



## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

### **SUNDAY - DECEMBER 8**

8:30 Christianity 101  
 9:30 Worship  
 Coffee Hour  
 10:00 Men's Choir  
 10:45 Women's Study  
 11:00 & 12 p.m. Worship

### **MONDAY - DECEMBER 9**

6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study  
 6:00 Preschool Board

### **WEDNESDAY - DECEMBER 11**

4:00 p.m. Women Part. w/ Christ  
 5:30 Discovery Dinner  
 6:00 Boy Scouts

### **THURSDAY - DECEMBER 12**

8:30 Peanut Brittle

### **SUNDAY - DECEMBER 15**

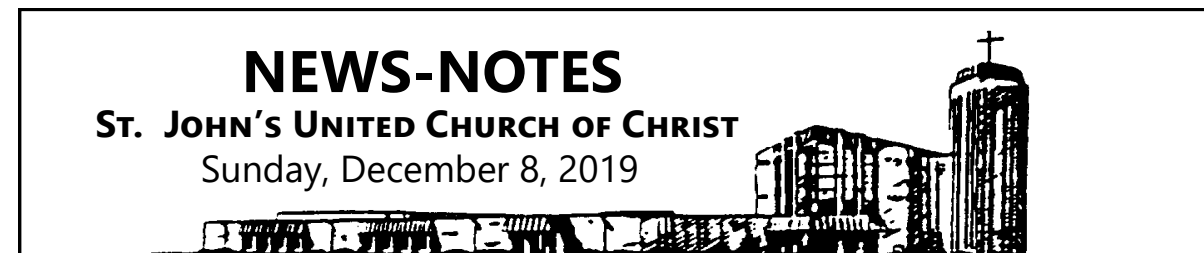
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### **SAFE HARBOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Safe Harbor, the Michigan City Area Schools out-of-school time program, has paid part-time positions open for staff to work the school year. Some of the best staff they have ever had has come from and been involved in local churches! Please check the bulletin board for more information.

### **ALZHEIMER'S/DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**

Learn the latest data, services, caregiving skills and emotional support for someone dealing with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia. Rittenhouse hosts a support group on the third Wednesday of each month, starting at 2:00 p.m. This is a free support group open to the community.



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**All are Welcome**

As we unite in worship today, we extend a warm welcome to each one present. We are glad to have you sharing in our celebration of worship. We invite you to take a "Welcome" brochure. The "Welcome" brochures contain more information about St. John's United Church of Christ, as does our website, [www.stjohnsmc.org](http://www.stjohnsmc.org). For your convenience, childcare is provided each Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Nursery playroom. Please join us for refreshments between services in the Fellowship Hall. A church member will be happy to show you the way.

**ATTENDANCE:** Last Sunday: 9:30 a.m., 71; 11:00 a.m., 40; 12:00 p.m., 10; Total: 121  
 Adult class: 13



### **Celebration of Advent, "Away in a Manger"**

The Church is entrusted with a message to proclaim to the world. This message is about the incarnation of a messiah/Savior. God's only begotten Son came to earth as God in human form to save people from sin and death. Jesus' coming was prophesied by prophets so we might watch for Him and prepare to receive Him. It is our joy to remember Jesus and tell of the Good News of His life, death and resurrection.

Advent is the season which focuses on celebrating Jesus' birth. This year we will follow a sermon series entitled "Away in a Manger" produced by Skit Guys. Each of the four Sundays of Advent and the Sunday after Christmas will highlight a Christmas Carol that tells the story of Jesus' coming. Each Carol is associated with a Biblical character who personifies the teaching of the Carol.

"Away in a Manger"

Dec. 8: Wise Men, "Silent Night"

Dec. 15: Joseph, "Away in a Manger"

Dec. 22: Mary, "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Dec. 29: Shepherd, "O Holy Night"

**LIVE CHRISTMAS NATIVITY**  
Saturday, December 21st  
5:00-8:00 p.m.

Queen of All Saints Church  
outside campus,  
1715 E. Barker Ave.

St. John's, together with Queens, St. Mary's, Immanuel Lutheran Church, and First United Methodist Church, is taking part in this Live Nativity presentation.

Come see Kristen and Ben Jasicki as Mary and Joseph from 6-7 p.m.!

They are also looking to put together a Choir for the opening at 5 p.m. (They will be done in plenty of time for those singing in the Messiah to get there.) If interested please contact Debbie Topolski at (219)877-5093 or email Dtopol@comcast.net.

### **.RITTENHOUSE MINISTRY**

**Next meeting, Thurs., Dec. 19th**  
9:15-10:15 a.m.;

1st floor Memory Care, at Rittenhouse  
If you would like to join us or if you need further information, please call Pastor Carroll, 219.898.8492.



### **PEANUT BRITTLE = A WIN, WIN PROJECT!**

St. John's is offering its famous peanut brittle for \$8.50 per pound! Our last two work days are December 12, and December 19th. To make sure you get the amount you want, please place advance orders with the church office. Pickup of orders is during office hours (9 a.m. to 12 noon, Mon., Tues., Thur., or Fri.) or on Sunday mornings between services.

Tell your family and friends that once again all profits from this sale will be donated to community agencies or St. John's projects. Thank you for your continued support!

### **PRAYER AND MEDITATION**

Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 Franklin St. in Michigan City, is opening its doors each Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for those that may need a mid-week reset. Come sit and pray in your own way in either our church or chapel (they will be rotated) each Wednesday. It is a great way to come together with God during a hectic week no matter where you worship on Sundays. For questions, please contact [williams.sarahjo@gmail.com](mailto:williams.sarahjo@gmail.com).



### **DECEMBER SOUP KITCHENS**

You'll find a special blessing in the ministry at year's end. Our St. John's Soup Kitchen crew will serve dinner for 30 to 40 homeless men:

Monday, December 16

Access at 5 PM, serve at 7 PM

1st Presbyterian Church

121 W. 9th Street

Linda Mrkva will prepare the meatballs that these homeless guys enjoy so much. We need a few side dishes.

On Sunday December 24, we will serve lunch to perhaps 140 homeless and needy at St. Paul.

Sunday, December 29

Access at 8:30 AM, serve at 11:30 AM

St. Paul Lutheran

818 Franklin Street (enter from 8th Street Parking Lot, go downstairs)

This winter, we're feeding more people. An easy way to help is to attend St. John's 9:30 AM service, then come up to St. Paul by 11 AM to help set up and serve. This event also needs some disciples to clean up afterwards. To help us, call Don Briggs at 219.324.6117 or Lynda Ferry at 219.872.1427.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The November Treasurer's Report is now available in the office. If you would like a copy and are unable to stop in, give us a call and we'll be happy to mail you a copy.

### **MINISTRY LEADERS:**

### **ANNUAL REPORTS DUE!**

*Just a reminder to all ministry leaders: your annual report is due at the December 12th Board meeting. Please also send your report as a word.doc via email to the office at [secretary@stjohnsmc.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsmc.org). Thank you!!*

### **DISCOVERY DINNER HELP NEEDED!!**

We are looking for someone (or a group) who would be interested in cooking 1 or 2 dinners for Discovery Dinners on Wednesday nights between January and April, 2020. Please contact Beth Ann at 872-5292 for details. Your help is greatly appreciated!

### **THE BULLY AND BEN**

LaPorte Service League invites the community to our 85th annual live theater performance. We have selected "The Bully and Ben" for this year's production.

Our dedication to the enrichment of our community is evident, as we prepare each aspect of the production from acting to costume design to lighting and sound.

Performances are January 27th-January 30th at LaPorte High School Auditorium at 9:30a.m. Monday-Thursday and 1:00 p.m. Monday-Wednesday. Admission is \$0.50 for students and \$1.00 for adults. Reservations can be made on our website [laporteserviceleague.com](http://laporteserviceleague.com)