

The St. John's Messenger

Volume 14 Issue 10

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October 2014



WISDOM HUNTERS Applying Unchanging Truth in a Changing World

~ Boyd Bailey

*Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not
all His benefits. (Psalm 103:2)*

Sometimes it's easier to keep a record of wrongs instead of a record of rights. Indeed, we need to think on those things we are blessed to experience and not obsess over stress. Our seeing affects our being. Our perspective can be a poison or an antidote to our pain. The eyes of faith remember what matters most. Thus we see the blessing of financial margin, not the stress of following a spending plan. We see a friend who cares, not the stress of a difficult conversation. We see God's protection from a car accident, not the stress of delayed traffic. We are too blessed to stress.

Praise the Lord for His benefits: forgiveness of our sins, physical energy, spiritual stamina, relational fulfillment, vocational purpose, the opportunity to serve and a free country. The benefit package for followers of Jesus is ridiculously generous: abundant life, eternal life, a fruitful life and a meaningful life. Love, joy, peace, hope, humility and thankfulness are all the fruit of being filled by the Holy Spirit. Even in our suffering we are blessed to be God's child. He chose us to glorify Himself during our difficult days. We are too blessed to stress for our Savior gives us rest.

*"I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I
will remember Your miracles of long ago."
(Psalm 77:11)*

Are you able to see the Lord at work around you? Perhaps you write down or dictate on your phone what you observe each day related to God's faithfulness. A child's hug, a senior adult's smile, a Christ-centered church, a supportive family, a caring community or a friend's

phone call. Review your daily blessings over dinner with those you love. Recounting God's favor brings hope and encouragement to those around you. You are too blessed to stress over the little stuff.

*"Then they would put their trust in God and
would not forget His deeds but would keep
His commands." (Psalm 78:7)*

Grace & Peace, Pastor Bill



NWA Fall Meeting
here at St. John's, October 12, 2014
2:30 p.m. (CST)

SALVATION ARMY FOOD BANK

Especially needed for October are juice, soup,
& crackers, but all gifts are welcome!

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU!

A huge thank you for the very kind words many have shared with Jack and I these past weeks. Our greatest desire is that you have seen Jesus working through us. I know that at my age, I could not have done this on my own! It has been a joy working with both parents and children watching as they too have allowed the Spirit to work through them. Thank you for the "leaf" to be put on the board and the beautiful flowers. But most of all thank you for allowing us to get to know your children.

Jack & Judy Stark



PRAYER CONCERNS

Arbors of Michigan City

Carol Schultz
Ruth Thompson

Settlers House

Dorothy Johnson

Clare Bridge Cottage, Alterra

Ruth Daschbach

Rittenhouse

Beatrice Miller, John Reetz, Anita McKee

Lifecare Center of Michigan City

Libby Rogers

Sterling House

Ruth Daschbach, Lou Hapke



“PEEPS” FALL SCHEDULE

The Peeps group (Parents of Young Children) will be meeting after church from 11:30 - 1:00 on the following Sundays:

Oct 12, 26, Nov 9, 23, Dec 7, 21.

The six-week fall series is by Dr. Kevin Lem-
an, “Making Children Mind Without Losing
Yours” (how to bring out the best in your kids
by doing what is best for them).

FIRST FRIDAY

October 4, 5 -8:00 p.m.

“Life-Giving Art”

inspired appliquéd quilted designs
First United Methodist Church
E. 7th & Pine St.
Michigan City



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR CANCELLED

Please note, the Christmas Bazaar that had been scheduled for November here at St. John’s has been *cancelled*. If anyone wishes to offer their talents as chairperson for the event in the future or as a helper, please call Betty at 874-3725.

WANTED: SOCKS!

~ for men, women, and children,
but especially *men!*~

Our soup kitchen guests often walk long dis-
tances in cold, damp weather and really need a
change of socks. Will you help?
Please bring new socks to our laundry basket
display. They will really be a blessing to our
neighbors. Many thanks, Missions

DISCOVERY DINNERS

Come to praise God, and
enjoy good fellowship and food!
Held on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m..

6th ANNUAL PRE-THANKSGIVING MUSICAL

Sat., Nov. 15, 5:00 p.m.

Life Temple Church of God in Christ

3711 W. US Hwy. 20, LaPorte

Tickets, 1 for \$10, 3 for \$25

Children 6-12, \$5

For information, call 219-210-9810

ROOF MAINTENANCE & REPAIR



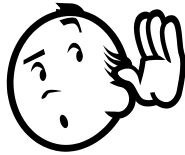
To protect our beautiful Sanctuary
from water damage, the Consistory
has voted to go ahead with repairs
NOW—Estimated at \$5,900.

~ Can You Help?? ~

Please make a donation with the notation “Roof
Repair” as soon as possible! *Thank you!*

UPCOMING SPECIAL OFFERINGS

- October 5: Communion, Crosscurrent Teen Ministry
- October 5: Special Envelope, Neighbors in Need
- October 19: Mission Envelope, MC Homeless Shelter
- October 19: Stewardship Sunday (see insert)



LISTENING SESSIONS

Do you have any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss with an elder? Do you have any ideas to help our congregation study the Word and grow closer to Jesus? If so, please stop by the Grade 4-8 Sunday school classroom after the 10:00 service.



CHRISTMAS CHILD WORKSHOP

Good work!! Many thanks to those who folded boxes, decorated t-shirts, made bracelets, and bagged washcloths and soap. what a good start! We'll have another work day before we do the final packing in November. Still needed are:

- bars of soap (ie: unscented Ivory)
- small flashlights with batteries
- small cars
- decks of cards
- Life Savers and other wrapped hard candy (no chocolate)
- T-shirts
- dolls
- bandanas

Other ways to help:

- Each box costs \$7.00 to ship and a check can be made to St. John's with the notation "For Christmas Child Boxes."
- Your prayers for children to know the love of Christ. *Thank you very much, Missions*

HEALTHMART COMPLIMENTARY HEALTH SCREENINGS

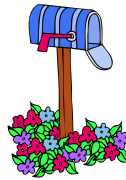
Phil's Health Mart Pharmacy
3535 Franklin, Michigan City

Thurs., October 2nd, 3 - 6:00 p.m.

Tests include:

- blood pressure, total cholesterol,
- blood glucose, hemoglobin A1C,
- waist circumference, body composition,
- body mass index.

Call 874-7445 for more information.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

It's that time of year! Please remember to notify St. John's office of any address change in order for our records to be kept up-to-date and for you to receive the Messenger or other correspondence in a timely manner. Thank you very much to all those who have already contacted the office with address changes!

USHERS

Ushers for the month of October are:
Betty Johnson, Phyllis Nowatzke, Betty Bauer,
Karen Lawrenz, Phil Smith, Elaine Alonso

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 2nd Thursday of every month,
6:30 p.m. here in our Adobe Room
For more information,
please call 1-800-272-3900.



PRAYER LIST UPDATE

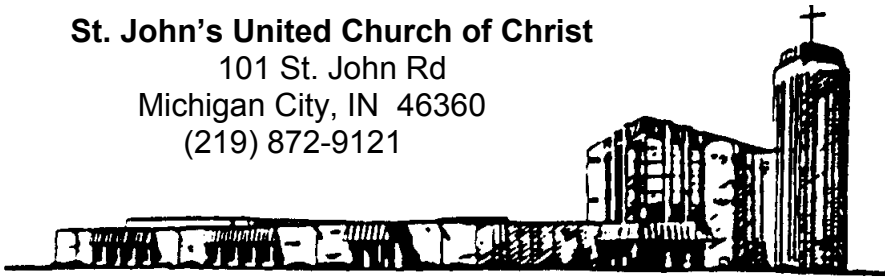
Please help us keep our prayer list on the back of the Sunday bulletins current and up to date. Please call the office if you know of anyone not listed needing to be uplifted in prayer. Also, as circumstances change and the person no longer needs to be listed, please call the office and let either Joyce or Nicole know that they may be removed from the listing. Thank you very much!

BIBLE STUDIES THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS; FRIDAY MOVIES, TOO!



You can enjoy excellent Bible studies on Thursday nights at 6 pm central (currently on the Holy Spirit) and Saturday mornings at 7 am central (currently on Ephesians) and family-friendly movies at 6 pm central every Friday through September and the first Friday of the month at 6 pm central in October at the Calvary Chapel Outreach, 1615 E. Buffalo St. (Highway 12) in New Buffalo,

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



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POPCORN FOR OUR TROOPS

Donate a gift of popcorn with a \$50 Gold donation or a \$30 Silver donation to send popcorn treats to our military! Tons of popcorn was distributed to the troops last year! Your donation also helps local Scouting. See Beth Ann Ast for your donation. Deadline is Oct. 19. Thank you for your generosity!

CALVARY RADIO, 89.9 F.M.

Christian Nurture highly recommends and encourages you to tune in to Calvary Radio at 89.9 FM to benefit from their teaching programs and music all week long. Their programs may be the only way some people have to hear the Bible taught chapter by chapter and verse by verse. Please prayerfully consider supporting their efforts by mailing a donation to them so they can keep spreading the gospel over the airwaves at: Calvary Radio Network 150 W. Lincolnway, Ste 2001, Valparaiso, IN 46383, or making a donation online at <http://www.calvaryradionetwork.com/Support.html>

