

The St. John's Messenger

Volume 17 Issue 7

www.stjohnsmc.com

July 2017



REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9

A farmer was showing his visiting city-dwelling friend around his farm. "Watch this!" he said. He gave a whistle and his little dog came running from the house, herded the cattle into the corral, and then latched the gate with her paw. "Wow, that's some dog -- what's her name?" The forgetful farmer thought for a minute and then asked, "What do you call that red flower that smells good and has thorns on the stem?" "A rose?" "That's it!" The farmer turned to his wife. "Hey Rose, what do we call this dog?"

Funny how we forget things, isn't it? But I'm not so sure God finds it all that funny! When we read about the children of Israel and their journeys through the wilderness for forty years, we see how God provided wonderful miracles for them, feeding them daily with manna, guiding them by a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day, parting the Red Sea!

How is it, then, that they became so very hard-hearted toward Him? Over time, I think those miracles just became commonplace and they began to take them for granted!

But then again when I look back on my life, I can't really blame them. It happens to the best of us! God has done miracles in our lives and I'm sure He's done many in each of yours as well! But we still become distracted and forgetful.

How important it is to remember we belong to God through faith in Christ. The Lord has called us out of darkness through the light of His presence. We have been chosen to be a holy priesthood of people who worship and praise God.

During the summer it is so easy to forget our love for God and love summer activities more. The forgetful farmer had to be reminded not only of the name of his amazing dog but also of the name of his precious wife. Wow!

We never want to become forgetful of our relationship with God! Let's spend some time as His people bringing Him the offering of our worship. Reach out to a neighbor or friend to invite them to join you in worship of God.

... for the joy of the Lord
is your strength!
Pastor Bill

RITTENHOUSE MINISTRY UPDATE

On June 15, St. John's Rittenhouse Ministry



made its second visit. About 6 of our members met with about 9 Rittenhouse residents. We prayed, sang, shared Communion, and Pastor Carrol delivered a brief message. Sue Allison brought a DVD of the Gaither Family, and the Rittenhouse residents really like to sing along. We go to the 2nd Floor of Rittenhouse monthly on 3rd Thursdays. Please join us at 1 p.m. on July 20th, at Rittenhouse Village at Michigan City, 4300 Cleveland Ave.



VBS Registration

This year, registration for Michigan City Community Wide Vacation Bible School is online only.

Registration is open now and will close on July 5. Volunteers and parents must register at <http://www.mcvbs.com>.

All VBS volunteers must attend one of our two training sessions at St. John's:

- Sunday July 9, 2 PM
- Tuesday July 11, 6:30 PM

This year, MCVBS will photograph every volunteer.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

We will give them to Michigan City students. Distribution is August 10th so please bring composition books, folders, pencils, notebook paper, crayons, and colored pencils by August 6th. *Thank you! Missions*



FOOD BANK

Thank you for continuing to contribute to the Food Bank! Your donations of any soaps, toilet paper, macaroni & cheese, tuna, mayo, and peanut butter & jelly are always greatly appreciated!

OFFICE CLOSED

Please note, the church office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th.



MISSION TRIP TO MEXICO THANK YOU!

Thank you for your most generous donations of supplies for Dave & Lisa Kay's Mexican Mission trip! They came in handy and were very much appreciated!! *Buen viaje a, Dave & Lisa Kay!*

VBS Bake Sale

Michigan City Community Wide Vacation Bible School will hold a Bake Sale fundraiser:

Saturday, July 1, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

St. Stan's Farmer's Market

Please drop by and treat your family to some delicious baked goods! Bakers can donate baked goods and drop them off at St. John's kitchen on Friday, June 30, 9 p.m. - 3 p.m.. Please call Lynda, 872-1427, or Don, (219) 324.6117 for details.



PRESCHOOL APPLICATIONS *and* ~ CALLING ALL PRESCHOOL ALUMNI! ~

St. John's Preschool is still accepting applications for the M-W-F afternoon preschool class for the 2017-2018 school year. Registration forms are available in the office.

Also, in preparation for our 40th anniversary celebration, we are asking all St. John's Preschool alumni to send us their current contact information. Please call the church office, 219-872-9121, and let us know your current mailing address or email address. We're looking forward to celebrating with you in 2017-2018!



SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

St. John's volunteers will serve homeless people on Sunday, July 2, access at 9:30 a.m.,

serve at about 11 a.m. at St. Paul's

You may bring food to St. John's Kitchen at the 9:30 service. You can also join us to help at St.

Paul's at 9:30 or after St. John's 9:30 service.

Please call Lynda, 872-1427, to participate.

NOISY OFFERING

Since there are 5 Sundays in July, we will be collecting the Noisy Offering on Sunday, July 30th. Let's make a joyful noise!!





HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

On June 12, St. John's served lunch to a work crew from Habitat for Humanity. The home under construction is at 1922 Tennessee St. in Michigan City.

BLOODMOBILE

The next Bloodmobile at St. John's will be on Tuesday, July 11th. Please call 1-800-Red Cross to schedule your blood donation.

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.

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

~Everyone welcome! ~



The St. John's Women's Guild will be seeing a play at the Canterbury Theater on Thursday, July 20th. Please remember to sign up if you are planning on attending; we will meet at the theater. The play will be about the life of Mrs. Cole Porter, Linda Lee Thomas. Music & lyrics are by Cole Porter. The time is 2:00 p.m. Questions, please call Karen, 872-5087.

LEPRECHAUN HUNT FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday, August 6, 2017
At Sharing Meadows,
a community for
handicapped adults

Gates open at 11:00 a.m.

Hunt from 12 to 5:00 p.m.

Food & entertainment 12 to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 219-778-2585 for reservations.



DONATIONS REQUESTED

The Women's Guild will continue two projects during this year. If you wish to join in our effort, donations would be appreciated!



We are collecting men's socks (gently-used or preferable new) which we will give to the Men's shelters when they reopen in the fall. Lorraine Hoffman, wife of our beloved Roderick Hoffman, shared that a past donation of socks was a blessing, as most of the men in the Shelter are in need of socks for the fall and winter seasons.

Secondly, the Guild is continuing to collect throws, afghans, polar fleece material, and lap blankets to be shared with St. John's friends and members during the winter season.

Any donations can be dropped off in the church office in a bag marked "Guild."

Thank you for considering a donation!

St. John's Women's Guild

FISH FRY THANK YOU!

A big "Thank you!" to all the workers, first-timers and seasoned, for a fantastic job Friday at our annual Fish Fry! I am truly grateful to all of you. Thank-yous also go out to Boy Scout Troop 871 for helping to set up on Wed. night and for cleaning up Friday night! Beth Ann Ast

CHRISTMAS CHILD

Our Christmas Child planning includes t-shirts and flip-flops, toothbrushes and bar soap. Please help fill our boxes for November distribution.



There is a display outside Fellowship Hall to drop off your donations.

NEW DISCIPLE CHURCH SOUP KITCHEN

Our Michigan City neighbors extend hospitality every day by offering lunch. New Disciple Church is one site that can use help, with paper plates, bowls, cutlery, cups, and napkins as well as lemonade mix and juice.

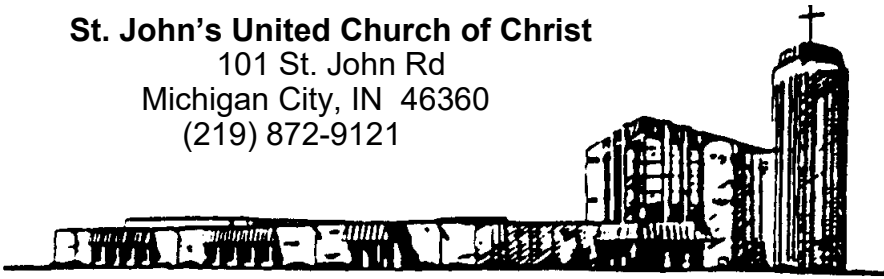
Please bring your items in a bag marked "New Disciple" and put them by our Food Bank collection.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The ladies' Psalms Bible study group will resume meetings on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Thereafter, they will be meeting on Sept. 23rd, Oct. 7th, Oct. 21st, Nov. 4th and Nov. 18th in the Adobe Room.

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



NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
MICHIGAN CITY, IN
PERMIT NO. 96

Return Service Requested

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display His
craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak;
night after night they make Him known. — Psalm 19:1-2

For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom. — 2 Corinthians 3:17

And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.
— John 8:32



