



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

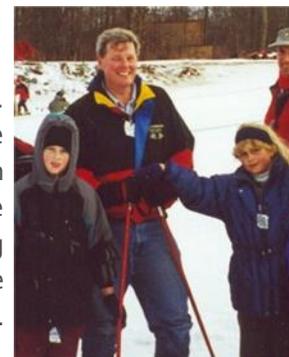
**Newsletter
Announcements**
swumc@embarqmail.com

the Messenger

southwhitleyumc.com

God is Trustworthy by Pastor Jerry Milner

When my daughter, Meghan, was 10 I took her skiing for the first time. We had a great time in the ski lessons and on the bunny hill. She said she was ready for the big run so we got in line for the ski lift. When our turn came to get on the lift the chair hit Meghan in the small of her back. She was wearing a ski jacket and I was wearing ski gloves. There is nothing like feeling your daughter slip out of your grip and fall 15 feet to the ground. The lift operator said, "Don't you drop!" But, of course, I did. That was my daughter down there. She was shaken, but got back in line. This time she was on my right and the gloves were off. I picked her up and set her down on the lift chair. Later I asked if she was scared. "No, daddy. I knew you had ahold of me."



My daughter trusted me and clearly I am not trustworthy. I get distracted. I miss the obvious. But, I trust in our heavenly Father. He is the one who provided the snowy soft landing spot for Meghan. This illustration is essential for us to understand that God is trustworthy. That, while humans and human institutions may fail us... God never will.

We can trust God. When times are uncertain, when things look bleak, when our understanding of life is stretched to the breaking point with a changing culture and a changing church – we can trust God. God is unchanging. Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

Not every one believes that God is trustworthy. There are many ideas about God but Jesus gave us a clear picture in Luke 10:22. "All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." Jesus calls God "Abba" translated as "Father" closer to "Daddy."

In my office above my desk is a sign: "It is what it is." That's a statement of truth – there are absolutes whether you believe in them or not. The entire phrase is: "It is what it is; it will be what you make of it." How you react to things becomes your reality. A child or spouse dies – it is what it is. Whether you choose to celebrate the time you had and continue to live is your choice – it will be what you make of it.

After Peter proclaimed Jesus to be the Messiah he said this in Matthew 16:18, "Now I say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it." The church of Jesus Christ has no denominational label. It is the fellowship of believers that have chosen to grow in Christ together through a LOCAL church including this church. God is trustworthy.

Let's work together in these strange times to know and grow and share Christ and Christ alone. It's like my daughter said when I asked if she was afraid: "No, daddy, I knew you had ahold of me."

Matthew 28:19-20, "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Wedding Vow Renewal

We have a very exciting opportunity for married couples. Pastor Jerry is offering a "Wedding Vow Renewal" service on February 10th, during the regular 9:00am service. We would like to offer the opportunity to anyone who will have a 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, etc., wedding anniversary in the 2019 year. We are looking for increments of 5 years. Don't worry if you don't fall into the 5 year category because this will be offered again!



There is a sign-up sheet in the sanctuary that will be available for any interested couples or you can let Michele Payton know by or on February 3rd. Please provide a wedding day photo and a current day photo to Michele or Pastor Jerry by the February 3rd.

Mission Team News

"Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later." ~Og Mandino



It may be a bit early to think about spring planting, but it doesn't hurt to dream. February can be a tough month in the northern climates. All the holiday festivities are done and packed away, spring is still weeks away, what can we possibly look forward to?

SOUPER Bowl Sunday is our answer! February's "Fill The Cart" is asking for soup and crackers to participate in the **Souper** Bowl of Caring. Soup, like love, warms us up all over. Thanks in advance for your generous contributions to the South Whitley Food Bank Mission.

The Missions Ministry Team is having its kick-off meeting on Monday February 11th at 6:30pm. We welcome any new ideas or suggestions that you have. Contact a member of the team anytime.

Sr. High Camp by Tony Klepinger

I know the snow is still flying outside but it's time again to start thinking summer camp. See, you're feeling warm already. We, at South Whitley, believe in camp. Camp is one of those events in a student's life that has been and could be a life changing experience. It's a place they can be challenged, encouraged, strengthened, and most of all EAT! Okay seriously, I've been going to camp now for 18 years and I've watched first hand how camp can change someone's life. It's a week of amazing worship, powerful speaking, and meeting new people.



This year we again will be partnering with another church so early registration is crucial. The cost is \$200. If you can't afford the registration, there are scholarships available but they do go quickly, so see me if you need to look into this. We will be attending the week of July 4th (June 30th-July 5th). This is also a great opportunity to invite a friend (or 4) to come. This year we have reserved one of the new cabins so as a bonus, you get an air conditioned log cabin with stainless steel appliances, Wi-Fi, and a big screen TV. Seriously, it's called camp.



From UMCOR

Dear Friends in Mission: Several Hurricanes have hit the United States and Caribbean. Hurricane Harvey & Irma have divested Texas, Florida, and other areas. Thank you for your gift received on 12/06/18 for \$100 through The Advance, the designated giving channel of The United Methodist Church. We are pleased to share that 100 percent of your contribution will support UMCOR's U.S. disaster training and response.

Our Gifts, Our Presence (to date thru December 30, 2018)

To date thru Dec	Actual	Budgeted
Regular offering	\$224,420	\$250,000
Debt retirement	\$20,865	\$18,000
Other	\$3,554	\$1,070
Giving Total	\$248,839	\$269,070

Giving was under budget by \$20,231

To date thru Dec	Actual	Budgeted
Expenses	\$244,160	259,837

Expenses were under budget by \$15,677

Overall Giving was higher than Expenses for an excess of \$4,679.

Mortgage balance at Dec. 30 was \$65,899

Attendance	Worship	Sunday School
Dec. 2	111	45
Dec. 9	131	0
Dec. 16	122	31
Dec. 23	134	35
Dec. 30	126	0
YTD Avg	113	37



Mark Your Calendars

- February 3** - Fusion Super Bowl Party at Klepingers (5:30-8:00pm)
- February 4** - Trustees Ministry Team Meeting (7:00pm)
- February 5** - Staff Parish Ministry Team Meeting (6:00pm)
Zumba (6:30pm)
- February 6** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- February 7** - Worship Ministry Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- February 10** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- February 11** - Missions Ministry Team Meeting (6:30pm)
- February 12** - Zumba (6:30pm)
- February 13** - Finance Team Meeting (6:30pm)
Red Cross Blood Drive (12:30-6:30pm)
Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- February 14** - Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- February 17** - Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- February 18** - Early Learning Ministry Team Mtg (7:30pm)
- February 19** - Zumba (6:30pm)
Praise Team Practice (7:00pm)
- February 21** - Executive Leadership Team Mtg (6:30pm)
Cub Scouts (6:30pm)
- February 24** - Cub Scout Blue & Gold Banquet
Fusion (6:00-8:00pm)
- February 26** - Zumba (6:30pm)
- February 27** - Popcorn Prayer (6:30pm)

Blood Drive

The next Blood Drive will be held Wednesday, Feb. 13th from 12:30-6:30pm here at SWUMC. If you would like to make an appointment please call Jeanette Eberhart 260-213-5734 or 260-723-4591 or the office at 260-723-5107.

Our Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 - Kate Burch | 15 - Laura Lime |
| 2 - Patty Good | 16 - Johannes Bingham |
| Tanner Nicodemus | 17 - Rozlyn Bishop |
| Ted Nixon | Diane Idle |
| 4 - Lilee Staley | 18 - Cory Sickafoose |
| 6 - John Rudd | 22 - Tisha Hardesty |
| 9 - Ruth Smith | 23 - Barbara Sickafoose |
| Branch Wilkinson | 25 - Dan Beiswanger |
| 12 - Jana Shellman | Jan Kauffman |
| 13 - Colleen French | 27 - Buck VanPatten |
| 14 - Susan Butcher | 28 - Andrea Snavley |
| | 29 - Colleen Britten |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 14 - Carl & Rachel Abbott | 16 - Gene & Dutie Brownig |
| Jeff & Cheri Bryan | 26 - Bob & Mary Wendel |
| Mike & Earlyne Kline | 27 - Cary & Laurie Walters |



Our Prayers



Military Personnel

- Johannes Bingham
- Benjamin Bryan
- 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

Geraldine Graves

400 West Seventh Street
North Manchester, Indiana 46962

Timbercrest Senior Living

Buford Baker

PO Box 501
North Manchester Indiana 46962



Zumba has resumed! A 6-week session will begin on February 5th with a cost of \$35 or you can do \$7 drop in on any Tuesday. The Tuesday evening classes are at 6:30pm in SWUMC's Social Hall. The easy-to-follow demo class is designed for ALL ages, shapes, sizes and fitness levels. No registration needed just join in to get the new year off to a great start! You can find more information on the Zumba class at Facebook: Angie WhitleyFit Roe Horner, or call/text Angie at 260-229-2066.

Cap Collection



Little Turtle Elementary in Columbia City will be collecting plastic bottle lids to build outside picnic tables for the teachers to take students outdoors and have a space/surface to learn at. They will be collecting through March. You can place the caps and lids in the white plastic tub located in the church Lobby. Sarah McGehee, will then get them to the Little Turtle Elementary School. Here is the list of acceptable caps and lids:

- milk jug caps
- medicine bottle caps
- detergent caps
- toothpaste tube caps
- coffee can lids
- cool whip container lids
- ice cream bucket lids
- drink bottle caps
- hair spray caps
- ointment tube caps
- spray paint caps
- mayonnaise jar lids
- butter container lids
- flip-top caps
- yogurt lids
- cottage cheese container lids
- cream cheese container lids
- spout caps deodorant caps
- peanut butter jar lids
- prescription bottles (labels removed)
- caps with recycle numbers 2,4, and 5

