

NEWS-NOTES

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, October 17, 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 for more information about our church and our activities.

ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 9:30, 40; 11:00 a.m., 28; 12:00, 10; Total: 78; Adult Sunday School: 12

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 17

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

MONDAY - OCTOBER 18

6:00 p.m. Men's Study

WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 20

6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 21

6:00 p.m. Prayer service

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 24

Food Bank Sunday

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

WANTED: EXTRA 2022 CALENDARS

If you receive any 2022 calendars and will not be using them, consider donating them to the Guild. The calendars are then used in our holiday gift bags for our friends. A specially-marked collection box is located on the table outside the church office. Thank you very much!

DEEPEST CONDOLENCES

The family of St. John's wishes to extend deepest condolences to the family and friends of **Mr. Scott Nowatzke**, son of Mrs. Phyllis Nowatzke, who recently entered eternal life. We pray God's peace and comfort on the Nowatzke family and their friends.

THANK YOU!!

Check out the gazebo in our church courtyard - it looks great!! Debbie and Mike Dill recently sanded and then re-stained the structure and it looks like new!! A big thank you to the Dills - from your church family.

BLESSING BAGS

Over 50 Blessing Bags that the Women's Guild assembled from donations from the congregation will be delivered this next week and will go to Sand Castle, the PADS overnight shelter, and Keys of Hope. These plastic bags contained socks, washcloth and soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant, antiseptic wipes, lip vaseline, lotion, pen and paper, and often shampoo. Each bag was labeled with a Bible verse and the St. John's address. Please include those who will be receiving these bags in your daily prayers.

WOMEN & FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S

Wed., Nov. 10th, 1:00 p.m.

White Elephant event!

Plan to join us at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 10th, in the back classrooms to pack up our holiday gift bags which will be distributed to our shut-ins in December. For added fun, we will have a "White Elephant" event! Earlier this year, some members cleaned cupboards in the Youth Lounge and found "antique" or interesting items! Attendees can bring "white elephant" items from home if they wish to contribute—but this is not a requirement!

Put Wednesday, November 10th, at 1:00 p.m. on your calendar for some Christian fellowship!

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.

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.

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!!

"GATHER" EVENTS

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

Wednesday, November 3rd and 17th

Wednesday, December 1st

Wednesday, December 15th, 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!