



Seeking to
make disciples
of Jesus
Christ for the
transformation
of the world

through actively reflecting
the love of Jesus Christ.

WORSHIP

Sunday Morning Service

State Roads 14 & 5

Worship Service
9:00 am

Sunday School
10:15 am
Features children's
programming, youth and
adult small groups.

CONTACT

South Whitley
United Methodist Church
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South Whitley, IN 46787

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Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 3:00pm

Childcare & Preschool Needs

260.723.5105
Jodi Sims, Childcare
Director
Traci Kreider, Preschool
Director

**Newsletter
Announcements**
swumc@embarqmail.com

the Messenger

southwhitleyumc.com



Dear Friends in Christ,

Easter! "He's Alive, I have seen Him!" Oh, the excitement expressed by Mary Magdalene in those six words. One can almost sense the depth of Mary's emotion as she arrived at the Upper Room where the 11 disciples were huddled behind closed doors for fear of their own lives and blurted out the very first Easter morning message, "HE'S ALIVE!" While Mary was the first she certainly was not the only one who during the next 40 days saw the resurrected Christ. As a matter of fact Scriptures tell us in the days between His resurrection and His ascension into heaven Jesus appeared to over 500 people. In Acts 10:41 Luke writes, "*He (Jesus) was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen---by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.*" In 1Corinthians 15:5 Paul writes, "...*he appeared to Peter and then to the twelve and after that he appeared to over 500 of the brothers at the same time...*"

My Scripture / Sermon focus during the 40 days following Easter will be on telling, or retelling some of those eyewitness accounts.

Yes, over 500 people saw Jesus during those 40 days and those of us who profess Him as our Lord and Savior can relate to Mary Magdalene's words, "*He's Alive, I have seen Him!*"

A very popular and dearly loved Easter Hymn is "He Lives" the lyrics of which were written by Alfred Ackley.

He Lives:

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today; I know that He is living whatever men may say; I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer, And just the time I need Him, He's always near.

Refrain:

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives, Salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me I see His loving care, And tho' my heart grows weary I never will despair; I know that He is leading thro' all the stormy blast, the day of His appearing will come at last.

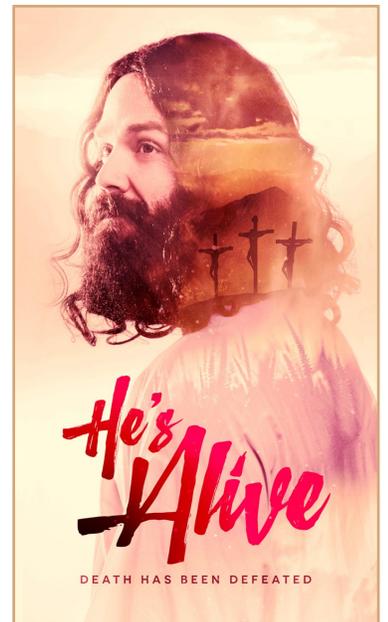
Refrain:

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing. Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King! The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find, None other is so loving, so good and kind.

Refrain

Yes, Jesus Lives! Praise God!

In the Love of Christ, Pastor Keith



Rainbow Preschool Fundraiser

Rainbow Preschool is hosting a fundraiser event at Board and Brush in Roanoke, IN on Sunday, April 15th at 2:00pm. The cost is \$65. The preschool will earn 20% off each registered person. Any and all are welcome and invited to join! Registration may be done at <https://boardandbrush.com/roanoke/#calendar>. Be sure to click on Rainbow Preschool private event on the April calendar.

Missions & Outreach News

First, thank you to the youth for filling our bodies with a great lasagna dinner on March 9th. Then filling our spirits with a praise and worship session that blew the roof off the sanctuary. Jesus Fest was a great evening of connecting and recommitting to our Lord.

Be sure to set your alarm to get to the Easter breakfast at 8am on Sunday, April 1st. That should give you the strength for worship at 9am and the Easter Egg Hunt after the service. Hope to see you all there for the fellowship.

Our April Food Bank theme is "Spring Chicken". We ask that you bring canned meats and meal helpers. So, be sure to bring your items in on April 15th "Fill the Cart Sunday".

Vacation Bible School meal is set for July 26th at 6:00pm.

The back packs and Town Hall have been secured for the annual Day of Hope August 4th from 9am-11am. We will distribute the backpacks as soon as we get the needs lists from the school.

Ministerial Scholarship Fund

A discussion was held at the February 22nd ELT meeting concerning the South Whitley UMC Ministerial Scholarship Fund which at the present time has a balance of \$751.47. As your Pastor, I made a recommendation that for the time being we table this fund until several important points can be reviewed. This review would include, but not be limited to the following:

- ◆ Why was this fund created & how was it initially funded?
- ◆ What was the fund's ultimate mission and purpose and have we fulfilled our responsibility?
- ◆ If the Ministerial Scholarship fund is to continue how is it to be financially supported?
- ◆ Develop a clearer, more precise understanding of the fund's eligibility requirements and distribution guidelines.

Following further discussion the recommendation was approved to table this fund for the 2018 calendar year. We will keep you updated once the review has taken place. We do appreciate your understanding and support.

SWUMC Family Day at the Tin Caps

"Take me out to the ball game, take me out with the crowd. Buy me some peanuts and crackerjacks I don't care if I never get back. Let me root, root, root for the home team if they don't win it's a shame. Ahh. For its one, two three strikes you're out at the old ball game."

Did you know there is a 2nd verse?

"All I need is just one chance, I could hit a home run. There isn't anyone else like me. Maybe I'll go down in history. And it's root, root, root for the home team. Here comes fortune and fame, 'cause I know that I'll be a star at the old ball game."

You are invited to join in the fun and fellowship as we gather at Parkview Stadium on Sunday, June 24th at 1:05pm. A signup sheet is located in the church lobby. At the present time we have 30 seats available so be sure to sign up soon. If we need more I will try to get them, but I cannot make any guarantees. Tickets are \$9.50 per seat and must be paid in full by May 20th. We do hope you will join us for a fun afternoon at the ball game! Batter UP!

BABE Baby Bottle Campaign

BABE is asking church members to fill an empty baby bottle with loose change, dollar bills, checks...whatever the Lord lays on your heart to give. Once you fill your bottle, simply bring it back to church. Bottles are located in the church Lobby for you to take.

There will be a diaper bag in the Lobby for returned baby bottles. If you would like to receive a receipt for tax purpose, be sure to fill out the Request for Donation slip and put it in the bottle with your donation.

This is an ongoing campaign through April 30th. BABE has been challenged to raise \$5,000, by the end of June. If they meet the goal, they will be rewarded with a \$5,000 matching grant. All funds raised through the Baby Bottle Campaign will go toward the matching fund challenge! Donations help provide incentives for pregnant women and families to consistently participate in partner programs and services

Endowment/Memorial Team Announcement

The SWUMC Endowment/Memorial Team members are anticipating funds being available for Grant requests again this year. Grant requests should support areas of Mission, Evangelism/Outreach, Children & Youth, Education, Scholarships, Music/Worship/Arts, and Building. Anyone who is interested in requesting a Grant should be thinking about their project.

Our Gifts, Our Presence (to date thru February 2018)

To date thru Feb	Actual	Budgeted
Regular offering	\$33,512	\$41,667
Debt retirement	\$3,419	\$3,000
Other receipts	\$995	\$178
Giving Total	\$37,926	\$44,845

Giving was under budget by \$6,919

To date thru Feb	Actual	Budgeted
Expenses	\$40,532	\$43,306

Expenses were under budget by \$2,774

Overall Giving was lower than Expenses for a deficit of \$2,606

Attendance	Worship	Sunday Schl
Feb 4	107	43
Feb 11	Church	cancelled
Feb 18	131	yth breakfast
Feb 25	116	41
YTD Avg	117	43

Our Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 - Brian Bishop | 18 - Faith Roman |
| 4 - Derek Barnhart | Dawn Wilkinson |
| 5 - Marissa Cripe | 20 - Madison Cripe |
| 6 - Poppy Roman | Kaitlynn Ware |
| 7 - Sydney Krider | 22 - Jacob Ray |
| 8 - Katie Geiger | Braylon Williamson |
| James Kemble | LouAnn Winterrowd |
| 9 - Evan Rice | 23 - Storm Baldrige |
| 10 - Cole Bechtold | 25 - Dutie Browning |
| Maudie Sickafoose | Angi Hathaway |
| 11 - Mike Butcher | 26 - Crystal Bollinger |
| 12 - Jeff Bryan | 27 - Jadyne Geiger |
| 13 - April Bishop | Scott McDevitt |
| 14 - Katherine Hippensteel | 28 - Meredith Hoffman |
| 15 - Drew Rice | 30 - Matt Maser |
| 16 - Stephen Butt | Aimee Roman |
| 17 - Marisa Baldrige | Anniversaries |
| Eric French | 8 - David & Dawn Wilkinson |
| Benjamin Van Hoozen | 9 - Tim & Laurie Kahn |
| | 30 - Todd & Amy Bechtold |



Our Prayers



Military Personnel

- Johannes Bingham
- Benjamin Bryan
- Cole Findley
- Mike Pearce
- Justin Roman

Peabody Retirement

Margaret Graham
400 West Seventh Street
North Manchester, Indiana 46962

Sycamore Keepsakes Village

Ilah Rondot
611 W County Line Road S
Fort Wayne IN 46814

Darlene Welty

Send things to Darlene in care of...
Justin Welty
46 Woodacre Drive
Carmel, IN 46032

Fusion (Youth) News

A big thank you to everyone who came to the Fusion Youth Groups' two fundraisers in February and March. We were able to raise almost \$1000 towards renovating the youth room. Renovating the youth room is a goal that they have set for themselves this year and hopefully by mid summer we will have a new and very improved youth room. You've heard the saying "Build it and they will come", well I'm hoping that is exactly what happens. Our students need a place they can call their own where they can hang out and have fun. Our next fundraiser will be Nelson's chicken where we will be helping serve during the South Whitley Garage sale on Saturday, April 28th. Please come and support your youth to reach their goal and thank you in advance!

Mark Your Calendars

- April 1** - Easter Breakfast (8:00am)
Easter Worship Service (9:00am)
Easter Egg Hunt (10:15am)
- April 2** - Celebration Committee Meeting (6:30pm)
- April 4** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- April 8** - NO Fusion (Spring Break)
- April 11** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
Pound Rockout Fitness Class (7:00pm)
- April 12** - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- April 15** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- April 18** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
Pound Rockout Fitness Class (7:00pm)
- April 19** - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- April 21** - Spring Workday (8:00am)
- April 22** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- April 25** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
Pound Rockout Fitness Class (7:00pm)
- April 26** - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- April 29** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)

