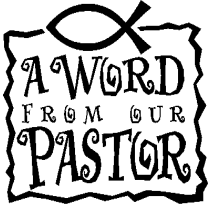


The St. John's Messenger

Volume 145 Issue 4

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April 2015



He is Risen, He is Risen indeed! What a glorious declaration to announce to the world. Our Lord Jesus Christ has accomplished his mission. He submitted to crucifixion to pay for our sin and he rose from the grave in triumphant victory. In Christ we are free from the bondage of sin and death. He lives and so shall we.

One of the important truths of Christ is that he took on human form to show us God's love. In other words he put on "skin" to be like us. Christ is fully God and fully human. Christ knows all about what we face as humans. In a manner of speaking he has been in our "skin."

There is a marvelous story told about a four-year-old girl who awoke one night frightened – she was convinced that all kinds of monsters were around her in the darkness. Alone, she ran to her parents' bedroom. Her mother calmed her down and, taking her by the hand, led her back to her own room, where she put on a light and reassured the child with these words:

"You needn't be afraid, you are not alone here.
God is in the room with you."

The child replied,

"I know that God is here, but I need someone
in this room who has some skin!"

The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality, by Ronald Rolheiser

God knows we needed Him to come to us in human skin, not simply in the knowledge that he is everywhere. Christ came so we could have a relationship with God through the humanity of Jesus.

Today God still has physical skin and can be seen, touched, heard and tasted through his body which is the church. You and I are called in the name of Jesus and directed by the Holy Spirit, to be skin for people around us. Some say we are to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

We are to be the incarnation of God's love just as Jesus was.

The way Christ has touched your soul is a starting point for the way he will use you to minister to others. Remember, the generosity we extend to others is an opportunity to tell others what Christ has done for us.

He is Risen! Pastor Bill

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

If you have not already done so, please remember to sign up on the bulletin board for Easter Sunday breakfast! Easter Sunday is April 5, 2015. Breakfast will be served in Fellowship Hall beginning after the 8 a.m. service and lasting until about noon.

EASTER LILIES

Please remember to take your Easter lily from the church after the 10 a.m. service Easter Sunday. Those left will be donated to an assisted living facility.

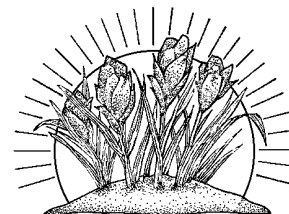


CORRECTION!

Please note, it was incorrectly reported in several News Notes that the Maundy Thursday service would be here at St. John's; however, the community-wide service on Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, will be held at First United Methodist Church, 121 East Seventh Street, Michigan City, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

On Good Friday, April 3rd, here at St. John's, there will be a 6:30 p.m. Worship service with Tenebrae in the chapel.

On Easter Sunday, services will be at 8 and 10:00 a.m. Communion with Intinction will be served at the 8 a.m. service and Communion in the pews will be served at the 10 a.m. worship service. Both services will take place in the Sanctuary.



COMMUNION & SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Apr. 2, Maundy Thursday: Men's Homeless Shelter

Apr. 3, Good Friday: Leadership Development

Apr. 5, Communion: CUE Seminaries

Apr. 5, Easter Sunday: Open Door Clinic



FILL YOUR CUP WOMEN'S EVENT

You are invited to a relaxing time of fellowship, encouragement and worship! Delicious coffee, tea and lunch will be provided. This event will be on Saturday,

April 18th from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. The cost is \$12. Registration will continue through April 12, and is between services from 9:00 - 10:00 at the west entrance. You may also stop by during office hours to register and purchase tickets. For more information, please contact Lisa Kay Swartz at 229-8461.

USHERS

Ushers for the month of April are: Betty Johnson, Phyllis Nowatzke, Betty Bauer, Christine Dombrowsky, and Elaine Alonso.



8TH ANNUAL LAPORTE COUNTY PRAYER BREAKFAST

~ National Day of Prayer ~

**Gathering at 7:15 a.m.,
7:30 a.m.: Program to follow
May 7th, 2015**

~ here at St. John's ~

The Potawatomi district of LaSalle Council, Boy Scouts of America, invite you to participate in the National Day of Prayer. Join them for a delicious breakfast and inspirational program. All proceeds from this event support Scouting for at-risk youth in LaPorte County. Please see the bulletin board for more information.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

There will be a Missions Committee meeting in the library on Sunday, April 12th, at 11:15 a.m.

CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES

Please start focusing on how we can help fill the Christmas Child boxes. T-shirts, small flashlights & batteries, flip-flops, etc. Our goal is to have 100 filled boxes!

APRIL FOOD BANK

Thank you to everyone who remembers the Food Bank! For the month of April, suggested items are soups, beverages, juices, coffee, and tea.

Mark Your Calendar!

MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET

May 12th, 2015,
6:00 pm



DISCOVERY DINNERS

Please remember to contact Beth Ann Ast at 872-5292 if you will be attending a Discovery Dinner, held each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Come to praise God, and enjoy good fellowship and food!

VBS TASK FORCE

Please note, the next VBS task force meeting will take place April 19th after the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

BLOODMOBILE

The next Bloodmobile will be on Tuesday, April 7th, at St. John's, from 12 noon to 6:00 p.m. Please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to schedule your blood donation appointment.

GOODTIMERS AMISH ACRES TRIP

Saturday, April 25, 2015

We will meet at Amish Acres, Nappanee, at 11:00 CST to enjoy the Thresher's Dinner before seeing "The Marvelous Wonderettes" musical play at the Round Barn Theater. Please call Pat Beebe (879-7867) by Easter Sunday to reserve your place. There is a limited number of tickets available.



RUMMAGE SALE

APRIL 30—MAY 2, 2015

(set-up April 27 - 29, 2015)

It's that time again! We will be cheerfully accepting your donations to our Rummage Sale on Monday, April 6th. Please plan on offering a helping hand when we begin setting up, or on sale days. Questions, please call Betty, 874-3725 or Karen, 872-5087. Your help is always very greatly appreciated!



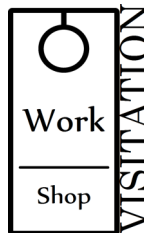
PRESCHOOL SIGN-UPS, 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

(Please note, M-W-F a.m.

class is now full!)



If you or someone you know is interested in having their child attend St. John's Preschool for the upcoming '15-16 school year, please pick up a registration form in the office as soon as possible. Classes are filling quickly! Registration fee is \$35. Questions, please call the office, 872-9121.

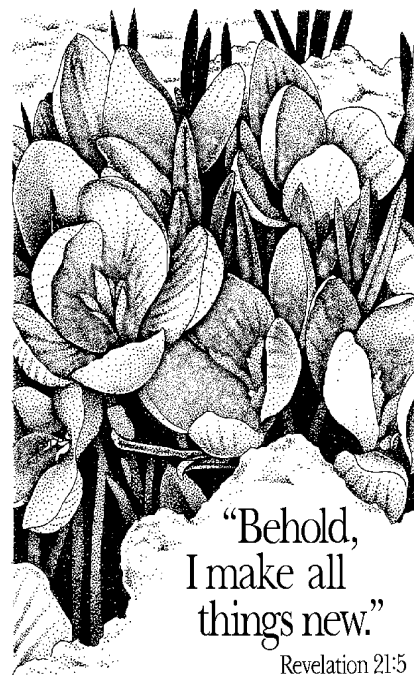


VISITATION MINISTRY, Thursday, April 16th, 2015

Mark your calendar! We will be hosting our second Visitation Ministry Workshop here on Thursday, April 16th, 2015, at 11:00 a.m. The workshop will be led by Pastor Dennis Carroll. All are invited!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

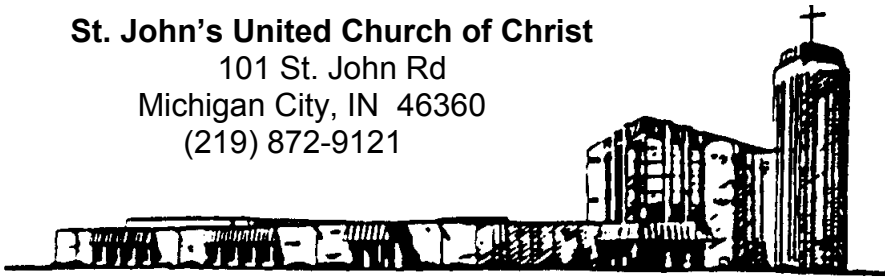
The Vacation Bible School theme for this summer is Mount Everest, Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power, July 27-31. Please consider helping by donating new book bags and supplies. A red collection box is in the hallway. Plastic gallon milk jugs are also being collected in a box outside of Dave's office.



"Behold,
I make all
things new."

Revelation 21:5

St. John's United Church of Christ
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Michigan City, IN 46360
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Spring Meeting

May 3, 2015

3:30 pm Eastern

Grace UCC

307 N. Plymouth St

Culver, IN

*Please
Join Us
For the
Spring Meeting
of the
Northwest
Association
IKCUCC*

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There will be a special designated offering proceeds of which will be split between the NWA fund and the fund to support Members in Discernment

*In Addition to worship and NWA business meeting,  
Assoc. Conference Minister Rev. Dr. Carrie Call will join us  
to discuss important topics of conference-wide concern  
Please plan to attend if at all possible*

