

HERALD

St. John's United Church of Christ

May, 2006



In this edition of The Herald you will find an important invitation from Louise Plummer, President of our church, to participate in a series of gatherings called "Ten for Ninety." We are looking for a maximum of ten people in each grouping to devote 90 minutes for a healthy and honest discussion about human sexuality.

This is traditionally not an easy subject for us, and the society about us waffles between being prudish and reluctant to being exploitive and brazen. It is difficult to arrive at a faith position that both upholds the goodness of our God-given sexuality and also provides the parameters within which our sexuality should be expressed.

In 90 minutes we will certainly not exhaust this subject, but we can provide a forum for the sharing of our own stories and understandings. I encourage you to take up this invitation, perhaps with some reluctance, to join in this conversation with others who make up this faith community. We do not seek a coerced uniformity but rather an exploration of the diversity that exists within our faith family. Multiple opportunities will be offered on different days at different times, and hopefully you will be able to arrange your schedule to spend this 90 minutes with the good folk of St. John's Church. I look forward to being with you in these discussions. Call me if you have any questions. Peace, John Krueger

TEN FOR NINETY

In response to the survey of the congregation in late 2005, we will be scheduling multiple opportunities to meet in groups of 10 each for the purpose of exploring our understandings of human sexuality. Each session will be 90 minutes in length, hence our “Ten for Ninety”. These sessions will be led by Pastor John Krueger.

It is important that we as a Christian community provide a “sanctuary,” a safe place where we can talk about difficult and/or controversial issues in an atmosphere of honesty and mutual respect, honoring opinions and conclusions that are different from our own. This kind of discussion is difficult in families, certainly in our society, and we seek to be a receptive community in which this can happen. Our topic will be human sexuality and more specifically homosexuality. We will listen to each other as we share our own experiences and learning, seeking to broaden and deepen our understanding of this complex subject. Your participation is important to us all. Couples will be encouraged to attend separate sessions to broaden the stories we will hear and the insights we will have learned.

We are offering many different times in the hope that everyone will have an opportunity to participate.

- 10:00 a.m. groups on May 2, 3, 9, 16, 17, and 18.
- 2:00 p.m. groups on May 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, 17, 18, and 22.
- 5:00 p.m. groups on May 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 22.
- 7:00 p.m. groups on May 3, 4, 8, 15, 17, and 22.

You may sign up by adding your name to the master list that will be posted on the church bulletin board or call Kathy Harris in the church office (881-2353) to be added to the schedule.

Hopefully, we can glean the information necessary for us to take the next step on this journey of understanding.

FINANCES - MARCH 2006

	CONTR	EXPENSE	BALANCE
Current Fund	15,668	19,164	(3,496)
Benevolence Fund	3,210	3,128	82
Building Care	1,665	2,518	(853)
Replacement Fund	583	0	583
Debt Reduction - Roof	761	198	563
 All Other Funds	 4,711	 5,851	 (1,143)
TOTAL CONTR - EXPENSE = NET	\$26,598	\$30,862	(4,264)



Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Schantz
7536 Moonbeam Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46259-6814

Anna Baron
3378 W. 950 S.
Pendleton, IN 46064-9526

Alice Bowles
3069 Sable Creek Ct.
Greenwood, IN 46142-9775



Maurice Smock
By: Beth & Paul Gaylo



St. John's is having a Blood Drive at the church on Monday, May 15, 2006

4:00 – 7:00 pm

A sign up sheet is in the hallway or call the church office for your appointment. If you have any questions, please call the church office and speak with Kathy @ 881-2353.

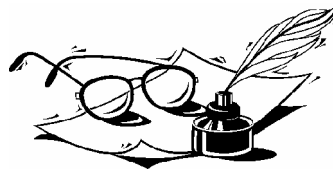
Dorcas Circle needs your labels from Campbell's Soups, Tomato Juice, V8 Vegetable Juice, Progresso Soups, Swanson's Chicken Broth, etc. Also box tops for Education. We send them to Crossroad at Ft. Wayne to buy items to enrich the lives of children living there. Please put them in the box on the back table in the Sanctuary.
Thank you!



A very popular series of books begins with "At Home in Mitford" by Jan Karon. Father Tim is a lovable character in the town of Mitford, and reading six or seven books in order follows his life and work. They have a lot of humor and fun.

Thanks to all of you who participated in the Applebee's promotion. I will gradually let you know how the library will use this money.

Doris Dobbs



Notes of Thanks. . .

We would like to thank all who sent prayers, cards and phone calls during my recent surgery and recovery. A very special thanks to Pastor Don for his prayers, visits and concerns during this period of time. We appreciate and are grateful to all. Thanks for caring,

John Rieck

I would like to thank the many parishioners for their cards and letters of encouragement during my recent hospitalization.

Virgil "Skip" Elkins

Thank you to everyone for your cards, prayers & visits from Pastor Don while I was sick.

Diane Casey



VOLUNTEER. . . We will again have two (2) booths at the 500 Race. We need your help! Please contact Rosemary Thomas or Carol Emhardt for more information.

ST. JOHN'S PRESCHOOL news. . .

The end of another school year is fast approaching. Our four's and pre-k students will be graduating on Monday, May 22. Our last day of school is on Wednesday, May 24. We will celebrate this day with our annual family picnic, and we will be dedicating the memorial garden. The garden is located in our play area. We extended our school year this year, and yet we are still so busy!



We are excited to offer 6 camps this summer:

- **June 12-14** Princess Camp
- **June 19-21** Adventure

Camp

- **June 26-28** Sport & Fitness Camp
- **July 10-12** Cheer Camp
- **July 17-19** Nature's Garden Camp
- **July 24-26** Arts & Crafts Camp

The camps are \$35.00 per child for each week. They will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9-11 a.m.



Women's Fellowship

Church Women United will celebrate May Friendship Day on Friday, May 5. The program will begin at 11:00 a.m. and closing with a noon luncheon. The program theme is "*Signs of Growth*," written by Young Church Women. The Host Church will be Southport Christian Church, 201 E. Epler Avenue. Luncheon reservations (\$7) should be sent to Marilyn Porter, 5220 N. Capital Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46208, by April 28, 2006.

The 2006 Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the UCC annual meeting will be held on June 2-3 at the University of Indianapolis. This year's theme is "United Around the Table". St. John's can send three (3) voting delegates; however, any St. John's member is welcome to attend as a non-voting delegate.

Four resolutions will be presented for consideration at this meeting:

- A Reaffirmation of the Historic and Ecumenical Christian Perspective on Marriage
- A Reaffirmation of Marriage Based on the Word of God
- A Resolution Encouraging the Congregations, Associations and Organizations of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference to Honor Marriage and to Respect the Diverse Expressions of the Family of God
- A Declaration of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference as an "Open and Affirming" Conference of the United Church of Christ

If you would like to attend this conference and represent St. John's as a voting delegate, please make your interest known to Louise Plummer or one of the pastors.

Notes from the Council. . . .

A big thank you to everyone who helped make Easter Week such a meaningful time at St. John's. We welcomed many visitors to our church. All events—Palm Sunday services, Maundy Thursday service, Good Friday service, the Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival, and especially Easter Sunday services—were very well attended.

Brad Beeson, a member of our church, is doing our lawn mowing this summer. Pastor Don Crismon is leading the Mem-Con Task Force, a group working hard to contact those who have been absent and who are very much missed. If you know of a member that you haven't seen at church lately, kindly share that information with one of the pastors.

The Property Care Committee is charged with keeping the building and ground in good repair. If you know of something that need attention, please contact Dave Hearrell, Robert (Smitty) Smith, Leonard (Van) VanLue, or the committee chairman, Pat Clarke.

Louise Plummer,
Council President

Youth and Family News

May 2006



Sunday School Teacher Appreciation:

Thanks to all of the teachers and volunteers who serve during 2005-2006 school year. Thanks for all of your dedication and keep up the good work. I am pleased to announce Matt Good and Stephanie Kelley as our teacher/volunteer of the month in May. Matt Good is a member of the BCE, teaches our 10:30 am adult Sunday school class, and was the BCE Easter Egg Hunt Coordinator. Stephanie Kelley is also a BCE member, she is the budget manager, and is the BCE VBS Coordinator. These two people have devoted their time and energy in serving the Lord. God bless you for your service.

Mission Trip information is available in Mindy's office if you have not received them. Turn in your \$50.00 registration fee and completed forms by May 9th. Remember space is limited so sign up early.

Youth Group

May 7th 5-7 PM Youth Group
 May 14th No Youth Group
 May 21st 5-7 PM Youth Group



Mae Mosley	5/2
Jacob Dobbs	5/8
Amy LaGrange	5/13
Doug Woessner	5/13
RJ Woessner	5/13
Abby Plummer	5/18

(Sorry if I missed your child's birthday this month, please contact Mindy to update information)

St. John's Sunday School Children and Youth

On May 21st during the 9 o'clock service we are having an end of the school year Sunday School Party. We hope all students will be able to attend. We will sing praise songs, discuss the 2005-2006 Sunday School Theme, play games, crafts, and have a snack. During the activities each child will have chances to win prizes. You don't want to miss this. The high school students are welcomed to come and help where needed.

If you are a member of the church, or know of a member that is graduating from high school or college this year, please provide the church with the following information for our **GRADUATION SUNDAY CELEBRATION** on June 4th. Turn this form into the church office.



Your Name _____

Name of school you are graduating from _____

Degree Received _____

Intended College _____

Intended Major _____

I will be attending the...

- ☐ 9:00 am Worship Service
- ☐ Reception Celebration In-between services
- ☐ 10:30 am Worship Service



VeBS!
JOIN THE FUN!

St. John's UCC
PLACE
Mindy Dwyer or Stephanie Kelley
CONTACT

June 19th - June 23rd
DATE

5:30 - 8:30 pm
TIME



VBS REGISTRATION FORM (one per child)

Child's Name _____

Birth Date _____ Age _____

Grade (entering next year) _____

Names of Siblings _____

Parents' Names _____

Address _____

City/ State/ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Pager or Cell Phone _____

Home Church _____

* Emergency Contact _____

* Relationship _____

* Phone _____

* Allergy/ Health Conditions _____

My Child has my permission to attend and participate in St. John's UCC VBS program, "Good News Clues."

Parent Signature _____

Date _____





2006 SUMMER CAMPS

Here are some facts that you will need to know about summer camps.

- ⚡ St. John's will pay half of the cost of the early registration fee.
- ⚡ If you are planning on attending a camp, you need to do so as soon as possible. Some camps fill up quickly and you need to reserve your spot by sending in your application with your registration fee.
- ⚡ Please let Mindy Dwyer know which camp you have signed up for so we can keep in touch with you through prayer and cards.
- ⚡ A \$25 deposit must accompany registrations for all camps in order to hold your spot until May 15th. Reservations are not guaranteed until the full payment is received. Make checks payable to: Merom Conference Center.
- ⚡ Only one registration per envelope will be accepted unless the registrations are from the same family and are for the same camp.
- ⚡ Campers under age 18 must have the form signed by a parent or guardian.
- ⚡ Camp fees must be postmarked AND paid in full before May 15th. Remember St. John's will pay half the cost of the early registration fee. Let Mindy know which camp you are going to so you won't miss the deadline!
- ⚡ A camp will be cancelled if adequate leadership is not available, or if minimum registration is not met.
- ⚡ Cancellations received more than three weeks before the first day of the event will be eligible for a refund of the actual registration fee paid, less the \$25 deposit. Cancellations received less than three weeks before the first day of the event will be eligible for a refund of 75% of the total registration fee. Beginning the first day of the event, no refund will be given.

Camps Available at Merom

Creative Spirit Camp July 30 - Aug. 5
Cost: \$309. Before May 15 - \$289.

Backstage Pass July 26 - 29
Cost: \$162. Before May 15 - \$142.

Grades 3, 4, and 5 Camp July 5 - 8
Cost: \$162. Before May 15 - \$142.

Common Ground Aug 9 - 13
Cost \$155. Before May 15 - \$135.

Just You and Me Kid Aug 2 - 5
Cost: \$260. Before May 15 - \$240.

All Ages 1 (Grades 3 - Grads) July 16 - 22
Cost \$292. Before May 15 - \$272.

All Ages 2 (Grades 5 - Grads) June 25 - July 1
Cost \$292. Before May 15 - \$272.

All Ages 3 (Grades 3 - Grads) July 16 - 22
Cost \$292. Before May 15 - \$272.

Tri-Level Camp July 9 - 15
Cost \$292. Before May 15 - \$272.

Faith Journeys June 19 - 24
Cost \$269. Before May 15 - \$249.

Merom Missions 2006 June 11 - 17
Cost \$292. Before May 15 - \$272.

Please see Mindy for a brochure and visit the bulletin board outside of the High School Class for detailed information about the camps.

To secure a spot, send in your registration form and

The following youth have turned in their camp information in to Mindy Dwyer. If your child is planning on going to camp this summer, please turn in their name and the specific camp to Mindy ASAP. The church will need to know this information to send in the correct amount of money to Merom Conference Center. Thank you!

Cory Rucker
Kelsey Smith
Haley Smith
Caleb Plummer

John Hayes
Alex Carlisle
Kelsey Carlisle
Andrew Harris



2006 Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival

The BCE and I would like to thank the entire congregation for all of your help and support for the Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival. It was a huge success! Over 128 children and their families visited us Saturday, April 15th. Everyone got to enjoy egg hunts for all age levels at various times, 7 crafts, 11 carnival games, and an interactive Easter story presented by Pastor John Krueger. It was a wonderful outreach bringing in over 65 non-member church families. This wonderful event wouldn't be possible without the BCE leadership, countless volunteers who helped with the donations and preparations beforehand, and those who worked on the day of the hunt. Thank you once again and God bless you for your service. We hope all of you had as much fun as the children did.



May Acolytes

May 7, 2006

9:00	Caleb Plummer	Cody Ford
10:30	BJ Mosley	Bailey Brothers

May 14, 2006

9:00	Chelsea Brothers	Emily Houston
10:30	Douglas Seals	Caleb Plummer

May 21, 2006

9:00	Cara Ford	Kelsey Carlisle
10:30	Connor Fak	Cody Ford

May 28, 2006

9:00	Douglas Seals	BJ Mosley
10:30	Chelsea Brothers	Bailey Brothers

Annual SALAD LUNCHEON

This is to remind you that our Annual Salad Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 11, 2006 starting at 11:00a.m. until 1:00p.m. All workers should report for duty between 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. unless told differently by the head chairman. Please pick up a name badge at the ticket table.

The Women's Board will be selling advance sale tickets between Sunday services on April 30th and May 6th. Prices are \$6.00 adults, \$3.00 children.

The calling committee will start calling people for donated salads and desserts on April 30th thru May 6th so start thinking about what you would like to bring. We try very hard to contact every member and guest, but if we should miss you please consider bringing one anyway.

Let's make this our best Salad Luncheon ever!

Thanks, Jean Ressler,
The Women's Board



We're hoping **YOU** will join the **2006 Mission Trip!!!** This year marks the 10th year that an adult mission group from St. John's has traveled to various locations to take on projects needed in areas less fortunate than our own. Our projects have included major and minor construction work, flooring, roofing, siding, painting, chimney sweeping, lawn care, new ceilings, lighting, etc. This year we are returning to the Shannondale Community Center in Salem, Missouri. We will drive over to Shannondale on **Sunday, October 15**, and return home on **Friday, October 20**. And we need **YOU!** You don't need to be a skilled laborer to participate - we all learn as we go along! An informational meeting concerning this year's mission trip will be held on **Sunday, May 21st, at 6:00 p.m.** at the church. Please come to this meeting and ask any questions you may have about our mission work. **YOU ARE NEEDED!** If you would like to talk to someone about the trip prior to May 21st please call the church office and Kathy will put you in touch with one of our Mission Trip enthusiasts. **Please join us!**



The Women's Board will be collecting items for the Ronald McDonald House at Riley in the month of May. They are always in

need of food for the families that come down to the area to eat while their children are in the hospital. All the food is free to them while staying there. Snack food is the biggest need at the house at Riley. The parents want to be able to eat on the run while their children are napping or in surgeries. Please help us with donations.

We will put a box in the church for your donations. Thank You!

List for Ronald McDonald House at Riley

- Individual fruit drinks
- Individual wrapped snacks
(Chips, pudding, jell-o, fruit, cookies, pop tarts, granola bars)
- Cereal (oatmeal pouches, individual boxes, cereal bars)
- Individual microwave soups, ravioli, spaghetti, etc.
- Juice boxes or pouches for children
- Tuna/canned meats
- Bottled water
- Microwave popcorn
- Zip-loc sandwich bags
- Boxed complete meals as Betty Crocker Complete Meals or Banquet Homestyle Bakes



It's Rummage Sale Time..

The annual rummage sale will be July 20- 22. When you replace and declutter while making the change

over from fall-winter to spring- summer, remember that the women of the church can use all those items you no longer need or want. We will take furniture, household items, clothing, toys, tools, etc. All items must be clean and in good working order. You may start bringing your usable treasures to the church after the first of June.

The Altenheim Community

April 5, 2006

St. John's United Church of Christ
7031 South East Street
Indianapolis, IN 46227

Dear St John's United Church of Christ:

The Altenheim Community would like to invite the members of your Church Family to join our Auxiliary. The purpose of the Auxiliary is to create an interest in the Altenheim Community among the members of the supporting United Church of Christ and other participating Churches and to keep them informed of the needs of the residents.

Membership of the Auxiliary is extended to all persons interested in the welfare of the Altenheim Community. One of the many benefits of membership is the opportunity to volunteer and interact with the residents of the Altenheim. Some of the Auxiliary sponsored activities include a residential Bingo party once a month, an indoor picnic in June, and a residential Christmas Party, just to name a few. All Auxiliary members are encouraged to participate in the monthly meetings and as many activities as possible. We invite as many members from your Church Family to join our Auxiliary Family.

Our Auxiliary meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month beginning at 9:30AM and last approximately until 10:30 - 11:00AM. They are held at the Altenheim Community located at 3525 East Hanna Avenue, Indianapolis, IN, unless other wised announced.

Speaking from personal experience, I have thoroughly enjoyed my association with the Auxiliary, and have enjoyed the fellowship with all the residents. If you would like to experience this for yourself, or if you have any questions, or would like more information, please feel free to contact me at 317-786-1573. Thank you in advance for your consideration in joining the Altenheim Auxiliary.

Sincerely yours,

Carol S. Emhardt
Membership Chairperson

EYES TO SEE

What's the difference between the UCC-sponsored EYES TO SEE program and the work of the Lions Club and other secular groups?

In order to strengthen the mission of the church, the UCC uses church-related partners in health care who are known to have a solid track record in medical ministries and other forms of care-giving. This also brings together service and witness in meaningful, faithful ways around the world. A project such as EYES TO SEE helps maintain close working relationships with church-related medical personnel who are highly trained and effective in their ministries. These church-related professionals routinely provide people with health care services free of charge and without regard for the cultural, religious, economic, or other differences among those served.

We acknowledge that secular organizations such as the Lions Club have good working relationships with many groups, including the Interchurch Medical Assistance (IMA) and provide valuable assistance to persons in need.

We sought to initiate and ground the EYES TO SEE project through a faith-related organization in order to provide people in our churches with a way to be in direct mission with their brothers and sisters in need around the world. The church thrives when people intentionally and consciously engage in God's mission -and name it as such.

May you know many blessings in and through this mission project!