



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

260.723.5107  
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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](mailto:swumc@embarqmail.com)

# the Messenger

[southwhitleyumc.com](http://southwhitleyumc.com)



Dear Friends in Christ,

This morning I share another "A Peaceful Pause" devotional which I began writing in 2011/2012; these were printed every week by the newspaper in the community where we served. I hope you will find some inspiration and perhaps even find a time in your busy daily schedule to take "A Peaceful Pause" of your own for personal prayer and reflection.

"A PEACEFUL PAUSE..."

Written by: Pastor Keith R. Schreffler

Loving God,

It is early in the morning and darkness still surrounds me. The birds are not yet singing their songs of praise as the first glimmers of the sun have not broken the horizon. How good it is to spend a few moments at the beginning of this day, Lord, in Your presence, focusing on You and giving You my undivided attention. I lie here in anticipation of what this day will bring---its blessings, its challenges, its opportunities and, yes, its trials.

I look forward in faith, Lord, and as I do I am reminded of a definition of faith I saw a few years ago: "Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings to greet the dawn while it is still dark" (unknown author). Oh, Lord, may the faith of Your people be such that we, too, can sense the coming light of this day and sing our songs of praise as the sun begins to rise.

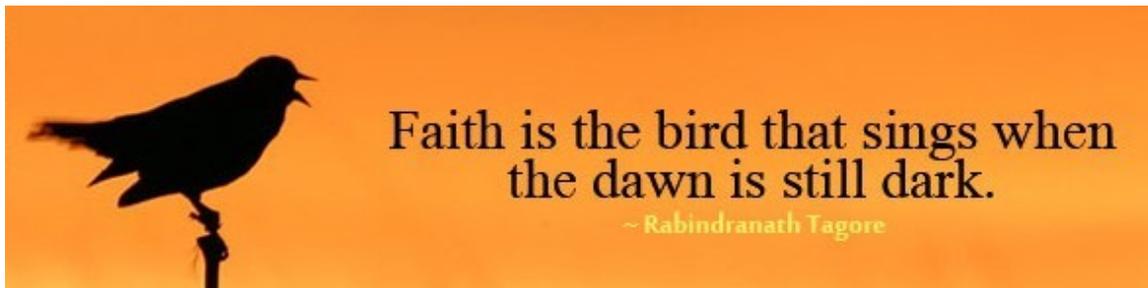
Lord, as the events of this day make themselves known, may we never forget your faithfulness and your promise to always be with us! May we stand on the solid rock of Jesus Christ this day as we sense the light of His love surrounding us!

Lord, we also know there are those who have lost hope; who have not experienced a restful night of renewal; whose faith may have been shattered by the events of days gone by! We know, Lord, You are there for them, too, and we pray this day that they may seek You with their whole heart and find You.

And, Lord, help us reach out to one another with words of kindness, words of love, and words of encouragement as we encounter those who may be struggling with their faith and those who have not yet come to know you as their personal Lord and Savior!

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen!

In the Love of Christ, Pastor Keith



## How Do I Set The Clock? By Mike Dominick

We recently upgraded our 2003 Honda for a 2014 Toyota. Newer cars have more technology, and more technology means figuring out how to do simple things using new procedures. Like setting the clock. And syncing the phone to the audio system. And figuring out the meaning of the symbols on the instrument cluster.

So getting the new vehicle meant a trip through the owner's manual to find out where things are located and how to work them. I am grateful that manufacturers of automobiles and microwaves and computers and printers provide owner's manuals for the equipment. Because some things are pretty easy to figure out by trying, and other things are not so self-apparent.

Some things about an automobile are universal and constant, and we don't have to consult the owner's manual to figure them out. The accelerator, brake pedal and steering wheel all work the same on the two vehicles. Some things are unique to the particular vehicle, and take some explaining. Setting the cruise control is different between a Honda and a Toyota, and a quick trip to the owner's manual can help quickly figure out how to set it on a new-to-me car.

I am free to disregard the owner's manual. I can figure things out for myself, and I can treat the car the way I want to treat it. But refusing to consult the manual can mean I leave some things about my car undiscovered. I may not ever figure out how to set the clock by trial and error! So I might spend the entire time I own the vehicle driving around on the wrong time. While that is not urgent or life-changing, it can be a big nuisance.

On the other hand, if I ignore the oil change interval and just change the oil when I feel like it, I might well ruin the engine and cause myself huge problems. An owner's manual is an important guide to properly operating the vehicle.

God has provided us with an owner's manual for having a relationship with Him and living a life of greatest fulfillment and purpose. It's called the Bible. Many of the same things that are true about my auto owner's manual are true about the Bible.

Some things are universal and intuitive about life, and we figure them out without having to read them in the Bible. The golden rule, "*do to others as you would have them do to you*", is pretty universal and easily understood, even if one has not read the Bible and discovered that Jesus taught it.

Other things may not ever be discovered if we do not read and study the Book given to us by our Maker to guide us into all truth. If we did not have the Bible, it's not likely we

## How Do I Set The Clock? continued

would ever come to know that "*while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*" (Romans 5:8 NIV)

I am free to disregard the Owner's manual, but I do so at my own risk. I am free to believe I know more about my life than the One who made me, but that does not make it so. And living my life by trial and error, without considering the truth of Scripture, is dangerously reckless, with eternity on the line.

I choose to live my life based on the timeless truth of an ancient book. I choose to do so because I believe the Bible is not just a human book, but the very Word of God. I believe its truth is true, no matter how many or how few believe it.

And this I know: following the precepts of Scripture has led to a life of fulfillment and joy. Knowing the God of the Bible through His Son, Jesus Christ, has changed everything for me. So I choose to continue to read and study and follow the great truths of the Bible. In its pages I find Jesus, and Jesus grants forgiveness and eternal life!

Now, which button do I push again to set that clock?

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## Missions & Outreach News by Kate Burch

Cleanliness is next to Godliness. This phrase was first recorded in a sermon by John Wesley in 1778, but the idea is ancient, found in Babylonian and Hebrew religious tracts. That is our surprise August Food Bank theme. The Mission Team will be distributing Bring-Back-A-Sack bags with a list of things not covered by assistance programs. The list includes personal hygiene products..soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and paste, dish and laundry soaps, feminine products, paper products.

The Days of Hope back pack table is loaded with backpacks filled with school supplies. There are still 6 backpacks that need to be brought back to the church by August 2<sup>nd</sup> for the Days of Hope on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall. This will be my first one. I am excited to meet the kids, hear the music, and smell the pancakes & sausages cooking.

Can you believe we are already talking September events! We are planning a Back to School cookout after church on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Hot dogs, hamburgers and charcoal will be provided. Carry in pot luck for all the sides. There will be activities, maybe even a corn hole tournament.

And now for Christmas!!! For those of us who like to shop early. We once again will be filling Samaritan Purse shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child in November.

Thank you for your generous hearts and willing hands.

**Our Prayers**



**Military Personnel**

- Johannes Bingham
- Benjamin Bryan
- Cole Findley
- 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

**Mark Your Calendars**

- August 1** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- August 4** - Days of Hope Event (9:00-11:00am)
- August 5** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- August 8** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- August 9** - Worship Ministry Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- August 12** - Missions Ministry Team Meeting (10:20am)  
Fusion Back To School Bash (11:30am-3:00pm)
- August 14** - Endow/Memor Ministry Team Mtg (6:30pm)
- August 15** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- August 16** - Executive Leadership Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- August 19** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- August 20** - 50th Celebration Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- August 22** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- August 26** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- August 29** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)

*"Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference." ~ Max Lucado*

**Our Celebrations**

**Birthdays**



- 1 - Sara Roman
- 8 - Becky Benson  
Clara Marie Butt
- 11 - Todd Cripe
- 12 - Zach Snep
- 14 - Vernon Shupe
- 17 - Mike Vanderford  
Joel Yeager
- 18 - Fred Hathaway
- 19 - Stan Sickafoose  
Steve Sickafoose
- 19 - Kami Van Hoozen  
Lucille Van Hoozen
- 21 - Alex Good  
Terry Nicodemus
- 23 - Diane Amburgy  
Judy Egolf  
Christine Palmer
- 26 - Shannon Langmaid
- 27 - Ashley Harman  
Alice Nicodemus
- 29 - Scot Ousley

**Anniversaries**

- 2 - Lanny & Diane Idle  
Jeff & Angie Reimer
- 3 - Eric & Colleen French  
Scott & Lisa Lukens
- 10 - Stan & Lynn Frantz  
Bryan & Hillary Nicodemus
- 12 - Braydan & Baily Beiswanger  
Todd & Margaret Gilbert
- 18 - Chuck & Jane Trump
- 20 - Vernon & Tommy Shupe
- 24 - Rod & Sue Roman
- 26 - Royce & Janice Ruckman
- 27 - Josh & Marissa Cripe  
Mike & Becki Vanderford

**Garden Volunteers**

Thank you to those volunteers who have helped to care for our church gardens so far. Just a reminder for the future volunteers:

- July 29-August 11 - Deb Norris
- August 12-25 - Dan Beiswanger
- August 26-Sept. 9 - Jerri Bollinger

We appreciate if would you check all the gardens: weed, deadhead, trim if flowering is done in shrubs. Call me, 723-4762 or Alice, 723-4297, if there is any question or concern. If everyone does their weeks, then there should be low maintenance. And, Alice and I take care of the watering. Again, Blessings to each of you for sharing your gift of gardening with us!



**Our Gifts, Our Presence (to date thru June 2018)**

To date thru June	Actual	Budgeted
Regular offering	\$107,568	\$125,000
Debt retirement	\$9,739	\$9,000
Other receipts	\$1,998	535
<b>Giving Total</b>	<b>\$119,305</b>	<b>\$134,535</b>

Giving was under budget by \$15,230

To date thru June	Actual	Budgeted
Expenses	\$122,802	\$129,919

Expenses were under budget by \$7,117

**Overall Giving thru June was lower than Expenses for a deficit of \$3,497**

Mortgage Balance \$81,023

Attendance	Worship	Sunday School
June 3	115	33
June 10	105	0
June 17	109	7
June 24	114	25
<b>YTD Avg</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>36</b>

