

FIRST NEWS

May 2018

Volume 18, Issue 5

First United Methodist Church



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Special Items of Interest

- Community Meal, May 30
- Camp Info
- Blueberry Stomp Sponsorships sought for ASK Ministries
- May 6: Farewell Breakfast for Ron & Laura Luebcke
- May 15: Link to Hope annual Dinner
- May 20: 50th Wedding Anniversary Reception for Dan & Patti Bates

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR TONI

As I write this article, the scent of supper is drifting upstairs to my office as women prepare for the community meal that will be ready to serve in a couple of hours. It smells really good. I had a late lunch and shouldn't be hungry at all, but I have a feeling I'll be ready to eat by the time 5:00 rolls around.

This, I believe, is the 11th meal that we've offered to members of the community. There have been somewhere between 35 and 100 people who have attended the meals each time—it's hard to say, really, because we count the plates used and everybody gets a

clean plate when they come up for seconds, so who knows for sure? But, we've been pleased with the response.

The "community" invited to these meals includes those who are a part of our First UMC worshipping community and those who aren't. (That means you!!) We hope that people who know this place and are comfortable here will come and eat and share a table and fellowship. When brand new folks step into the building, it's always good to see people sitting around the tables and eating—it relieves the pressure of thinking that perhaps you're the

only ones responding to the invitation. Along with you, we're hoping that folks who often eat by themselves, or who don't often have a home cooked meal, or who could simply use a good meal will come and enjoy. We want to offer hospitality and welcome people to the table.

We want to do that for our community meals, and we want to do that on Sunday morning, as well. We want people to feel welcome, to know that they are beloved people of God, and that we're good people to get to know! And, we're even better when they're a part of us!

(Continued on page 5)

Sheepishly

*submitted by Corryne Wick,
Director of Children & Youth Ministries*

Recently, I had the pleasure of witnessing how Jesus leads back those of us who have gone astray. The person who was led back mentioned the parable of how the good shepherd leaves the ninety-nine to seek the one that is lost. I was reminded of hearing this parable for the first time as a child. Having pets and knowing the nature of animals, I remember wondering if the rest of the sheep were busy going astray while Jesus was off returning the one sheep to his flock.

As a child, I had dogs. And so, when the pet, or pets, escaped, we would run down the street with a leash to try and corner them. Dogs, of course, will do anything not to get caught until they are ready to be caught. So, it was a challenge

to try and catch them before the local dog-catcher caught them so we wouldn't get a fine.

So I wonder now: is Jesus like that? Let's say the sheep goes astray...and he goes after it. Do the rest of us try and break out of the pen while his back is turned? Or do we stay put? Somehow, in our nature as people, I think we are the pets who try and break out while God's back is turned.

I'm *sheepishly* thinking of my own personal tendencies as a sinner.

I wonder if even God has his down days when he says: "I just haven't caught a sheep yet today and that makes me sad!" Not to disappoint, maybe I go astray just to give him the pleas-

ure of catching me.

While God loves each of us more than we can know or understand...sometimes I think it is a lack of knowing how much he loves us that causes us to go astray in the first place.

Here's a thought: We, like sheep have gone astray. But Jesus paid the fine so we can go to heaven and have eternal life. But, let's not go astray on purpose. The fine cost him more than any of us have ourselves. Let's respect that. Because while I may think its humorous to go catch my dog when it misbehaves, the act of getting us back wasn't humorous for Him.

God Bless, have a good month!

Corryne Wick



COMMUNITY MEAL

May 30, 5:00-7:00 p.m. will be our next Community Meal. Come, join us for food and fellowship. Encourage your neighbors and friends to join us as well. If you know of someone who eats alone most days, invite them to come and socialize. If you know of a neighbor whose refrigerator might be a little bare, invite them to come for some good food. The Community Meal is open to anyone - that's why it's called a "community meal." Reach out to others . . .

Worship Participants		May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
			Mother's Day	Pentecost	
	8:30	Elaine Dick	Susie Kreighbaum	Susan Wautelet	Cathy Clough
	Liturgists				
	10:30 Liturgists	Ruth Van Vactor	Ruth Van Vactor	Donna Hemmig	Donna Hemmig
	f Greeters	Ashley Corwin	Karen Emerick	Bill & Lynn Gee	Carole Ralston
	Ushers	Woody	Woody	Woody	Woody
		Schinbeckler, John Finlay, Scott Carmer, Jane Woolfington, Melissa Christiansen	Schinbeckler, John Finlay, Scott Carmer, Jane Woolfington, Melissa Christiansen	Schinbeckler, John Finlay, Scott Carmer, Jane Woolfington, Melissa Christiansen	Schinbeckler, John Finlay, Scott Carmer, Jane Woolfington, Melissa Christiansen
	Sound System (10:30)	Tom Pedavoli	James Faulstich	Ralph Booker	Robin Cupka
	Older Nursery	Barbie Pickut	Jane Woolfington	Judy Goebel	Amanda Dreibelbis
	Acolytes	David Cochern	Emma Konefsky	David Cochern	Emma Konefsky

Are you or your children hoping to have an adventure this summer?



Look no further! Send them to camp with the United Methodist Church!

Are you looking for a trustworthy way to help another person?

Look no further! Help sponsor a kid to go to camp. If interested, please call the church office!

Prayer Time

submitted by Dorothy Steinke

The roots of stability come from being grounded in God's Word and prayer.

"My voice You shall hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning I will direct it to you, and I will look up."

Psalm 5:3

Back home again in Indiana. I experienced jet lag in the transition; then a week later I took another 2 day trip to see the Ark. I am just beginning to feel back to normal.

In May we celebrate Mother's day. We remember and honor our mothers. One of the short stories in "Courage for the Chicken Hearted" was about sayings our mother always said. My mother always said if you can't say anything nice about some one then don't say anything at all. Children are to be seen and not heard, we should always be positive and that is the way she lived. We were better dressed than some of the other kids because my mother sewed and made all our clothes. Our dolls were better dressed also. I traded doll clothes with one of my friends and

she made me go get them back.

She also had an "eagle eye"; When our family was invited to dinner, at the end of dinner my sister and I got the eye - we knew we were to offer to do the dishes. If we didn't offer she volunteered us. Memories.

Mission Witness

"We were walking the dusty path [20 minutes] to church. Lost in memories of comfortable cars and smooth roads in the United States, we caught up with a group of ladies also walking. We greeted them with "Jaimashi" [praise the Messiah} and asked where they had walked from. They named a village far to the east of us - they had left home a 7 a.m. to walk the three hours to Tansen. The church here is a true community of believers - and people walk extreme distances to come to worship. For us the dusty road was suddenly sacred ground."

Deborah Dornan,
Global Ministries
Missionary,
Tansen, Nepal

"Dear Savior Hear Our Prayer"

- Hymn by John Hewes

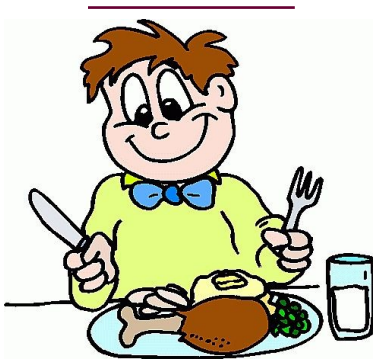
Dear Savior, hear our prayer,-
We bow before Thy throne;
O may we find acceptance there,
and peace before unknown.

Dear Savior, hear our prayer,-
O turn not thou away;
for in temptation's fearful hour
Thou art our only stay.

Dear Savior, hear our prayer,-
no other power but thine
can fill our souls with heavenly joy,
with rays of light divine.

Dear Savior, hear our prayer,-
On thee alone we call;
O keep our feet in wisdom's way
that we may never fall

Dorothy Steinke



LINK TO HOPE ANNUAL DINNER & BOARD MEETING

•LINK TO HOPE (formerly Care and Share of Marshall County) will have its annual dinner and board meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at Pretty Lake Trinity United Methodist Church. Come early to browse our Silent Auction, including gift certificates, homemade items and even a 2 day trip! Tickets are \$15 and are available from Sherry Schinbeckler at 936-2200. All proceeds help the needy in our community.



MAY IS HERE...SPRING HAS ARRIVED!

SMALL GROUPS ARE THRIVING !!!!

Lunch Bunch: The third Friday of the month: RSVP Carol Beiter

MAY 18 the group will be dining at Jerrey's in Rochester.

Meet to carpool at the church at 11:30!

HERE ARE THE RESTAURANT CHOICES FOR THE COMING FEW MONTHS:

JUNE 15: HIGHLANDER GRILL (Etna Green)

JULY 20: RISE AND SHINE (across from LifePlex)

AUGUST 17: EVERGREEN (Rochester)

SEPTEMBER 21: LAKE HOUSE (Culver)

Dominos and Euchre will be featured on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 2-4:00 PM. Contact Dean Luther for further details at 540-2196.

Christian Craftin' Mamas continue to meet and explore the world of creativity. Contact Michelle Faulstich 941-2737 for further details.

Blessed Bookies: The 4TH Mondays of the month at Miller's Assisted Living at 5:30 PM. On Monday, May 21 (this is the third Monday) the bookies will be discussing "The Memory Keeper's Daughter."

Bad Girls: This group will be starting a new study on Tuesday, May 8 at 11:00. The discussion will center around the book "31 Proverbs to Light Your Path" by Liz Curtis Higgs. Our meeting is always followed by lunch at Opie's and we would love to have new members. Join us on May 8 or contact Susan Wautelet for further information.

Do any of these small groups sound interesting? It is never too late to connect with each other....Please contact Susan Wautelet at 936-2747 or swautelet@aol.com for more information.

Plans are being made to offer a FUMC directory in cooperation with LifeTouch Church Directories. This directory will showcase our families, provide contact information, and become a useful resource to keep us connected. Hopefully, everyone has had their picture taken, and we are set to design the directory. Stay tuned for more information!!



SUMMER MUSICAL EVENTS IN THE SANCTUARY!!



JULY 1, 2018 Marshall County Orchestra will present a Patriotic program at 5:00.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2018 The Dunnamen's will present a Gospel concert at 5:00.

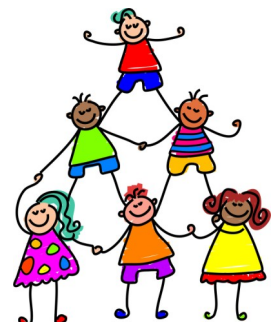
Help make FUMC the Plymouth church with music in the air! Support our church by attending these events and bringing friends and neighbors!

SOCIAL CONCERNS

The Social Concerns committee helps the needy in our community by contributing to Link to Hope, Heminger House, and Marshall County Neighborhood Center. You can give to these causes by making your tax deductible check out to First United Methodist Church with Social Concerns in the memo line, or by writing any of these agencies on the memo line.

This month, we are collecting the following items for the Neighborhood Center: jelly (to go with peanut butter and bread which are usually plentiful!), boxed meal helper for hamburger or tuna, canned spaghetti, canned fruit. Also, they need summer clothes for adults and children.

Thanks so much for your generosity to those in our community whose needs are so great.



May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 9:00-10:15 a.m. Farewell Reception for Ron & Laura Luebke in Fellowship Hall NORMAL WORSHIP SCHEDULE	7 1:00 p.m. W.O.W. 6:30 p.m. Marshall/Starke	8 11:00 a.m. Bad Girls Bible Study 6:00p.m. Finance 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	9 6:45 a.m. Men's Bible Study @ Christo's 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	10 6:00 a.m. Early Birds @ Pickuts 12:00 noon Joy Breaks 12:30 p.m. Bible Study	11	12
13 MOTHER'S DAY 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. The Well	14 6:30 p.m. Trustees 6:30 p.m. Social Concerns 7:00 p.m. Mother's Club @ DQ	15 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	16 6:45 a.m. Men's Bible Study @ Christo's 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	17 6:00 a.m. Early Birds @ Pickuts 12:00 noon Joy Breaks 12:30 p.m. Bible Study 2-4:00 p.m. Game Day	18 Noon Lunch Bunch @ Jerry's (Rochester) Meet to carpool at church at 11:30 a.m.	19
20 PENTECOST Cookie Sunday! 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. The Well	21 5:30 p.m. Blessed Bookies @ Miller's Assisted Living	22 11:00 a.m. Bad Girls Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	23 6:45 a.m. Men's Bible Study @ Christo's 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	24 6:00 a.m. Early Birds @ Pickuts 12:00 noon Joy Breaks 12:30 p.m. Bible Study	25	26
27 TRINITY SUNDAY <i>Graduation Recognition</i> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. The Well	28 7:00 p.m. Youth & Ed Memorial Day	29 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	30 6:45 a.m. Men's Bible Study @ Christo's 5:00 p.m. Community Meal 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	31 6:00 a.m. Early Birds @ Pickuts 12:00 noon Joy Breaks 12:30 p.m. Bible Study		

The Well

submitted by Cindy Flagg

GREETINGS!!!

This month's newsletter is going to be a bit short. I've been under the weather and even had to miss a night at The Well and a couple days of work. Anyone who knows me realizes that this is NOT typical of me and of course, I found it pretty traumatic!

My family makes light of me when I go through something like this because they think I take life far too seriously. They want me to realize that I'm not really as important as I think I am.

Quite honestly, it isn't that I think I'm so important. I know that everyone can be replaced. This is a truth I was taught as a young girl. But, I was also taught that no matter what I do, I should do it seriously and do it as if I was doing it for the LORD himself.

I sincerely hate to let anyone down. I have two

jobs that I really love. I love my job as Activities Director at Miller's. The residents and their happiness are very important to me. I hate to let them down in any way!

I also love speaking at The Well. The Well is also very important to me. I enjoy studying for a message and I enjoy the time I get to spend with The Well family and guests. So, for me to have to miss out on BOTH in one week was quite an unusual and stressing event for me.

All I can say is that I do believe sometimes when we are sick it is time to reevaluate: where am I at in life, what am I doing, am I over-doing things, do I need to eliminate anything, am I too busy, etc. I think when we are ill GOD gives us some down time to rest, re-evaluate and make a new plan of action.

During my few days of illness I had plenty of

time to think about things, decide if there are some things that I could eliminate from my schedule so that I can continue to do my best for my job and The Well ministry!! I'm not happy I was sick. But, I am happy I had time to think!

I'd like to encourage you to continue to pray for The Well Ministry. May 6th, we will have our lesson on Joseph of Arimathea: Reflections on Sorrow. It will also be our monthly Communion and our carry-in meal. May 13th, we will finish up the REFLECTIONS ON EASTER with The Women: Reflections on Strength. I'm actually happy this got moved (because of my illness) to Mother's Day Sunday!!! This lesson is very interesting and encouraging and uplifting where women are concerned!

Meet you at The Well!!
Sincerely,
Cindy



Coming Up at The Well

- April 29: "Reflections on Easter—The Reflection of Significance-The Centurion"
- May 6: "Reflections on Easter—The Reflection of Sorrow—Joseph of Arimathea" Also Communion & Carry-In Supper (Main course: Sloppy Joes)
- May 13: "Reflections on Easter—The Reflection of Strength—The Women"

We would like to thank all the friends and church family that organized, set up for the funeral meal, fixed food for the meal and cleaned up. The meal was very good and much appreciated.

The family of Milan Levett,
Sue, Mark & Paul

THANK YOU SO MUCH!



Looking Ahead....

Sunday, May 6 – Reception to say Good-Bye to
Ron & Laura Luebcke 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. in the
Fellowship Hall



Sunday, May 13 – Mother's Day

Judie Luthor preaching at both services.

Sunday, May 20 – Pentecost

Sunday, May 27 – Recognition of Graduates, Trinity Sunday



Sunday, June 3 – Music Sunday at the 10:30 Service, Com-
munion at both services

Sunday, June 17 – Father's Day



Sunday, June 24 – Picnic Sunday

One Service only at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary; Fol-
lowed by a Carry-In Picnic at Centennial Park, Hoosier
Old Wheels Shelter

Unless otherwise noted, Sunday morning services at 8:30 and 10:30,

Sunday School for all ages at 9:30

Sunday evening – The Well at 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall



BLUEBERRY STOMP 2018 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Please help us raise important funds for Adams Street Ministries through sponsorship of the 45th Blueberry Stomp!

Adams Street Ministries is hosting the 45th annual Blueberry Stomp held September 3rd during the Marshall County Blueberry Festival. We would love for you to be a part of it through a corporate sponsorship. Runners from all around Marshall County, Northwest IN and beyond will run and walk a 5K or 15K course which will be in part lined with 50,000 parade spectators!



This event will be the 45th annual run/walk held by Adam Street Ministries! We had over 1000 participants in years past, and we are anticipating that we will carry on the tradition of the race this year as well! All funds raised will go toward Adam Street Ministries Youth Programming.

Within Adams Street Ministries, our goal is to bring young people together in a life of faith, action and fellowship, and address spiritual, emotional, and social needs unique to youth. We work to provide youth grades 5-12

opportunities to develop a deeper relationship with Christ through weekly worship as well as community service activities. In partnership with families, ASK provides a safe environment for youth to develop uplifting relationships with each other empowering them to work productively at home, school and community.

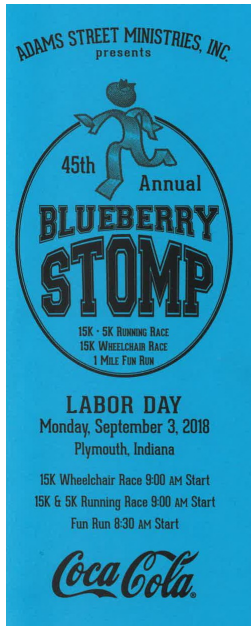
There are many sponsorship opportunities at all levels. For more information, please contact Heather King 574-780-2442 or email at blueberrystomp@gmail.com.

**THIS IS A MAJOR FUNDRAISER FOR ASK MINISTRIES—
PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN!**



**SPONSORSHIP DEADLINE
JULY 1**





Want to become a sponsor for the Blueberry Stomp? Want to run yourself? Contact the office for a registration form. Early registration ends August 3rd.

Adams Street Kids would like to thank our many Friends and Sponsors who made the Blueberry Stomp 2017 such a huge success!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <i>Beacon Credit Union</i> | <i>Kroger</i> |
| <i>Michiana Insurance</i> | <i>Yoder's Sports Center</i> |
| <i>First Federal Savings Bank</i> | <i>Plymouth Parks Dept.</i> |
| <i>Jones, Huff, Jones & Richeson</i> | <i>Plymouth Police Dept.</i> |
| <i>Allied Bone & Joint</i> | <i>Plymouth Fire Dept.</i> |
| <i>Gibson Foundation</i> | <i>Marshall Co. Sheriff Dept.</i> |
| <i>H&R Block</i> | <i>Blueberry Festival Committee</i> |
| <i>Coca Cola</i> | <i>Culver Military Academy</i> |
| <i>Hoosier Racing Tire</i> | <i>Crowe Horvath</i> |
| <i>St. Joseph Regional Med Center</i> | <i>Plymouth Veterinary</i> |
| <i>Mike Anderson Auto Group</i> | <i>2017 Miss Blueberry - Brianna Andrews</i> |
| <i>Ponderosa Steak House</i> | |

and to our numerous race day volunteers, thank you!

May Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Lily Cochern	8 Greg Jagers	9 Luke Felde Roberta Isom Brittley Lewallen	10 Leah Smith	11 Kelsey Heisler	12 Jeremy Deenik
13 Melissa Button Dorothy Morgan-Elizabeth Ratliff	14 Loren Daily Tom Douglass Spencer Goebel Matt Record	15 Lola Hissong	16 Clayton Bright Greta Corsbie Mary Probst Curtis Smith	17	18 Judith Stump Chase Evans	19 Conner Aker James Faulstich
20 Ryan Gray Emma	21 Allie Rans-Schell Marsha Yeazel	22 Joan May Rachel Rettig	23 Phil Crutchfield Marilee Johnson Laurie Morris	24 Betty Kay Eley Nancy Felde Hayley Morris	25	26 Linda Atkins
27 Barbara Pickut June Pullen	28	29	30 Dave Bright Lauren Kelso Shirley Magnuson	31		