

The St. John's Messenger

Volume 14 Issue 6

www.stjohnsmc.

June 2014



REFRESHED!

As the heat of summer comes along, we will turn to the refreshment of a cool drink of iced tea, lemonade or even a drink of ice water. When the exertion of summer activity makes us thirsty, we want to quench our thirst and be refreshed.

Remember your soul also needs refreshment. Your soul thirsts after God. Just as water refreshes the body, worship of God refreshes the soul.

But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life. -- John 4:14

Spiritual hydration from drinking in Jesus through prayer and worship truly refreshes our soul. The presence of Christ in your life is a spring of living water to continually refresh you to share refreshment with others. Christ refreshes us, so we are equipped to refresh others.

Who comes to mind that you can refresh? Single adults fearful of not getting married need refreshment. Senior adults fearful of dying need refreshment. Widows and widowers fearful of loneliness need refreshment. Divorcees need refreshment. Hard-charging leaders need refreshment. Perhaps you can ask a close confidant how you can be refreshment to them. The Lord refreshes our hearts, so we can refresh other weary hearts.

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." -- Proverbs 11:25

The benefit of being a refresher is its reciprocal nature. By God's grace we unexpectedly receive refreshment, for this is the Lord's cycle of refreshment. This principle of receiving back new energy is humbling and life-giving. If we refresh others we will be refreshed!

Furthermore, learn to enjoy reciprocal refreshment. Be a generous receiver, as well as a generous giver. What does it mean to be a generous receiver? We say thank you to the ones who refresh us and in our spirit we whisper a thank you to our heavenly Father for sending us His agent of encouragement. Life comes from our humble dependence on Jesus, whose life-giving water flows from us.

So, drink often: sip, swig or guzzle, but drink of Him!

*In the refreshment of Christ,
Pastor Bill*

GRADUATION SUNDAY

June 8, 2014

If you have not already notified the church office of your student's upcoming graduation, please do so as soon as possible so we can include your graduate's name in our celebration!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

St. John's will host a Vacation Bible School this summer. We are collaborating with Bethel AME, River of Life, and St. Andrew's Episcopal. The program will run from Monday, July 28, to Friday August 1, from 5:45pm to 8:15 pm each evening. We will welcome pre-school children 3 years old and older, and children beginning Grades 1 through 5 in the fall. Please prayerfully consider getting involved with our VBS program. You can add to its impact on the children! We would appreciate more volunteers because this effort is growing. A sign-up sheet is located on the hallway bulletin board. For additional information or questions, please contact Lisa Kay Swartz at (219) 229-8461 or at Lisa-kayswartz@gmail.com

PRAYER CONCERNS

Arbors of Michigan City

James Lubs Carol Schultz
Ruth Thompson

Settlers House

Dorothy Johnson

Clare Bridge Cottage, Alterra

Ruth Daschbach June Hapke

Rittenhouse

Beatrice Miller Ann Johnson

Lifecare Center of Michigan City

Libby Rogers



SPRING RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU!

A big *Thank you!* to Tim & the M.A.D. group and to one and all who helped in any way with our once again very successful spring Rummage Sale! Total profits from the Sale were \$3,000.00. Without your generous spirit and willing hearts and hands, our Sale would not have been possible. In particular, thank you very much to everyone who helped with cleaning the room, setting up and taking down the tables, and to the M.A.D. group who served the delicious lunch to the Rummage Sale helpers on Thursday! Thank you very much to everyone who donated your treasures, purchased items, and put in your time and energy to make this project a big success and helped in so many ways! --Betty Johnson



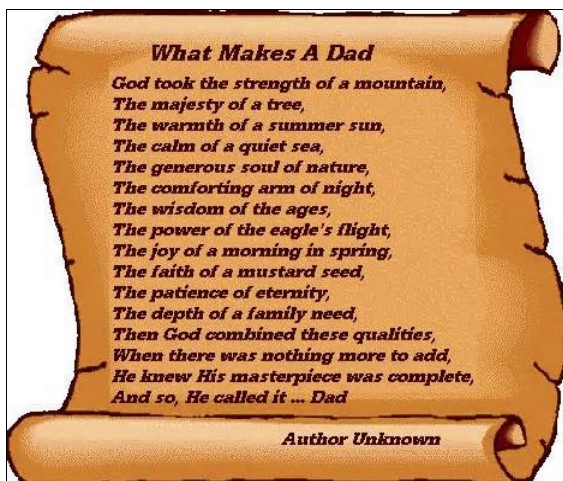
BEACH, BOOK, & BOARDWALK, PART 3

Back by popular demand, we will be doing another "Beach, Book, & Boardwalk" book review this summer. The book will be "Knit Together: Discover God's Pattern for Your Life" by Debbie Macomber. Tentative plans are to meet weekly beginning on Tuesday, June 17th at 5:30 p.m. at Washington Park Beach by the Senior Center. If you are interested in joining us, please order your book no later than June 9th from either Debbie Dill or Nicole in the church office. For further questions, see Debbie. Come join us as we wiggle our feet in the sand and enjoy fellowship while we see how God has knitted each of us for His purpose.

LADIES' EVENT

July 12, 2014 - Clarion Inn, Mich. Cty.,
8:30 - 4:00 p.m.

for tickets and information, please go to
www.WorthyRecovery.org



WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

The St. John's Women's Guild will be attending a matinee at Mainstreet Theater, 807 Franklin St., on Thursday, June 26, at 2:00 p.m. The play will be "Why Do Fools Fall In Love?" Admission for Seniors (62 & over) is \$14, regular admission is \$15. Anyone wishing to attend should sign up on the bulletin board by the office or call Karen at 872-5087. The deadline for reservations is Sunday, June 22.

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP Meets the 2nd Thursday of every month, 6:30 p.m. here at St. John's, 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.

HANDBELL BAKE SALE

Our handbells will be going in for some major and minor repairs over the summer and the Handbell Choir will sponsor a bake sale on Sunday, June 1st, to help defray some of the expense. You will find the bake sale at the west entrance between the 8:00 and 10:00 services and after the 10:00 service (if there's anything left). If you're counting calories, a donation to the Handbells Choir would be sweet!

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

- Open to the Public -

Tuesday, June 10th, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Health Partners Medical Group

Bankoff Conference Room

1225 E. Coolspring Ave., Mich. City

call 877-1605, ext. 2, for more information

LET'S MAKE ROOM!

The Fish Fry is coming soon, so the refrigerator will need to be cleaned out. Please claim anything that belongs to you so we can put Fish Fry food into the kitchen.

Also, having trouble finding that favorite pan or bowl at home? Please check the kitchen for your item! Thank you!

LENTEN COLLECTION THANK YOU!

Thank you very much for your contributions to the "Clean-Up Buckets." Pastor Bill delivered them to the NW Association meeting. Since storm season is here, they will definitely be needed. Also, a special thank you to Mike & Debbie Dill for setting up the collection site!

--Missions Committee

NOISY OFFERING IN JUNE, AUGUST, & NOVEMBER, 2014

To learn about showing love for our brothers and sisters around the world in the name of Jesus, we are asking the children in Sunday School to choose some gifts for the needy from the Samaritan's Purse catalog, website <http://www.samaritanspurse.org/our-ministry/gift-catalog/> We would appreciate your change (or dollars) to support this important ministry.



ST. JOHN'S FISH FRY

Friday, June 20th, 2014

4 - 7:00 p.m.

VBS BACKPACK COLLECTION



The VBS Planning Committee is hoping to collect 35 backpacks along with the listed school supplies by July 15th. These backpacks will be used as an incentive for our elementary kids during our summer VBS week. A collection box is located in the hallway. Suggested school supplies are: paper, pencils, pens, erasers, scissors, glue, rulers, crayons and colored pencils.

MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES!

We will be serving lunch to Habitat for Humanity workers on Thursday, June 12th, at 11:30 a.m.

There will also be a Bake Sale at the Farmer's Market on Saturday, July 5th.

We need your help!! If interested, please call Lynda, 872-1427.

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

COMMUNION & SPECIAL OFFERINGS

June 1st, Communion: Heifer Project
June 8th, Special Envelope: Strengthen the Church

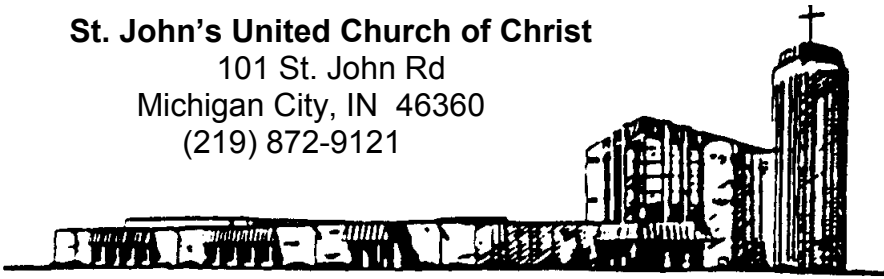
USHERS

Ushers for the month of June are:
Paul Steinheiser, Arnie Bos, Joe Dabkowski
Mike & Debbie Dill

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.

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



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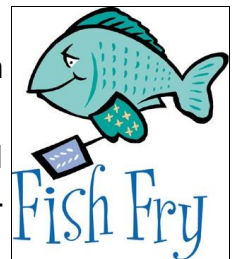
Return Service Requested

ST. JOHN'S JONAH FISH FRY - June 20, 2014 - 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

We are looking for volunteers for the Fish Fry. Please see the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board near the office and add your name to the list of helpers!

Also, we are collecting donations of 4 lb. or 5 lb. bags of sugar for our coleslaw and 15 or 16 oz. clean sour cream, cottage cheese or butter containers for Fish Fry leftovers. Sugar and empty containers may be dropped off in the boxes by the kitchen.

Financial donations will also be cheerfully accepted! Your donation can be turned in to the church office any time with a note that it is to go to the Fish Fry Fund. All donations will be used to help offset the cost of supplies. *Thank you very much for your generosity and support of our Fish Fry!*



Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, who has blessed us
in the heavenly realms
with every spiritual blessing
in Christ.

--Ephesians 1:3 NIV



