

AUGUST AT ST. JOHN'S

AUGUST 2016

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE MONTH AHEAD

6

Vacation Bible School

Our one-day Vacation Bible School is perfect for busy families. This year's theme is, "The World is God's Creation!"

7

Christian Education Committee Meeting

The Christian Education Committee will meet Sunday, August 7, during the fellowship hour.

20

Centennial Celebration Choir - General Rehearsal

The Celebration Choir will rehearse 4 p.m. at the Choir Director's Residence.

SAVE THE DATE



1916 - 2016
ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

St. John's United Methodist Church celebrates our building's 100th birthday on Centennial Celebration weekend, October 29 and 30.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Our new focus on families



Pastor Nancy Grim Hunter

Dear Family in Christ,

It is from a place of great joy, that I begin a new journey with you to launch a new intergenerational children and family ministry as your Deacon.

Our purpose is to embrace, engage, educate and empower our children and their families to fully transform into living witnesses of Christ's love while developing future leaders of the church who understand our missional call.

In order to achieve this mission, we must invest in the discipleship and leadership development of children as well as the discipleship of young families. We will do this in four steps:

1. **Embrace** our children and their families as equal co-participants of God's love in all aspects of worship so that they may fully understand what it means to fully love God and fully love our neighbor.

2. **Engage** our children and their families in worship and ministry opportunities as a way to recognize that Christ is at the heart of fully experiencing what it means to be a living witness of God's love, to participate in the process of Christian discipleship, to meaningfully be transformed as they grow in the Holy Spirit and to provide creative places for them to express and lead in their growing faith in unique ways.

3. **Educate** the children and their families to develop a unified theological language through the lens of Wesleyan

curriculum through transformational activities (such as Sunday School, Godly Play, enrichment programs, music programs, vacation Bible School, compassion and justice-based ministries, leadership training, tutoring support, and discipleship programs.) We also intend to coordinate with other ministry areas such as community engagement and the worship team so that the children will be able to develop the connection between belief and faith in action.

4. **Empower** our children and their families to grow into future leaders of the church by listening to their unique generational voice and investing in their physical, economic, spiritual, racial and social domains of the whole child by providing opportunities to grow in leadership skills in the church.

The most visible component of this intergenerational ministry is the transformation of the social hall into the Children and Family Center for worship and learning. This center features an intentionally focused "sacred space" in which the children and their families can engage together in learning about God's love through stories and intentionally God's Play. It is a place where children can lead their families in doing Holy Work together so that we may be one in Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world. Your gifts of prayers, presence and service are greatly appreciated.

In love and service through Christ,
Rev. Dr. Nancy Grim Hunter, Deacon

NEWS

Local faith leaders, including St. John's pastor, to receive diversity award

Rev. Lindsey Long Joyce and others to be recognized by Oak Park organization next month

The Oak Park Regional Housing Center is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 Roberta Raymond Founders' Award for Commitment to Diversity are the seven faith community leaders – including St. John's Rev. Lindsey Long Joyce -- who have been involved in leadership with the Community of Congregations and the West Side Leaders Network. The award is given in recognition of these leaders' consistent efforts to build relationships and promote efforts across the Greater West Side, and bringing together people committed to racial equity in Austin and Oak Park.

The award will be presented at our 2016 Gala Benefit on Thursday, September 15 at Columbus Park Refectory.

The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. that evening with the award ceremony at 7:30 p.m. The dress for the evening is business casual.

The award has been given out for the last 10 years and recognizes areas individuals who show commitment to diversity, integration, and equity.

The mission of the Housing Center is to achieve meaningful and lasting racial diversity in Oak Park and the region. The Housing Center is deeply



Rev. Lindsey Long Joyce

grateful for the collaborative efforts of these faith community leaders and their congregations.

Your congregation is invited to share in the celebration of this award, along with an evening of good food, music and fellowship. Tickets for the event are \$60 and can be ordered online at www.oprhc.org/galatickets/ or by calling Stuart Barnes Jamieson at 708-848-7150, ext. 124.

— Oak Park Regional Housing Center



Oak Park Regional Housing Center
2016 ANNUAL BENEFIT GALA
Thursday, September 15th

COLUMBUS PARK REFECTORY
5701 W. Jackson Blvd, Chicago, IL 60644
Doors Open: 6:30 p.m.

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

- 2 — Marina Hernandez
- 5 — Elizabeth Romualdo
- 6 — Shirley Marcelo
- 10 — Lea Cortez
- 14 — Marcelino Angel
- 18 — Alpha Julianne Ramos
- 21 — Isaiah Avina
- 21 — Nicolas Avina
- 22 — Ruby Sumaydeng
- 23 — Camille Valiente
- 24 — Elvin Ramos
- 26 — Emma Reniva

PRAYER LIST

Pamela Villaflor, the Arnold family, Elmer & Felisa Mencias, Livia Bores, Nelson's family, Chris Joyce, Dorothy Murray, Pastor Jerry Grim, Maria Garcia, the family of Benjamin Mascarenes, Rosendo Esguerra, Samuel Grospe, Kim Morjoseph, Marsha Brady, Nora Brown, Kathy Henson, Mark and Mary, Edwin Henandez, Linda and her brother Gary, Andrew Tardecilla, Mary.

MISCELLANEOUS

Figures

June Pledged Offering: 7,289.00
June Loose Offering: 290.00
Year to Date Pledged Total:
48,295.79

On Facebook

Q: "Why should I like St. John's on Facebook?"

A: Don't miss out on church updates, useful links, and more. Type @stjohnsumcoakpark in the search bar to find it fast.

Corrections & Additions or Contributions & Ideas

Please contact Communications Coordinator Joash Mencias at joashmencias@gmail.com.