

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

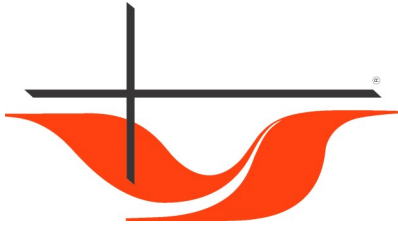
*If you are hospitalized, and would like Pastor Nancy or Joan Osborn, the hospital visitor coordinator, to know about what is going on, please call the office (219-872-7200), Pastor Nancy directly on her cell phone (812-584-2418), or Joan.*

Now You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sq4PALP2q6U>  
<http://mcindianaumc.org/>, Find us on Facebook &



First United Methodist  
Church  
121 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Michigan City, IN 46360  
(219) 872-7200

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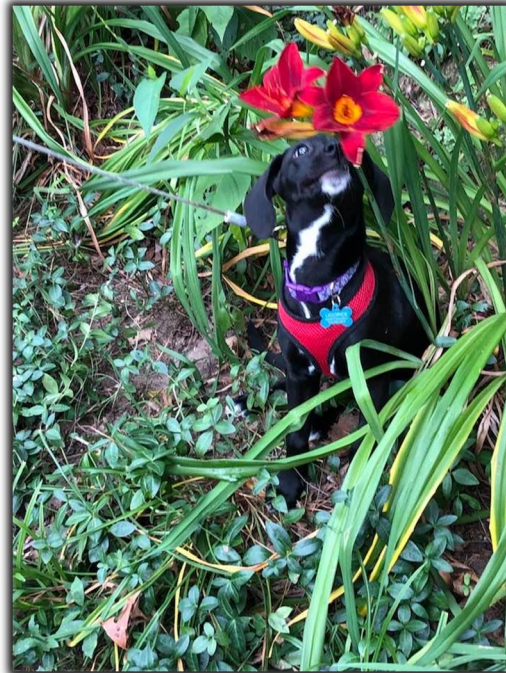
*Hope*

*April 2021*  
*Crossbeams*  
First United Methodist Church  
Crossbeam Publication

In the weeks following the craziness that can be Lent and Holy Week I am always tempted to shut down – if not literally as in this entire past year – then spiritually and emotionally. Following the joy of Easter Morning comes the exhaustion of Easter afternoon.

This year I have been challenged to really think about that reality. O yes, Holy Week can be killer for those of us in church leadership, that is true. And the Easter afternoon nap is lifegiving. But sometimes the amazing joy of God's love for us that is expressed on Easter Morning is so amazing, so divine that I can't contemplate it, so I go back to same old same old – shutting down and allowing the busyness of my life to take over as I ignore the spiritual, emotional, social and physical aspect of wholeness. This year I plan to be more intentional about remaining with my Easter joy. Will you join me?

Shalom,  
Pastor Nancy



Definitely a people person, which came in handy helping with the furniture store her husband Arthur owned, Imogene told me how she struggled to feed her two young sons while Arthur was away during World War II, and how much they had to live on. Prior to married life, she had to give up a job in Ft. Wayne, to come home and help her sick mother after she gave birth to her sister. Then about four years ago she lost two of her sons within six months.

At my mother's 85th birthday party Imogene, age 92, was the first one to arrive and she told me "I wanted to be the first one here and the last one to leave so I can talk to everyone", and she proceeded to talk not just with my mother or her three children, but with spouses, and five grandchildren and three great granddaughters. It is no wonder that she had friends of all ages.

A common theme I have learned from our many church members young and older is that God has provided throughout their lives and the song "What a friend We Have in Jesus" would be true.

Thanks to so many members for your cards, calls and visits to our friends unable to attend/watch church services.

*Dear loving Father, thank you for providing friends who continue to teach us your way. Please be with those who are in need of your care and minister to them. Most of all, thank you for sending your Son who died for us. In your name, Amen.*

If you know of someone who needs to be added to our Homebound list please email me at [judycommers@gmail.com](mailto:judycommers@gmail.com) or call me at: 219-363-0103.

God Be With You, Till We Meet Again!

Judy Commers



## Homebound April 2021

As we enter this Lenten season, we look forward to the weather, the anticipation of being able to visit family and friends, and possibly a renewed vision of what our lives should be.

Just think of the stories of the Bible and how many people struggled. Moses trying to move people, Noah trying to build an ark and then moving the animals. Job and his life, and now the spotlight is on Jesus. What inspiration we receive from those stories. It might help us during this time to look at the past as a reminder of what tragic situations those familiar individuals experienced.

As I write this article, I need to ask all members to pray for the families of the many church members we have lost in the last month. I find so many times that I really didn't have the opportunity to know as much as I could have about those who have passed. What wonderful lives they lived, and what a huge difference they made to so many others. I can only imagine the struggles that they might have gone through.

Just days ago I lost a dear friend from my hometown, Imogene Needler who was 103 years young. She was the person who made time for anyone no matter their age. When I told my oldest daughter she had died she said "Imogene made it a point to speak to each of us and to really get to know us." She found that remarkable considering she had never lived in Hartford City. You see Imogene was a neighbor of mine growing up on Kickapoo Street. She had three sons all older than me. But Imogene fostered friendships her entire life, and was always so glad to see people.

## Worship Plans For Easter Season 2021

Finally, the season we have been awaiting. The somberness of Lent has passed, the horrors of Holy Week are gone. Easter has arrived! Christ has risen. ***Alleluia!***

The last verse of The Lord of the Dance invites us to join in the dance of the one who was cut down and then leapt up high for the dance goes on. The post resurrection stories of Jesus point to the joy of living in the beloved community and extending that fellowship through our witness to the world. For the next 7 weeks we will live in Easter joy and join in the dance. Our worship series is: Dare to Dance Again.

As of now, and for as long as it is safe, we have resumed sanctuary face to face worship at 9:30. You may continue to join us on Facebook livestream( <https://www.facebook.com/FUMCMC>) or on our new YouTube channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIoFHsIGJJH17\\_YTCcprXHW](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIoFHsIGJJH17_YTCcprXHW). If you join us on Youtube please like, subscribe, and share our channel so it is easier to find.

April 4	Easter Sunday: For All Peoples a Feast: Dare to Dance Again Isaiah 25:6-9; John 20:1-18
April 11	Second Sunday of Easter: With Great Power: Dancing Together John 20:19-31; I John 1:1-2:2 (Pastor Terry Rhine preaching)
April 18	Third Sunday of Easter: While in Their Joy: Dancing Sure Luke 24: 36b-48; I John 3:1-7
April 25	Forth Sunday of Easter: By This We Will Know: The Dance of Love John 10:11-18; I John 3:16-24
May 2	Fifth Sunday of Easter: From You Comes My Praise: Guide My Steps John 15:1-8; Acts 8:26-40
May 9	Sixth Sunday of Easter: Who Can Withhold? Break Forth! Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98
May 16	Ascension Sunday: Gone Up with a Shout: Clap Your Hands Psalm 47; Luke 24:44-53

## Join us for a Spiritual Journey

Beginning the week of April 18<sup>th</sup> there will be several options a week to join in a study of the Spiritual Journey. Focusing our study on the novel, *Sensible Shoes: A Story About the Spiritual Journey* (available from Amazon), over a series of weeks we will explore different aspects of walking the dance of faith. There will be several options for this study. You may read the novel and participate in the activities and discussion or just participate in the activities. The way will be made clear as we walk along together. At this point we are considering face to face and zoomed based discussion groups.

## A Message From Amelia & Josh

We want to thank our church family for the support, prayers, and contributions made due to Josh's recent illness. We are fortunate to be part of such a caring congregation led by Pastor Nancy, and we appreciate your care and concern.

Thank you very much!

Amelia & Josh



## CALLING ALL CHOIR MEMBERS AND ALL CHOIR MUSIC!

Remember Wednesday nights and practicing, rehearsing, singing in the choir room week after week to prepare anthems to share with the church in Sunday's worship? Remember how wonderful it is to be together and to raise our voices in praise?

Remember how much of the music we worked on you still have stock-piled at home?

We still can't be in person for choir practice, but we can get organized in the choir room. Working towards that goal, I need all of your music to come back to church so it can return to the files where it belongs. And just think, you'll be regaining all the space at home that it's been taking up. Yay, Spring cleaning!

We'll be back together soon, and it'll be glorious. Can't wait -

In the meantime, BRING ME YOUR MUSIC!

Love you guys,

Bev



## **April 2021 Green Team**

Hi and Happy Earth Month, everyone! Yay for April, and for Spring - a time of wonderful new beginnings. And best of all, this year, THERE'S EASTER TOO!!!!

In finding a name for our new church recycling cubby, I happened upon ETC. It's suggested use, according to Grammerly: "use when you begin a list that you will not complete". Bingo!

This project helps our environment by reducing, reusing, recycling and not throwing it all away - and greatly benefits a wonderful organization called SCARCE (School & Community Assistance with Recycling and Composting Education). It's a great way to clear your decks of all the stuff you've been wondering what to do with - stuff you'd probably be tossing out as you do your Spring cleaning.

Some of you have already dropped things off to go to SCARCE for specialty recycling. You'll find bins in the coat area of the Gathering Room for books of any condition, old computer & electrical cords, orphaned remote controls & cell phones, unwanted holiday lights, pens, pencils, markers (good or bad), VHS movies, corks, keys, records, batteries, office supplies, bread tags, bottle caps, etc. etc. etc. Even this list is not complete . . .

Check out SCARCE.org for more info on their amazing programs that protect our environment and our beautiful planet. Help us be part of making this world a better place - for all of us already here and for all to come.

Love from the Green Team,

Go, Green!

## **April Memorials**

**In Loving memory of**  
**Scott Allen**

Joan Presser  
Ted & Marlene Woodfield

**In Loving Memory of**  
**Rev. Tom Rough**

Larry & Mary Jo Houseman

**In Loving Memory of**  
**Diana Chambers**

Joan Presser

**In Loving Memory of**  
**Vera Woodruff**

Delores Woodruff  
Phyllis Woodruff  
James Daly  
William & Karin Woodruff  
Frederick & Janet Woodruff  
Judith A. Hulen  
Ted & Marlene Woodfield  
Joan & Will Brill

**In Loving Memory of**  
**Wayne Sommer**

Leta Janisch  
Eloise Brown  
Wanda Jones  
Joan Presser





*These Are Some Of The Things We Can Recycle  
Or Reuse*



*Finished*



## **Hospital Visits**

After receiving her second vaccine shot, Pastor Nancy is now allowed to visit at Franciscan Hospital and is hoping at the other hospitals as well. Please let us know if you are hospitalized so she may visit.

## **Green Team**



## **Worship Opportunities**

Although we are worshipping in person, you may worship virtually.

We have added yet another way for you to join in worship. We have opened our very own YouTube channel. However, we need your help to make this work. The more followers and subscribers we have the more easily people can find us. Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sq4PALP2q6U>. Please like, subscribe, and share. We need 100 followers.

Of course, you may still join us on Facebook as we livestream every week, on Access Cable TV, and occasionally on zoom.







### Youth Group has gone hybrid!

(Yes, it requires both fuel and electricity)

Because we are a small, self-contained group, the re-opening committee has agreed that the Youth Group may begin meeting in the church building under the following conditions: no food or drinks may be served, and masks and distancing must be enforced.

SO! Youth Group now meets on Zoom on the **FIRST TUESDAY** of each month and in the church Gathering Room @ 6:00 on the **THIRD TUESDAY** of each month.

### TRY-IT IS BACK!

Outside, in the church parking lot every Wednesday afternoon from 4:45-5:30 PM.

Ages 4-14 are welcome, invite your friends!

**bible story- games- music**

Masks, distancing and a grown-up are required.

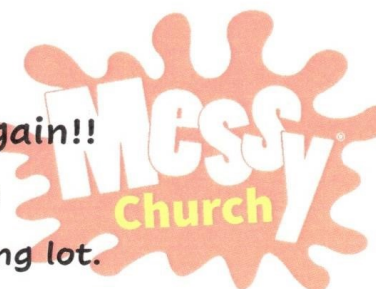
*Weather related changes will be posted to the church Facebook pages and emailed.*

### We are relocating!

YES! MC 1<sup>st</sup> Kids will get to meet again in- person. No, we don't know when quite yet.

When we meet again, we will be in a new space that is safer and more convenient!

**STAY TUNED FOR EXCITING DETAILS IN THE COMING WEEKS!**



**It's time to get Messy again!!**

**Messy Church returns**

**outside in the church parking lot.**

**The First Friday of each month, 5:30- 7:00 PM**

**Beginning May, 7 2021**

**"church...but different"**

### God's Family, Our Family... A Messy Vacation Bible School

June 28- July 1, 2021

-and-

**"God's Big Family Picnic" Messy Church- Friday, July 2**

VBS will be "hybrid" this year, with take home lessons and activities during the week, with opportunities for outdoor in-person activities, and Messy Church for the whole family on Friday night. Details will be finalized later as we closely monitor the county's Covid-19 and vaccination rates. Our goal is to bring families the very best experience we can, while continuing to keep everyone safe!

**Please let Ms. Trish know that you would like VBS kits reserved for the children in your life.**

*Watch the May Crossbeams for the ways that you can help with 2021 VBS! We will need monetary, food, and supply donations.*



### YOUTH GROUP MISSION "TRIP"

JULY 26- 30, 2021

Sleep at your own house every night and meet at a new location every morning. We will work hard in our communities, then find plenty of time to eat, worship, and play together.

Students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade may participate!

Watch for all the details coming soon!

trishatchurch@gmail.com or call or text 765-490-1994