



# The Lighthouse

## August 2019

“The heavens declare the  
glory of God.”  
Psalm 19:1

a note from your pastor...

**Beginning this month, August,** we have an opportunity to discover new things about ourselves! Jane Harper-Alport, and her crew, are making available for each of us to take a spiritual gifts inventory. In essence, spiritual gifts are the use of resources we have that build up the Body of Christ, to build up the Kingdom. Many of us think that we must not have a spiritual gift. However, we do! Each of us! The Holy Spirit gifts us with spiritual gifts when we say “Yes,” to Jesus. Paul talks about spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

*1 Corinthians 12:1-11*

*Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup>You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. <sup>3</sup>Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.*

A bit more information on spiritual gifts:

1. Everyone is gifted with spiritual gifts, at least one gift
2. These spiritual gifts *may change over time* – as we grow and mature, or as the Body requires other gifts.
3. We are called to discover our gifts, and to use them. It is part of who we are, why we are, and what we are called to do in our lifetime.
4. If you have taken spiritual gifts inventory previously – this is a great opportunity to take it again – with your church family in summer of 2019. I will be taking mine this Sunday – August 4! Will you join me?

Coming this fall, after Labor Day: *I will be leading two concurrent spiritual gift Bible study classes.* This is an opportunity to learn! *Learning is fun, and enriching!* There will be an evening class and a daytime class; each class will run six weeks in length. This is further opportunity to learn about spiritual gifts and ‘what do I do with mine?’

*(Continue on Page 2 of 2)*



*(continued from Page 1, a note from your pastor.....)*

**Beginning August 11, Casa De Oracion** will be worshipping in our Chapel, beginning at 10:15 a.m. Following this worship time, *Casa De Oracion, 'House of Prayer,'* will be meeting after their worship in Rooms 1, 4-5-6, for Sunday school. We welcome Juan Villamar and Claudia Gomez, and their flock, to Hammond First. Ken Wheeler, Terry Watson, Brenda Petty and I have been in conversation with Claudia and Juan for several months. We look forward to the spiritual energy they will bring into our building.

**Sunday August 11** – all students, teachers, school staff, will receive a back to school blessing. Receiving a blessing is a very special happening. Everyone is welcome.

**September 15** – we are planning an (one) outdoor worship service, with lunch following ++. We are seeking folks to assist in planning and making this happen! Will you use some of your gifts in being part of planning for this fun and worshipful day?

See you around the church and in worship!

*Pastor Mary*



Hospital Visits

As a reminder, if you or one of your family members is hospitalized and wish to be prayed for and to receive visitation, please notify the church office (219.932-5915) Pastor Mary (219.741.9117), and/or instruct the hospital specifically to call the church office. Otherwise—we do not know that you are in the hospital! Being hospitalized can be a challenging time. If you wish your hospitalization to be known only by Pastor Mary, your confidentiality will be secure as well.

## Spiritual Gifts Survey Is Here!



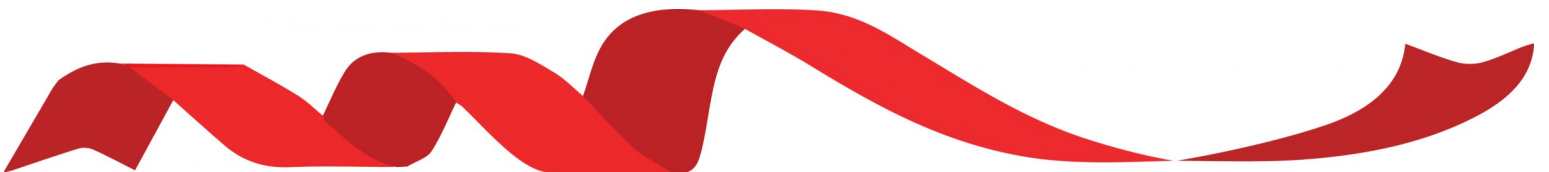
We are on the way toward fulfilling one of First Church's Wishes and Dreams: Everyone is invited to participate in the Spiritual Gifts project this summer to learn more about how God has gifted and is calling each of us. The Spiritual Gifts survey takes only about 20 minutes and gives each of us an opportunity to learn about ourselves and areas and activities that may be of interest to us. If you have taken a Spiritual Gifts survey

previously, we hope you will take it again (to learn what may have changed), with everyone else in our church family, in 2019. All information from the surveys will remain confidential unless the person surveyed decides to share it. There is no pressure, and there are no wrong answers!

One or more members of the Spiritual Gifts team will be present at a Spiritual Gifts survey table in the narthex after each Sunday morning worship service in August to answer questions, assist folks with taking the survey, or give individuals a survey sheet to complete at home and return before Labor Day. In addition, throughout the month of August and perhaps into September, members of the Spiritual Gifts team will be working with ministry area leaders to arrange to visit their respective groups to administer the survey to those who would like to take it at a time other than immediately following a worship service. Persons not in attendance at a group meeting will be contacted individually. We want to be sure to connect with everyone!

After taking the survey, each person surveyed will have an opportunity to meet with a team member to learn the results of their individual survey and to begin exploring how their gifts match with ministry service areas in our mission field—both within FUMC and in the community, locally and beyond. The purpose of the survey is to *learn* and consider new opportunities, NOT to assign new tasks to folks who may already be serving according to their gifts at capacity level! Please be in prayer about how God is calling you, and we look forward to connecting as you learn about your special Spiritual Gifts!

Jane Harper-Alport  
Church Council Chair





# Disciples' Daily News

## A Note from the Mission Team

Hello again, First Church family! **Second Mile Giving for the month of August is Catherine McAuley Clinic.** This is a volunteer-based medical clinic for uninsured citizens of the Northwest Indiana area. Their mission is to provide medical and referral services at a nominal cost to the medically underserved. This clinic is a response to God's call to minister to the sick. The money collected from our Second Mile Giving will financially help to do just that.

How amazing is that, First Church Family? I myself think that is pretty amazing! The people of Catherine McAuley Clinic answered God's call to minister to the sick and underserved. They are doing what Jesus did. I am sure, as we all know, there are many times in the Bible that Jesus healed the sick. This was one of the many ways that Jesus ministered to people.

I also would like to share with you that Kathy Smith, Katy Province Garza, and myself worked hard on July 2 and pulled the weeds and trimmed the hedges in gardens 9 and 10. I would like to thank both Kathy and Katy for our team work. It was a lot of hard work, but so worth it. It was also a lot of fun! Woo Hoo! Thanks be to God and thank you Jesus for everyone who has worked so hard on the church gardens!

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



## Meet Christ at the Cross

Scripture tells us of people like Paul. Paul who was first known as a persecutor of the Jews. As a result of his encounter with Christ, he grew to be a humble and devoted servant and disciple. Paul had maintained the belief that all Christians were in violation of Roman law due to their refusal to worship the Emperor. It was not until he experienced what is referred to as a "road to Damascus" moment that he truly saw the light.

Paul found himself halted by a tremendous light; a light which encompassed Jesus. "Saul. Saul. Why do you persecute me?" Saul (whose name was later changed to Paul) found himself suddenly blind as he proceeded into Damascus. There he encountered Ananias. In a vision, Ananias had been instructed by Jesus to find Saul and restore his sight. Ananias was well aware of Saul's reputation, but he reluctantly complied. This encounter proved to be a turning point in Saul's life. Saul, who found himself transformed. Not only did he change his name; Saul changed his life by becoming a disciple; in fact, one of the most renowned and prolific witnesses for the true glory of Christ's ministry. He preached a passion for Christ that even to this day is totally immeasurable.

Saul met Jesus at the cross and because of this encounter he became a new person. A radically new person. This person we now refer to as Paul.

We can all be like Paul. We should dare to have our spiritual blinders removed so that we may be useful tools in Christ's ministry here on Earth.

*"All who heard were amazed, and said, "Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?" But Saul (Paul) increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ." Acts 9: 21- 22*

I am not sure that regular people like you and me realize that God finds useful workers in some of the most unusual places. Even when someone has taken an adversarial role against the Gospel or against something – for example, C.S. Lewis and Lee Strobel, God calls them forward to be a measured and strong voice for Christ. Yes, we all have blinders: greed, self-indulgence, covetousness, and so many others. What is your blinder(s)?

Pat Mosley, Co-lay Leader



## **The Learning League is Back in Session!**

We are happy to announce that the City of Hammond school year (2019-2020) begins on August 14, 2019.

As many of you are aware, the mission of the Learning League is to assist the families of Kenwood Elementary School by providing, for a small fee, a safe place for their children to go at the end of each school day while their parents are at work. We pick the children up from school, give them an after school snack, assist them with their homework and studies and provide for them an opportunity to socialize, play, color, etc. before their parents pick them up.

We hear many words of praise and thanks from the parents who appreciate this service. They know that this service can only be completed with the help and support given to The Learning League by the church family of the First United Methodist Church! The parents and children love the church and our mission. Being parents ourselves, we know that the service we provide can be of immeasurable help to a family.

We have been asked to submit a list of supplies that we will need for the school year and the list is as follows:

Juice (bottles similar to Hi-C)  
Turkey hot dogs Turkey bologna  
Pizza Rolls  
Chicken Nuggets  
Ramen Noodles  
Ketchup  
Mustard  
Mayonnaise  
Mac and Cheese  
Butter  
Frozen Pizzas  
Popcorn  
Paper Cups  
Napkins  
Plastic spoons and forks  
Spaghetti sauce  
Crackers - Saltines and Ritz  
Cans of Corn  
Mashed Potato Mix, and  
Crayola Crayons

Thank you,

Co-Directors  
The Learning League

Susan and Josie



### **Back to School Safety Tips**

It's that time of year again when parents get excited and students are looking forward to going back to school! The Putnamville State Police Post would like to pass along some safety tips to help make sure that this school year is safe for everyone!

### **Driving Safety Tips**

- **ALWAYS** watch for stopped school buses in the morning hours and afternoon hours.
- Watch for children walking to and from school and waiting at bus stops.
- **ALWAYS** keep your eyes on the road and be patient driving behind school buses.

### **School Zone Driving Safety Tips**

- Be on the lookout for school zone signals and **ALWAYS** obey the speed limits.
- When entering a school zone, be sure to slow down and obey all traffic laws.
- **ALWAYS** stop for school buses that are loading or unloading children.
- Watch out for school crossing guards and obey their signals.
- Be aware of and watch out for children near schools, bus stops, sidewalks, in the streets, and in school parking lots.
- **NEVER** pass other vehicles while driving in a school zone.
- **NEVER** text while driving in a school zone (never text while driving!)
- Avoid using a cell phone, unless it is completely hands-free, while driving in a school zone.

### **When do we stop for a stopped school bus?**

State law requires motorists to stop when a school bus is picking up or dropping off children. Watch for school buses with their stop arm extended and red lights flashing, which means STOP, not proceed with caution!

*This law applies to all roadways except those that are divided by a physical barrier or an unimproved median. On a divided roadway, only vehicles traveling in the same direction as the school bus are required to stop. Extra awareness is also required in rural areas where distracted or impatient drivers often ignore school buses when children are getting on or off the bus. Disregarding a school bus stop signal is serious, and you can receive a traffic ticket for doing so.*

Drivers should also be aware of increased pedestrian traffic, particularly around bus stops and schools. Please remember, if your child was boarding a school bus, you would want motorists to be attentive as they drive.

### **Walking to School Safety Tips**

- Leave home early enough to arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the start of school.
- Use the same route every day and never use shortcuts.
- Go straight home after school. Do not go anywhere else without permission.
- Always use public sidewalks and streets when walking to school.
- Try and walk to school with other students. There is strength in numbers.
- Teach your children to recognize and obey traffic signals and signs.
- Only cross streets at designated crosswalks.
- Always look both ways before crossing the street.
- Always walk and never run across intersections.
- Don't talk to strangers. Teach your children to create distance between themselves and anyone who tries to approach or make contact with them.
- If a stranger does approach your child, make sure they know to immediately report the incident to you or a teacher.
- Teach your children to never get into a vehicle with anyone, even if they know them, without your permission.

*(Continue to Page 7, Safety Tips)*

(Continued from Page 6, Safety Tips.... )

### **School Bus Safety Tips**

- Make it a habit of arriving at the bus stop at least five minutes before the scheduled arrival of the bus.
- Make sure your child stays out of the street and avoids excessive horseplay while waiting for the school bus.
- Be sure the bus comes to a complete stop before getting on or off.
- When riding the bus, make sure your child understands they must remain seated and keep their head and arms inside the bus at all times.
- Do not shout or distract the driver.
- Always listen to the instructions of the bus driver.

### **Student Driver Safety Tips**

- **NO** cell phones while driving.
- **NO** extra passengers.
- **NO** speeding.
- **NO** driving or riding without a seatbelt.

These are just a few safety tips for this upcoming school year. The Indiana State Police will have extra patrols during the school hours and will have a **ZERO TOLERANCE** for those who disregard a bus stop arm or speeding in school zones.

### **Some added Back to School Tips from your local church, Hammond First United Methodist Church**

- Pray for all students
- Pray for teachers, staff, custodians, administrators
- Encourage students, teachers, staff, custodians, administrators
- Consider ways in which you may become a part of The Learning League, our after school ministry for Kenwood Students – we provide a safe place, homework support, a snack and playtime *everyday* school is in session.



### **Flowers are God's way of Smiling**



If you are interested in providing altar flowers for Sunday worship, the signup sheet is located in the church office. The price for two arrangements each week is \$37.00.

Following 10:30 worship, you may take the flowers home or gift them to a special someone! We ask the vases be returned to the church. We respectfully request that the flower arrangements be paid for prior to the date you have requested, in the same month.

Brenda Petty, Administrative Assistant



HI KIDS! See if you can memorize  
this Bible verse!  
"The heavens declare the glory of God."  
Psalm 19:1

**Children's Ministry**  
By: Cheryle Seljan

**Acolyte Training**



Acolyte training will be held immediately after the 10:30 worship service on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Children in 4<sup>th</sup> grade through adults of all ages are encouraged to attend. Acolytes are an integral part of the worship service. The lighting of the candles at the beginning of the worship service symbolizes Jesus coming into our worship service. Carrying the lighted candle lighter into the narthex at the end of the worship service is a symbol of the light of Jesus going out into the world. (Information taken from handout of acolyte training in April 2018).

Pizza will be served **immediately** after the acolyte training.

**Back to School Blessing Sunday August 11th**



There will be a special blessing for children and youth, preschool through high school, during both worship services. Refreshments will be provided in room A during junior church. All children and youth are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Sunday School News**

Please welcome Lynne Liptak to the Sunday School Team. Lynne joins Josie Hawkins and Richard Miller as Sunday School teachers. Special thanks to Kathy Smith for all of her work in Children's Ministry.

Our volunteers for Sunday School and Junior Church are the BEST!!!!



*Pastor Mary is actively praying for and seeking a middle school-high school Sunday school teacher. Please join her in this fervent prayer.*



**Sunday school kick-off: Sunday September 15.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!**



# The GENESIUS

Proudly Presents



**Book by Burt Shevelove Music and Lyrics by  
and Larry Gelbart Stephen Sondheim**

**Gary J. Mion, Kali Rasala, David Long,  
Director Asst. Director Choreographer**

**Located at First United Methodist Church  
6635 Hohman Ave. Hammond, IN**

**Adults \$17 August 16th, 17th\*, 23rd\*\*,  
Seniors/ Students \$14 and 24th at 8pm**

**Call 219-614-6835 to reserve August 18th and 25th at 3pm**

**tickets or purchase tickets at**

**[www.genesiusguild.net](http://www.genesiusguild.net)**

**\*Dinner Show \$15 (Additional to show  
tickets must be paid ahead of time)**

**\*\*Industry night bring proof of involvement  
in a show for a discounted ticket price**

\*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum\*  
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theater International (MTI)  
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI

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EXCELLENCE IN THEATRE  
FOUNDATION

# SERVING THE COMMUNITY

## THE VINE FOOD PANTRY AT-A-GLANCE June, 2019

New Clients.....	53
Return Clients.....	358
Total Clients Served.....	411
New Households.....	25
Return Households.....	139
Total Households Served.....	164



**Total Pounds Distributed: 8,687**

**Thank you for your support, donations and prayers!**

*Sue Robertson, Co-Director*

### Thank you

**Thank you, Theresa Mince**, for supplying us with “extra” plants – an overabundance you had to share. Some of us were recipients of squash, pepper, tomato and cantaloupe plants! The Girl Scout garden is planning on planting a few – let’s watch how they grow!

Theresa is very helpful and interested to partner with us on healthy ways to feed people. She is an enthusiastic and energetic worker! Her title and some of her responsibilities are as follows:

Theresa Mince, MA, CHES  
*Community Wellness Coordinator*  
Covering Lake County

Nutrition Education Program – a SNAP-Ed and EFNEP funded initiative  
Purdue Extension



To the congregation of First United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your prayers for my husband Mike. You embraced him even though you didn’t know him. Some of you knew his in-laws, my parents Robert & Doris Leas, but you didn’t know that was who Mike was and you prayed for him anyway. You are Christians living as he taught us.

Some of you came to Mike when he was in rehab and sang carols with him. He was so thankful.

Music was very important to him.

Thank you and keep up doing the things you do for each other and the community.

With deep appreciation,

*Mary Janiga*

# August Birthdays

2019

- 8/03 Merle Churchill
- 8/03 Aaron Kozlowski
- 8/06 Jamie Brown
- 8/06 Joe Mejia
- 8/06 Gwen Sonner
- 8/07 Shirley Farmer
- 8/07 Bonnie Watson
- 8/10 Jacob Tapper
- 8/14 Ray Anderson
- 8/14 Jan Pazdur
- 8/17 Dick Mackin
- 8/17 Tiffany Shelton
- 8/22 Karen Little
- 8/27 John Wilson
- 8/30 Kevin Shelton Jr.



## RIDDLE FOR THE DAY

**Riddle:** What five-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?



Answer: Short  
(ha... Ha.)




**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.

## **Deadline For Newsletter Articles**

If you are interested in submitting an article for the **September newsletter**, please bear in mind you must turn in your submissions to the church office by **August 20th** or via email at [admin@hammondfumc.org](mailto:admin@hammondfumc.org). Thank for your cooperation!



# Prayer and Scripture Calendar 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
4 Psalm 107:1-9, 43	5 Hosea 11:1-11	6 Colossians 3:1-11	7 Luke 12:13-21	1 2 Samuel 11:1-15  Bette Haskins	2 Ephesians 3:14-21  J. Hawkins Family	3 John 6:1-21  Josie & Marty Hawkins
Melinda Hawkins	Bob Heady Family	Dave & Mary Hinshaw	D. Hoffman Family	8 Ephesians 4:1-16  Bev Hornak Family	9 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a  Dave Horn	10 John 6:24-35  Bobby Jones
11 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23	12 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	13 Luke 12:32-40	14 Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	15 John 6:35, 41-51  Athene Knapik	16 Ephesians 4:25-5:2  Sandy & James Koester	17 Psalm 130  Kurt Kosarko
Cindy Jones	Martha Jones	June Jordan-Hall	Phil & Judy Keckich	22 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14  Sherry Lane	23 John 6:51-58  Maggie Lerner	24 Ephesians 5:15-20  Mary LeVan
18 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19	19 Luke 12:49-56	20 Isaiah 5:1-7	21 Hebrews 11:29-12:2	29 Ephesians 6:10-20  Pauline Luthi	30 1 Kings 8:[1,6, 10-11] 22-30, 41-43  Norman MacKay	31 John 6:56-69  Dick & Sondra Mackin
Bradley Kowalczyk	John Kozlowski	M. Kruse Family	Joe LaBresh	29 Ephesians 6:10-20  Pauline Luthi	30 1 Kings 8:[1,6, 10-11] 22-30, 41-43  Norman MacKay	31 John 6:56-69  Dick & Sondra Mackin
25 Psalm 71:1-6	26 Hebrews 12:18-29	27 Luke 13:10-17	28 Jeremiah 1:4-10	29 Ephesians 6:10-20  Pauline Luthi	30 1 Kings 8:[1,6, 10-11] 22-30, 41-43  Norman MacKay	31 John 6:56-69  Dick & Sondra Mackin
Rocelia Lewis Family	Peggy Link	Karen Little	Pam Longhi	29 Ephesians 6:10-20  Pauline Luthi	30 1 Kings 8:[1,6, 10-11] 22-30, 41-43  Norman MacKay	31 John 6:56-69  Dick & Sondra Mackin