

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
						
3 COMMUNION 8:30 Christ.101 9:30 Worship Coffee Hour 10 Men's Choir 11 Worship 12 Worship	4 6 p.m. Men's Bible	5 12—6 pm Bloodmobile	6	7	1 4 - 7:00 p.m. Fish Fry 	2 9 am Women's Study (Adobe)
10 Graduation 8:30 Christ.101 9:30 Worship Coffee Hour 10 Men's Choir 11 Worship 12 Worship	11 6 p.m. Men's Bible	12	13	14 6:30 p.m. Consistory	8	9 10 - 2 pm Port a Pit Chicken For VBS @ St. John's
17 Father's Day 8:30 Christ.101 9:30 Worship Coffee Hour 10 Men's Choir 11 Worship 12 Worship	18 6 p.m. Men's Bible	19	20	21 12:30p.m. Women's Guild 1:00 pm Rittenhouse Ministry	15	16 9 am Women's Study (Adobe)
24 FOODBANK 8:30 Christ.101 9:30 Worship Coffee Hour 10 Men's Choir 11 Worship 12 Worship	25 6 p.m. Men's Bible	26	27	28	29	30 9 am Women's Study (Adobe) Bake Sale @ Farm. Mkt. for VBS

St. John's Messenger

Volume 18 Issue 6

www.stjohnsmc.org

June 2018

Pastor William H. Fine
101 St. John Road
Michigan City, Indiana 46360

St. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Office Manager: norzech@stjohnsmc.org
Office Secretary: secretary@stjohnsmc.org

bfine@stjohnsmc.org
219-872-9121
www.stjohnsmc.org

INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS BUILD A ROBUST CHURCH

Even back in Jesus' day people struggled with overcoming differences. Our tendency is to gather people into groups by certain shared characteristics. One particular way of dividing people is by age.

Even though families enjoy the blessing of multigenerational relationships, somehow in the church we separate the generations from each other.

Over time, generations lose connection with one another. Gaps of misunderstanding begin to happen. Older generations identify the young generation as narcissistic and the young may identify the older generation as crabby.

How do we bridge the gap? The church takes its lead from what Jesus has done for us. I present this teaching from Ephesians.

Ephesians 2:14-18

¹⁴For he is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end.

Through his sacrifice on the cross, Jesus provides a way of peace and unity through himself. In our common condition of sin we have a common need of Christ's love and forgiveness. As we mature in Christ's love we can learn to love others who are different from us. This love of Christ creates the character of godliness within us no matter what age.

Intergenerational friendships can lead us to grow in godliness. They do this first by forcing us to love more maturely. The more I have in common with someone, the easier it is to love them.

Loving someone different from me requires me to love more deliberately. I'm going to have to ask more questions and listen better; to hear

things I don't understand and maybe things I don't agree with. I might have to sacrifice things on my schedule or my style. But developing that intergenerational friendship will make me into a more maturely-loving person.

I want to share the following insight from Joseph Rhea who is director of ministries for the downtown congregation of Soma Church in Indianapolis.

"Intergenerational friendship will also help me develop humility. No matter my age, I must set aside my generation's narcissistic tendency to think that we figured it out and everyone else had better listen up. My generation-saturated views—on politics, on entertainment, on church music—may not [gasp!] be the only ones a godly/rational/socially-aware person can hold. I may find issues that, on biblical reflection, godly people can freely disagree on. Or mine may be flat-out wrong. Making friends with people of other generations teaches me godly humility. Opening our lives to the view of someone not saturated in my generation's assumptions can expose lifestyle patterns that, on biblical reflection, don't line up with God's will. God can use these friendships to tune my heart more definitely to his will."

C. S. Lewis said that friendship begins when one person says to another, "What! You too?" That is, when we find with delight that we share common ground with another.

I am part of a small group of different-aged men who have bonded over a common relationship with Jesus. We've grown closer by discussing God's Word, by sharing our triumphs and struggles in life with God, and by wondering together at the grace of God displayed in Jesus Christ.

I want to encourage you to reach out to someone of a different age and build a friendship. Take the initiative over the summer to build common ground with someone older or younger. Show interest in them, share experiences of faith and watch what God does through that opportunity. *Fixing our eyes on Jesus, Pastor Bill*

REMEMBER OUR MEMBERS IN GROUP LIVING COMMUNITIES

Rittenhouse: Betsy Berry, Bob Rumsey, Eleanor Warnke, Roger & Leona Schlaak, Dick Schaeffer
Trail Creek Place (formerly "Brookdale")
Betty Bowlby, Gloria Stradtner,
Marge Pickford, June Schlegelmilch
Hamilton Grove Lifecare Center
Ruth Thompson Wally Yentes



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Please note, our summer office hours of 9 a.m. to 12 noon will begin Friday, June 1st and continue through Labor Day.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY!

Our Interfaith Summer Women's Shelter needs help! We offered to freeze individual meals so they can be microwaved and served at the First Presbyterian site. Please call Don (219.324.6117) or Lynda (872.1427) for more information.

CHRISTMAS CHILD

Many thanks to those who contribute all year! Good buys right now are t-shirts, flip-flops, bandanas, and jump ropes. Last year we filled 83 boxes; this year our goal is 100 boxes.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS FOR VBS!

- Sat., June 9: Port A Pit Chicken,
• @ St. John's; 10 - 2:00 p.m.
- ♦ Sat., June 30: Bake Sale, at Farmer's Market
- ♦ Sat., July 7: Bake Sale, at Farmer's Market

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Graduation Sunday will be June 10, 2018. Graduates will be honored at the 9:30 a.m. service. *Please call the office asap if you know of a St. John's student who will be graduating this year!*

FISH FRY NEWS

Friday, June 1st, 2018; 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

• Cost: Adults 13 & over: \$10.00

(However, if you purchase your ticket before May 31st, you will receive a coupon for a free dessert!)

Hurry, only a few days left!

Children 12 & under: Free; Desserts: \$1.00
Includes all-you-can-eat white fish, potato salad, coleslaw, bread, & beverage.

Family bucket: \$30.00 (includes 12 pieces fish, 1 lb. each, potato salad & homemade coleslaw, 4 slices of bread)

Adult carry-out: 3 pieces fish, 6 oz. each of potato salad & coleslaw, 1 slice bread

• Tickets for sale soon in the church office from 9 - 3 p.m. M., T., Th., F; after services on Sundays, & at the door the night of the Fish Fry.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY!

St. John's will serve lunch for a work crew:

Habitat for Humanity

June 18, 2018, at 11:30 a.m.

318 Roosevelt, La Porte

To volunteer, please call Don at (219) 324.6117 or Lynda at 872-1427.

FAMILY INFORMATION UPDATE

We are currently in the process of updating vital statistics information in our congregation's secure church database. If you have not already done so, please fill out the questionnaire (copies available in the narthex and outside Fellowship Hall) and return to the office. Also, if you know of past members who may not attend St. John's but who would wish to have their information (baptism, confirmation, marriage at St. John's) preserved in our computerized database, please ask them to stop in and fill out a questionnaire. For out-of-towners, we will be happy to mail them a form.

Thank you to all who have already filled out their updates. Your assistance in this project is very greatly appreciated, and is helping preserve St. John's past vital records for the future!

DEEPEST CONDOLENCES

St. John's wishes to extend deepest condolences to the family of **Mr. Timothy Dietz** who recently entered eternal life. We pray God's peace and comfort on Mr. Dietz's family and friends.

UNITED CHURCH FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund was started in the 4th quarter (Oct.-Nov.-Dec., 1997) with an investment of \$1,500. Only interest earned from this Fund may be used for the church expenses. The principal remains invested in the Fund. 1st Quarter 2018

Units: 10,398.1543 Book Value: \$78,910.74

Unit Price: 11.2715 Mkt Value: \$117,202.80

Many *thanks* to all the individuals who have invested in the Fund over the years.

VBS Volunteers!

Registration is now open for volunteers for our 2018 Michigan City Community-Wide Vacation Bible School program. Registration is online only at mcvbs.com. We can accommodate hard-copy registration on request: call Don at 219.324.6117.

IKC-UCC NEWS

Our own Pastor Dennis Carroll has been nominated for the vice-presidency of the Indiana-Kentucky UCC Board. Congratulations and best wishes for a successful bid, Pastor Carroll! The family of St. John's stands with you!

MICH. CITY CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL, August 4-12

at First Presbyterian Church

If you are interested in providing home baked cookies for the five Festival receptions, please call Donna Mitchell, 219-575-1905, or email dmm8635@mac.com

HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY!

June 1	Ed Daschbach
June 4	Michael Paholski Suzanne Novak Ariel Snapp June Wilke
June 5	Jonathan Levendoski
June 7	Mark Webber
June 8	Dave Swartz
June 9	Carla Quinn Hunter Williams
June 12	Dorothy Westphal
June 13	Aaron Phillips
June 14	Scott Phillips
June 15	Debbie Paholski
June 17	Joyce Hullinger
June 18	Linda Mrkva
June 19	Megan Schroeder
June 20	June Lucas
June 21	Elliot Jasicki
June 23	Ella Rubino
June 24	Marie Stinchcomb
June 25	Rayshelle Cooney Jessica Rife
June 26	Nolan Fine
June 28	Megan Applegate



ST. JOHN'S WOMEN'S GUILD

At the June Women's Guild meeting on June 21st at 12:30 pm., a representative from Trail Creek Place Senior Living, 1400 E. Coolspring Ave., will be presenting "Healthcare Decisions, From Home Health to Hospice." Join the Women's Guild in the Youth Lounge to hear this informative talk. All ladies of the congregation are always most welcome!

RITTENHOUSE MINISTRY — NEW TIME!

Every third Thursday at 9:15—10:15 a.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 21st

Second floor of Rittenhouse

Join us!