"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." Colossians 3:16

a note from your pastor...

In the last month I have had several folks pose this question to me:



"I am concerned about you - don't you need an Assistant Pastor – is there someone planning to take that spot?"

My response has been this:

Thank you for your concern. Donna was working 10 hours a week for quite some time; in planning for her retirement, I knew that we needed to make plans for visitation and also preaching. In conjunction with SPRC, I have planned two different types of visitation workshops, for new ministries.

- 1. For laity to visit those who no longer are able to come to the church...due to illness or changes in ability to drive, etc... This first workshop was held Saturday May 18 with wonderful attendance. Watch for another workshop in the near future.
- 2. For laity to expressly support me with pastoral visitation in the hospital, primarily.

These two visitation ministries will greatly support the role of pastor and strengthen the laity in the church, by mobilizing inherent gifts and graces.

Additionally, I held a preaching class during Lent, to equip those 'called' to preach...to provide training and opportunity for these people to learn and hone their gifts to preach. Larry Cybulski preached Sunday May 19 and did a splendid job – thank you, Larry!

These opportunities for folks in our church will provide strong support for the role of pastor and strengthen the church.

I wrote about the visitation ministries, with training, in last month's newsletter. I was reminded of this, because when I did visitation Holy Week someone asked me, "Are the new visitors in place yet?" I am so grateful to know that folks are reading the newsletter ... and are interested to ask about what is written!

Hammond First Prayer Chain – would you like to be added to our prayer chain? Most of our pray-ers receive notification via email, there are some who do not have email, and they receive a phone call. Prayer is powerful, foundational, vital – and keeps us connected to God and one another. If you are interested in being added to our prayer list, email the office admin@hammondfumc.org or me, mary.vanwijk@inumc.org. We will get you added!

See you in worship and around the church,

Shalom, pastor Mary



Disciples Daily News

A Note from the Mission team

Hello First Church family. The mission team sure was busy in the month of May. I would like to say a great big "thank you" to everyone who volunteered, put many endless hours, worked hard, and most importantly of all, prayed, to make sure the rummage sale on May 11th was possible. It could not have been done without you. To date, we raised a total profit of \$2,808.28. What a wonderful blessing and opportunity for us to serve the community of Hammond and share God's love with them. Thanks be to God and thank you Jesus!

The Second Mile giving for June will be the Las Cruces Gospel Rescue Mission. It is a homeless shelter in Las Cruces, New Mexico. It helps and temporarily houses homeless people in their city and offers these people Christian guidance, provides emergency food and lodging services 24 hours a day, uses no tax dollars, and seeks to re-assimilate the less fortunate into productive society. They demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ to the homeless in their city through addressing their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The Mission has also been temporarily housing the migrants that have been dropped off at the border. They are in great need to be able to continue to help these people and to do God's work. Their website is www.lcgrm.org. Please feel free to go the website to find additional information. The mission team hopes that we may meet a goal near, or of, \$1,000 for this rescue mission. We strongly believe that it is worth it to help this mission so they will be able to do God's work and share the love of Jesus Christ.

One of the co-chairs of the Mission team, Richard Miller



Blessing Box

Our Blessing Box, which was installed March 31 *continues to be a blessing!* The box is checked for re-stocking each day, and is often empty! Will you consider donating items for our Blessing Box?

Needed items are non-perishable food items, diapers, hygiene products – deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, feminine hygiene products, wipes, (travel sizes are good) — and perhaps books!

The Blessing Box concept originated in Oklahoma. This ministry is based on the scripture Acts 20:35 – "In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we should help others and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.""

Take what you need Bring what you can Above all, be blessed

There is a collection box in the mission corner for this purpose. Thank you for being a blessing!

~ Mission Team



Following God can be an arduous task. When the challenges of life confront us, through His grace, He does for us just what He did for John Newton- He ties us to helm and helps us steer the ship.

History tells us that John Newton, from all appearances, was the most unlikely of all men to prove himself to be an instrument of God. But then many probably said the same thing about Paul, who was one of the most prolific writers of the New Testament. Newton was a crude man, extremely rough around the edges with a lust for money and a total disregard for the value of human life. Newton was a slave trader. But God used one voyage to shift his focus.

Newton found himself out on the high seas, in the midst of a horrific storm. The storm had endured for more than a week and one side of the ship was nearly gone. After 11 long days struggling to steady the ship, Newton tied himself to the helm in an attempt to hold course. Just like the storms in his life, the waves surged pushing and throwing the ship around in the water with no concern for its potential destruction. It was then that Newton saw a light- a light that did not peep through the clouds, but a light in his heart that he never knew existed.

He was not known for having a soft manner, but instead only for his coarse and profane exterior. In the midst of his struggle, Newton heard the distant voice of his mother who taught him the scriptures and prayed for his salvation. Newton heard the distant voice of a Father calling him to repentance. He would remember that day well, for not only did God save him from being engulfed by an angry sea; God saved him from a life of spiritual emptiness. From that point on, Newton never ceased to stand in awe of the transformation that God had made in his life. He called it "Amazing Grace..."

Grace, by its own nature, is resilient. Amazing grace, however, puts us on a path- a kind of personal journey. A journey that met Saul on the road to Damascus and transformed him into Paul, a dynamic voice for both Jews and gentiles sharing the word of Christ. Paul established God's church in Rome, the very place where the emperor's earthly empire was headquartered. The Lord now desires to establish his church in you. Scripture says, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds."

This is the journey, and I admonish you, "Be anxious for nothing..." but in all things pray and allow God to direct your path for this day is evidence of His amazing grace.

~ Pat Mosley, lay leader



From Water to Witness: Connecting as the Body of Christ

In just a few short weeks, nearly 1,700* United Methodists from across Indiana will gather June 12–15 at the Indianapolis Convention Center for the 11th annual session of the Indiana

Annual Conference (AC)**. This will be the final session at the convention center, where our AC has convened since 2012; In 2020, for the first time, the AC session will be held on the campus of Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana.

Following the theme "From Water to Witness" (based on Ephesians 4:5), for 72 hours members and guests will join in celebrating our shared United Methodist "connection" in worship, learning, singing, being missional, discerning, and making decisions regarding the business of the church. In addition to the plenary sessions, attendees will have many opportunities for fellowship, education, and leadership development, such as luncheons sponsored by Mission Guatemala, Prison and Jail Ministry, Reconciling Ministries, Friends of Africa University, and a tour of the Lucille Raines Residence; a Laity Luncheon and Laity Session that will include the winning sermon from the Laity Manuscript Contest; and a Community Prayer Breakfast for which the speaker will be retired Bishop Michael Coyner. Throughout the AC, attendees can visit the many ministry and vendor booths in the Exhibit Hall and shop at the Cokesbury store.

The business before this AC session will include voting on resolutions relating to the administration of the Indiana Conference and petitions to the 2020 General Conference that propose amendments to the Book of Discipline. The resolutions include proposed changes for the health insurance options for active clergy and lay staff in the Indiana Conference. Petitions to the General Conference relate to the voting rights of local pastors and clergy who are associate members, the definition of marriage, references to homosexuality, and the qualifications for ordination. I encourage you to read the petitions, resolutions, and other annual conference reports at www.inumc.org/annual-conference/ac-information/2018-reports/.

Clergy and laity also will vote for the clergy and lay delegates who will comprise the Indiana delegation to the 2020 General Conference and 2020 Jurisdictional Conference. Personal statements by each of the nominees are available at https://www.inumc.org/annual-conference/ac-information/gc-jc-candidates/. Let our Co-Lay Leader Pauline Luthi (FUMC lay representative to the AC), Fran Carpenter, or me (Fran and I are both North District equalization members to this AC session) know your questions, concerns, and opinions about the resolutions, petitions, and nominees.

(continued on Page 5)



From Water to Witness: Connecting as the Body of Christ (continued from Page 4)



A highlight for the annual gathering, as always, will be the joyous worship service (this year on Thursday evening) for the commissioning of provisional ministry candidates and the ordination of elders and deacons. All plenary sessions and worship services are open to everyone interested in having an AC experience—no pre-registration is necessary if you're not a voting member and aren't seeking

admission to a ticketed event. If you've never been to AC—or even if you've attended and know how memorable each session is—consider joining a group and heading to Indy for part of a day or more to participate in one or more of these spirit-filled gatherings of the Body of Christ. I guarantee that, connected with UMC sisters and brothers across the Conference, your heart will be lifted and you will feel wonderfully blessed!

Jane Harper-Alport
Church Council Chair
Lay Member to Annual Conference—Equalization

- * 1,678 registrants as of May 22, including clergy, laity, and non-voting guests.
- **The former North Indiana and South Indiana Annual Conferences officially joined to became one Indiana Annual Conference in 2009 and met annually for the first three years at Ball State University in Muncie.



Thank You First Church Family

First, let me say, you are my church family and I love you all! It has been an honor and privilege to walk the faith journey with you these many years. Thank you for your encouragement and support of my ministry—it has been one of God's most precious blessings in my life. God has used you in a variety of ways to shape me both as a pastor, and as a woman of faith.

I would like to thank anyone who made my last day as clergy at First Church so special: To those who planned, prepared, and worked so hard to make the service and luncheon so successful, "Thank you!" To all those who gave gifts, gift cards, and monetary gifts, "Thank you!" For all your kind and encouraging words, phone calls, texts, and e-mails, "Thank you!" Not only was it a wonderful day, but it has been a wonderful tenure as your pastor,--I will treasure the beautiful memories for the rest of my life, "Thank you!"

May God continue to work both in, and through, each of us for His glory!

~ Donna Beifuss

Do You Know?



Do you know ... that we have a celebrity in our family? Yes, Dave Hinshaw is on the radio every Friday from 9:00 am to 10:00 am on WJOB. It's the Veterans Views Radio Show. He is on the mission committee and definitely makes LOVE an action word by all that he does for and with veterans! Thank you, Dave, for your commitment and service!

Do you know what is in the mission corner besides collections for Strong Tower/Torre Fuerte, Haven House, Clothing for the UMW mission in Valparaiso and donations for the Blessing Box? Do you know where the Mission Corner is? It is on the west side of the narthex across from the of-

fice. Slide the cabinet door back and look at all the items we collect.

Do you know all the people in the congregation? If not, do you try to meet a new person each week? Whenever I have asked someone why they decided to join our church, they say, "This church is so friendly. They invite me to have a cup of coffee. People have always spoken to me even the first time I visited. No one even said hello or welcomed me at other churches."

Do you know that a lot of people write cards, visit and make phone calls to check on people besides the pastor? I thank those people who checked on me!

Do you know what committees we have and who the chairs are of each of our committees?

Communication is very important, so please read the bulletin announcements, scheduled events, emails, and the newsletter to Stay In the Know! God bless each and every one of you!

Pauline Luthi—Co—Lay Leader



UMW Salad Luncheon

The United Methodist Women will host their Annual Salad Luncheon on Wednesday, June 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Some items you may see, such as their "Famous Meatballs", large variety of homemade salads, deviled eggs, Jello, and cookies.

Tickets will be \$10 adults and \$5 for children ages 5-12. Children under 5 may eat free.

They will need many volunteers to make salads, so if you can help, please contact Sue Yerkes

~ Sue Yerkes

Sunday June 9!

We will celebrate **Pentecost** — the birthday of the church, we will honor **50 year members** AND we will honor **graduates!** Are you a graduate of a trade school, high school or college?; please let us know (by June 2) so that we may honor you!

On Pentecost it is tradition to wear red and white — red symbolizing the Holy Spirit.

What Is and Who Are the United Methodist Women?



Purpose: "The organized unit shall be a unit of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church"

Vision: Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world.

Women of first church! Who wouldn't want to be part of that? Did you know that the United Methodist Women are alive and well at First United Methodist Church of Hammond? We have a board made up of 8 women who plan and execute fundraisers and interesting, informative meetings for all, aimed at fulfilling the purpose and vision. We have one circle, Adam's Rib that meets in the evening monthly.

This year we sponsored a presentation about Saudi Arabia and another by Cecilia van Wijk about Results, an organization that works to get legislation passed that would improve the health of mothers and children. Pastor Mary van Wijk gave a program about drilling wells in Burkina Faso. We also prepared and served two meals for St. Joseph's Soup Kitchen and one for the State Street shelter.

Our fundraising includes a spring salad luncheon, Mother's and Father's Day booklets and fall rummage sale and bazaar. All money raised is donated to local and global missions. Many of you have volunteered to help these projects. You have made salads, baked cakes and cookies, washed dishes, served drinks, donated treasures, and honored your loved ones.

WE appreciate so very much all the help and count on your continued help; however, our membership has dwindled and we need to grow. All ages of women are needed. Please consider becoming a member of the UMW. If you are a member you may contribute a yearly pledge of ANY amount that goes toward all mission. If you are interested in joining, please see Janet Voorheis, our membership chairman, or board members, Georgia Brown, Helen O'Mara, Fran Miklos, Athene Knapik, Judy Viehweg, Martha Jones or me, Sue Yerkes. We need you.

Thank you, Sue Yerkes.

Adopt a Garden



Adopt a Garden and help to keep our Church a welcoming place. You, your family, a committee, or organization can choose a garden to keep weeded and tidy throughout the Summer months. If you so choose you may add flowers or plants to brighten your adopted garden. All help is excepted, so if you don't adopt a garden you can help someone who has...

Let's grab a friend and get weeding!!!!!!!

Sign up board will be in the Narthex of the Church.

Thank you

~ Penny Zeiler

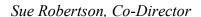
THE VINE FOOD PANTRY AT-A-GLANCE April, 2019



New Clients	25
Return Clients	385
Total Clients Served	410
New Households	16
Return Households	153
Total Households Served	160

Total Pounds Distributed: 8,492

Thank you for your support, donations and prayers!





Editor's note: Joe has a wonderful and creative sense of humor ... he shares with us this month in this little "ditty."

FROM THE POET'S CORNER



I was wondering as I thought about my friends at church... if I'm less, is Charlotte Moore? Is Pastor Mary van Wijk, or strong? I know he's clean because Henry Showers. You can pat your dog, but can you Pat Mosely? Is Karen Little...or big? I'm making a cake...but what is Sondra Mackin? If she's tired, can Pauline on you? Can Sarah Ward off evil spirits? He's not latino, so why is Bob Brown? Is Brenda Petty about little things? If he had a sports car, would Mark Kruse? If she's by a stream, would Lois Wade. Compared to me, is Malane Young? If she slanders you... can you Sue Yerkes? And finally...is it true what my great granddaughters say about me? Papa's silly!

José Angel Ramirez



HI KIDS! See if you can memorize this Bible verse!

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly."

Colossians 3:16



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School News

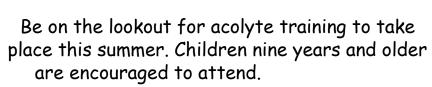
There are now four outstanding volunteers to teach elementary Sunday School! They are Josie Hawkins, Katie Isaacs, Richard Miller, and Kathy Smith

If you have elementary age children, grandchildren, other relatives or friends, please invite them. The curriculum is Biblically based and follows the lectionary.

Contact Cheryle Seljan, if you have any questions.



Acolyte Training





This is a very important part of our worship service, and an excellent way for young people to become involved in worship.

~ Cheryle Seljan, Children's Ministry



Riddle for the Day

What starts with a *P*, ends with an *E* and has thousands of letters?

(Answer is on Page 11)

A Note from the Foundation



The Foundation is governed by a 10 member Board of Directors. It is administered by a set of officers composed of a president, a vice president, a treasurer, a secretary, and a membership secretary. The Senior Pastor generally attends Foundation meetings, but is not a voting member. All members Hammond are members of the Foundation. No one else may be a Foundation.

of the FUMC of Hammond are members of the Foundation. No one else may be a Foundation member.

Our current board of directors are:

Jack YerkesPam StahlDave HinshawTerry WatsonHenry ShowersSonia VincentDave MetzgerBob Brown

Henry Showers is President, Bob Brown is Treasurer, and Char Copeland is Membership Secretary. Two Board of Director positions are open as are the Secretary and the Vice President positions.

Foundation Quarterly Reports can be found in the Foundation mailbox in the west corridor. Help yourself to one.

If you have questions concerning the Foundation you may ask any of the Board members.

If you wish to serve please contact Henry, Bob, or Pastor Mary.

~ Bob Brown, Foundation Treasurer.



Booklet Honoring the Men in Our Lives

If you would like to honor a man or remember a man who has passed, please see Georgia Brown, outside the office on June 2 or June 9 for a form to include those names in our UMW booklet which will be available on Father's Day, June 16.

These forms must be completed and turned in by June 10.

~ Georgia Brown



Scrip Cards

Are you interested in maybe buying something for the Dad in your life,

graduations, birthdays, new babies ... but don't know what to give?

SCRIP Cards are the perfect gift for that person who is hard to shop for.

We have plenty of cards and if you don't see one that we have available, we can special order for you.

Your donation also helps FUMC.



Birthdays 2019

Lois Carlberg	6/3
Selena Camacho	6/8
Joann Harris	6/9
Dave Horn	6/9
Phyllis Preda	6/12
Nick Tompulis	6/13
Joshua Tapper	6/15
Pauline Luthi	6/18
Lora Ward	6/18
Heather Mejia	6/20
Lois Seehausen	6/20
Jenna Province	6/21
Dick Nelson	6/24
Laila Mosley	6/26

We want to celebrate your birthday by including you on this list. If your special day is during this month, and your name is not listed *please let us know*. Please pass along information about others in your household, as well.



Answer: The Post Office (riddle on page 9)





Deadline For Newsletter Articles

If you are interested in submitting an article for the **July newsletter**, please bear in mind you must turn in your submissions to the church office by **June 20th** or via email at *admin@hammondfumc.org*. Thank for your cooperation!

Prayer and Scripture Calendar June 2019

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
							I nesis 3:1-24 dy Viehweg
1	2 Psalm 97	3 Acts 16:16-34	4 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	5 John 17:20-26	6 Lamentations 1:7-11	7 2 Peter 2:17-22	8 Genesis 13:1-18
	Ken & Sonia Vincent	Janet Voorheis	Lois Wade	Carrie Ward	Pete & Lora Ward	Sarah Ward	Chandra Ware
1	9 Psalm 104:24-34	10 Romans 8:14-17	11 John 14:8-17 (25-27)	12 Acts 2:1-21	13 Exodus 4:27-31	14 Hebrews 3:1-6	15 Mark 7:1-13
10	Dave & Bonnie Watson	Terry & Roseanna Watson	Ken Wheeler	P. Wicklund Family	Phyllis Widstrand	Gary & Judy Williams	John & Janice Wilson
1	16 Psalm 8	17 Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	18 Romans 5:1-5	19 John 16:12-15	20 Jeremiah 18:12-17	21 Acts 5:17-26	22 Luke 11:53—12:3
	Jim Wind	Charlote Wysocki	Jack & Sue Yerkes	M. Young Family	Penny Zeiler	John & Grace Adkinson	Larry & Jane Harper- Alport
1	23 Psalm 42	24 1 Kings 19:1-15a	25 Galatians 3:23-29	26 Luke 8:26-39	27 Jeremiah 25:1-7	28 2 Chronicles 20:5-12	29 Genesis 26:23-25
	Ray Anderson	Rita Ashcraft Family	B. Avina Family	Claude Baker	Wayne & Anna Barnes	Donna Beifuss	Tony & Kecia Bell
ı	30 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20						
	Liz Berg						

June 2019		
	Su	Мо
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June 2019								July 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
2 9 16 23 30	3 10 17 24	4 11 18 25	5 12 19 26	6 13 20 27	7 14 21 28	1 8 15 22 29	7 14 21 28	1 8 15 22 29	2 9 16 23 30	3 10 17 24 31	4 11 18 25	5 12 19 26	6 13 20 27	

				30		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 26	27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1 Closed except for scheduled events
2 BROWN BAG SUNDAY 8:30am Worship-Chapel 9:00am Breakfast-Kitchen 9:15am Bible Study-various 10:30am Worship-Sanctuary	8:00am Learning Ends for the Summer 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9)	4 8:00am No Learning League 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9) 7:00pm Adam's Rib-Parlor	9:30am Quilters (4,5,6) 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9) 6:30pm Private Event (4,5,6)	6 1:00pm AA (women)-1 1:00pm Knit/Crochet-Parlor 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9)	7 Closed except for scheduled events	8 Closed except for scheduled events
9 Pentecost Sunday (50 Yr /Grads) 8:30am Worship-Chapel 9:00am Breakfast-Kitchen 9:15am Bible Study-various 10:30am Worship-Sanctuary	10 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9) 6:30pm G.S. Leaders-4	8:00am Set up for Salad Luncheon (6,8, and Kitchen) 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9)	Annual Conference 8:30am UMW Salad Luncheon (8, k) 9:30am Quilters (4,5,6) 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal 6:00pm Emmaus (3)	13 Annual Conference 1:00pm AA (women)-1 1:00pm Knit/Crochet-Parlor 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal 6:00pm La Leche-Parlor	14 Annual Conference Closed except for scheduled events	15 Annual Conference Closed except for scheduled events
FATHER'S DAY 8:30am Worship-Chapel 9:00am Breakfast-Kitchen 9:15am Bible Study-various 10:30am Worship-Sanctuary	17 1:00pm Trustees (4) 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9) 7:00pm Staff Parish-1	18 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9) 7:00pm Finance (A)	9:30am Quilters (4,5,6) 10:30am Bible Study-1 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9)	20 1:00pm AA (women)-1 1:00pm Knit/Crochet-Parlor 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9)	21 Closed except for scheduled events 12:00pm EGALS (off-site)	Closed except for scheduled events
23 Neighborhood Meal Prep-G.G. 8:30am Worship-Chapel 9:00am Breakfast-Kitchen 9:15am Bible Study-various 10:30am Worship-Sanctuary	24 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9) 7:00pm Church Council - 1	25 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9) 7:00pm G.G. Board-1	9:30am Quilters (4,5,6) 12:00pm UMW Board (parlor) 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9)	27 1:00pm AA (women)-1 1:00pm Knit/Crochet-Parlor 6:00pm Genesius Guild Rehearsal (8,9)	Closed except for scheduled events	29 Closed except for scheduled events 4:00pm Private Event (8,9, Large Kitchen) 4:00pm Private Event (4,5,6)
8:30am Worship-Chapel 9:00am Breakfast-Kitchen 9:15am Bible Study-various 10:30am Worship-Sanctuary	Jul 1	2	3	4	5	6

5/30/2019 9:12 AM