

BE THE CHURCH

God is still speaking.
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Embrace diversity. **Reject racism.** Forgive often.
Love God. **Fight for the powerless.**
Share earthly and spiritual resources. Enjoy this life.

Saint John's Journal

FEBRUARY 19, 2017

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

St. John's United Church of Christ

1934 Bridge St. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504 ~ 616-453-2497 ~

StJohnsUCCgr.org Office@StJohnsUCCgr.org ~ Rev. Bob Bond

Many Thanks

Thank you to Bill Newsom and Sue Garza for volunteering to be a part of our worship ser-

vice today as Pastor Bob is out of town. We look forward to worshipping with you.

Call Team Update

The Call Team met this week and we watched the film "Sailing on Faith." The film was about working hard to not have biases that impact who we call. We need to be open to what the holy spirit is telling us and call upon the right individual to meet our needs no matter what they look like or who they are. We also started

to consolidate and discuss answers for the church profile. We will likely be spending the coming weeks processing our answers to the questions and synthesizing our best possible answer. Please seek any of us out if you have any questions or concerns.

Bridge Class Field Trip

The Bridge Class will be taking our annual field trip on Sunday, March 5. We will leave for Craig's Cruisers after coffee hour, around 11:30 a.m.

and return around 3:30 p.m. Please see Michelle Hoffner or Crystal Soentgen for permission slips.

Looking Ahead

If there is one thing that our teachers have learned in their years of teaching, it is that these kids absolutely love to make dinner for their parents and the congregation. As a way of thanking all of you for

your support, the Confirmants, Bridge Class, and Worship Center kids will be running the kitchen and serving you on Sunday, May 21. Please join us, and invite your families, extended families, and etc to partake!

Volunteers

The Worship Team is looking for volunteers. We are in need of liturgists, ushers, greeters, and volunteers for coffee hour. If you've never done any of these things but would be willing to give it a try, or if you are a seasoned pro, let Jen

Berg know. It is not a life long commitment! If you try it and don't like it, I won't force you to do it again.

Sign up sheets are located on the Worship Board in Fellowship Hall.

Jen Berg

Meetings....

Mission Team meets on Monday, Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m

Pastoral Search Team Meetings, Wednesday, February 22 at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, February 28 at 8 p.m .

Bible Study

"Amazing Grace" Bible Study continues this morning after worship.

Emergency Fund

Our Emergency Fund has been depleted and is in need of replenishment.

Donations may be placed in the giving basket on Sundays or mailed separately to the church office marked "Emergency Fund."

Thank you in advance for your continuous support.

Thank You



Dear St. John's Family,
This is an overdue thank you to all of you for the prayers, support and love we received from you all during the time of Hazel's birth and her stay in the NICU. We are blessed to be raising our girls with the support of such a wonderful church family.

Love,
Heather, Heidi, Hypatia and Hazel

Next Mobile Food Pantry
Wed. March 1 Volunteers report at 5:30 Food distribution begins at 6 p.m.
Office Hours
Tuesdays 9:00—noon
Wed., Thurs., Fri. 9:00—3:00 p.m.
Ministry Touches
This month: 212 Year to Date: 16,845 Since Inception: 401,665

Moving....

Carol Stechow now has a new address: 2510 Lake Michigan Dr. N.W. Apt. F204 Her new phone number is (616) 735-4677.

The online directory has been updated to reflect this change.

Sponsorships

The 2017 flower sponsorship sign up sheet has been posted on the Worship board in Fellowship hall.

Lily's Floral provides weekly altar flowers. Altar flower sponsorships are \$40.00 per week.

Prayer Circle

This month we are praying for Plymouth U.C.C.

Please Note....

Pat Partridge will be out of town from now until April 4, 2017.

For Caregiving needs, please contact:

Bill or Susan Newsom at 616-260-6605.

For funeral needs, please contact Diana DeKorte at 616-450-3695.

“Open Door, Open Hearts

 Degage will be hosting, “Open Door, Open Hearts” on Thursday, March 16, 2017 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

This is an event for women, to benefit women. The event will be held at New Vintage Place, 889 Broadway Ave. N.W. Grand Rapids.

We hope that you will enjoy sharing the work of Degage and sharing our mission with your friends, family or co-workers. This would be a great way to introduce

Party For A Vet

The Party for a Veteran is scheduled for March 28th. Anyone is welcome to join us at 1:00 p.m. at the Veterans Home on Monroe Ave. We are always willing to accept donations towards our visits. Some items that can help us are fresh fruit (please no apples) grapes, oranges, peaches, and plums. These are treats that they do not often receive. They also enjoy small bags of chips, chocolate (no nuts or hard to chew) candy bars, small packages of crackers or other wrapped items they can take to their room and snack on later.

Music Ministry

Handbell Choir (Jr. High and up) practices 6:30—7:15 p.m.

Chancel Choir (High School and up) practice 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.



‘Girlfriends’

“Girlfriends,” a Women’s Bible Study, meets every Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. at St. Johns.

Young @ Heart

Young @ Heart, a group for seniors meet the second Wednesday of each month. Watch the Journal for more details.

Annual reports are due into the church office by February 28. Reports can be dropped off at the office or sent via email to:
office@stjohnsuccgr.org

Lost

Marilyn Gillette left a crocheted black handbag at church on Sunday. If you happened to find it, please give her a call at 453-0456 or let her know if you found it and placed it somewhere for safe keeping. Thank you.