires equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, bath chairs, crutches, canes, and more. For more information, call 618-344-5008 or visit our website at www.stjohnscc.org.



HIGHLAND ADULT COMMUNITY CARE

Providing compassionate care for older adults with early memory loss, disabilities, and chronic conditions, this program welcomes participants of all faith backgrounds—and those without one.



www.stjohnscc.org

618-975-6565

info@stjohnscc.org

2420 Poplar St.

Highland, IL 62249

Located on the grounds of Highland Evangelical United Church of Christ, just behind the main church building.



**Need a safe and enjoyable day program for your loved one?
Give us a call or email for more information.**



This year all the children will be participating in an All-School Sharing Feast! We will enjoy a special snack served by volunteers and give thanks for all God has given us!

Some of our favorite activities this fall have been Children's Moments with Pastor Miranda, gym time, a visit to Relleke Pumpkin Patch, fire safety week and Halloween parties.

Be on the lookout for our Mitten Tree! We will welcome donations of wintry weather gear to donate this year to children at Uni-Pres Kindercottage in East St. Louis.

For those that have asked about donating items to the school to enhance our learning experience, please check out our Facebook page for a link to our Amazon wish list! We will continue to update it with fun, educational items for the children to enjoy!

Happy Thanksgiving and may the Lord bless your families and keep you safe!

Gigi Liljegren
The Learning Tree Preschool, Director





November 2026
233 North Seminary Street, Collinsville, IL 62234
Main Line: 618-344-8080
Answers on Aging: 618-344-7788
Website: www.fiacollinsville.org

The mission of Collinsville Faith in Action is to provide services and information to community members ages 60 and up to promote dignity and independence.

Medicare's Annual Open Enrollment is underway, and Collinsville Faith in Action offers unbiased Medicare consultations from a trained specialist. There is no cost for this service. Contact Melanie at CFiA to learn about changes to your current Medicare plan and to learn about all your Medicare options. She can be reached by calling 618-344-7788 or emailing mherrington@fiacollinsville.org. Open Enrollment ends December 7.

Collinsville Faith in Action serves community members aged 60 and up, and many of our volunteers join our effort to put their own faith into action. We offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities, and volunteers set their own schedules. Be a "Neighbor helping neighbors"™ and join us today. Call 618-344-8080 or fill out a volunteer application online by visiting [Become a Volunteer | Faith in Action](#).

Collinsville Faith in Action offices will be closed for Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 11 and for Thanksgiving on Thursday and Friday, November 26th and 27th.

In gratitude,
Lisa Ciszczon Brennan
Executive Director



Did you know Collinsville Faith in Action provides free services like transportation, shopping assistance, and minor home repairs for local seniors? We're here to help our community members ages 60+ maintain their independence. Reach out to us today to learn how you can help!



Collinsville Faith in Action is a 501c3 organization funded by donations and grants. Faith traditions and churches within our community support us by referring volunteers. The interfaith volunteers provide services to older community members.





BINGO

Saturday, November 7, 2026

Doors Open at 6:00 p.m. Bingo Starts at 7:00 p.m.

American Legion

1022 Vandalia, Collinsville, IL 62234
to benefit



Advance Ticket \$20.00/person using the QR Code

At the Door Ticket \$25.00/person

Cash, Check, or Credit Card

Includes 12 Bingo Cards (1 for Each Game), Bingo Dauber, & Entry Fee

Must be at least 18 years of age to play bingo.



- Extra 12 Card Packets Available for \$10.00
 - Win Cash Prizes for Each Game
- Bingo Cards have Song Titles/Singers/Bands Instead of Numbers
(Variety of Music—Classic Rock, Oldies, Disco, Country, Hip-Hop, etc.)
- Use the Shazam App, Another App, Your Own Knowledge, Friends,
or Others Playing Around You to Identify the Song Title/Singer/Band
 - Snacks Allowed
- NO OUTSIDE DRINKS ALLOWED—Bar Open for Beverage Purchases
 - NO CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE ALLOWED
- Questions, contact Barb at 618-910-1646 or cfprockandrollbingo@gmail.com

2026

November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01 Daylight Savings Ends 8:30 pm Bible Study 9:30 am Worship 10:45-12:15 Confirmation	02 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 8:30 am Miriam's Ministry 5:30 pm C.O.P.'s 5:30-8 pm Pickleball	03 Voting Day 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 3:00-5:00 pm HHH Tutoring 7:00 pm Evening Circle	04 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 3:00-5:00 pm HHH Tutoring 6:00 pm Bells 6:00 pm Quilting 7:15 pm Choir	05 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 5:30 pm C.O.P.'s 5:30-6:00 pm S.O.S. 7:00 pm Elders	06 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking	07
08 8:30 pm Bible Study 9:30 am Worship 10:45-12:15 Confirmation	09 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 8:30 am Miriam's Ministry 1:00 pm Movie Matinee 5:30 pm C.O.P.'s 5:30-8 pm Pickleball	10 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 3:00-5:00 pm HHH Tutoring	11 Veteran's Day Office Closed 6:00 pm Bells 7:15 pm Choir	12 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 5:30 pm C.O.P.'s 5:30-6:00 pm S.O.S. 7:00 Deacons	13 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking	14
15 8:30 pm Bible Study 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Christmas Card Signing 10:45-12:15 Confirmation	16 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 8:30 am Miriam's Ministry 5:30 pm C.O.P.'s 5:30-8 pm Pickleball	17 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 1:15 pm FREE Concert - St. Matthews Senior Choir 3:00-5:00 pm HHH Tutoring	18 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 3:00-5:00 pm HHH Tutoring 6:00 pm Bells 6:00 pm Quilting 7:15 pm Choir	19 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 1:00 pm Thurs-Yay Lunch 5:30 pm C.O.P.'s 5:30-6:00 pm S.O.S. 6:30 pm Trustees 7:00 Council	20 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking	21 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Christmas Bazaar
22 Totenfest & Family Thank Offering 8:30 pm Bible Study 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am-2:30 pm Christmas Bazaar 10:45-12:15 Confirmation	23 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 8:30 am Miriam's Ministry 5:30 pm C.O.P.'s 5:30-8 pm Pickleball	24 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 1:00 pm Book Club 3:00-5:00 pm HHH Tutoring	25 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 6:00 pm Quilting	26 Happy Thanksgiving Office Closed	27 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking	28
29 First Sunday of Advent 8:30 pm Bible Study 9:30 am Worship	30 6:30-8:30 & 11-1 Faith Walking 8:30 am Miriam's Ministry 5:30 pm C.O.P.'s 5:30-8 pm Pickleball	01	02	03	04	05

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the Informer

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