

The St. John's Messenger

Volume 15 Issue 10

www.stjohnsmc.

October 2015



EYES OF FAITH

Sometimes people don't see eye to eye about certain issues. Many times this happens to husbands and wives. You may enjoy the following joke.

A woman walks in a store to return a pair of eye-glasses she had purchased for her husband a week before.

"What seems to be the problem, madam?"

"I'm returning these glasses I bought for my husband. He's still not seeing things my way."

One of the weaknesses of our point of view is that we don't have all of the facts. Our perception may be limited by the amount of information available. The same is true for our eyesight.

No one prior to the invention of the electron microscope could see things that existed at the atomic or subatomic level. Just because we can't see them does not mean they don't exist. Our eyes are limited in focus. Before World War II, no one could ever imagine being able to see in the dark. Scientists since then have learned to energize photons so that through specialized equipment, you can see objects at night. Our eyes are limited by the amount of light needed to see in the dark.

Our eyes have another limitation, they cannot see into the spiritual realm. Does that mean that the spiritual realm does not exist? Of course not! We must look with eyes of faith to trust God, who is unseen.

¹⁶ That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. ¹⁷ For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! ¹⁸ So we don't look

at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

--2 Corinthians 4: 16-18

We have God's word to help us overcome the troubles of this world by focusing our eyes on the work of Christ. Faith is about seeing life from the purpose of the Kingdom of God.

*Fixing our Eyes on Jesus,
Pastor Bill Fine*

NWA I-K CONFERENCE

Fall Meeting, Trinity UCC, Gary
October 4th, 2015; 2:30 p.m.
1276 W. 20th Ave., Gary
219-944-0500

STEWARDSHIP LETTER

Please note, included in this Messenger is the Stewardship letter, along with your 2016 pledge card and envelope.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ~ CRAFTERS/VENDORS NEEDED ~

On Saturday, November 14, 2015, St. John's will host our annual Christmas Bazaar in Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Crafters and vendors are needed. Cost is \$25 per 8 foot table. Set-up time will be 8:00 a.m. the day of the bazaar. Please contact Betty (874-3725) or Judy (872-4128) for additional information.



UPCOMING COMMUNION and SPECIAL OFFERINGS

October 4, Communion: Crosscurrent Teen
Ministry

Oct. 4, Special Envelope: Neighbors in Need

Oct. 18, Mission Envel.: M.C. Homeless Shelter



SOUP KITCHEN DONATIONS

Thank you for continuing to remember the soup kitchen at New Disciple Love Church, Pine St., Michigan City. They are always in need of paper goods and toiletries. You may drop off your donations in the library. *Thank you!*

ST. JOHN'S "DOINGS"

Thank you to all who stopped at the Outreach table on Picnic Sunday to learn about our Bible studies, CROP Walk, and Christmas Child Boxes!

• Christmas Child Boxes

It's almost fall! But there are still t-shirts, flip-flops, and colored pencils on sale. These are welcome additions to the gift boxes that are sent to reflect Christ's love.

We ask for your prayers and support as we reach out to God's children.

Please consider sponsoring a Christmas Child box! Postage is \$7.00 each and the contents are from \$20 - \$30 each. We are able to purchase many items in bulk. Still needed are:

small flashlights & batteries, combs
hair ties and barrettes, small cars

These can be put in the box in the library by November 1st.

• Blanket and Mosquito Net Fund

This collection ends on Sunday, October 11th. Checks can be made to St. John's with the notation "CSW Blanket." *Thank you!!*

PEEPS MEETINGS

Join us on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the Youth Lounge as we gather for lunch, fellowship, and to encourage one another as we raise the future leaders of our church.

2015-2016 Meeting Dates:

September 20th, October 4th & 18th
November 1st and 15th

December 6th and 20th, January 17th
February 7th and 21st, March 6th and 20th
April 3rd and 17th, May 1st and 15th

NEW BIBLE STUDIES BEGINNING

SATURDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Time: 8:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Place: Swartz Home,
6121 Old Oak Drive, Mich. City

'15 - '16 Meeting Dates:

October 17th, November 7th and 21st
December 5th and 19th, January 16th
February 6th and 20th, March 5th and 19th
April 2nd and 16th, May 7th and 21st
Questions, call Lisa Kay, 229-8461

SATURDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Place: St. John's, in the Parlor

'15 - '16 Meeting Dates:

October 17th, November 7th and 21st
December 5th and 19th, January 16th
February 6th and 20th, March 5th and 19th
April 2nd and 16th, May 7th and 21st
Questions, call Dave, 219-229-8723,
or Pastor Bill, 219-877-7451

FOOD BANK

Think soup and stew and hash and crackers! Also, toiletries and paper goods are always welcome! *Thank you!*



UNLEASH YOUR INNER ARTIST!

You are invited to help "decorate" T-shirts for the Christmas Child boxes, Sunday, October 11th, right after the 10:00 worship service.

HELP NEEDED!

On Sunday, November 1st, it is our turn to prepare and serve lunch at St. Paul's Soup Kitchen. Arrive about 9:00 a.m. for prep and we will serve from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. Please call Lynda (872-1427) if you can help!



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your thoughtful and heartfelt prayers for the healing of Adrianna Beans, granddaughter of Vi & Bud Beans. Adrianna is doing much better than expected. Please continue to keep her in your prayers for a complete recovery.

*Thank you again very much!
The family of Adrianna Beans*

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

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

The next meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015.
For more information, please call 1-800-272-3900.

MEN'S /WOMEN'S EVENT

**Saturday, October 3rd
10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

\$5 covers the cost of materials, lunch, & coffee
~ Lunch will be included ~

This is a one-day event. The theme for the ladies will be "When life hands you lemons, make lemonade!" The men's theme is "Men Stepping Up." Both themes will segway into the new Bible studies which are beginning Saturday, October 17th.

Ladies will meet in the Adobe Room; men will meet in the Youth Lounge. Both groups will come together for lunch at about 11:30 a.m.

If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board nearest office.

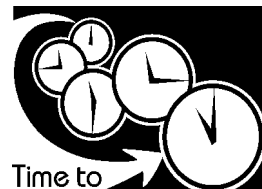
You may pay at the door or pre-pay your \$5.00. Please note, attendance at this event is not required in order to attend the Bible studies; also, you may attend the event and not the following Bible studies. Questions, please call Dave (229-8723) or Lisa Kay (229-8461).

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!

KITCHEN REMINDER

Please remember to label any food item you place in a St. John's refrigerator. Make sure your label has the date the item was placed in the refrigerator, along with your name or your group's name. This will help ensure that our foodstuffs are kept fresh and used in a timely manner. Labels and markers are available for your use in the base cabinet next to the commercial refrigerator, in the top drawer. Thank you very much!



Time to
turn back your clocks!

TIME CHANGE REMINDER

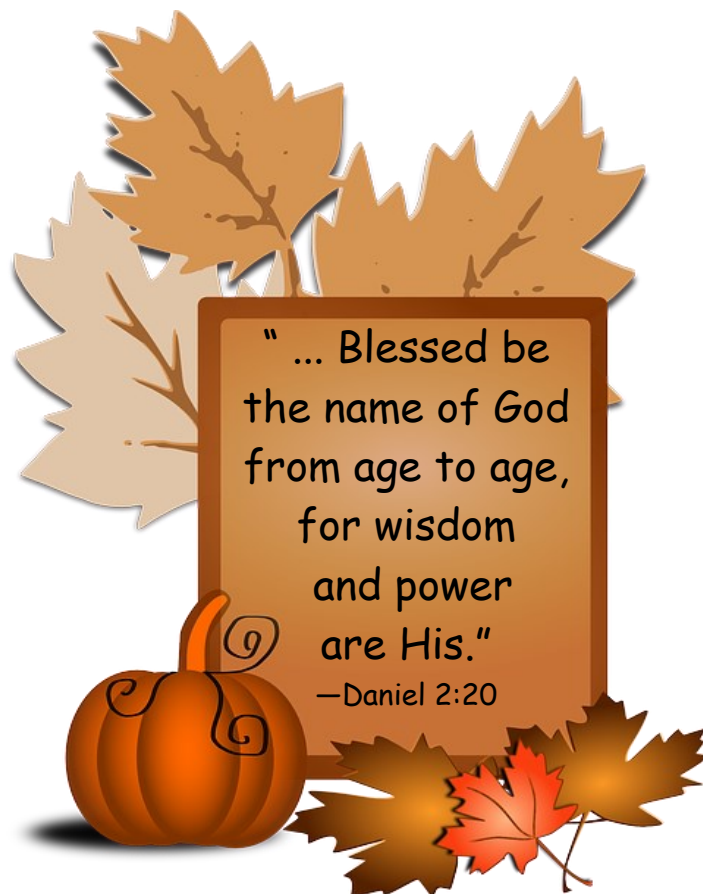
**Please note, Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday,
November 1st. Don't forget to turn your clocks
back one hour!**

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, Oct. 3rd: Men's & Women's Event
Saturday, November 14th: Christmas Bazaar
Thursday, November 19th: Peanut Brittle
Saturday, December 5th: Christmas Tea
Sunday, October 11th: T-shirt painting

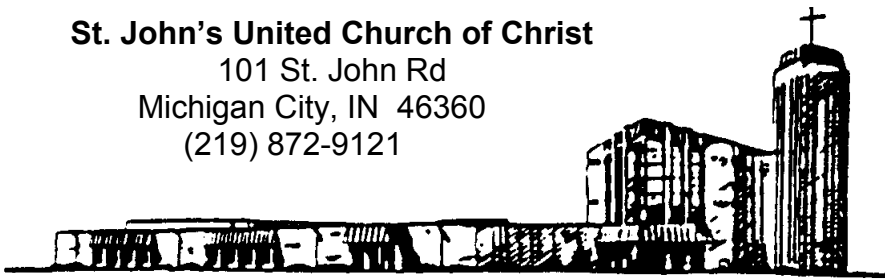
CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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.



St. John's United Church of Christ

101 St. John Rd
Michigan City, IN 46360
(219) 872-9121



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PEANUT BRITTLE, ANYONE?

Join our Guild project by eating peanut brittle, selling peanut brittle, or making peanut brittle! All together we can contribute to agencies in our community which serve others. We can make a difference right here in Michigan City!

St. John's will begin offering its famous peanut brittle at \$8.50 per pound and just in time for Thanksgiving! Orders can be placed in the church office. Tell your family and friends that once again all profits from the sale will be donated to community agencies and to St. John's projects. We will be accepting orders for our work dates of November 19th, December 3rd, 10th, and 17th. Thank you for your continued support!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Could you donate some hours to assist in a St. John's project where the proceeds are donated to community mission work and St. John's projects? (Note: and we guarantee that you will have some fun at the same time!)

Beginning Thursday morning, November 19th, the Peanut Brittle Group will begin work in the kitchen.

Our other work dates are December 3rd, 10th, and 17th. (We only work four Thursday mornings, and we welcome your help for one morning or four mornings.) Also note that our volunteers include gentlemen of St. John's as our workers!

All kinds of kitchen workers are needed and NO EXPERIENCE is necessary. Please sign up on the Volunteer sheet on the bulletin board by the office or call Judy (872-4128) if you have questions or concerns.



