

*April 2011*

# THE JOURNAL

Dear Friends,

In March our Council cast a unanimous vote to add a new-style worship service to our tradition Sunday morning offering. St. John's has had two worship services in the past, but this time the new service will be in a completely different style.

The Council's intention is to reach out to people who prefer a less formal and traditional style.

The new-style worship service will include all kinds of music, from ancient chant to modern pop-music (when appropriate.) It will use more visual effects, including video clips at times. It will include more opportunity to move around (going to various "prayer stations") and will have more dialogue. The atmosphere will be warm, reverent, but informal. Instead of a choir, it will have a band to provide musical leadership.

The Council's hope is that this service may serve more people. This includes younger people (specifically) and others who are simply not at home in a tradition-style service.

There is currently no budget for this service -- it is difficult at this point to know what extra costs, if any, it will incur. For the first six months (at least) it will run as a low-cost experiment. The time and day of the service is still to be decided. Start up will be in approximately 6 months.

I am very joyful about Council's decision. I believe that we will can serve more people by adding to Sunday mornings. I know that these new-style services have been very effective in other Presbyterian and UCC churches who are attempting to broaden their outreach and share the Good News with others.

This new-style service will not interfere or in anyway replace our traditional service.

Do you have questions? Would you like to serve on the team to design the new service?  
Would you like to play in a band? Let me know.

Blessings,

Katie



# *Holy Week Events:*

## Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 17th 10:30 Worship will be a Palm/Passion service. We will open with a celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. As the service progresses our focus changes to the events of Holy Week. This service will include drama and music. The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received at this service.

## Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 6th at 6pm we will host a soup supper followed by an explanation of the Seder Dinner (Jesus' last meal with the disciples.) This event will be co-led by Dan Kravitz and Katie Lindberg. The teaching will be followed by a celebration of Holy Communion around the tables, as Jesus experienced it the last night of his life.

## Good Friday

On Good Friday we host a three hour vigil from 12-3pm in the Sanctuary. This vigil provides a chance to meditate on Jesus' last hours before his death. You may sign up for times to sit in vigil (in the narthex) or simply drop in for prayer and meditation.

## Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday celebration begins with a simple brunch in the fellowship hall provided by our Youth Group. Service begins at 10:30 and will include special music and liturgical dance.



# These Forty Days

A Lenten Journey

## St. John's Lenten Calendar

**Thursday, April 7 & 14th –Lenten Soup Suppers:** For the next 5 weeks we will observe the season of Lent together every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Following our soup supper will be a brief focus on local and world wide mission.

### **Thursday, April 21st– Maundy Thursday at 6:00 p.m.**

Please join us for our special observance of Maundy Thursday. We will eat together while learning about the Jewish Passover meal. We will follow the meal with informal worship and communion.

### **Friday, April 22nd—Good Friday Vigil Noon to 3:00 p.m.**

Join us for our Good Friday Vigil in the sanctuary. Anyone can come at anytime to pray and remember Jesus' final hour.

### **Sunday April 24th—Easter Sunday Breakfast at 9:15 a.m.**

Followed by Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
\* **No SUNDAY SCHOOL on Easter Sunday**



## **From Our Sunday School Class Rooms....**

No Sunday School April 24th.



Looking ahead to May...The children's Sunday School program is in need of leaders for our final rotation of this school year on May 1, 8, and 15. If you have not yet taken a turn leading, or have already led and would be willing to lead again, the children would greatly appreciate you pitching in before we take a break for the summer! For those of you planning to help in May, please contact Michele Beck at [metoo223@frontier.com](mailto:metoo223@frontier.com) or 926-2078.

# What's Going On Here at St. John's?

## Hope Circle

Hope Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 12, at 7 p.m. Karen Grant will host us at her home, 1267 Vanderburgh Drive in Valpo. Our journey through *Revelation* culminates in a tale of two cities: Babylon (representing the evils of the Roman Empire) and the New Jerusalem (representing eternal life with God). In lesson eight of our study guide, based on Revelation 17-18, we will view the judgment of the evil city, Babylon/Rome.

## Coming In May...

St. John's Music Ministry will celebrate its fifth annual "Choir Sunday" during worship on Sunday, May 1. This service will feature special music by the Chancel Choir and Chime Choir, plus organ and piano music by our church musician, Carey Scheck. See you there!

## Easter Food Baskets

Non-perishable food items will be collected from April 3-17 for 6 Easter Food Baskets. Please place your items in the baskets provided in the main hallway (do we call this area something more formal?) Suggestions: canned veggies, soups, fruits; pasta, sauce; stuffing mix, mashed potato mix, rice mix; cake or brownie mixes etc.

## Hospitality Hosts

"Your deacons are asking for HOSPITALITY HOSTS for the small get-togethers after service each Sunday. The deacons provide the coffee and paper products and it can be as simple as a plate of cookies. Please consider this and either contact a deacon or sign the sheet on the bulletin board. THANK YOU!!"

## Women's Guild

Women's Guild will meet on Wednesday, April 6, at 1:00. (Please note the change in our regular meeting time.) We have invited the women from Chesterton United Methodist Church to join us for dessert and the program presented by Michele Murphy-Wise, Bereavement Program Supervisor of the VNA Phoenix Center. Michele will share with us the story of the Phoenix Center which provides support in a safe place where grieving children, teens, families, and adults can share their experiences as they move through their grief process, offering volunteer-facilitated, age-appropriate peer support groups and activities for children. Please bring with you one or more of the following mission items for the Phoenix Center: fabric markers, construction paper, juice boxes, and Michael's gift cards.

There will be an organ recital at the Methodist Church at noon if you'd like to enjoy some pre-dessert music.

Women's Guild has adopted Hilltop Neighborhood House as its mission project for this year. Members and friends of the congregation are invited to join with us in providing items for use in their child care program. A hamper with their "wish list" is in the narthex.



# Hey Youth Group!

## Confirmation Class

Every Tuesday 3:15pm

## Youth Group

We will be having regular youth group meetings on Friday April 8th & 15th at 3:15pm.

Feel Free to Invite your Friends!

## Youth Group BBQ

There will be a BBQ for the youth and their families and friends after worship on Sunday April 10th.

Please RSVP Brandon by April 8th.

We would appreciate if each family supplied a desert, salad or side dish.

## Eaaster Brunch

The youth group will be serving at the Easter Brunch during the usual Sunday School time on Easter Sunday.

We will need volunteers to help warming the casseroles.

## 30 Hour Famine Lock-In

We will be participating in the 30 Hour Famine program to raise awareness for hunger and injustice around the world

on April 30th

The Lock-in/fast will start at 7pm and will end in a feast at midnight!

We will be up and ready to worship the next morning :)

If you have any questions feel free to contact

Brandon Long (219) 983-2866

Brandon.long18@gmail.com



Hey Youth Group!

1 Timothy 4:12 "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."

## April 2011




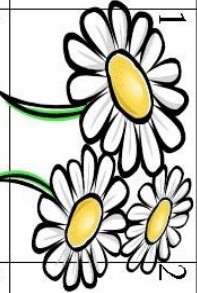



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:30am Green Garden After Worship	4	5 Confirmation 3:15pm	6	7	8 Youth Group 3:15pm	9
10 Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:30am Youth BBQ 12pm	11	12 Confirmation 3:15pm	13	14	15 Youth Group 3:15pm	16
17 Palm Sunday Sunday School 9:15am Worship 10:30am	18	19 Confirmation 3:15pm	20	21 Maundy Thursday	22 Good Friday	23
24 Easter Easter Brunch 9:00am Worship 10:30am	25	26 Confirmation 3:15pm	27	28	29	30 30 Hour Famine Lock-In 7:00pm

St. John's United Church  
225 W. Lincoln Ave.  
Chesterton, IN 46304  
<http://www.sjchurch.org>  
Office: (219)926-1631  
Pastor Katie Lindberg

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
2050 W. 1100 N.  
Chesterton, IN 46304  
<http://blcchesterton.org>  
(219)926-5596  
Pastor Jane Aicher

Brandon Long-Youth Leader  
Phone: (219) 983-2866  
Brandon.long18@gmail.com

# APRIL 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><b>3 Communion</b> 9:15am - Sunday School 9:30am - Chancel Choir 10:30am - Worship Service (Guest Speaker Chris Shepherd) Green Garden Meeting After Worship</p>	<p>4 Westchester Fish 7:00pm - Property Comm. 7:00pm - Worship Comm.</p>	 <p>5 3:15pm Confirmation 7:00pm - Prayer Shawl Knitting Group</p>	 <p>6 Westchester Fish Noon—Women's Guild 6:00pm - Chime Choir 7:00pm - The Gathering Bible Study</p>	<p>7 8:30am - Fellowship Bkfst@ Sunrise Restaurant <b>6:00pm - Lenten Soup Supper.</b></p>	 <p>8 Westchester Fish Pastor's Sabbath 8:00pm - Al-Anon &amp; A.A Youth Group 3:15pm</p>	<p>9 Baby Shower for Rachel Ton 12-5pm Mission Transformation Journey Retreat @ Genera Center 7:30am—5pm</p>
<p><b>10 Communion</b> 9:15am - Sunday School 9:30am - Chancel Choir 10:30am - Worship Service Sacrament of Baptism Youth Group BBQ After Worship</p>	<p>11 Westchester Fish 7:00pm - Building Comm.</p>	<p>12 3:15pm Confirmation 6:30pm - Finance Comm. 7:00pm - Circle of Hope Bible Study</p>	<p>13 Westchester Fish Noon—Women's Guild 6:00pm - Chime Choir 7:00pm - The Gathering Bible Study</p>	<p>14 8:30am - Fellowship Bkfst@ Sunrise Restaurant <b>6:00pm - Lenten Soup Supper.</b></p>	<p>15 Westchester Fish Pastor's Sabbath 8:00pm - Al-Anon &amp; A.A Youth Group 3:15</p>	 <p>16</p>
<p><b>17 Communion</b> 9:15am - Sunday School 9:30am - Chancel Choir 10:30am - Worship Service Passion Play during worship 1 Great Hour of Sharing</p>	<p>18 Westchester Fish 6:30pm Mission Comm.</p>	<p>19 3:15pm Confirmation 7:00pm - Council Meeting</p>	<p>20 Westchester Fish Noon—Women's Guild 6:00pm - Chime Choir 7:00pm - The Gathering Bible Study</p>	<p>21 8:30am - Fellowship Bkfst@ Sunrise Restaurant <b>6:00pm - Maundy Thursday Service</b> 8:00pm - NA &amp; Nar-Anon</p>	<p>22 Westchester Fish Noon - 3pm Good Friday Vigil 8:00pm - Al-Anon &amp; A.A</p>	 <p>23</p>
 <p><b>24 Communion</b> 9:15am Easter Sunday Breakfast 10:30am - Worship</p>	<p>25 Westchester Fish Katie Off</p>	<p>26 3:15pm Confirmation 7:00pm - Deacon Meeting</p>	<p>27 Westchester Fish Noon—Women's Guild 6:00pm - Chime Choir 7:00pm - The Gathering 7:15pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>28 Pastor's Sabbath 8:30am - Fellowship Bkfst@ Sunrise Restaurant 8:00pm - NA &amp; Nar-Anon</p>	<p>29 Westchester Fish 8:00pm - Al-Anon &amp; A.A</p>	<p>30 UCC Gathering Youth Lock-in 80 Hour Famine</p>



# St. John's UNITED Church

## March 2011 Journal



United Church of Christ and  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

225 West Lincoln Avenue  
Chesterton, Indiana 46304  
Phone: 219-926-1476  
Email: office@sjuchurchchesterton.org

**SUNDAYS AT ST. JOHN'S**  
**Sunday School for all ages**  
**begins at 9:15**  
**Worship Service 10:30 a.m.**  
 (child care provided)  
**OFFICE HOURS**  
**8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**  
 Monday through Friday

Kelly Eshenaur	4/1	Ruby Sievert	4/1
Trevor Van Nostran	4/1	Peter DeWitt	4/2
Carl Hultman	4/3	Lisa Flatz	4/5
Linda Handlon	4/5	Virginia Hultman	4/5
Karen Read	4/5	Matthew Stepanovich	4/6
Lori Gapinski	4/7	Diane Ballas	4/8
Andrew Teeple	4/8	Marcie Owens	4/9
Matt Nanista	4/11	Lloyd Gapinski	4/13
John Marciniak	4/14	Heather Scheetz	4/14
Alice Perney	4/17	Leigh Pell	4/18
Steffan Dines	4/18	Payton Stobbe	4/22
Al Havens	4/23	Alex Hetrick	4/25
Sophia Nanista	4/26	Donna Havner	4/27
Sarah Cohn	4/27	Robert Gardner	4/30

## Music and Meditation during Lent!

Please join our neighbors at CUMC on Wednesdays,  
April 6 & April 13 from 12:05-12:35 in the Sanctuary.

Szu-Ping Chang Wong will provide beautiful  
organ music on April 6.

Cindy Shelhart from St. John's will provide  
harp music at CUMC on April 13.

*Come in—listen—pray!*

