

WELCOME TO WORSHIP TODAY!

We are **delighted** that you are here in celebration and worship at St. John UCC. The members and friends of our faith community hope that you will encounter God in a meaningful and profound way, and that God's Spirit will inspire you today to live your faith out loud.

We hope that you want to discover more about the congregation and its ministry in the community of Freeport, across our state and nation, and around the world. Please ask one of our ushers or visit us:

on the Web: www.stjohnuccfreeport.org

on Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnuccfreeport

For our younger guests, Worship Enrichment "Busy Bags" are available in the Narthex. These are located at the counter outside of the Chapel Hearth Room. Check in with an usher to organize a bag!

Parents and guardians are also welcome to use Room S3, the Infant Room, to care for their families as needed. There is a television in the room to view the worship service in real time.

Assisted Listening Devices are located at the Sound Board in the back of the Sanctuary. Earpiece and "Induction Loops" for hearing aids are both available. Please ask an usher for assistance in their use.

Please remember to return your name tag on your way home. We will have them waiting for your return next week!

If you cannot join us in person, you will always have a front row seat on our live stream at facebook.com/stjohnuccfreeport/live.

Scan this code to access our Online Giving Portal:



We thank you for your continued generous support of St. John UCC.

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2026 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

2/1, 11:30 AM

All members of St. John United Church of Christ are called to the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 1, at 11:30 am in accordance with Article V of the Constitution and Article I of the Bylaws of St. John UCC.

The business conducted shall be:

- The receipt of the 2025 ministry, financial, and endowment reports
- The report of the Property Management Team on Sanctuary Renovations and Organ Renewal
- The report of the Worship & Education Team, and action on, revisions to the Safe Church /Safe Conduct policy
- The approval of the 2026 ministry & operations budget and any business deemed appropriate by Church Council.

Signed,

/s/ Jill Gastel, Clerk of Council

Copies of the annual ministry and financial reports and budget will be available one week prior to the meeting. Watch for information on in-person and hybrid meeting closer to the day of the meeting.

ST. JOHN UCC STAFF

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Henry E. "Hank" Fairman

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Visitation Pastor:

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Digital Media Assistant: Max Gibson

Music Director: Britney Kieselhorst britney@stjohnuccfreeport.org

Church Musician: Randy Cook

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Donnley Dutcher

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THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 25, 2026 • 10:00 am

WELCOMING MUSIC and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Jesus is the Light
Carl & Dianna Cole

Spiritual
arr. C. Cole

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rise and shine all you people of God.

All: We have seen a great light cutting through the darkness.

One: The light of God embraced the wilderness.

All: It has worked its way into homes, villages, towns and cities.

One: May all living things sense the light and feel its warmth.

*HYMN

The Summons

WAR #350

KELVINGROVE

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CELEBRATION OF BIRTHDAYS AND GIFTS

** An asterisk is an invitation to rise as one is able (in body or spirit).
Please silence your mobile devices before the beginning of worship.*



ADULT FAITH FORMATION: OUR WHOLE LIVES Sundays, 9:00-9:45 am

Adult Faith Formation welcomes adults of all ages to gather in the Chapel Hearth Room from 9:00-9:45, exploring different topics and formats weekly. In February, we will be discussing the Our Whole Lives (OWL) program.

In July at UCC General Synod 34, a resolution was passed celebrating 25 years of the Our Whole Lives (OWL) comprehensive sexuality program—a partnership between the UCC and the Unitarian Universalist Association. Honest, accurate information about sexuality is life-changing. It dismantles stereotypes and assumptions, builds self-acceptance and self-esteem, fosters healthy relationships, improves decision making, and can even be life-saving.

Join OWL facilitators Shawn Killingley and Christina Ables Fairman to learn more and to celebrate this program as one way through which we can love our neighbors and ourselves.

2/1/26: What is Our Whole Lives?

2/8/26: Exploring Personal Values

2/15/26: Our Whole Lives at St. John UCC

For these three weeks, high school youth are unable to participate in the adult faith formation offering.

High School youth will be able to rejoin the 9:00 am formation hour on 2/22.