

The St. John's Messenger

Volume 14 Issue 8

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August 2014



¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" Mark 1:15

Jesus said "The time has come." It seems that some moments in time bring greater significance to us than others. Those moments of profound significance affect us either in a positive way or a negative way. If we look at those moments through the lens of faith we will see that both positive and negative events can push us closer to God. We can move closer to God both through moments of joy and also through moments of desperation. Moving closer to God is the most important use of time, it is indeed time well spent.

Jesus particularly points out that the Kingdom of God has come near. Now a significant moment in time requires some response. In other words significant moments are not neutral. They compel us to do something. Jesus even spells out the proper response to good news. Repent and believe!

So how do we move into repentance? I want to suggest three aspects of repentance.

The first response is to observe the condition of your life. Where do you stand in regard to living as a friend of God? This accounting of your life will reveal a need to change. The Holy Spirit engages you at the very point in your life that needs to submit to Christ.

Secondly, we need to reflect on what is happening. One way to reflect is to ask questions. What are your emotions revealing to you? What is scripture leading you to do? How will I begin to reform my habits?

Thirdly, for consistent change to take place we need to discuss with trusted friends what

is changing in us. This happens best with others who practice repentance. This commitment to discuss with others will create a forum for honest accountability. James 5:16 "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed."

Repentance is the door that opens to belief in the Good News of Jesus Christ.

In Christ, Pastor Bill



LAPORTE COUNTY 29TH ANNUAL
CROP HUNGER WALK,
SUNDAY, SEPT. 28TH

1st United Methodist Church

1225 Michigan Avenue, LaPorte

Register: 1:15 p.m., Walk: 2:00 p.m

Please walk or sponsor a walker! The walk is 3 miles through tree-lined LaPorte neighborhoods. For more information, please contact Peggy McAnally at peggysue54@comcast.net.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Arbors of Michigan City

Carol Schultz
Ruth Thompson

Settlers House

Dorothy Johnson

Clare Bridge Cottage, Alterra

Ruth Daschbach, June Hapke

Rittenhouse

Beatrice Miller, Ann Johnson, John Reetz, Anita McKee

Lifecare Center of Michigan City

Libby Rogers



MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES!

A reminder, as simple toys, school supplies, and flip flops go on sale, they may be appropriate for the Christmas Child Boxes we assemble in October and November. Also, we continue to support the Tuesday Soup Kitchen at New Disciple Love Church. Juice and paper goods are always needed there.

Thank you for your prayers and help as you remember our neighbors!

--your Missions Committee

THANK YOU!!



Many thanks to all who contributed to our Bake Sale on Saturday, July 5th! We were sold out by noon! The town was full of visitors enjoying the Farmer's Market and parade, the weather was great and we were able to invite our neighbors to worship and to VBS.

We are eager to host our community families at VBS. Please consider how you can be a part of this. --Missions Committee

USHERS

Ushers for the month of August are:

Paul Beebe, Jack Fischbacher, Joe Dabkowski



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

September 7th, 2014

CEMETERY PLOT AVAILABLE

The best reasonable offer for 2 grave sites, 1 marker and 1 vase at Swan Lake Memorial Gardens will be considered (acceptable bidding will begin at \$1,500). Please contact the church office, 872-9121.

COMMUNION & SPECIAL OFFERINGS

August 3, Communion: Home Benevolence
September 7, Communion: Blanket Fund

SPECIAL NEEDS AT SALVATION ARMY

For the month of August, we will focus on supplying our Salvation Army with paper goods, toilet paper, deodorant, cleaning products, hand soap, dish soap, and laundry detergent.

Thank you very much, Missions

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP Meets the 2nd Thursday of every month, 6:30 p.m. here in our Adobe Room

The Alzheimer's Association offers support groups for caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias. Participants in support groups receive emotional support, practical assistance in coping with the issues they face, and the latest information about research. All meetings are confidential and free of charge. To receive additional information, please call 1-800-272-3900.

STUFFED GREEN PEPPER DINNER

Where? St. Luke United Lutheran Church,
2000 E. Coolspring, Mich. City

When? Sat., August 2nd, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Cost? \$10.00

Menu? stuffed green peppers, "Pastor's Carrots," mashed potatoes, salad bar bread, butter, & beverage (desserts, \$1.00)



“SAILING 4 SIGHT”

“Sailing 4 Sight” is an organization of recreational boaters who help underprivileged school-age children receive free eye exams, along with free eyeglasses in local coastal communities. There is room for 30 children to be examined. They will be scheduled on a first-come first-serve basis. Date for the exams will be Saturday, August 9th, from 2 - 9 p.m. If you know of such a child, please have their parents contact Bill (317-626-2246) or Linda (219-210-9542).

RITTENHOUSE OPENINGS AVAILABLE

There is one villa available in the Rittenhouse Independent Senior Living community, and one vacancy in both the Assisted Living and Memory Care areas. Call Stefanie at Rittenhouse, 872-6800, for a personalized tour.

RITTENHOUSE ACTIVITIES

(All require RSVP to Rittenhouse, 872-6800)

Community Bingo will be played at Rittenhouse on

Tuesday August 19, at 2 p.m.

3rd Annual Car Show, September 10.



GREETERS NEEDED

Please consider choosing an upcoming Sunday and adding your name to the Greeter sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board. Your smile and friendly hello are needed in greeting our visitors on Sunday mornings. Please assist in this ministry of welcoming!



St. John's Missions Committee is accepting donations for St. John's Preschool and M.C.A.S Schools. Your generous participation in this mission outreach project will benefit students in both schools. Thank you in advance for your generosity! Please drop off your donations in the library. We will be accepting donations until Monday, August 11th.

ST. JOHN'S PRESCHOOL WISH LIST

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Kleenex | diaper wipes |
| paper towels | napkins |
| construction paper | 5 oz. disposable cups |
| antibacterial wipes | |

M.C.A.S. SCHOOL SUPPLIES WISH LIST

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| crayons | glue sticks |
| pocket folders | pink erasers |
| pencils and pencil boxes | flash drives |
| dry-erase markers | facial tissue |
| spiral notebooks | index cards (3x5) |
| backpacks (new or gently used) | |
| 3-ring binders | markers (washable) |
| 3-ring notebook paper | calculators |



LEPRECHAUN HUNT FAMILY FUN DAY

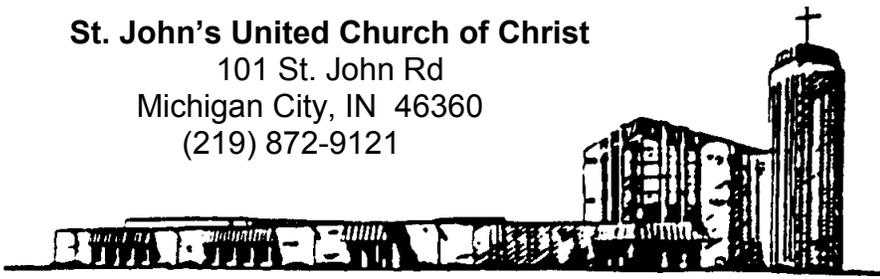
Sunday, August 3, 2014, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
to benefit Sharing Meadows,
6357 N. 300 East, LaPorte

Entrance Fee: \$40 advance, \$50 at gate
(Seniors 65+: \$35 advance, \$45 gate)

Reservations: 219-778-2585

www.leprechaunhunt.com

St. John's United Church of Christ
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(219) 872-9121



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**The LORD is my shepherd; I have
all that I need. He lets me rest
in green meadows; He leads me
beside peaceful streams. He
renews my strength. He guides
me along right paths, bringing
honor to His name. --Psalm 23:1-3**

