



*If you are hospitalized and would like Pastor Nancy or Joan Osborn, The hospital visitor coordinator to know about what is going on with you, please call the office (219-872-7200), Pastor Nancy directly on her cell phone (812-584-2418), or Joan.*

*<http://mcindianaumc.org/>, Look for us on Facebook*

### ***If you are hospitalized***

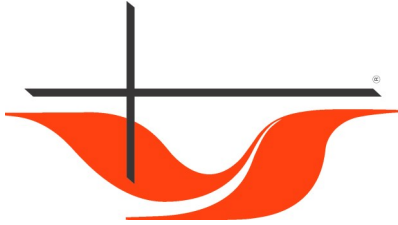


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**HAPPY SEPTEMBER!**

Return Address Requested



**September 2020**

**Crossbeams**

*First United Methodist Church*

*Crossbeam Publication*

## Nancy's Notes



I remember long ago saying to a friend who was being particularly hard on himself to “be kind to yourself, you are important.”

How many times lately have I needed to say to me, ‘be kind to yourself, you are important.’

The further we go into this pandemic the more often I question what I am doing. The questions go something like this:

What day of the week is it?

Did I just miss something?

Why do I keep messing up my calendar?

What am I missing in the world because I’m so focused on what is going on with me?

Are we doing worship the ‘right way?’

Should we stay closed?

Should we open even with the numbers rising?

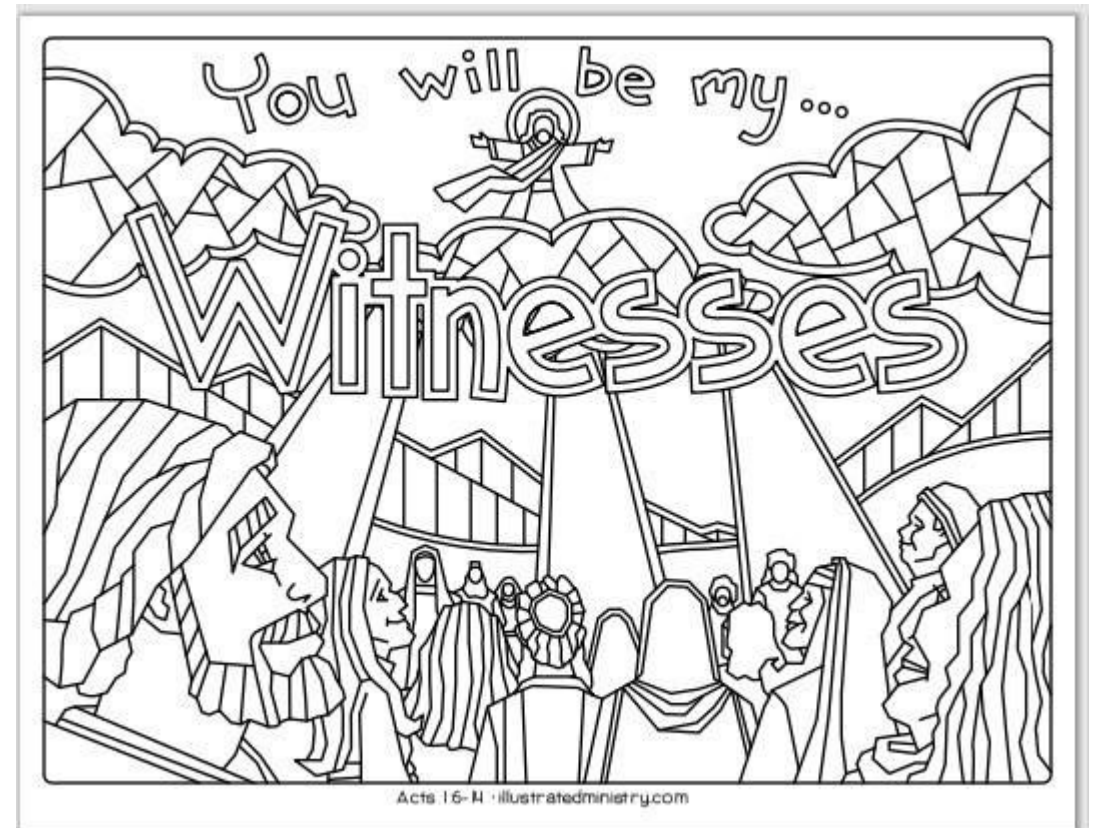
Is that cough asthma?

And I am reminded, this is hard work. Be kind to yourself.

How often do we get down on ourselves, asking questions about our motives, our capabilities, our achievements, our failures? How often do we stop to remember that we each are a beloved child of God, created in God’s image and called to be a disciple of Jesus Christ in this world? How often do we say, well done to ourselves?

Today I ask you to remember to be kind to those who are struggling to keep on keeping on during this pandemic and to be kind to yourself! You are worth it.

Shalom,  
Pastor Nancy



Acts 16-14 · illustratedministry.com



## Cindy's Office Hours Until Noted Otherwise

*Tuesday's 9 am - 11 am*

*Wednesday's 1 pm - 3 pm*

*Thursday's 2:30 pm - 4:15 pm*

*If you need to come into the office, make sure that you call the office first. 219-872-7200. We want to eliminate traffic jams with the soup kitchen.*



## September Worship

The first 2 weeks in September will find us continuing with the stories of our Faith Founders. Please join us for our worship series: Through the Wilderness as we look at how the story of the Exodus has framed us, not only historically but also currently as we continue to walk this journey of faith during the time of pandemic.

September 6 Exodus 12:1-14

*Theme: Praises and Swords*

*Sermon Title: Let There Be Peace*

*When we are filled with anger how do we respond?*

September 13 Exodus 14:19-31 Exodus 15:20-21

*Theme: Into the Sea*

*Sermon Title: It Wasn't Just Moses!*

*Miriam was there too and she and the women sang!*

September 20 Exodus 16:2-15

*Theme: What Is It?*

*Sermon Title: "Holy Manna"*

*Theme: God provides even when we don't quite know what God Is Providing!*

September 27 Exodus 17: 1-7

*Sermon Title: Second Verse Same as the First*

*Theme: Strike the Rock*

*Faith in a God who is present and who provides*

## Gathering Opportunities:

### Tuesday Morning WalkABOUTS at 9am

We will meet at the gate of Friendship Botanical Garden to walk and pray together.

### Wednesday Mornings at 10 AM – Worship Study Zoom Group

Zoom Address:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86862677399?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86862677399?pwd=cmRtditFcWNZRDZSZExpOEVXUHdrcz09)

[pwd=cmRtditFcWNZRDZSZExpOEVXUHdrcz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86862677399?pwd=cmRtditFcWNZRDZSZExpOEVXUHdrcz09)

Meeting ID: 868 6267 7399

Passcode: 909173

### Thursday Evening Zoom Discussion Group – 7 PM

Join Pastor Nancy in a discussion focusing around the racial tension we have all felt during the past few months. She will be reflecting on a

continuing education course she will be taking through Phillips Theological Seminary. It will begin September 10th.

Zoom Address [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81238425220?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81238425220?pwd=VWFFQU5JMIFTcmImam03dW9tSzZQdz09)

[pwd=VWFFQU5JMIFTcmImam03dW9tSzZQdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81238425220?pwd=VWFFQU5JMIFTcmImam03dW9tSzZQdz09)

Meeting ID: 812 3842 5220

Passcode: 194575

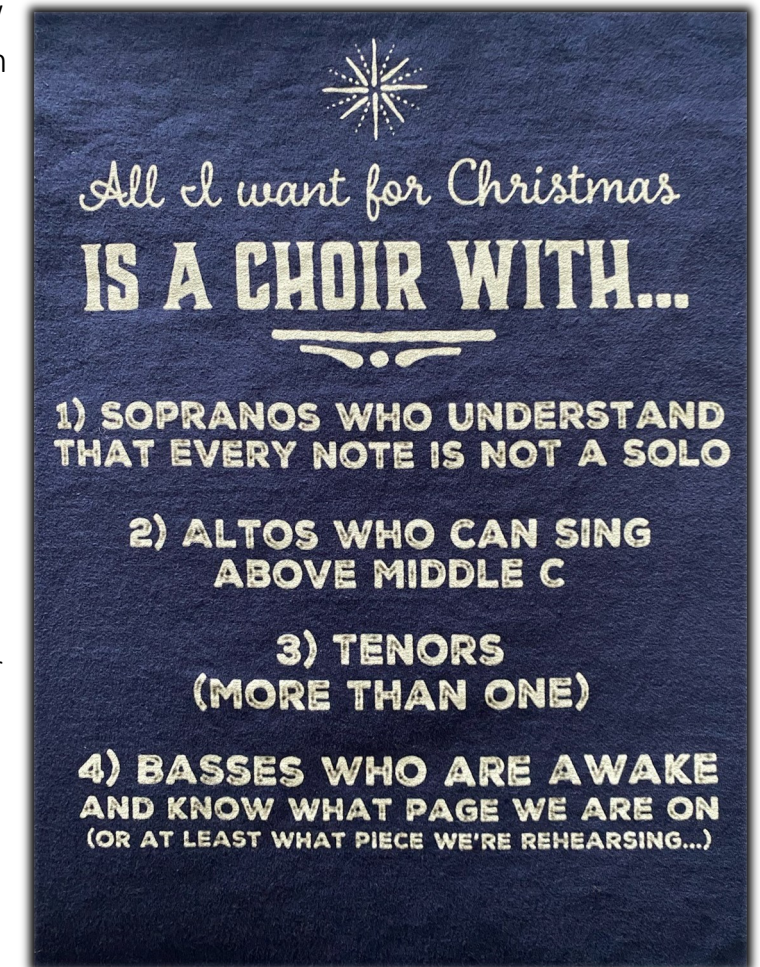
## IT'S CHOIR TIME

Oh, don't we all wish it could be??? Of all the things - to not be able to sing in a group - it just doesn't seem very fair . .

We can be confident that this too shall pass. 😊 And I am convinced that when that time actually comes when we are able to sing together again, we will certainly have a new and different perspective on just how blessed we are to worship in song.

Music in the sanctuary will continue, but in different ways. If you are interested in bringing a solo or duet for Sunday service, please let me know. You might also consider joining us for Bells on Wednesdays (see George's announcement in this Crossbeams for more info) - it will be a wonderful way to continue worship with music, and we'll get to see each other weekly!

Meanwhile, the T-shirt you gifted me says alot . . . .



## *Highlight on Mission: Soup Kitchen Cont.*

This is a faith endeavor. It takes about \$3000 a month just to feed our guests - roughly \$.86 per meal. This does not include the cost of utilities, custodial supplies, water, etc. We are seeing families and individuals come who have never visited the soup kitchen before. As supplemental unemployment has dropped off our numbers are increasing. For several of our guests this is the only daily meal they are sure of receiving.

Through both the Unity Foundation and the Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte County we have received some grant monies for this ministry as well as generous donations and startup monies from members of the 3 churches and other community members. For this we are grateful.

Since the pandemic began, First UMC has received \$1752 for the Soup Kitchen Ministry. Using these funds, and designated money already in the soup kitchen account, we have spent about \$1000 a month (excluding our costs) since mid-March to maintain this ministry. This is in addition to the monies contributed by St. Paul's and First Presbyterian.

We are grateful to those of you who have, along with your regular offering, contributed to the Soup Kitchen and wanted you to know how your gifts have been used.

If anyone would like to make an additional offering to help support this ministry through the coming months you may do so using the US Mail, or donating through our on-line portal at <http://mcindianaumc.org/online-giving/>

Thank you so very much.

## *Parking Lot Communion*

*I have so missed sharing communion with you all and I others have shared with me they are missing it too. After our initial parking lot communion that will be held on Tuesday September 1, you are invited to share communion weekly on Wednesdays at 5:40 (following Try It) in the parking lot as well. This will be a short service, distanced, masked, and the elements will be carefully and safely prepared.*

*Please feel free to share this information with any of your friends who are missing being together at God's table.*

*This will also be a great time to share in a variety of ministries the church is doing – bring toilet paper for the soup kitchen guests, food handling gloves for the kitchen, items for the Sharing Trees, and even your offering if you wish!*



*Pastor Nancy*



## Memorials

### In Loving Memory of Jane Susnis

*Norma Sipares*

### In Loving Memory of Steve Beardslee

*United Methodist Women*

*Austin & Sylvia Wilkins*

*David & Linda Wilson*

*Tom & Linda Sperling*

*Will & Joan Brill*

*Betty Staples*

*Gene Gielow*

*Jill Kaletha*

*Slade Dunn*

*John & Karen VanderWagen*

*Paulette Harnach*

*Jon & Nancy Bausback*

*William J. Dowe*

*Larry & Mary Ellen Pascoe*

*Ted & Marlene Woodfield*

### In Loving Memory of June Jones

Joyce Dalton

Susan Hawks

Annie Trout

Dottie Evett

Mrs. Dolores Hood

Leta Janisch

David & Jackie Miller

## Highlight on Mission: Soup Kitchen

Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,

to undo the thongs of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them,

and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,

and your healing shall spring up quickly. (Isaiah 58:6-7)

By the end of September, the Downtown Emergency Soup Kitchen will have served more than 16,000 'to go meals' since March 17. Under the capable hands of Chef Erik Tannehill, a faithful crew of volunteers has made sure that the most vulnerable in our community have received a healthy, tasty, and filling meal daily. First Presbyterian, St. Paul's, and First UMC, along with food and financial donations from a variety of places have worked together to make sure that 6 days a week there are meals available. Macedonia Missionary Baptist provides a takeout meal each Friday.

What we thought would be a few weeks initiative has become a long-term challenge. As people have returned to their jobs, we need more volunteers. If you are free from 9:30-1:00pm Sundays-Thursdays (or any chunk of that time), please contact Chef Erik Tannehill to see about volunteering with the Soup Kitchen. We need help preparing, boxing up, and distributing meals (at the end of last month we were serving up in the 160s daily). You may call or text Chef Erik at 219-243-3331.

# MC 1st kids

**Did you know?** That there is a website JUST for kids and youth ministry stuff? Check it out under the “Children, Youth, and Family” tab on the church website [mcindianaumc.org](http://mcindianaumc.org)

**Did you also know?** There’s a “Messy Church” website also linked to the church website, under the Messy Church tab!

**And did you ALSO know?** That we have a Facebook page specifically for updating children and family ministries and Messy Church information? Make sure that you are following it to make sure you aren’t missing anything!

Check them out for more information about all of our Children, Youth, and Family ministries!

## Ding-A-Lings

*My Dearest Ding-A-Lings,*

*Due to the unfortunate circumstances of this virus, our season was cut short in March. I am hoping to start up again on September the 16th at 6:15 if possible. We will have to wear masks, physical distance, and meet in the gathering room, but we hope to be ringing those bells soon!*

*If anyone else wants to join us, please let me know! The more Ding-A-Lings the better!*

*I will be in touch.*

*George*



## TRY-IT ANNOUNCEMENT!

Starting September 2, we will be meeting IN- PERSON, OUTSIDE – weather permitting- in the church parking lot! Kids can run off all that e-learning energy with socially- distanced games and activities. Masks will be required for all in attendance and caregivers need to stay present. We will be there from 4:30- 5:30, but come and go as needed.

Stay tuned to the church Facebook page and emails for all the details!



### First Friday!

Outside, in the church  
parking lot

Friday, September 4

5:30- 7:00 PM

Join us for this in- person Messy Church Worship, weather permitting.

**Rain Date is Friday, September 11.**

Masks and Social Distancing are required at this outdoor only event.

No meal will be served, however, feel free to bring your own picnic to enjoy! Attendees will need to eat only food that they have brought for themselves or families, and while keeping socially distanced from groups and others that don't live in their home.

Activities are planned for social distancing and cleanliness standards. Come out and enjoy time in each other's company as we worship in community!

Contact Trish Johnsen with questions or for more information at 765-490-1994 or [trishatchurch@gmail.com](mailto:trishatchurch@gmail.com)

