

NEWS NOTES

February 15, 2026

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

Office Hrs: Mon & Thu. 9-12 p.m.; Office Manager: norzech@stjohnsmc.org; Secretary: secretary@stjohnsmc.org

As we unite in worship today, we extend a warm welcome to each one present. We invite you to visit our website, www.stjohnsmc.org for more information about our church and our activities.

ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday, 10 am: 40; Christianity 101: 6

LENTEN PRAYER IN CHAPEL – “PRAY-AS-YOU-GO TIME” – MON. & THURS.

On Mondays (February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30) and Thursdays (February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2) of Lent, Minister Carr will lead “Pray-As-You-Go-Time,” featuring prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings from 6:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Please see Minister Bruce Carr for details.

CUB SCOUT NEWS

Cub Scouting began in 1930 as a younger-boys program of the Boy Scouts of America, created to give boys ages 8–10 a fun, age-appropriate introduction to Scouting's values of character, citizenship, and personal fitness. Inspired by earlier British “Wolf Cub” programs, it emphasized learning through games, crafts, outdoor activities, and family involvement rather than the more advanced skills of Boy Scouting. Over the decades, Cub Scouting evolved to reflect changing families and communities, adding new ranks, uniforms, and activities while keeping its core ideals rooted in the Scout Oath and Law. Today, Cub Scouting serves youth of both genders in kindergarten through fifth grade, continuing its mission of building character, leadership, and a love of service through adventure and teamwork. Pack 518 has been incredibly appreciative of the love and support from St. John's Church and all of its members since 2009. If you have questions or would be interested in joining or helping, please contact Devin Glanz or Beth Ann Ast.

EASTER CHOIR FORMING

St. John's would like to have a choir to enhance our Easter worship. If you would like to join, please contact Dolores (872-2441). Practices would be before the Sunday worship at 9:00 a.m. beginning February 22nd.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION, 2026 – 2027 SCHOOL YEAR OPENING MARCH 1, 2026

St. John's Preschool will begin open enrollment on March 1, 2026 for the 2026 – 2027 school year. The Pre-Kindergarten class is for children who turn 4 by Aug. 1, 2026; the class meets Mon./Wed./Fri., 9 – 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$150.00. The Beginner's class is for children who turn 3 by Aug. 1, 2026; that class meets on Tues. & Thurs., 9 – 11:30 a.m., cost is \$115.00. Enrollment forms and information packets are available in the church office beginning March 1st.

OFFICE CLOSED

Please note, the church office will be closed Monday, Feb. 16th, in honor of the President's Day holiday.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

St. John's Preschool is having a busy winter. The Pre-K class is working on last names, phone numbers, and addresses. They are starting to “sound out” words, too. They love riding the new toys they got for Christmas in the big room. The Beginners' class is working on first names, numbers 1-5, letters, and basic shapes. They practice their coloring and cutting skills by completing seasonal projects. They also love playing in the big room on these cold winter days. Both classes will celebrate Valentine's Day by exchanging cards and enjoying special treats.

CALL TO A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH GENERAL SYNOD

On January 12, 2026, the United Church of Christ Board voted to call a Special Meeting of the 35th General Synod (UCC Bylaw 188). Notice is hereby given the meeting will take place on May 9, 2026, at 6:00pm Eastern Time, and is expected to conclude by 9:00pm Eastern Time. All delegates will attend the meeting remotely through communications equipment (UCC Bylaw 191). The purpose of the meeting is to elect an Associate General Minister to an unexpired term.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S (office hours, Mon. & Thur. 9 – 12 p.m.)

SUN. – FEB. 15; ANNUAL MEETING

8:30 Christ. 101; 10 Worship; Meeting & Potluck

THURS. – FEB. 19

6 a.m. Prayer (chapel); 11:30 a.m. Prayer (chapel)

MON. – FEB. 16

(Office closed)

SAT. – FEB. 21

12 – 6 p.m. Scouts

WED. – FEB. 18

9:30 a.m. Bible Study; 6 p.m. Scouts

SUN. – FEB. 22

8:30 a.m. Christ. 101; 10 Worship