

Messenger

Uniondale United Methodist Church January - February 2022

5867 N. Main St.
P. O. Box 115

Uniondale, IN 46791

Pastor Karen Ottjes
260-228-3634

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E-mail: kottjes@gmail.com

 UniondaleUnitedMethodistChurch

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.

Upcoming Events



January and February
Birthdays and Anniversaries

January

13 – Barb Cook

February

Saturday, January 1 –

Sunday, January 2 –

Sunday, January 9 –

Sunday, January 16 –

Monday, January 17 –

Sunday, January 30 –

Sunday, February 6 –

Monday, February 14 –

Sunday, February 20 –

Monday, February 21 –

Saturday, February 26 –

Sunday, February 27 –

Wednesday, March 2 –

Saturday, March 5 –

Happy New Year!

Communion Sunday and Epiphany Sunday

Reaffirmation of Baptism, and

Sunday School resumes

Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items.

Martin Luther King Jr Day 

Kids Changing the World-bring your change

Communion Sunday

Cluster meeting 6:30 PM at Lancaster
Chapel UMC

Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items

President's Day  

Hotcakes for Henderson fundraiser, 7-10 AM
at Liberty Center UMC

Kids Changing the World-bring your change

Ash Wednesday

Faith Circle - 9 AM



****Don't forget****

- * Save your pop tabs and can tabs for Riley's Children's Hospital. Collection can at the back of the church.
- * Save your change for Children Changing the World on the last Sunday of each month.
- * To sign up for CHURCH DUTIES on sheets at back table.

A Word from Our Pastor

Thank you all for the generous Christmas gift you gave me and Jim! Sharon always finds interesting and unique ways to make a decoration with the cash. I hope you all were able to celebrate Christmas with at least a portion of your family. Or maybe you were alone like we were, but we talked to several family members on the phone.

The beginning of the year is a good time to be more intentional in growing in your faith. One good practice is to begin a **Bible reading plan** that will guide you through the Bible by reading whole books or groups of books in smaller sections each day. There are many different plans that organize the readings in various ways so you can find a plan that you like and fits your time schedule. Another good practice is to keep a **prayer list** of persons and situations that you pray for every day or you can divide the list into groups and pray for a portion of the whole list each day. If you miss a day, don't beat yourself up about it and quit. Just pick up where you left off the next time to sit down to read your Bible and pray.

Last year during Lent we did *The Story of Jesus* Bible Study during Sunday School using *The Story Bible* and a companion DVD. I'm willing to do another study using the same material from another part of the Bible this year if you have a particular book(s) of the Bible you're interested in. Let me know what interests you.

On Christmas Eve we heard how the angels announced Jesus' birth to the shepherds who went to find him. Afterwards they excitedly spread the word about this child to many people. We follow this scripture reading by singing, "Go, Tell It on the Mountain." Though Christmas day is past, the message of Christ coming to earth should still be in our hearts and on our lips, as it was with the shepherds from Bethlehem. We have a story to tell to people around us about the difference knowing Jesus Christ has made in our lives. Don't be afraid to share a piece of your story when God gives you the opportunity.

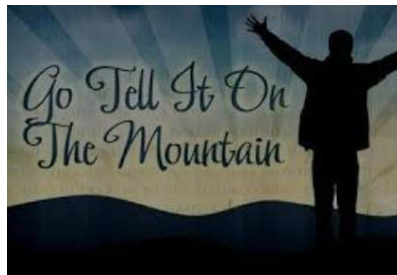
There's a song in our hymnals written by an English musician in 1896 that reminds us that we have a story to tell, a song to be sung, a message to give and a Savior to show ... to people anywhere around us. When we have a compelling drive to share this, others will be drawn to learn more about Jesus and become his disciples. Spend some time this month meditating on these words from the hymn, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations."

1. We've a story to tell to the nations that shall turn their hearts to the right,
a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light, a story of peace and light.
- Refrain: For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright,
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.
3. We've a message to give to the nations – that the Lord who reigneth above
hath sent us his Son to save us and show us that God is love, and show us that God is love.

By H. Ernest Nichol, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations," # 569 *UM Hymnal*.

Shalom,
Pastor Karen <><

We've a story to tell the nations



Committee News

Education, Missions, & Ministry

The EMM approved the following budgeted mission contributions:

- \$800.00 - Karing for Kids, \$639 from monthly collection, \$161 from budget funds.
- \$250.00 - Youth for Christ - Wells County.
- \$100.00 - Brickhouse Family Ministry in Bluffton.
- \$100.00 - Bashor Children's Home in Goshen, Indiana.
- \$100.00 - Kafakumba Training Center in Zambia, Africa, trains pastors to serve in churches in Congo, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Namibia.

Faith Circle

The Faith Circle Christmas Breakfast was held on December 4 at 9 AM at UUMC. It was hosted by Sharon Espich and Connie Hix with delicious food, games, and gifts for all 15 in attendance. The Men's Group had their own fellowship breakfast at the same time in Bluffton. The First meeting of 2022 is scheduled for March 5 to be hosted by Martha Hix.

Trustees

Siding replacement projects on the northeast corner of the church and the back porch of the parsonage were completed and they both look great.



Wells County Cluster

The next Cluster meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, February 14, 2022, at Lancaster Chapel UMC at 6:30 PM. The Hotcakes for Henderson fundraiser is scheduled for February 26, 7-10 am at Liberty Center UMC. Also, to help the "store" at Henderson, the Cluster is gathering up new and gently used kitchen, bath, washcloth and hand towels for the people served by the Henderson Settlement.



Please remember

Barb Cook
100 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #100
Bluffton, IN 46714

Gary Cook
Markle Health & Rehabilitation
170 N. Tracy Street
Markle, IN 46770

Jeanette Gilbert
Golden Apple Unit
Christian Care
720 East Dustman Rd.
Bluffton, IN 46714
Or Mail to: c/o Jill Martin
2172 E US 224
Ossian, IN 46777

Margaret Hasler
37446 Carson
Farmington Hills, MI 48331



December 2021 Budget Summary	December Actual	December Budget	December Variance	Year to date Actual	Year to date Budget	Year to date Variance
TOTAL INCOME	3,991.19	4,208.67	(217.48)	46,803.28	50,504.04	(3,700.76)
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	3,868.74	3,791.99	(76.75)	47,590.65	45,920.55	(8,652.38)
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	122.45	416.68		(787.37)	4,583.49	

Do you know why we are called United Methodists?

There have been many nicknames for the band of believers who followed the lead of John and Charles Wesley in their early ministry in England: Enthusiasts, Sacramentarians, Bible Moths, Methodists. Their methods, values, and tradition laid the groundwork for what would become The United Methodist Church, 240 years after John and Charles Wesley began their Holy Club at college.



Evangelical United Brethren Church Bishop Reuben H. Mueller (left) and Methodist Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke join hands on April 23, 1968. Photo courtesy of the United Methodist Commission on Archives and History.

On April 23, 1968, Bishop Reuben H. Mueller, of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, and Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke, of The Methodist Church, joined hands at the General Conference in Dallas, Texas. They declared "Lord of the Church, we are united in Thee, in Thy Church and now in The United Methodist Church."

A new denomination was born and a new logo was created to represent this coming together. A traditional symbol—the cross—was linked with a single flame with dual tongues of fire. This ties The United Methodist Church to God through Christ (cross) and the Holy Spirit (flame). Most church members know that the symbol is a sign that "this is a place where United Methodists gather." But not everyone recognizes how, and why, it is important to use the denomination's full name.

The moniker is a merger of the names of the mostly German Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church. Not using the denomination's full name can feel hurtful to some members.

The Rev. Alfred T. Day, head of the Archives and History agency, notes: "If your lineage to become a United Methodist today has been through the Methodist Episcopal strain, you're in the majority because the United Brethren and the Evangelical Associations by numbers are much smaller groups. So it's easy for you in the majority to think of yourself as Methodist and claim that heritage. But if you're from the minority--and then that small heritage is combined into the larger heritage--and the only way that you get to claim your name is the word 'United' and somebody drops that name off, that kind of leaves you without a name, that kind of forgets your history."

Another meaning of united in the name speaks to the fuller inclusion of black churches. Even though the Methodist Episcopal Church had re-united in 1939 after being divided on the issue of slavery, African American congregations were still segregated into a separate Central Jurisdiction. In 1968, that segregation ended.

Day explains, "The United name also represents a coming together of black Methodists and white Methodists in the same conference, with the same preachers, with the same bishops, as opposed to segregated conferences as well. So if you leave the name 'United' off you're leaving off both a significant piece and powerful part of the naming of who we are."

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That newly formed United Methodist Church became one of the largest Protestant churches in the world with 12.4 million members today. And the cross and flame logo created in 1968 still represents that body, a body united in the goal to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

"Have you ever typed 'untied' Methodist Church?" asks Day. "There isn't that much difference on the keyboard between 'untied' and 'United' Methodist Church, but boy, oh boy, are there miles of difference in the story of how we get from one to the other."

**Fran Coode Walsh is Director, Member Communications at United Methodist Communications. Contact her at 615-742-5458.*

This story was first published on April 21, 2017.

Today, The United Methodist Church has more than 13 million members globally and more than 45,000 local churches. Our mission is making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



Flight 2022 Instructions

Good morning and welcome to Flight 2022.

We are prepared to take off into the New Year.

Please make sure your Positive Attitude and Gratitude are secured and locked in the upright position. All self-destruct devices: pity, anger, selfishness, pride, and resentment should be turned off at this time. All negativity, hurt, and discouragement should be put away.

Should you lose your Positive Attitude under pressure during this flight, reach up and pull down a prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by Faith. Once your Faith is activated, you can assist other passengers who are of little faith.

There will be NO BAGGAGE allowed on this flight.

God, our Captain, has cleared us for take-off.

Destination – GREATNESS!

Wishing you a New Year filled with new HOPE, new JOY, and new BEGINNINGS!

Stay Blessed!

And welcome in 2022.

You ARE A-MAZE-ing!

Find your way to the heart in the center.



Happy Valentine's Day

Winter Word Search

S K I I N G S N O W B O O T
S F I R E P L A C E I N G E O
L I E A R M U F F S C N Y T S
E W S B C O L T R A E S T A C
D I M L R O W S N O U G H E A
D N U I A U L O W P S H T O R
I T F Z E S A D E H A T A O F
N R B Z B A E R O W P L Y I I
G C O A T O T L Y D M W L C R
I T O R H A F R O T A S U I E
P O T D E C E M B E R I L C L
L A S N C R O V I N C L O L R
O A D H J K T C E S H O V E L
W J A N U A R Y O E S A H S T
M I T T E N S W E A T E R E L

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|----------|-----------|----------|
| BLIZZARD | FIREPLACE | FLOW |
| BOOTS | FROSTY | SCARF |
| COAT | HAT | SHOVEL |
| COCOA | ICE | SKIING |
| COLD | ICICLES | SLEDDING |
| DECEMBER | JANUARY | SNOW |
| EARMUFFS | MARCH | SWEATER |
| FEBRUARY | MITTENS | WINTER |

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