

The St. John's Messenger

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August 2016



GOD'S SPEED, DAVE AND LISA KAY

Just as there are seasons in nature, spring, summer, autumn and winter, there are also seasons in our spiritual life. Each and every season has a purpose to prepare us for what is next.

It could be that change happens so we can grow in our discovery of God. God is the solid rock upon which all things hold together. In all circumstances and in all ways God is there holding life together. As we discover how dependable and reliable God is, we have faith to press forward into the future He has planned.

The next change is now upon us. Dave Swartz has been called to serve as Pastor of New Creation Church here in Michigan City on Paks Road. Dave's last Sunday with us is August 28th.

Dave has served as our Minister of Music for just over three years. We have experienced many changes and now we will move into other changes. Through Dave's ministry we have enhanced worship with technology, added praise and worship music to our early service, and revived the Adult Chorus to sing during the Advent and Easter seasons. Dave and his wife Lisa Kay have been instrumental in many aspects of Christian education. They have provided leadership in Sunday School, and supported the Peeps group (Parents With Young Children).

Probably the most significant new event has been the Community-Wide Vacation Bible School. This is the third year for VBS. Partnership with local congregations has been a rich blessing. Dave and Lisa Kay will continue to be involved with VBS with more involvement from New Creation Church.

Right now Dave and I are preparing for ministry transitions. Eric Klink is new to St. John's and he is settling in with the music team at 9:30. He will be a volunteer Coordinator of Music at the early service. A few

other musicians will be in the mix as well as some vocalists from the congregation joining in.

The 11:00 service will have Dan McNabb and Anthony Holt each playing organ once a month, the other Sundays will have digital organ music.

I believe the Spirit is opening up opportunities for members to consider where they are being called to serve. Your involvement beyond Sunday morning worship is vital to establishing faith-based experiences to make disciples. Each of us needs to be growing spiritually. You need to be involved.

I have been very grateful to have shared ministry with Dave Swartz. He has been a trusted and dependable colleague. We have worked very well together. Our individual gifts have complimented each other and I have been enriched in the process. We both share the same vision to be servants for the Kingdom of God.

Dave and Lisa Kay have been a tremendous blessing to ministry in this congregation and I believe we will continue to share ministry together in new and different capacities.

God bless you, Dave and Lisa Kay, as you move into pastoral ministry!

*Keeping our eyes on Christ,
Pastor Bill*

SCHOOL DAYS!

Again we are partnering with Michigan City Schools. Please bring your donations now so they can be distributed at the City-Wide Back To School Rally day (any received later will be taken to local schools).

Especially needed are: backpacks, pens, pencils, erasers, and notebook paper



PRAYER CONCERNS

Aperion (prev. "Arbors")

Carol Schultz, Ruth Thompson

Rittenhouse

Beatrice Miller, Anita McKee,

Alice Flotow, Betsy Berry,

Ann Johnson,

Elsie Mae White, Bob Rumsey

Lifecare Center of Michigan City

Libby Rogers

Brookdale (prev. "Sterling House")

Lou Hapke, Alice Roth, Lois Koepke,

Betty Bowlby, Gloria Stradtner

Hamilton Grove

Lynn Dawson



FOOD BANK FOR AUGUST
Suggestions for the Food Bank of
Salvation Army for August are:
cereal, juice, vegetables, and
any soups



LEPRECHAUN HUNT FAMILY FUN DAY at SHARING MEADOWS

A Community for

Handicapped Adults

6357 N. 300 East, LaPorte

Sunday, August 7, 2016

Gates open at 11 a.m. (cdt)

Hunt from 12–5 p.m.

Food & Entertainment 12–6 p.m.

Entrance fee: \$45 in advance, \$55 at the gate

Seniors (65+): \$40 in advance, \$50 at gate

Children 13 & under, Free if accompanied by

parents or grandparents

Reservations: 219-778-2585



COMMUNION PREPARATION COMMITTEE

The Communion Preparation Committee for August and September consists of Pat Beebe, Virginia Irk, Jane Malott, and Doreen Zepik. Doreen will be calling to set up a time to meet for the preparations.

NEW WORSHIP TIMES

Please remember, our worship times have changed! On Sunday mornings, the Christianity 101 class now meets at 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship now meets at 9:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, with Sunday School for children. Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary is held at 11:00 a.m. Invite a friend to come worship with us on Sunday!

ROOSEVELT PIPE ORGAN SERIES

First Congregational Church,

531 Washington Street, Michigan City

Wednesdays at 12 Noon CST

August 3: Matt Herhard

August 10: Br. Ben Basile

Played on the historic 1891 Roosevelt Opus 506

FREE HEART CART SCREENINGS!!

Free Heart Cart screenings in 2016 are funded by the La Porte Hospital Foundation. Please call 219-326-2626 or visit theheartcart.org for details.

TREE OF LIFE

If you would like to donate a leaf in honor of, celebration of, or memory of a loved one, there are forms available in the church office.

Minimum donation is \$50.

PLAY BALL!

Goodtimers welcomes you, your family, friends, and neighbors to join them in their trip to

South Bend Four Winds Field:

Saturday, August 27th

Gate Opens at 5:00 p.m.

Start time is 6:05 p.m. (Michigan City time)

To see the South Bend Cubs vs. Great Lakes
Fireworks after the game!

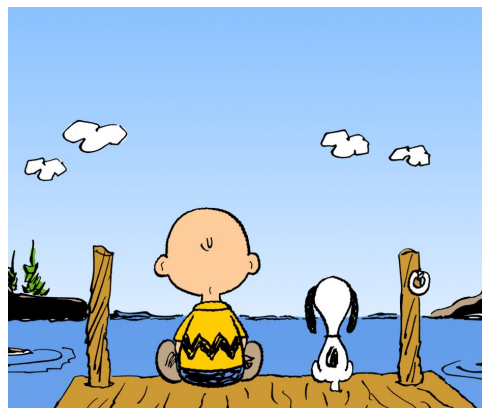
\$10 per person for a field box seat

Reservations and payment are due Sunday, August 7th. Please see John & Betty Bauer (872-2837) or Rudy Nichols (879-9183)

UPCOMING COMMUNION and SPECIAL OFFERING

August 7th: Communion: Home Benevolence

September, Communion: Blanket Fund





CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES

Please bring t-shirts, flip-flops, and pads of paper to fill our Shoe Box gifts. Thank you for continuing this mission!

BEREAVEMENT, ILLNESS, GRIEF SUPPORT

The Bereavement, Illness, Grief, Support group is led by Pastor Dennis Carroll. This group is open to anyone dealing with struggles and stresses, such as if you are dealing with terminal illness,



anticipatory grief, stress, caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's, or bereavement. All families and/or caregivers of those experiencing challenges are also most welcome

to attend. This group meets every other Thursday at 11:00 a.m. in the Adobe Room and is open to all! Meetings in August will be August 4th and August 18th.

SOUP KITCHEN UPDATE

Many thanks to those who shared their Sunday morning with neighbors by preparing and serving lunch at St. Paul's on July 3rd!

We served 82 plus a few carry-outs for some homebound.

BE A FOSTER PARENT!

Foster parents are currently in great need in Indiana. "KidsPeace" seeks individuals or couples to provide temporary homes to children in need. Receive guidance, training financial reimbursement, and 24-hour support. If you can help, please call 1-800-433-2363. There is much more information on the main bulletin board.



BLOODMOBILE

The next Bloodmobile at St. John's will be on Tuesday, August 2nd. Please call 1-800-Red Cross to schedule your blood donation.



WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Saturday,
October 1, 2016

Registration at 12:30 p.m.
Washington Park, Michigan City
Start a team!
Call 1-800-272-3900

VBS BAKE SALE THANK YOU!!

Fourteen members brought goodies so we could earn funds and publicize our community VBS. Thank you to bakers and set-up helpers! Your baked goods were very much appreciated! Stay tuned for the next opportunity . . .

CITY MUSIC FESTIVAL HELP NEEDED

The 15th annual Michigan City Chamber Music Festival will be August 13th to 21st. Each concert is followed by a cookie reception in the First Presbyterian Church lounge. They are in need of people willing to donate cookies for these receptions and to help with the receptions at each concert (Aug. 13, 15, 17, 19, and 21). If you would like to serve or donate cookies, please call Donna Mitchell (219-575-1905) or email her at dmm8635@mac.com
Thank you for your willingness to help!

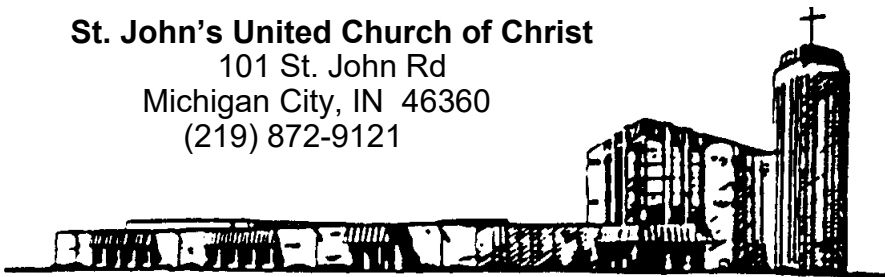


MEN'S CHOIR

The Men's Choir will meet Sunday, August 28th, at 10:10 in the choir room.



St. John's United Church of Christ
101 St. John Rd
Michigan City, IN 46360
(219) 872-9121



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~ SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED ~

Our St. John's Preschool especially needs donations of hand wipes, paper towels, tissues, and disinfecting wipes. As always, your generous donations are very greatly appreciated all during the year by our preschool!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

A most sincere Thank You! to everyone who so generously contributed to the success of our annual Jonah Fish Fry! To you who donated your time to help set up, serve, sell, & clean up, or who baked delicious pies for our desert table, to all who sold or purchased tickets and joined us in a delicious meal, to all who supported our Fish Fry by your prayers--to EVERYONE who helped in any way--we offer our most heartfelt thanks! It was again a great success!

Treasure Box Poetry And Praise

