



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  
6685 W SR 14  
South Whitley, IN 46787

260.723.5107  
260.723.6418 fax

**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



Dear Friends in Christ,

Seven years ago I felt a nudge from God to start writing a weekly devotional. All of them titled "A Peaceful Pause" were printed in the local newspaper in the community where I was serving at the time. Apparently with my first retirement eight months later I stopped writing. As I thought about what to write for this month's issue of "the Messenger" my loving wife reminded me of these devotionals. While sitting in the quietness of my office this morning, I took a "Peaceful Pause" of my own and began rereading a few of them. I have decided to share the following one which I wrote in October 2011. Who knows, perhaps this will serve to get me motivated to once again start writing.

"A PEACEFUL PAUSE..."

Written by: Pastor Keith R. Schreffler

Good Afternoon, Lord,

Today I find myself seeking a time of quietness, a time of peace, a time of being able to focus upon You and the love You have for Your created order. Yet, Lord, my mind is anything but quite; going in many different directions and I find the collection of my thoughts to be somewhat overwhelming. There are times, Lord, when I feel like there is an inward battle going on within my head, my heart and my soul; times when I find myself being torn in many different directions.

I also know, Lord, those are the times when the forces of evil are working the hardest; doing their best to steer us away from what we know is right and instead leading us in wrong directions. Lord, these feelings are not unique to me, but work within the hearts and minds of all Your people. Lord, we all have times of inward struggle!

Lord, calm my heart today; calm the hearts and minds of those who find themselves traveling a similar road. Help us, Lord, to turn our focus upon You; upon Your Word and upon Your Son, Jesus Christ, who in His resurrection from the tomb overcame the powers of evil. Lord, try as we might, by ourselves we will never overcome those forces; it is only by your grace and presence that we will ever find peace and tranquility!

Lord, as we seek our own times of private prayer and meditation, may we be reminded of the words of a hymn, "Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace." (*Words of "Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus" Written by Helen H. Lemmel in 1922 and copyrighted by Singspiration Music 1922 and 1950*)

Oh, Lord, we come before You; we do turn our eyes upon Jesus; may we look fully into His face and find the calm assurance we so desperately need. Lord, grant us Your grace and fill us with Your peace as we surrender our hearts, minds, bodies and souls to You!

Amen!

In the Love of Christ, Pastor Keith

### Endowment/Memorial Grants

The SWUMC Endowment/Memorial Team is announcing funds are available for grants again this year. Grant applications are available through the church web site, in the church office and on the information table in the church lobby. Applications will be accepted July 8<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>. Applications received after August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 will not be accepted.

Any requested grants should further music and worship, missions, evangelism/outreach, children and youth or education. If you have any questions, please contact one of the Endowment/Memorial Team members: Chuck Trump, Deb Norris, Dennis Norris, Wayne Roberts, Gene Browning, Frank Baldridge, Bryan Nicodemus or Pastor Keith.

### Mortgage Update

We continue to make good progress in paying down our mortgage. In the last year, we have paid over \$29,100 of principal on the mortgage, Since the inception of the mortgage in the fall of 2004, almost \$319,000 has been paid on mortgage principal; the outstanding balance has been reduced to \$81,007.

The required monthly payment is \$2,130; however, we have been paying \$2,800 in an effort to pay it off early. This means annually, we are paying an additional \$7,000 per year on principal. At our current 4.5% interest rate, approximately 89% of each payment goes to pay down principal. At this rate, we can anticipate a mortgage burning party in January 2021, in 2½ years.

Members make designated gifts of approximately \$1,600 per month toward debt reduction; the remainder of the payment comes from general giving.

Almost 50 years ago, our congregation purchased land, built a new building, and over time built a parsonage and several additions to our church. Today we enjoy beautiful facilities thanks to the generosity and sacrifices of those who went before us. A big Thank You to all who are making extra gifts toward mortgage reduction.

### Missions & Outreach News

"Forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair." Khalil Gibran. God took the time to create this beautiful world for us. We need to stop all our "busyness", take the time to unwind, and appreciate all the wonders.

Speaking of busy, the next couple of months are packed full of projects and events. July food drive is Cookout themed. Asking for things like baked beans, mac & cheese, etc., as well as, condiments such as ketchup, mustard, and mayonnaise. Peanut butter, jelly, and canned meats are always needed. August will feature a new idea called Bring-Back- a -Sack. Details and sacks available next month.

Speaking of cookouts, VBS meal will be Thursday July 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. A Back to School cookout will be held Sunday September 9<sup>th</sup>. Save the date. More details later.

July will be our prep month for Days of Hope event on Saturday August 4<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am at City Hall.

The Missions Ministry Team will distribute 56 backpacks with school supply lists on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Please return the full ones by July 29<sup>th</sup>. Days of Hope also provides haircuts, shoes and socks, and a pancake and sausage breakfast to needy children.

Reaching beyond our doors. Building community. Keep up your good works. Thank you for all you do and take time to smell the roses.

### VBS Volunteers Needed

Our 2018 Summer VBS is July 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> with a cookout on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

Our VBS engages 60-80 kids in a fun, amazing experience with God each summer. Hearts are changed, love is shared, and new life begins. Who wouldn't want to see this in action? Please prayerfully consider helping with VBS this summer. Three short nights of your life could greatly impact the eternal lives of some amazing kids! If you have any questions or can help see Julie Klepinger.



### Our Gifts, Our Presence (to date thru May 2018)

To date thru May	Actual	Budgeted
Regular offering	\$91,096	\$104,167
Debt retirement	\$8,226	\$7,500
Other receipts	\$1,949	\$446
<b>Giving Total</b>	<b>\$101,271</b>	<b>\$112,113</b>

Giving was under budget by \$10,842

To date thru May	Actual	Budgeted
Expenses	\$102,035	\$108,265

Expenses were under budget by \$6,230

**Overall Giving for May was lower than Expenses for a deficit of \$764**

Mortgage Balance \$83,494

Attendance	Worship	Sunday School
May 6	96	36
May 13	130	35
May 20	108	36
May 27	110	33
<b>YTD Avg</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>38</b>

**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  
Carmel, IN 46032

*"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**

- 2 - Ed Reed  
Darlene Rudd  
Ashley Williamson
- 3 - Nathan Maser
- 6 - Karla Barnhart
- 7 - Heather Bingham  
Abby Witte
- 8 - Andrew Rice
- 9 - Gene Browning  
Tommy Shupe
- 10 - Audrey Rice
- 11 - Laura Gable
- 12 - Jeri Hippensteel
- 14 - Sue Mulligan
- 16 - Ilah Rondot  
Ellie Snep
- 17 - Jeron Cox
- 19 - Wayne Roberts
- 20 - Jennifer Rice
- 21 - Dennis Norris
- 23 - Geraldine Graves
- 24 - Samuel Lopshire
- 25 - Melissa Bollinger  
Jeanette Eberhart  
Hannah VanHoozen  
Randall Wilkinson

- 28 - Jodi Sims
- 29 - Dan Amburgy  
Loma Reed
- 30 - Chloe Bollinger  
Bob Wendel
- 31 - Jordan Geiger



**Anniversaries**

- 1 - Phillip & Ashley Harman
- 18 - Mick & Tina Ray
- 29 - Doug & Dee Snep

**Welcome Little One**

Jeremiah & Heather Bingham welcomed Asher Michael to their family on June 25, 2018 at 1:00pm. He weighed 8 lbs and was 20" long. He joins big sister, Neveah. Congratulations Bingham Family!



**Mark Your Calendars**

- July 1** - NO Fusion
- July 1-6** - Senior High Camp
- July 4** - Church Office & Sonshine Childcare CLOSED  
**Happy Independence Day!**
- July 5** - Church Office CLOSED  
Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- July 7** - Social Hall Reserved (10:00am-4:00pm)
- July 8** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- July 10** - Finance Team Meeting (6:30pm)  
Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- July 15** - Fusion - Meet & Eat at the 4-H Fair (5:30pm)
- July 18** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- July 22** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- July 23-25** - Vacation Bible School (6:00-8:00pm)
- July 26** - Vacation Bible School Cookout (6:00pm)  
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- July 29** - Fusion - Bon Fire at Klepingers' (5:00-8:00pm)
- July 30** - Sonshine Childcare Staff Meeting (5:30pm)
- July 31** - Endowment/Memorial Team Meeting (6:30pm)

**GAME ON!**

**Vacation Bible School**

**JULY 23<sup>RD</sup> - 26<sup>TH</sup>**

**6:00-8:00PM**

**AGES 4-YRS OLD - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT**  
[SOUTHWHITLEYUMC.COM](http://SOUTHWHITLEYUMC.COM)

**SW** SOUTH WHITLEY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
6685 W SR 14, South Whitley, IN

SWUMC adheres to Safe Sanctuary guidelines.

