



Messenger

Uniondale United Methodist Church

July - August 2018

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

Uniondale, IN 46791

Pastor Karen Ottjes
260-228-3634

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 UniondaleUnitedMethodistChurch

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.



July and August Birthdays and Anniversaries

July

- 1 – Gary Cook
- 6 – Barry Jamison
- 6 – Sue Chaney
- 9 – Margaret Hasler
- 12 – Sharon Espich
- 29 – Cindy McAfee
- 30 – MaryEtta Blessing
- 30 – Betty Cary

August

- 1 – Kolson Herstad
- 2 – Amy Horne
- 4 – Paula McAfee
- 10 – Aiden Ford
- 12 – Ernie & Tina Barclay
- 15 – Sandra Imel
- 25 – Jeanette Gilbert



Upcoming Events

- Sunday, July 1 – Communion Sunday
- Wednesday, July 4 – Independence Day
- Sunday, July 15 – Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items
Church Council meeting after church service
- Sunday, July 29 – Kids Changing the World-bring your change
- Sunday, August 5 – Communion Sunday
- Wednesday, Aug. 8 - EMM meeting at 6:30 PM
- Monday, August 13 – Nine Cluster meeting at Epworth UMC at 6:30 PM
- Sunday, August 19 – Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items
- Sunday, August 26 – Kids Changing the World-bring your change



****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

It's time to celebrate our country's birthday! We live in a country that allows us many freedoms. We can live where we choose to live. We can go to school to learn basic life and job skills. We can choose the type of work we do and our employer. We have the freedom to use our unique abilities and talents in hobbies as well as employment. The Bill of Rights of our Constitution guarantees many of our freedoms. We are truly blessed to be living in this nation which allows so much freedom!

Our Constitution is a unique document, as John Adams explains: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." No wonder our country seems to have more problems as our society becomes more secular and amoral. The core of common values that united our country's founders is no longer something upon which all Americans can agree. Our country is now multicultural and pluralistic. What are we to do and how are we to act?

Paul wrote about respect for the government in his letter to the Church in Rome. "Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. ... The authorities are God's servants, sent for your good." (Romans 13:1, 4 NLT) Paul also reminded believers of their responsibility to pray for government officials. "Pray for kings and everyone who is in authority so that we can live a quiet and peaceful life in complete godliness and dignity." (1 Timothy 2:2 NLT)

We need to pray earnestly, passionately for our country and our leaders. We are struggling in a divided culture of us versus them, liberal versus conservative, etc. Though tolerance is often brought up as a way to get along, the way it's being practiced doesn't seem to fit with the *Webster's New World Dictionary's* definition: "2) to recognize and respect (others' beliefs, practices, etc.) without sharing them. 3) to bear, or put up with (someone or something not especially liked)." We have a difficult time trusting people who don't think like we do and don't share our values. Many of the loudest voices we hear today, think that they can change our minds by shouting louder and repeating certain phrases and beliefs about what needs to be changed in our country.

We need to pray earnestly, passionately for our country and our leaders. It will take much patience, listening and dialogue with great wisdom and insight to find the things that can draw us together and make us once more a great nation.

As you prepare to celebrate Independence Day on July 4th, meditate on the words of this hymn.

2. *Thy love divine hath led us in the past; in this free land with thee our lot is cast;
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.*
4. *Refresh thy people on their toilsome way; lead us from night to never-ending day;
fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.*

-- "God of Our Fathers" by Daniel C. Roberts, 1876

Shalom,
Pastor Karen <><



****Please remember****

Committee News

EMM Committee (Education, Missions, Ministries)

EMM is planning to meet on August 8 to make plans for fall and winter activities. During April and May we collected \$45 to donate to the Adams Wells Crisis Center. Thanks to those who helped with our special missions. Sunday School will reconvene on September 9. More teachers are needed, especially for the children's classes.

Faith Circle

On June 9, Faith Circle met for breakfast at The Corner Depot in Bluffton. Following our new custom, the men of the church joined us for great food and fellowship. After the summer break, we will meet again in September, date to be announced.

Trustees

We will be scheduling a "clean-up" day soon so all will have an opportunity to help spruce up the church buildings and property. Many thanks to those helping to keep the church grounds mowed and looking good. At long last, the upstairs windows of the parsonage have been replaced.

Nine Companion Cluster

The 9 Companion Cluster is a group of nine United Methodist churches all located in the same general region of northern Wells County and southern Allen County. The purpose of the Cluster is an opportunity to grow in relationship with sisters and brothers in Christ throughout the region. This companion relationship provides opportunities for prayer, learning and sharing in our respective settings as well as collaboration on missions such as the Henderson Project and the current Teacher Kits for Haiti project. Occasionally the Cluster organizes joint fellowship events such as the recent Tincaps game outing.



Mary Etta Blessing
3890 W. Oak Rd.
Bluffton, IN 46714

Lura Burke
Ossian Health & Rehabilitation
215 Davis Rd.
Ossian, IN 46777

Betty Cary
200 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #120HC
Bluffton, IN 46714

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

Mary Cook-Room 109
Gary Cook-Room 106
Markle Health & Rehabilitation
170 N. Tracy Street
Markle, IN 46770

Jeanette Gilbert
200 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #105B-HC
Mail to: c/o Jill Martin
2172 E US 224
Ossian, IN 46777

Margaret Hasler
37446 Carson
Farmington Hills, MI 48331

"The brilliant poppy flaunts
her head
Amidst the ripening grain,
And adds her voice to sell
the song
That August's here again."
- Helen Winslow

Treasure's Report

June 2018 Budget Summary	June	June	June	Year to date	Year to date	Year to date
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
TOTAL INCOME	4,477.77	4,017.42	460.35	28,261.12	24,104.52	4,156.60
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	2,135.45	4,017.40	1,881.95	18,883.89	24,104.40	5,220.51
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	2,342.32	0.02		9,377.23	0.12	

The Healthy Small Church

So many misconceptions surround the validity and value of the smaller membership churches. Many feel that because they are small, there must be some problem or problems that exist. When this mentality becomes the plum line, finger pointing always seems to follow.

“If only we had the right pastor.”

“If the big church down the street would quit attracting our members.”

“If only we had more money.”

Well, you get the point! The truth is the value and validity of any church regardless of its size is not based on any of the above. Validity and value are based on the health of a congregation.

Just like our bodies, once in a while it is wise for congregations to get a checkup. I hear your next question clearly, “How in the world does a congregation get a checkup?” “How can we take the temperature of a congregation?”

Let me try to answer those questions briefly but clearly. Congregational health is based on alignment – alignment of its vision with its over-arching mission. We as United Methodists share a clearly stated and focused mission: **TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD.**

This mission statement becomes the basis and focal point of our existence as a congregation, and our task is for all that we do to be aligned with our mission.

My mentor and interim Director of Church Development for the Indiana Conference, Doug Anderson states it this way, “Communication plus collaboration brings alignment.”

Thus, because healthiness comes from alignment, communication and collaboration must become a part of our daily regimen. When communication breaks down collaboration seldom happens. The church loses sight of its vision because it isn't being communicated clearly. Collaboration between ministry areas and the congregation begins to suffer and eventually grinds to a standstill. Ultimately the mission not only becomes out of reach but usually is forgotten or ignored.

Your Church Development team at the Indiana Conference wants to help. We can come alongside a church with tools and procedures to help it move toward and ultimately achieve better health.

No matter what size congregation you call home, it is valuable and holds validity. Please consider giving us the opportunity to serve with you as we together “**MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD.**”

Because he lives ...

— Randy L Anderson, Associate Director of Church Development, posted January 19, 2018



Email Spoof Advisory

Please be advised

It has come to our attention, two email accounts have been created or “spoofed” that are not currently, nor have they been, associated with the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church.

If you received an email from “Indiana United Methodist Church” with the email address “info@inumc.org” and subject line “Support David” or from “Pastor Julius C. Trimble” with email address “father.kdeyoung@gmail.com” please be advised and aware, and delete the email without opening.

Please note, any legitimate emails that come from the Indiana Conference will read;

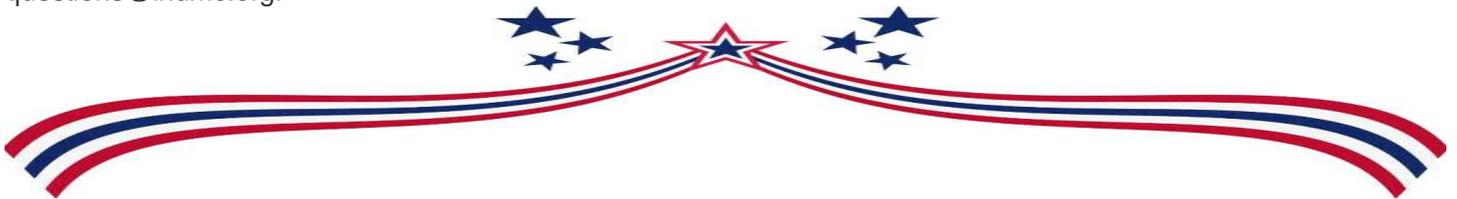
- “Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church” - in.comm@inumc.org, skyler.nimmons@inumc.org
- “United Methodist Churches of Indiana” - in.comm@inumc.org, skyler.nimmons@inumc.org
- Skyler Nimmons, Communications Director, skyler.nimmons@inumc.org
- Information on church finances, tithe, etc. will come from Heidi Harding, heidi.harding@inumc.org, Ian Hall, ian.hall@inumc.org or the Council on Finance and Administration.
- Any email from Bishop Julius C. Trimble will read “Bishop Julius C. Trimble”.

All legitimate emails will reflect the current INUMC logo and brand and will not utilize the old INUMC logo. (see below)



These instances are a reminder to proceed with caution when opening an email from a person or organization that you do not recognize. The Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, otherwise known as the United Methodist Churches of Indiana will never, in an official capacity, list a GoFundMe, or other third-party donation platforms for donations that are conference-wide, unless otherwise noted. The email in question has been reported to GoFundMe and PayPal.

If you receive an email from a Conference Staff Member, Extended Cabinet Member (Superintendents & Director, or Bishop Trimble) that look suspect in nature, please contact the Indiana Conference directly at 317-924-1321 or questions@inumc.org.



You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4th, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism."

- Erma Bombeck

Back to School



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

WORD BANK

SCHOOL
BOOK
FRIENDS
TEACHER
BUS
RECESS
LEARN
FUN

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WELCOME BACK
TO SCHOOL

