



FIRST NEWS

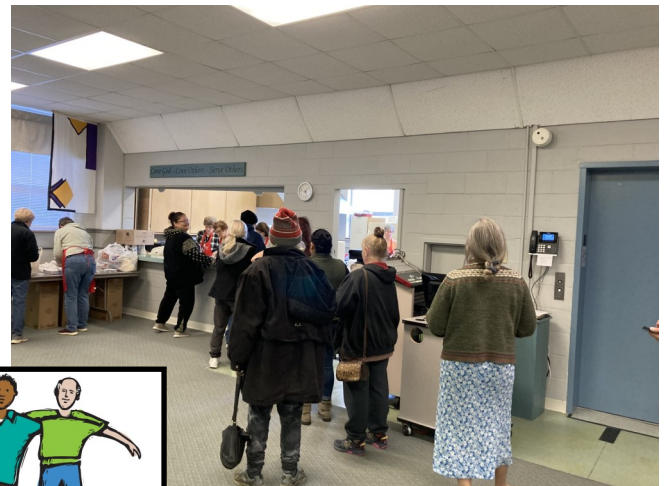
First United
Methodist
Church
May 2024



The May community meal will be May 29 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Can you believe that will just be a couple days after Memorial Day? Wow, where is the year going? Lots of good things are happening around our church. The menu for May is Sloppy joes, Chips, Corn, Fruit and Cookies. Our numbers continue to grow and we thank you for your support of this ministry. It is hard to know how many to fix for and we do not like running out of food as we did in March so we are fixing just a bit more. But don't let that stop you from coming and bringing a friend!! Hope to see you Wednesday, May 29 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.



Photos from the March 27th Meal.





From the Pastor

Spring and I have always had a love/hate relationship. I love Spring because of the brightness of the grass and the flowers and the budding trees. I look forward to the warmer and longer days and to the opportunities to watch the birds and the squirrels playfully moving about in my yard. But I also “hate” Spring because it means facing the never-ending battle with the weeds, mowing a lawn that keeps growing back, and dealing with allergies from those flowers I love so much. One of the Spring chores I truly enjoy, however, is Spring Cleaning. The fresh air and bright sunny days help me to see areas of my home in new ways, and websites such as Pinterest and Hometalk offer great ideas to use old stuff in ways that brighten dark corners and spaces.



I guess it is normal to love the result of our labor more than we love the labor it takes to achieve it. One of the things that inspires our labor is, of course, the anticipated results. As we follow the Gospel of John through the next few weeks of this Easter season, we will continue to be encouraged by Jesus to commit our labors to building the Kin-dom, as he describes a strange and fitting relationship of the glorious and the ordinary. Perhaps more accurately, we discover how to give glory through the ordinary. While there are many ways that we are doing this already, we are challenged to discover fresh ways to share Christ in our community and world as we “Spring Clean” our church and our ministries in order to embrace new possibilities for the community.

Looking forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Blessings,

Pastor Lauren



Greetings from The Well!



This year is moving along quickly, and we find ourselves in the month of May already. The Well will be taking a summer hiatus like we did last summer. We do this for various reasons but it's mainly to give everyone a break to enjoy the lovely summer weather and to spend the time with family and friends. It will also give us time to brainstorm over the summer and make decisions about what direction The Well will be moving in the new fall season. Our last Sunday evening meeting in person at The Well will be Sunday, May 19th.

I will continue to share a weekly message online at 5:00 p.m. beginning June 2nd. I'm researching what I'd like to speak about and whether it will be a series or whether I'll follow the lectionary. That will be announced in the June newsletter.

I would like to thank those who have helped in various capacities throughout the year at The Well. I sometimes hate to name names because I invariably will leave someone out. But I'm going to give it my best shot this time. If you see these people mentioned please take time to thank them for their help and support of The Well. And continue to pray for them as they take the summer to rest and reenergize for another season at The Well. I would like to thank the following people: Pastor Lauren, for her guidance and her sound advice when I have questions and also for providing communion for The Well each month; Christine Rust for the wonderful job she does in making our slide show presentations to go along with my sermons; Grace Blanding and Kathy Mills for providing the beautiful music each Sunday evening; Judy Reed for portraying Auntie Vi each month; and Annette Ray for running our technology such as the computer, mics, lights, sound, and staging the table area to make everything look so attractive in our videos. I also want to thank anyone who has provided special music throughout the year and those who have provided refreshments for The Well.

I would like to also mention that Wednesday Evening Bible Study is going well and will continue throughout the summer from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. We are studying the Book of Isaiah. All are invited to join in the Bible Study. If you cannot attend, please continue to pray for The Well and the Wednesday Evening Bible Study. Thank you all so much!

Sincerely,

Cindy Flagg

May Men's Breakfast

The United Methodist Men will be meeting at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, May 11, in the Fellowship Hall. Ralph Booker and Jeff Houin will be talking about the Plymouth Comprehensive Plan and the downtown Plymouth master plan. There will be a discussion of how the church fits into both of these plans. Bill Hemmig will have the breakfast. All interested persons are invited. There will be a signup sheet at the Welcome Center on May 5. You can also sign-up by contacting Dave Hogsett at either davidh15503@embarqmail.com or 574-936-6927.

Future Programs:

- June 8 - Francis Ellert will talk about his recent trip to Cuba.
- June 22 - The men will be leaving the church at 9:00 A.M. to visit the Automobile Museums in Auburn, IN.
- July - Jill Houin will be talking about Homestead Dairy. The group will be discussing a possible tour of the dairy.
- August - Rowyn Hall-Davis will talk about her trip to Greece and Italy.



Missions Minute



Midwest Mission Work Trip:

We have a work team going to the Midwest Mission Center in June. They will be leaving on Sunday, June 2 and return on Friday, June 7th. Workers going are Carol Beiter, Karen & Barry Capper, Donna & Bill Hemmig, and Sharen and Ken Robinson.



They will take with them 57 two-handle school bags sewn by Jeanne Middleton. Last year Jeanne sent 56 smaller bags that she had made. Twice she has sent about 45 hand-knitted baby sweaters that are included in Layette Kits; and she has sewn children's clothes that the Center sends to Haitian hospitals for orphans.

If you sew, knit, or crochet the Midwest Mission has directions on their website for a variety of items you can create at home that they need. Or if you just want to see more about the kits they assemble, what they are doing, when and where the shipments are going, who they are partnering

with, or how to make a direct donation, visit their website midwestmission.org or Facebook page. You may also make a donation through the church by marking it for Midwest Mission.

UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS:

If you would like to participate in the June or July trips, please get a hold of the contact person right away, especially the trip to Mission Guatemala.

Midwest Mission: 2024 * June 2 – 7 Contact Carol Beiter

Mission Guatemala: 2024 * July 6 – 13 Contact Troy Spencer or the Church Office

Henderson Settlement: 2024 * October, tbd

UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS:

May 18 – **Bake Sale at the Farmer's Market**

Bakers Needed! Please bring items to the Fellowship Hall on Friday, 5/17, during morning office hours 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. or 5-6 p.m.

Or be sure to visit our booth at the market and purchase some of our goodies!

June 8 – Tenderloin Sale at Oak and Jefferson



-submitted by Pam Michel

Mother's Club – May 2024

All Ladies are welcome to join us at Mother's Club. We currently have several members who attend church elsewhere, but enjoy getting together with other Christian Women. We normally meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



Mother's Club participated in the Community Open House, passing out "bookmarks" that had their information on it.



In April we toured Lincoln Junior High School.

UPCOMING PLANS:

Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m.: **Murder Mystery** in the Fellowship Hall! *This is one of our favorite programs of the year!* We all enjoy playing a character so different from our natural personalities! If you want to play along with us, please let one of us know and we'll give you a part to play.



If you would like to know more about Mother's Club, ask one of these ladies to include you on our private Facebook Page: Pam Michel, Robin Cupka, Karen Capper, Laura Darda, or Sharen Robinson

-submitted by Pam Michel

Social Concerns



We have returned to our home sanctuary, spring is here and summer is fast approaching! We have so much to be thankful for. Yet, we must remember that hunger makes life miserable for some people. It doesn't take a vacation, it doesn't have a season. For many people, it is ever present. To borrow a phrase from Cultivate, we want there to be **NO NEIGHBOR HUNGRY**. For that reason, we give to many agencies that help our neighbors have enough to eat.

One agency that we support through your giving is the food project through The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, more commonly known as Ancilla. This program is coordinated by Sister Connie Bach who enlists volunteers to make 145 sandwiches twice a week which are delivered to the two hotels north of town: Red Rock Inn and Economy Inn. Along with the sandwiches, they deliver canned goods, hygiene items and other necessities. In March, she took hundreds of donated clothing items to the hotels, set them up on tables and invited the residents to choose from them free of charge. She also provides many support services such as transportation to doctor's visits, referrals to jobs and many other services. When the residents see Sister Connie and her volunteers arrive, they give lots of hugs as they are so grateful that someone cares! This is such a worthwhile project for us to support!

Later this month, your Social Concerns Committee will be taking a carry-in dinner to Serenity Place, a permanent supportive housing apartment building on West Jefferson Street. We will serve the residents Sloppy Joes, mac and cheese, veggies and fruit, cookies and brownies. We will then enjoy playing Bingo with them and provide prizes for the adults and children. This is our second year for this. Last year was so much fun we decided to do it again. Many of the residents formerly lived in the hotels north of town and are now enjoying the beautiful Serenity Place. Next month we'll tell you all about our time there.

With your contributions, we were able to make these donations: Link to Hope Assistance \$200, Salary of Director \$100; Neighborhood Center \$100; Bread of Life Food Pantry \$100; Ancilla Food Project \$100; David's Courage \$100; St. Thomas Non-Food Pantry \$100; FUMC Community Meal \$100. That totals \$900.

Please continue to give generously to help those in need right here in Plymouth. Thank you.

-Submitted by Mary Kaufman

Dear Rev. Wall,
In the name of the Sisters, I thank you for your generous donation to the Volunteer Program. We are grateful for your help and your support. There are so many good people in our world.

We wish you and all your parish a Blessed and Happy Easter. Thank you for all the good you do! ☺

God bless you and all those you love!

Peace,

So Roberta, PHJC

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



Partners in the work of the Spirit

www.poorhandmaids.org

HAPPY MAY FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Bad Girls will be meeting Tuesday, May 14 at 11:00 AM. This group is beginning a new study entitled “Worthy... Celebrating The Value of Women”. We will be discussing the Fall! Come join the Girls for fellowship, fun, and inspiration! Lunch after is another opportunity for laughter and talk!

The Lunch Bunch gathers on the 3rd Friday of the month. Plan to join this thriving group as we eat at The Log House in Argos on Friday, May 17. Meet at the church at 11:00 to car pool. RSVP to Carol Beiter.



Blessed Bookies gather on the 4th Monday of the month at 5:30 pm in the Education Building. Monday, May 27 this group will discuss “Remarkably Bright Creatures.”

Knit Two Pray Three: This group of talented knitters gathers on the first Tuesday of the month in the Education building. These knitters are part of the Shawl Ministry designed to support our church and community family. See Carol Beiter or Lynn Gee for further details.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast: This breakfast usually occurs on the third Sunday of the month at the Plymouth Columbus Club (formerly, Knights of Columbus), but check the website for any cancellations. This breakfast will NOT be held Father’s Day Sunday,

Unclouded Day: This talented gathering of musicians will once again perform at First United Methodist Church on **Sunday, May 19 at 9:30 am.**

Mark your calendars now and plan to celebrate and to worship the Sunday following Mothers’ Day! Let the rafters ring with joy as we inaugurate the beautiful acoustics in our sanctuary!



The Outreach and Support Committee: Susan Wautelet, Carol Beiter, Norma Booker, Laura Darda, Betty Kay Eley, Cindy Flagg, Lynn Gee, Bert Rans, Irma Slack, Sarah Smith, Genie Tobias.

-Submitted by Susan Wautelet





BETTER WAY YOUTH TRIP

an interreligious, cross-cultural immersion experience
for graduates of 8th-12th grade

JULY 17-21, 2024



FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION FORMS, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
WWW.INUMC.ORG/2024/01/22/BETTER-WAY-TRIP-2024



 North District
of the United Methodist Churches of Indiana




Programs

FOR KIDS & YOUTH!



May—no event—celebrate Mothers' Day!

Sunday, June 9

Sunday, July 14

Sunday, August 11

Sunday, September 8

Sunday, October 13

Sunday, November 10

Sunday, December 8

Unless otherwise advertised, events will be on Sunday afternoons. Watch for details!



It's time to sign up for church camp this summer! You can see the list of dates and locations here: Impact2818.org. There are scholarships available through the conference and through our church. Camp is a great way for kids to grow in their faith while having lots of fun. Please share this opportunity with kids you know who might be interested.



- 05/07 Lily Cochern
- 05/09 Roberta Isom
Luke Felde
- 05/10 Leah Smith
Linda Hagan
- 05/14 Spencer Goebel
Tom Douglass
- 05/15 John Wautelet
- 05/16 Curtis Smith
- 05/16 Dan Darda
- 05/18 Judy Stump
- 05/20 Ryan Gray
- 05/21 Allie Rans-Schell
- 05/23 Laurie Morris
- 05/23 Marilee Johnson
- 05/24 Nancy Felde
Haley Morris
Betty Kay Eley
- 05/27 June Pullen
Barbie Pickut
- 05/30 Shirley Magnuson



- 05/23 Dick & Genie Tobias
- 05/30 Bob & Carol Beiter
- 05/31 Ron & Janet Smith



Did you get married in our sanctuary?

We are looking for wedding photos from all decades, taken in our sanctuary, to decorate the Bridal Room on the lower level.




If you or someone you know was married in our church, we would like to have a copy of your photo.

Photos brought into the office can be scanned, or you can scan it at home and send it electronically.

Thank you!

-Submitted by Marilyn Rans

	05/05	05/12	05/19	05/26
LITURGIST	Carol Beiter	Jim Causey	Susie Kreighbaum	Donna Hemmig
USHERS	Woody Schinbeckler	Woody Schinbeckler	Woody Schinbeckler, Mike & Jane Woolfington	Woody Schinbeckler
NURSERY	Laura Blackford	Carol Beiter	No Nursery	Laura Darda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
5 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 5:00 pm The Well 6:00 pm A.S.K. at Church of the Brethren	6 1:00 pm W.O.W. 6:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm P.E.O.	7 10:00 am-12:00 pm Knit 2, Pray 3 7:00 pm Missions	8 6-7:30 pm The Well Bible Study	9 6:00 am Early Birds (ZOOM) 10:00 am Worship Commission Meeting 12:00 pm Joy Breaks 12:30 pm Women's Bible Study	10 6:00 am Early Birds (ZOOM) 10:00 am Worship Commission Meeting 12:00 pm Joy Breaks 12:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 8:00 am UMM Breakfast 2:30-5:30 pm Fellow- ship Hall Reserved
12 ASCENSION SUNDAY MOTHER'S DAY 5:00 pm The Well 6:00 pm A.S.K. at Church of the Brethren	13 6:00 pm Staff-Parish Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Social Con- cerns Committee din- ner at Serenity House	14 11:00 am Bad Girls Bible Study	15 6-7:30 pm The Well Bible Study	16 6:00 am Early Birds (ZOOM) 12:00 pm Joy Breaks 12:30 pm Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Mother's Club	17 11:30 am Lunch Bunch dining at The Log House in Argos. Meet in the North parking lot at 11:00 am if you want to carpool.	18 7:30-11:30 am Missions Bake Sale at the Plymouth Farmer's Market
19 9:30 am UNCLOUDED DAY CONCERT 2:00 pm Worship at Pilgrim Manor 5:00 pm The Well 6:00 pm A.S.K. at Church of the Brethren	20 6:00 pm Outreach Committee Meeting 	21	22 6-7:30 pm The Well Bible Study	23 6:00 am Early Birds (ZOOM) 12:00 pm Joy Breaks 12:30 pm Women's Bible Study	24	25
26 No Well	27 Memorial Day Office Closed 	28 6:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting	29 5-6:30 pm Community Meal 6-7:30 pm The Well Bible Study	30	31	