

The St. John's Messenger

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MATURITY OF FAITH

The truth of Jesus' resurrection revives our commitment to follow Him. Jesus' love for us could not be contained by death. He gives us every help we need to mature in faith. All we need to do is to apply His word to our life. We are to be living examples of a life lived for Christ.

God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Genesis 1:26

One of the most remarkable aspects of being a human being is that, as an image-bearer of God, you have the capacity to reflect the very nature of God Himself.

I want to share this excerpt from a devotional by Tripp Prince: "... every single human being who has ever lived is made in God's image, yet the Scriptures remind us that not all humans equally reflect His likeness."

The image of God can never be lost. It is the very basis of what it means to be human. However, the likeness of God is offered to us as a potential way of life. It is something that we must submit our actions and desires to—it is the very heart of what is often called "Christ-like living."

It is why Paul said to the Galatians that his great desire was for Christ to be formed in them (Gal. 4:19).

The church is a community of persons who practice being more Christ-like. We practice being a servant as Jesus served, we practice submitting our will to Christ as Christ obeyed the will of God. Young Christians in the faith benefit from seeing mature faith in action. Your mature faith is needed in active participation in church. Come show your "likeness in Christ."

*Be like Christ,
Pastor Bill*

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. The group will be meeting in May on Thursdays, May 12th and May 26th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Adobe Room. This group meets every other Thursday and is open to *all!*

FAITHFUL SERVICE

"It was He (Christ), who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." — Ephesians 4:11-13

Thank you, Pastor Bill, for your 21 years of faithful service here at St. John's as you continue to lead and guide us to become more like Christ.

"JOY IN THE JOURNEY"

The Saturday morning Women's Study will host a women's retreat here at St. John's titled "*Joy in the Journey*" on Saturday, May 21st from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in our Youth Lounge. The retreat will be \$12.00 and will include a light lunch. This will be a refreshing gathering for women of all ages and will be a time of fellowship, learning, discussion and prayer. Please feel free to invite your friends and/or family members. All ladies are reminded to bring their Bible. Ticket sales will be on Sunday, May 1st, 8th and 15th and will be sold both in-between services and after the 10:00 service at the west entrance. Any questions, please contact Lisa Kay or Megan Schwarz, or Debbie Dill.

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



UPCOMING COMMUNION and SPECIAL OFFERINGS

May 1, Communion: Habitat For Humanity

May 15, Spec. Envelope: Strengthen the Church

FREE HEART CART SCREENINGS!!

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

WEEKEND BACKPACKS

Some school children go home to nearly empty cupboards. The Salvation Army supplies a backpack of food at a cost of \$6.00 each. Will you sponsor a child? Your check can be made to St. John's with a notation, "Backpack Program."

Thank you! Missions



53RD ANNUAL GATHERING

I-K CONFERENCE, UCC

When: Fri., June 10, 2016 at
7:00 am EDT to

Sat., June 11, 2016 at 1:00 pm EDT

Where: University of Indianapolis

1400 E Hanna Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46227

If you have any questions about the event or how to register, please contact the IKC office at (317)924-1395.

9TH ANNUAL LAPORTE COUNTY PRAYER BREAKFAST, NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

May 5, 2016

Bethany Lutheran Church, Corner of

First & G Streets, LaPorte

Gathering: 7:15 a.m.; Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

Free to the community!

Questions, please call Beth Ann, 872-5292.

WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS

At our March Women's G100 children from Mich. City schools were sent to summer camp last year?

- 15,586 persons received Nipsco assistance?
- 800 families a month receive food every month of the year?
- 600,000 diapers have been handed out in the last 9 months?
- 66,450 Christmas gifts were distributed

So your money goes in helping a lot of families in our community.

Elaine Alonso gave the devotions, entitled, "Choice."

Karen Lawrenz presided at the business meeting. Sixty-seven sick calls were made by the Guild members. Esther Schlegelmilch, secretary, read the February Minutes. Betty Johnson, treasurer, gave last month's report.

Our annual Mother-Daughter banquet is May 10th at 6:00 p.m. Great food will be provided by Top Dog. Michigan City Community Corus will be performing. Adults, \$10, Children 5-11 years, \$5.00. Tickets are available on Sundays and at the church office.



PRESCHOOL SIGN-UPS

St. John's Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration forms are available in the office. Registration fee is \$40. Questions, call 872-9121.



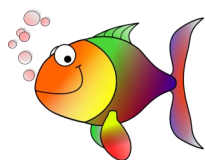
**60th ANNUAL MOTHER-DAUGHTER
BANQUET, TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016; 6:00 p.m.**
You may purchase your tickets after each service
at the table outside the office, or in the church of-
fice during the week (M, T, Th, Fr, 9 - 3 pm).

Adults: \$10.00 Children: \$5.00

CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION CONTINUES!

Especially needed are t-shirts, small flash-
lights, colored pencils and pads of paper.

Thank you very much! *Missions*



FISH FRY NEWS

Friday, June 24th, 2016

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

· Cost: Adults (13 and over): \$9.00

Children (12 and under): Free

Includes all-you-can-eat white fish, potato salad,
homemade coleslaw, bread, & beverage.

Desserts: \$1.00

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
potato salad & homemade coleslaw, 1 slice bread

· Tickets, beginning Sunday, May 29th: in the
church office from 9 - 3 p.m. M., T., Th., F;
after services on Sundays; and at the door
the night of the Fish Fry

We need many generous people to help with
selling tickets, set-up, serving, traffic control, and
clean-up. **Please check the bulletin board out-
side the library and add your name to the list of
distinguished helpers for our Fish Fry!** *Please
know that your help is always greatly appreciated!!*

Containers still needed: Please recycle only
your 15 oz. or 16 oz. cottage cheese, sour cream or
butter containers for the Fish Fry.

Donations of sugar for the cole slaw would be
greatly appreciated! You may drop off your sugar
in the box in the kitchen. If you have any ques-
tions, please call Beth Ann (872-5292) or Sue (219-
393-0382).

VAMOS A MÉXICO!

Did you get to meet Kelli Kelly, the Missions
leader when she spoke at our worship ser-
vice?

Lisa Kay and Dave Swartz are going with
her to Mexico on June 11th to assist in build-
ing a shelter for other-abled children. Many
of them have been abandoned by their fami-
lies and need our help.

We can send these carry-on supplies with
the Swartzes. They are very costly there, but
we have economical sources here.

Suggestions include:

Baby wipes and Clorox wipes, Ziploc bags, all
sizes, notebook paper, construction paper,
spiral notebooks, pens, & pencils, toothpaste
& toothbrushes, Crayons, markers, colored
pencils, deflated soccer and basketballs,
playground balls

Also welcome are financial donations
(please note on your check, "For Mexico Mis-
sions") *Thank you for your help! Gracias por
tú ayuda, Missions*

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

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 12th.

For more information, please call
1-800-272-3900.

BLOODMOBILE

The next Bloodmobile at St. John's will be on
Tuesday, May 3rd. Please call 1-800-Red Cross
to schedule your blood donation.

MAY USHERS

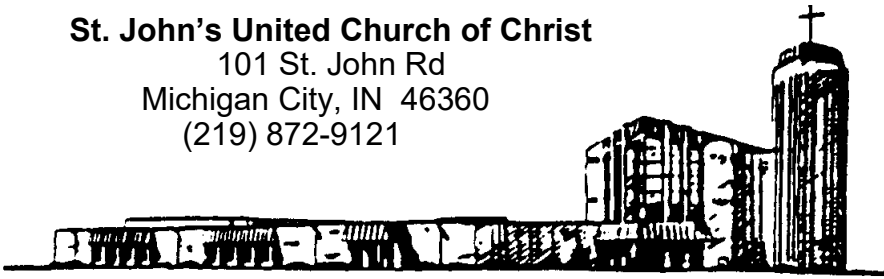
Elaine Burkhart, Con Eichelberg, Paul Beebe,
Bob Alonso

GREETERS NEEDED!

Please sign up on the bulletin board and keep
this wonderful St. John's tradition alive!



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



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Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love,
I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

² And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all
mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith,
so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

³ And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor,
and though I give my body to be burned, but
have not love, it profits me nothing.

⁴ Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy;
love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

⁵ does not behave rudely, does not seek
its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; ⁶ does not rejoice in iniquity,
but rejoices in the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never fails.

¹³ And now abide faith, hope, love, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.

—1 Corinthians 13: 1-8, 13



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