

# NEWS-NOTES

## ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, October 10, 2021

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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 visit our website, [www.stjohnsmc.org](http://www.stjohnsmc.org) for more information about our church and our activities.

**ATTENDANCE:** Last Sunday: 9:30, 38; 11:00 a.m.,; 12:00, ; Total: 69; Adult Sunday School: 11

### THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

#### **SUNDAY - OCTOBER 10**

##### **Communion**

8:30 Christianity 101  
9:30 Worship (F. Hall)  
11:00 Worship (Sanctuary)  
12:00 Gospel service (chapel)

#### **MONDAY - OCTOBER 11**

1:00 p.m. Preschool Board  
6:00 p.m. Men's Study

#### **WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 13**

6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

#### **THURSDAY - OCTOBER 14**

6:00 p.m. Prayer service  
6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting

#### **SUNDAY - OCTOBER 17**

8:30 Christianity 101  
9:30 Worship (F. Hall)  
11:00 Worship (Sanctuary)  
12:00 Gospel service (chapel)  
12:30 ACTS dinner

## **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

We would like to thank everyone for the donations to St. John's Preschool. After a difficult year, we are excited to be back, and appreciate your continued support and generosity. Our Pre-Kindergarten class has 20 students and our Beginner's class has 15.

We began the school year with field trips to Garwood's Orchard. We had two beautiful days of apple picking. We also got pumpkins, donuts, and cider. We learned that it takes 50 leaves to make 1 apple, as well as many other interesting facts about apples.

We are planning a unit on fire safety in October, and if possible, plan to visit the fire station.

## **A.C.T.S. — ALL CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVING**

is serving **FREE SUNDAY DINNERS!**

When: every 1st and 3rd Sunday through October

Time: Walk-ups @ 12:30p.m. -2:00 p.m.

Where: St. John United Church of Christ, 101 St. John Rd., Michigan City, IN. For more information and deliveries, please call Shalonda Morrow (219) 214-1702 or by email at:

*a.c.t.s.michigancity@gmail.com*

## **CHURCH BOARD NEWS**

The Church Board has provided leadership throughout the years but there has never been a year quite like 2020. In fact, in 2021 we are still dealing with the effects of 2020. Your leaders have navigated through many challenges with deeper faith and exceedingly more trust in our Lord. We have learned to practice ministry in unprecedented ways due to unprecedented times. Now we have a better understanding of what it means to "live by faith and not by sight."

In light of so much change, the Board is exploring new funding streams to support our work for Christ. We have sought advice from the **United Church of Christ Building and Loan Fund** which assists churches with programs and services that help a congregation plan, raise, finance, and build projects that advance the mission of the church. The Building and Loan Fund presented a seminar to inform congregations about the possibility of renting space in their church building to generate income. The idea is to leverage the asset of our building, which is empty most of the week, to provide income to do ministry. We would choose what space would be available to rent as well as who would be an appropriate renter.

The Board has formed a working group which will explore the necessary steps required to make an informed decision. One of the first steps is to inform the congregation about this opportunity. Some of the exploratory steps include a survey of the congregation, a feasibility study, market analysis, pricing, legal and tax advice, and that is just a start. Over the coming months more information will be gathered and presented to you in anticipation of a congregational vote. Congregational approval will be needed to begin a more detailed study. As always, we encourage you to pray for leadership as we seek to discern God's will in these matters.

*In Christ's Service, Church Board*

## **MEMORIAL SUNDAY**

Our Memorial Sunday observance will be on Sunday, November 21, 2021, at the 11:00 a.m. service.

## **TREE OF LIFE**

We have many occasions to celebrate with special birthdays, marriages, baptisms, and anniversaries, and to mourn the loss of loved ones. For a minimum donation of \$50, you can add your remembrance to the Tree of Life. If interested, please see the office.

## **NOISY OFFERING**

Since there are 5 Sundays in October, we will be collecting our Noisy Offering on Sunday, October 31st. Let's make a joyful noise!!

## **ST. JOHN'S PRESCHOOL----BEGINNING ITS 44TH YEAR!!!**

It's a community mission, a responsibility, and a gift from God! Thirty-four students began their preschool education this month with lead teacher Amy Van Gemeren and assistants Sue Glassman and Susie Dolson. Our Preschool has long enjoyed an excellent reputation, and hundreds of students have enrolled here with years of outstanding teachers including Marti Migliorini, Nancy Putchaven, Nancy Russell, Kathy Wahlquist and now Amy Van Gemeren.

The curriculum includes school readiness units consistent with state guidelines as well as a spiritual component. We operate on a very tight budget, and we strive to keep our tuition rates very affordable. This means the field trips and special events are not covered under the tuition and usually amount to \$5 per child for the event. We also maintained a scholarship account to help a family if a financial hardship arose midyear, but this year with the Covid pandemic, this fund was exhausted. If you would like to help with any of these student funds, just indicate this on a memorial or regular gift and the office will put it in the correct account. All of us can also include Preschool students and staff in our prayers and pray for a successful school year for these children.

To check out the class and activities, visit the St. John's Preschool facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsPreschoolMC>

## **"GATHER" EVENTS**

**New Creation Vineyard Church  
9009 W. Paks Road, Michigan City  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, caroling

Schedule:

6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.: Dinner

6:45 to 7:30 p.m.: Groups & Games

7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.: Worship

All are welcome!