



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

the Messenger

southwhitleyumc.com



Dear Friends in Christ,

As I was pondering what to write for this newsletter article I came across a Holy Week Devotional book written by members of the church we were serving in 1995. All of the devotionals were based on well known Lenten and Easter season hymns. One of the devotionals was written by my loving wife and partner in ministry. Her thoughts for this devotional were based on the hymn, *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*. With Kay's permission I am reprinting it in this South Whitley UMC Lenten Season newsletter.

As I ponder my position "Beneath the Cross of Jesus", I am keenly aware of the symbolism of His blood shed there for me and the communion cup, my receptacle for the new covenant His death represented. How often I must go to the foot of the cross with an empty cup, weary with the day's burdens, and there I am filled anew with the covenant promise of His love, grace, and forgiveness.

I reflect with a twinge of jealousy on the woman at the well who is seeking to have her cup filled. I envy her and all those who walked and talked and shared Jesus' living ministry. However, I am assured in 1st Corinthians 15:12-19 that Jesus provided the eternal cross for all of us who choose to meet Him there today and by faith alone believe in a resurrected, living Christ.

Each time I have the opportunity to commune with my Lord, I choose to do so with my hands in a cupped position as an act of lifting my empty cup and accepting His invitation to meet Him at the well---at the foot of the cross---to be filled again with His eternal promise...He lives!!!

Prayer:

Living Lord, fill my cup once more with the Easter promise that the empty cross is there to prove you are alive! Praise God. Amen.

Pastor Keith



Fill The Cart

March 18th is SWUMC's next "Fill The Cart Sunday". The missions team has decided to pick a theme, each month, for "Fill The Cart Sunday" for the South Whitley Food Bank. Since we all know how crazy Hoosiers are for college basketball's March Madness, the theme for March is MARCH MAC-NESS. So, SWUMC, on March 18th, let's score some 3 pointers by filling the shopping cart in the Church Lobby with macaroni & cheese and peanut butter & jelly.

Something Exciting Is Going To Happen!

On April 23rd, 1968, the Evangelical United Brethren and the Methodist Church from all around the world joined together and formed the United Methodist Church. These two congregations from South Whitley began worshipping in the larger church building located at 401 South Main Street as they awaited completion of the new building at the current location.

Seven months and one day later, on November 24th, the members of the newly formed United Methodist Church walked across the bridge from the old church location on South Main Street to our new building at our present location.

Many of those who made the 1st journey, or their families, are still active in their attendance and support of South Whitley UMC. Later this year we will be celebrating our 50th year in our present church home. It will be a great day!

2018 Church Directory

Unfortunately some unexpected updates with the program used to create the directory caused some delays in getting household information updated. The directory is currently being assembled and will be available in the Church Lobby starting Sunday, March 11th. We apologize for the delay and thank you for your patience as the office worked to update household information and to get the directory printed and assembled.

Cancellation System

SWUMC rarely cancels the worship services, but occasionally due to weather it happens. If cancellation is needed, we already have a policy in place for notifying the local media. However, we would like to make sure that we get the word out to everyone, so we are setting up an additional method to get the information out using text and email. If you wish to be added to this new system/method, email or call the church off and let us know your preferred method (text or email) for receiving the cancellation alert. It will take us a couple of weeks to get people signed up and to get the new method functioning. We will keep you informed of our progress.

Thank You to Funeral Committee

We can't thank you enough for all your hard work in helping to provide comfort to our family in our time of need. I know mom enjoyed working with Jeanette on the on the blood bank. The meal was delicious and helped us get through the day and the drive home. God Bless, Sheryl & Family, Lori & Family (Warner Family)

Jr./Sr. High Camp by Tony Klepinger

Well, it's the first of the year and time once again to talk camp. Before you know it, the temps will be warm and that week that all our students look forward to will be upon us.

Jr. High Camp Adventure, campers can pick the week that works the best for their summer schedule.

For Sr. High camp, we have reserved a cabin for the week of July 1-6. The cost will be \$185 per student. We do have limited spots so make sure to get your money into the church to reserve your spot. Checks can be made payable to South Whitley UMC (marked Sr High Camp in the memo). As always, I encourage students to invite friends. This is a great opportunity to get students introduced to our group, as well as, possibly changing their entire life...deep I know. Scholarships are available for those who need it. Don't miss out on the best time of the summer!

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

To date thru Jan	Actual	Budgeted
Regular offering	\$16,747	\$20,833
Debt retirement	\$1,502	\$1,500
Other receipts	\$810	\$90
Giving Total	\$19,059	\$22,423

Giving was under budget by \$3,364

To date thru Jan	Actual	Budgeted
Expenses	\$20,730	\$21,653

Expenses were under budget by \$923

Overall Giving was lower than Expenses for a deficit of \$1,671

Attendance	Worship	Sunday Schl
Jan. 7	111	40
Jan. 14	118	47
Jan. 11	110	42
Jan. 28	128	45
YTD Avg	117	44



SWUMC Lenten Services

Mark your calendar and invite family, friends, neighbors, and those in the community!

- ♦ Palm Sunday Service at 9:00am, March 25, 2018
- ♦ Good Friday Service at 7:00pm, March 30, 2018
- ♦ Easter Service at 9:00am (breakfast at 8:00am, egg hunt at 10:00am) April 1, 2018

Our Celebrations



Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 - Jeff Idle | 17 - Janice Swender |
| 5 - Wade Eberly | Bruce Wrightsman |
| 6 - Bill Adkins | 19 - Brooke Hollenbaugh |
| Dawn Britten | 20 - Jim Eberhart |
| Mitch Yeager | Luke Spurlin |
| 7 - Aiden Baldridge | 21 - John Langmaid Jr. |
| Hudson Roman | 22 - Tony Klepinger |
| 8 - Carli Butt | 23 - Todd Gilbert |
| 9 - Margaret Graham | Delaney Ray |
| 10 - Aiden Roman | 26 - Harrison Bingham |
| 12 - Katherine Ousley | Don Gilbert |
| 13 - Addyson Roman | Kole Kreider |
| Avery Roman | 28 - Kaden Kreider |
| Rod Roman | 29 - Scott Lukens |
| Jan Winterrowd | 30 - David Ousley |
| 14 - Zoey Vogely | Royce Ruckman |
| 15 - Wyatt Nixon | 31 - Chuck Trump |
| 16 - Darlene Welty | |

Anniversary

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 - Nick & Lucille VanHoozen | 19 - John & Jan Kauffman |
| 8 - Bruce & Dora Gable | 20 - Scot & Rebekah Ousley |
| 11 - Cory & Maudie Sickafoose | 29 - Buck & Laura VanPatten |
| 18 - Dan & Staci Beiswanger | |

Our Prayers



Military Personnel

- 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

Jesus Fest

You won't want to miss "Jesus Fest" on Friday, March 9th. An event being sponsored by SWUMC's Youth. Dinner at 6:30pm kicks the event off. Followed by praise music (provided by a band from Warsaw) beginning at 7:30pm and then guest speaker "Avery Robbins" (a Whitko graduate). The evening is also a fundraiser for the youth. Free Will donations accepted. Be sure to invite your family and friends. If coming for the dinner, please let the office know.



Mark Your Calendars

- March 1** - Executive Leadership Team Meeting (6:30pm)
Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- March 3** - Fusion Workday at Epworth Forest (8:00am)
- March 5** - Missions Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- March 7** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
Pound Rockout Fitness Class (7:00pm)
- March 8** - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- March 9** - Jesus Fest
Dinner (6:30pm)
Praise, Worship, Speaker (7:30pm)
- March 11** - Whitko Gospel Choir at SWUMC (9:00am)
Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- March 13** - Endowment Ministry Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- March 14** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:30pm)
Pound Rockout Fitness Class (7:00pm)
- March 15** - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- March 18** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- March 19** - Education Team Meeting (6:30pm)
Early Learning Team Meeting (7:30pm)
- March 21** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
Pound Rockout Fitness Class (7:00pm)
- March 22** - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- March 25** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- March 27** - Rainbow Preschool Fall 2018 Registration (6:30-8:30pm)
- March 28** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
Pound Rockout Fitness Class (7:00pm)
- March 30** - Good Friday Service (7:00pm)

