



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,

Over the past several days, as I have made my commute to the church, I've been aware of farmers out in their fields beginning to harvest the crops; first the beans and soon the corn. Fall is coming and it won't be long before the leaves take on the spectacular colors of the season. The church calendar is beginning to fill up as we move toward the end of the year. There is always so much to think about and plan in the fall: the 2019 Church Budget; finding persons to serve on the various committees; the 50th Anniversary Celebration; Halloween Trunk or Treat; Charge Conference; Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas...and the list goes on. At the same time our personal calendars also have a way of filling up and we soon feel like we are losing control.

As we journey through the remaining three months I think we must be careful lest we get so caught up in the busyness, the stress, turmoil and confusion we forget to focus on God and His love and grace. So before you begin to feel overwhelmed take time to focus on God and give Him all honor, glory and praise. With all that said, I share a prayer I wrote a few years ago which I hope you will find helpful.

"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!

Missions & Outreach News by Kate Burch

"Never trust a duck." ~ Will Herondale

I have no idea what that means, but every time I read it I laugh until I cry. Maybe that's the point! When we laugh that hard all our fear, dread, and bad news disappear and we feel better. We are able to carry on in the face of all that negativity.

First of all...WOW! Our Bring-Back-A-Sack drive filled up the cart 3 times over. Rod made two trips to take it all to the Food Bank. Thank you for making it a big success! For October we are concentrating on soups and crackers as the weather turns chilly. Nothing like soup to warm up your gizzard as my grandma used to say.

We will also be distributing the shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child towards the end of the month. The boxes need to be filled and returned by mid November.

Keep up the good works.

Answer Or Not Answer

Do you answer the phone when you don't recognize the number? For me, it's probably a tele-marketer, but once in a while I do answer it. Annoyed, I picked up the phone "Hello, is Adam there?" (NO, I am in Oregon and my son is in Ann Arbor!) I am thinking. "No, this isn't his number, goodbye." I feel tricked, when the number is from Indiana, I always hope it's somebody I actually know.

Later that day.....ring, ring! Another one from Indiana. "Hello?" I said, "Is this Meredith?" uhhhhh.....this must be someone who knows me! It was, it was your Pastor. He saw Adam's name on the graduation list. He just wondered if there was anything he could be praying for, on Adam's behalf. I was crying at this point. This was the church that "prayed my babies up" and someone was still praying! I asked him to pray that Adam finds a good job; after all, he has been in school his whole life! To have someone offer to pray for your children is a powerful thing, if someone has done that, you know what I mean.

Adam will get a job.....next year? Speaking of jobs, do you look forward to retiring? Or do you remember how great it felt when you actually retired? How would you like to go back to work for a few years? I can't imagine there would be too many people willing to do that! If you are wondering where I am going; it is this, the South Whitley United Methodist Church was given a gift, to have Pastor Keith Schreffler and his wife for this short venture in time. You are blessed and I am thankful to know that the SWUMC is in such good hands! Thank you Schrefflers for your great gift.

Do You Order from Amazon? You Can Help Your Church!



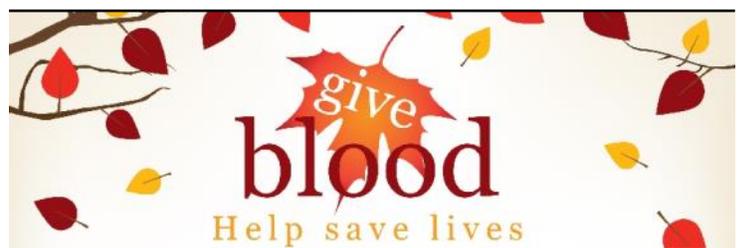
If you order items from Amazon's website, as many of you do, you can help the church financially through their program called **Amazon Smile**. It is a way to make a gift to your church that doesn't cost you anything.

When you shop at **Amazon Smile**, Amazon will donate .5% of all amounts you spend with them to our church. The products available and prices are exactly the same as through the regular Amazon site.

It is easy and there is no charge to you. Instead of logging in to the regular Amazon.com site, just go to **smile.amazon.com**. When you first log in, you select the charity you want to benefit. Select "search for charitable organization" and type in "United Methodist Church of South Whitley Indiana Inc." Our church name will pop up and once you have selected it, you will not have to do it again if you log in through **Amazon Smile**.

We suggest changing your "favorites" to **smile.amazon.com** to make it easier to log to that site each time in the future.

What could be better than making a gift to your church that doesn't cost you anything?



The next American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018 from 12:30-6:30pm here at South Whitley United Methodist Church. Appointments encouraged. To make an appointment, call Jeanette Eberhart 260-213-5734 or 260-723-4591 or the church office at 260-723-5107. Although, walk-ins are welcome. Remember to bring your ID and donor card when you come to donate. First time donors need 2 forms of ID, driver's license, social security card, check book, utility bill, etc. Make sure you have eaten a good breakfast or lunch and drink plenty of fluids before you give.



The Trustees are hosting a Fall Work Day to clean up the grounds of the church and spruce up the inside, too! The Work Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 13th from 8:30am-noon and lunch will be provided. If you plan to come, please mark it on the connection cards so that the trustees can adequately plan projects, tasks, and food. Thank you in advance for considering to give through service!

Rainbow Preschool News by Traci Kreider

Rainbow Preschool is off to a busy year! The morning class is full with 22 preschoolers and the afternoon has 17 preschoolers. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

The preschool will be having a fundraiser at the Roanoke Board & Brush on Sunday, December 2nd at 2:00pm. The preschool makes 20% off each paid seat. Last time the preschool made \$400! We would love and appreciate support from the church family again. Registration may be done online at <https://boardandbrush.com/roanoke/events/rainbow-preschool-fundrasier-invitation-65/>.

Here are just 2 designs. Lots more to choose from!



More information to follow. In the meantime if you have any questions see Traci Kreider.

Worship Team Fall Party

On Sunday, October 28th, the annual Worship Team Fall Party will be held at the church. We will have dinner and a movie, following the Trunk or Treat event. Anyone helping with the Trunk or Treat event is also invited to join the worship fall party. The meal will be from 6:30-7:00pm and the movie will start around 7:15pm. Make sure to mark your calendars for this exciting event.

Adult Sunday School Classes

Meet each Sunday following the worship service at 10:15am

Cornerstone Class meets in Room 302.

On Oct. 7th, Rick Bollinger and Pastor Keith will begin a new eight week Andy Stanly study titled: "Defining Moments". Bestselling author Andy Stanly examines several such moments as depicted in the lives of people from Scripture---the kinds of moments many of us will experience in our lifetimes. And if you're willing to look at the truth honestly, these moments can change your life forever.

CrossWalkers Class meets in Room 304

Led by Rod Roman. This class is currently studying Cultures in Conflict. The culture in Corinth conflicted greatly with the lifestyle that the Apostle Paul proclaimed to those who chose to follow Jesus. In the same way, the church today is called to proclaim the gospel in every environment, showing the world what it looks like when we give our lives to Jesus.

Daniel Class meets in the Sanctuary (Beginning Oct. 7th)

Led by Michele Payton. This class digs deep into the bible each week, along with taking time for prayer. Currently they are involved in studying minor prophets.

Friendship Class meets in Room 303

Led by Rex Wilkinson. This class' Fall Study Theme is "God's World and God's People". Our lessons come from the Book of Genesis, the book of beginnings. Through its pages, God is revealed as the Creator, Sustainer, Judge, and Redeemer who brought all things into being. Our lessons survey God's creation of the universe, earth, and people.

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

To date thru August	Actual	Budgeted
Regular offering	\$141,840	\$166,667
Debt retirement	\$13,225	\$12,000
Other receipts	\$2,502	\$713
Giving Total	\$157,567	\$179,380

Giving was under budget by \$21,813

To date thru August	Actual	Budgeted
Expenses	\$161,983	\$173,225

Expenses were under budget by \$11,242

Overall Giving thru August was lower than Expenses for a deficit of \$4,416

Mortgage Balance \$76,013

	Attendance	Worship	Sunday School
August 5	116		40
August 12	112		36
August 29	126		42
August 26	118		42
YTD Avg	116		37



Trunk or Treat

Our annual Trunk or Treat will be Sunday, October 28th from 4-6pm! This is our most attended outreach event of the year and we need your help in spreading Christ's love! The goal is to have at least 20 trunks participate from SWUMC. Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet and start thinking about your theme...there will be a contest for the best decorated trunk!



Our Celebrations

Birthdays



- 1 - Jerri Bollinger
Anna Sickafoose
- 2 - Benjamin Bryan
- 3 - Andrew French
Isaac Lopshire
- 4 - Wayne Swender
- 8 - Sue Pence
- 10 - Audra Roman
- 11 - Micah Findley
Debra Wilkinson
- 12 - Jordan Sims
- 13 - Becky Roman
- 14 - Cheryl Wilkinson
- 15 - Cheryl Eberhart
Samantha Staley
- 16 - Jane Trump
- 17 - Cole Findley
Joseph Till
- 19 - Hope Eberly
Dominic Sprunger
- 21 - Mikayla Findley
- 24 - Rachel Bingham

- 25 - Sheli Lopshire
Renee Nicodemus
- 26 - Jordan Gilbert
Alyson Nicodemus
Colin Nicodemus
- 27 - James Langmaid
- 30 - Becki Vanderford

Anniversaries

- 3 - Mike & Michele Payton
- 6 - Gary & Jodi Sims
- 7 - Rick & Melissa Bollinger
Bruce & Cheryl Wrightsman
- 8 - Jordan & Katie Geiger
- 12 - Jason & Angela Taulbee
- 13 - Jon & Lisa Engle
- 14 - Vic & Jacki Bishop
- 18 - Mark & Jennifer Lime
- 20 - Tony & Julie Klepinger
Stan & Barbara Sickafoose
Rodney & Abigail Spurlin
Rex & Debra Wilkinson
- 24 - Dan & Karla Barnhart

Mark Your Calendars

- October 3 - Blood Drive (12:30-6:30pm)
Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- October 4 - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- October 6 - Social Hall Reserved (All Day)
- October 7 - Missions Ministry Team Meeting (10:20am)
Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- October 9 - Finance Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- October 10 - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- October 11 - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- October 13 - Fall Work Day (8:30am)
- October 14 - Fusion Work Day (12:00-?pm)
- October 17 - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- October 18 - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- October 22 - NO Fusion (Fall Break)
(possible work day 12pm-?)
- October 24 - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- October 25 - Cub Scouts (6:00pm)
Worship Ministry Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- October 28 - Pack Backpacks For Backpack Meal Ministry
Trunk Or Treat (4:00-6:00pm)
NO Fusion (Hope you participate in the
Trunk or Treat)
Worship Team Fall Party (6:30pm)
- October 31 - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)

Our Prayers



Military Personnel

- Johannes Bingham**
- Benjamin Bryan**
- Cole Findley**
- Justin Roman**
- Zach Snep**

Darlene Welty

Send things to Darlene in care of...

Justin Welty
46 Woodacre Drive
Carmel, IN 46032

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 4681446962

Timbercrest Senior Living

Buford Baker

PO Box 501
North Manchester Indiana 46962

"Prayer is the VOICE of faith directed Godward."

~ Billy Graham

